



Ph: (08) 9080 2111
Fax: (08) 908027 3125
M: 0403 447 303
PO BOX 138, KAMBALDA WA 6442
Email: ceo@coolgardie.wa.gov.au
mannadvisory@bigpond.com

GVROC Council Meeting

Friday 13th November 2020
In person meeting
hosted by Shire of Coolgardie
Kambalda Community Recreation Facility
Barnes Drive, Kambalda
10.30am – 12:30pm

Agenda

For those Zoom videoconferencing in
Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on the following link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82063980130?pwd=WUJvbUVXS0J0a0s3VzhmVHQ1STVZQT09>
Meeting ID: 820 6398 0130
Enter Passcode: 527260

CONTENTS

1.	OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	3
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	3
3.	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE	3
3.1	Attendance	3
3.2	Apologies	4
3.3	Guests	4
3.4	WALGA Representatives	4
3.5	DLGSCI Representatives	4
3.6	GEDC Representatives	4
3.7	RDAGE Representatives	4
4.	GUEST SPEAKERS	5
5.	PRESENTATIONS	5
5.1	Shire of Coolgardie (15 minutes)	5
6.	MINUTES OF MEETINGS	6
6.1	Minutes of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) meeting held 11 September 2020	6
6.3	Matters for Noting	6
6.4	Correspondence for Noting	7
7.	GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS FINANCE	8
7.1	Financial Statement for 30 September 2020	8
7.2	Draft Audited Financial Statement for 30 June 2020	10
8.	GOLDFIELDS RECORDS STORAGE FACILITY	11
8.1	Goldfields Records Storage Facility – Update	11
9.	GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS BUSINESS	14
9.1	GVROC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2020-2022 and Meeting Procedures Update and Future of GVROC	14
9.2	Establishing a Camel Industry – Update Report	16
9.3	Camel Solutions Australia – Funding Request towards	18
9.4	GVROC Drought Relief Committee update	20
9.5	Prioritising social and affordable housing	22
9.6	Local Government Financial Ratios - Sector Reference Group Update	24
9.7	Goldfields Esperance Regional Road Group (GERRG) - Draft Guidelines and Criteria for the Identification of Significant Local Government Roads and option for the LGAs to seek a preferred supplier panel of road construction and maintenance contractors	26
9.8	GVROC Support to Shire of Wiluna to be formally recognised as part of the RDA Goldfields Esperance Boundary	28
9.9	Finalisation of Withdrawal of the Shire of Ravensthorpe from the GVROC	30
10.	AGENCY REPORTS	31
10.1	WALGA	31
10.2	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	31
10.3	Goldfields Esperance Development Commission	31
10.4	RDA Goldfields Esperance	31
11.	LATE ITEMS as notified, introduced by decision of the Meeting	31
12.	FUTURE GVROC COUNCIL MEETINGS/FUNCTIONS	32
13.	CLOSURE OF MEETING	32

GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)

**A in person and video conference meeting of the GVROC Council to be held
Friday 13 November 2020 commencing at 10:30 am**

AGENDA

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss business related to the activities of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Pursuant to the Code of Conduct, Councillors and CEOs must declare to the Chairman any potential conflict of interest they may have in a matter before the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils as soon as they become aware of it. Councillors, CEOs and Deputies may be directly or indirectly associated with some recommendations of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils. If you are affected by these recommendations, please excuse yourself from the meeting and do not participate in deliberations.

Declaration of Interest

Cr Shelley Payne, Shire of Esperance declares a standing interest as a member of the GEDC for this and all future GVROC meetings.

Cr Shelley Payne, Shire of Esperance declares a standing conflict of interest until March 2021 in relation to her selection on the agricultural region ticket for the Legislative Council for the upcoming State Election.

3. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Attendance

Cr Mal Cullen (Chair)	President, Shire of Coolgardie
Mr James Trail	CEO, Shire of Coolgardie
Cr Tracey Rathbone	Councillor, Shire of Coolgardie
Cr John Bowler	Mayor, City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Mr John Walker	CEO, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder
Cr David Grills	Councillor, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder
Cr Laurene Bonza	President, Shire of Dundas
Mr Peter Fitchat	CEO, Shire of Dundas
Cr Sharon Warner	Councillor, Shire of Dundas
Cr Ian Mickel	President Shire of Esperance
Mr Shane Burge	A/CEO, Shire of Esperance
Cr Shelley Payne	Councillor, Shire of Esperance
Cr Patrick Hill	President, Shire of Laverton
Mr Peter Naylor	CEO, Shire of Laverton
Cr Shaneane Weldon	Councillor, Shire of Laverton
Cr Peter Craig	President, Shire of Leonora
Mr Jim Epis	CEO, Shire of Leonora
Cr Keith Mader	Councillor, Shire of Menzies
Cr Jill Dwyer	Councillor, Shire of Menzies
Mr Eddie Piper	A/CEO, Shire of Menzies
Cr Jim Quadrio	President, Shire of Wiluna
Cr Timothy Carmody	Councillor, Shire of Wiluna

Ms Laura Dwyer	CEO, Shire of Wiluna	
Mr Kevin Hannagan	CEO, Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku	(Via Zoom Video)
Mr Andrew Mann	Executive Officer, GVROC	

3.2 Apologies

Cr Damian McLean	President, Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku
------------------	------------------------------------

3.3 Guests

Hon Kyran O'Donnell, MLA	Member for Kalgoorlie (Via Zoom Video for 1 st hour)
--------------------------	---

3.4 WALGA Representatives

Tony Brown	Executive Manager Governance and Organisational Services (Via Zoom Video)
Carol-Anne Bradley	Goldfields-Esperance Road Safety Advisor

3.5 DLGSCI Representatives

Darrelle Merritt	A/Director – Strategic Initiatives (Via Zoom Video)
Liz Toohey	Manager Local Government Policy and Engagement (Via Zoom Video)

3.6 GEDC Representatives

Kris Starcevich	CEO	(Via Zoom Video)
Amy Hallam	Director	

3.7 RDAGE Representatives

Jo Swan	Director
---------	----------

4. GUEST SPEAKERS

Hon Kyran O'Donnell, MLA

Member for Kalgoorlie

General Update will be provided by Hon. Kyran O'Donnell on matters of interest to the Region followed by short Q&A session.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Shire of Coolgardie (15 minutes)

Presentation from Shire President, Mal Cullen and CEO, James Trail

6. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

6.1 Minutes of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) meeting held 11 September 2020

Minutes of the GVROC Council Meeting held Friday 11 September 2020 are presented for adoption (**Attachment 1**).

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the GVROC Council Meeting held Friday 11 September 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded:**

6.2 Action Sheet Report

An update on the actions based on the resolutions from the meeting held on 11 September 2020 is presented for noting (**Attachment 2**).

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Action Sheet Report as listed for noting be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded:**

6.3 Matters for Noting

The following matters were presented for noting.

1. WA Government Ministerial Media Statements of relevance to the Goldfields Esperance Zone since the last GVROC meeting. (**Attachment 3**)
2. Regional Capitals Alliance WA - Investment Prospectus (**Attachment 4**)
3. WALGA Municipal Waste Advisory Council - Unendorsed Minutes from meeting on 28 October 2020 (**Attachment 5.1 and 5.2**)
4. The Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements Report

<https://naturaldisaster.royalcommission.gov.au/publications/royal-commission-national-natural-disaster-arrangements-report>

and the Shire of Dundas, Transcript 1046

<https://naturaldisaster.royalcommission.gov.au/search?query=Shire+of+Dundas>

RECOMMENDATION:

That the matters for noting listed be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded:**

6.4 Correspondence for Noting

The following correspondence is presented for noting.

Letters were sent via email on 19 October 2020 from the GVROC Chair to the following people with a copy of the final endorsed GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region. (**Attachment 6**)

- Premier, Hon Mark McGowan MLA
- Minister for Local Government; Heritage and Culture and Arts, Hon David Templeman MLA
- Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; and Ports, Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLC
- Treasurer and Minister for Finance; Lands and Aboriginal Affairs, Hon Ben Wyatt MLA
- Minister for Transport and Planning, Hon Rita Saffioti MLA
- Member for Mining and Pastoral Region, Hon Kyle McGinn MLC
- Member for Kalgoorlie, Mr Kyran O'Donnell MLA
- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Ports, Hon Darren West MLC
- Member for North West Central, Mr Vince Catania MLA
- Nationals Party Leader and Member for Central Wheatbelt, Hon Mia Davies MLA
- Liberal Party Leader and Member for Scarborough, Hon Liza Harvey MLA
- Member for Mining and Pastoral Region, Hon Robin Chapple MLC
- Member for Mining and Pastoral Region, Hon Robin Scott MLC
- Member for Roe, Mr Peter Rundle MLA
- Federal Member for O'Connor, Rick Wilson MP
- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, Hon Michael McCormack MP
- Director General, DLGSC, Mr Duncan Ord
- Director General, DPIRD, Mr Ralph Addis
- CEO, GEDC, Mr Kris Starceвич
- CEO, WALGA, Mr Nick Sloan
- The Nationals WA, Kalgoorlie Candidate, Ms Rowena Olsen

Correspondence received:

- Letter from the Parliamentary National Party of Australia (WA) Chief of Staff to Mia Davies re GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region dated 20 October 2020 (**Attachment 7**)
- Emails received regarding the GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region being sent out from (**Attachment 8**):
 - Office of Liza Harvey, Liberal Party Leader and Member for Scarborough on 20 October 2020
 - Nick Sloan, CEO WALGA on 20 October 2020
 - Ralph Addis, Director General – Department Primary Industries and Regional Development on 26 October 2020
 - Office of Kyran O'Donnell MLA, Member for Kalgoorlie on 26 October 2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the correspondence listed for noting be received.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

7. GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS FINANCE

7.1 Financial Statement for 30 September 2020

Reporting Officer: James Trail, Chief Executive Officer Shire Coolgardie

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 02 November 2020

Attachments: Financial Statement and accounts paid to 30 September 2020 (**Attachment 9**)

Background:

Presenting the financial statement for the period 1 July 2020 to 30th September 2020 and the accounts approved for payment for the period 1 July 2020 to 30th September 2020.

Financial Statement:

The Officer provides the following comment:

Note No	Account No	Details
1	575.01	Interest - Interest on funds held by GVROC
2	1513	Executive Officer - Professional Services
3	0501	Payment of 2019/2020 Annual Contributions
4	Other	Payment as per GVROC Resolution for equity share in Records Facility

Accounts Paid:

GVROC Expenses 01st July 2020 to 30th September 2020				
Payment Type	Date	Payee	Details	Amount inc GST
<i>EFT</i>	<i>21-Jul-20</i>	<i>Shire Menzies</i>	<i>Payment from GVROC re Contribution Resolution</i>	<i>\$25,000.00</i>
<i>EFT</i>	<i>21-Jul-20</i>	<i>Shire Wiluna</i>	<i>Payment from GVROC re Contribution Resolution</i>	<i>\$25,000.00</i>
<i>EFT</i>	<i>21-Sep-20</i>	<i>Mann Advisory</i>	<i>Executive Fees for July and August</i>	<i>\$22,000.00</i>
<i>EFT</i>	<i>7-Aug-20</i>	<i>Mann Advisory</i>	<i>Executive Fees for June</i>	<i>\$11,000.00</i>
<i>EFT</i>	<i>9-Jul-20</i>	<i>Mann Advisory</i>	<i>Executive Fees for May</i>	<i>\$11,000.00</i>
			Total Expenses paid	\$94,000.00

Accounts for 2020/2021 annual contributions have been raised and send the GVROC Members

Consultation: Nil

Financial Implications: Funds for the expenditure is included in the 2020/2021 Budget

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022 Objective 3

RECOMMENDATION:

That GVROC:

1. Endorse the Statement of Financial Position for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 September 2020 and the accounts approved for payment for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 September 2020 totalling \$94,000.
2. Endorse the actions taken by the Shire of Coolgardie Chief Executive Officer to pay for GVROC expenses and receipt of GVROC Revenue.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

7.2 Draft Audited Financial Statement for 30 June 2020

Reporting Officer: James Trail, Chief Executive Officer Shire of Coolgardie

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: 9 November 2020

Attachments: Representation letter (**Attachment 9.1**)
Management Report (**Attachment 9.2**)
GVROC Audited Financial Statements to 30 June 2020 (**Attachment 9.3**)

Background:

Presenting the draft Audited Financial Statement, Representation Letter and Management Letter for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020

Executive Officer Comment:

GVROC's Auditor, AMD Chartered Accountants, has provided the Executive Officer with the following documents for consideration:

- Draft Financial Report;
- Representation Letter; and
- Draft Management Letter.

The Auditor has requested that the Financial Report be reviewed, the "Statement by Members of the Committee" within the Draft Financial Report be signed by the Chair and Executive Officer and the Representation Letter reviewed and signed by the Executive Officer. This process is particularly important if the Management Letter contains recommendations as it gives the GVROC an opportunity to comment before the final report is provided by the Auditor for consideration and adoption.

It should be noted that once the draft reports have been signed and returned to the Auditors the final Audit Report will be provided to the GVROC.

Consultation: GVROC Auditors AMD Chartered Accountants

Financial Implications: Audit Fees included in 2019/2020 Budget

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022 Objective 3

RECOMMENDATION:

GVROC approve the Draft Financial Report, Representation Letter and Draft Management Letter for the period ending 30 June 2020 and authorise the Chair and Executive Officer to sign as indicated.

RESOLUTION:	Moved:	Seconded:
--------------------	---------------	------------------

8. GOLDFIELDS RECORDS STORAGE FACILITY

8.1 Goldfields Records Storage Facility – Update

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

At the Special Meeting of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) held 26th June 2020, Council resolved;

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council in relation to recommendations 1 to 4:

1. Note the report on the Goldfields Records Storage Facility Draft Financials 2019-20
2. Request a final detailed financial report for the period ending 30th June 2020 be presented to the GVROC Council Meeting on the 10th July 2020.
3. Note invoices need to be raised to the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Leonora and Menzies for 12 months to cover the 2019/20 operational costs of the facility.
4. Note the current market valuation of the Goldfields Records Storage Facility of \$500,000 (with a market range of \$475,000 to \$525,000).

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Timothy Carmody - Shire of Wiluna

Carried

5. That GVROC reject the recommendation as proposed at its meeting of 15 May 2020 which was laid on the table as follows:
 - a. Note this update and that the CEOs will each receive a copy of the Variation Deed for execution in the coming weeks.
 - b. Note when all ten executed copies are received the eligible Withdrawing Regional Group will receive their cash distribution of \$25,000.00 (exc GST).
 - c. Note that for the four remaining parties will also need to execute the new replacement agreement and Transfer of Land as outlined in the above comments.
 - d. Note this will then conclude the GVROC's responsibilities for the Records Facility and the four remaining parties will manage its operations outside of the GVROC.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Jim Quadrio - Shire of Wiluna

Carried

6. That the GVROC Council as representative of the Regional Group Members of the Joint Venture (the Parties to the Archives and Record Management Agreement) endorse and adopt the without prejudiced proposed solution to the records storage facility as detailed below, with the condition that should the facility not immediately be disposed all original members continue to meet their obligations under the Archives and Record Management Agreement until such time of its disposal in regards to:
 - 6a) All members share equally the specified fixed expenses for the facility e.g. insurance, rates, building maintenance; and
 - 6b) Current members that are still utilising the facility for records storage remain responsible for all other operating costs.
- 6.1 The Original Members, as the local governments named in the Records Agreement and as beneficial owners as tenants in common in equal shares of the archives and records storage facility located at Unit 2, 12 Federal Road, South Kalgoorlie (Facility), agree to dispose of the Facility currently held in the name of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder as bare trustee for the Original Members.

- 6.2 The method of disposal for the facility will be discussed and agreed by the members at the next meeting of GVROC scheduled for 24 July 2020.
- 6.3 After the disposal of the Facility the Joint Venture promptly be wound up.
- 6.4 As part of the process of winding up of the Joint Venture an account be taken of the finances of the Joint Venture from its creation to the date of winding up to determine the annual income and expenditure of the Joint Venture during the period of its operation and to determine the assets and liabilities of the Joint Venture as at the winding up.
- 6.5 The net assets of the Joint Venture be distributed in accordance with the terms of the Records Agreement equally between the Original Members.
- 6.6 All third-party costs of the sale of the Facility and the winding up of the Joint Venture be paid for from the assets of the Joint Venture.
- 6.7 Each of the Original Members otherwise pay their own costs of the dispute and of the disposal of the Facility and winding up of the Joint Venture.
- 6.8 The winding up of the Joint Venture and payment to each of the Original Members their share of the Joint Venture assets pursuant to this proposal will be:
 - 6.8.1 in full and final satisfaction of all claims any Original Member may have against any other Original Member or the Joint Venture with regard to the Joint Venture, the Records Agreement and the Facility; and
 - 6.8.2 upon payment each Original Member releases and discharges every other Original Member and the Joint Venture from and against all such claims whether or not the Original Members were or could have been aware of such claims which an Original Member:
 - (a) now has;
 - (b) at any time had;
 - (c) may have; or
 - (d) but for this settlement, could or might have had,against any other Original Member or the Joint Venture with regard to the Joint Venture, the Records Agreement and the Facility.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie

Carried

At the last GVROC meeting held on 24 July 2020, the GVROC further resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council as representative of the Original Parties to the Records Facility Agreement:

1. Endorse the CKB as the asset holder to engage a commercial real estate agent to place the facility for sale on the open market as the agreed method of disposal.
2. Accept a selling price based on the existing market evaluation in the range of \$475,000 to \$525,000 with this price to be reviewed and amended by agreement of all parties subject to any feedback from the open market disposal method which is contrary to the current valuation.
3. Request that the CKB provide an update report regarding the progress of the above recommendations at the next GVROC meeting in September 2020.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Ian Mickel, Shire of Esperance**
Seconded: Cr Jim Quadrio, Shire of Wiluna

Carried

Officer's Report:

Discussions are still ongoing between the City of Kalgoorlie Boulder and the Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Leonora and Menzies to discuss an approach to purchase the facility as a joint consortium, given they still require the facility for records storage requirements.

The City Kalgoorlie Boulder CEO, John Walker has advised that since the building was listed by listed by Daniel Lavery of John Matthew and Sons, in September 2020, as yet there has been no interest shown by any party to purchase.

Consultation: GVROC Chair
GVROC CEOs Group

Financial Implications: Nil to the GVROC but could have implications based on disposal price for those LGAs that wish to remain or purchase the facility.

Strategic Implications: Disposal of the Facility will remove the item from the GVROC agenda

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council as representative of the Original Parties to the Records Facility Agreement note the current update in the progress to wind up the Records Storage Facility.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded**

9. GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS BUSINESS

9.1 GVROC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2020-2022 and Meeting Procedures Update and Future of GVROC

Reporting Officers: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

GVROC is a regional grouping of local governments that operates by way of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

At the meeting of GVROC held on 15 May 2020, it was revealed that the last GVROC MOU that was executed was for the period July 2015 – October 2017 and had not been reviewed or renewed on the annual basis as it stipulated. As a result, a new MOU was drafted and presented at the meeting for execution between all parties for the period 2020 to 2022.

At its meeting on 24 July 2020 the GVROC carried the following resolution:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the GVROC:

1. Note and endorse the updated MOU and new Meeting Procedures.
2. Request each GVROC Local Government President/Mayor and CEO execute under seal Schedule 1 of the MOU and return via scanned pdf page to the Executive Officer for collation with the MOU.
3. Note on receipt of all nine executed sections the Executive Officer will distribute the final executed copy to all CEOs for their records.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie*
 Seconded: *Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton*

Carried

Following the MOU being presented back to the GVROC at its meeting held 11 September 2020, GVROC carried the following resolution:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the status of the signing and execution of the MOU.
2. based on the Local Government Act Review Panel Recommendations on the future of regional councils, request each GVROC LGA take the current MOU and its principles back to their Council for discussion and to develop their position on the future structure and operations of the GVROC.
3. request the Executive Officer to organise a two-hour workshop to be held on 13 November 2020 prior to the next GVROC meeting to discuss and agree the future of the GVROC, based on each LGA having a position following recommendation 2.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Timothy Carmody - Shire of Wiluna*
 Seconded: *Cr David Grills - City of Kalgoorlie Boulder*

Carried

Officer Comment:

As per the resolution above from last GVROC meeting, a workshop was organised and held prior to this meeting to discuss and agree the future of the GVROC and the execution of the current MOU for the next twelve months.

Options considered at the workshop include:

Option 1: Remain as is and execute current MOU and review in 12 months' time.

Option 2: Wind-up the GVROC and reform as a regional subsidiary or similar cooperation body not bound under the current regional council model.

Option 3: Wind-up the GVROC permanently and only partner with ex-member LGAs as required on a project by project basis.

The outcome of this workshop will be presented by the GVROC Chair during this meeting and reflected in the recommendation below.

Consultation: GVROC and all LGA members

Financial Implications: N/A

Strategic Implications:

Voting Requirement: Simple majority

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the outcomes from the workshop held prior to this meeting as advised by the GVROC Chair.
2. endorse Option 1 to remain as is and execute the current MOU but review in 12 months' time or as and when the Local Government Act Review recommendations are implemented by the State Government, effectively abolishing the regional council model..

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

9.2 Establishing a Camel Industry – Update Report

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Camel Industry Working Group Draft ToR (**Attachment 10**)

Background:

The Camel Industry Analysis Report undertaken by the GEDC in partnership with GVROC, DPIRD and the GNRBA has been completed.

Of note in the report is the recommendation for the GVROC to be the champion to bring this all together. To do this it is recommended that the GVROC establish a Beneficial Enterprise as the parent entity for accountability, program acquittal & development oversight (e.g. Board / Management Committee) for the camel industry in the region, with funding supplied through the Federal Government Regional Deal Program.

The recommendations from the report are as follows:

1. Government and stakeholders adopt a long-term view; pursue a minimum 10-year industry development program; that camel population reduction and camel commercialisation be viewed as complementary tasks of critical importance.
2. Immediately develop a camel industry strategy and business case to accompany grant applications and investment proposals.
3. Actively pursue a 'Regional Deals' partnership through engagement with Federal and State members of parliament; to better manage Australia's feral camel population and generate economic benefits for remote and regional communities across the Goldfields.
4. Encourage and support private investors to form partnerships, resources and feasibilities /business plans to develop the ventures outlined in this report.
5. Seek grant funding and investment support to establish a GPS monitoring system, a network of self-mustering yards on pastoral and Aboriginal lands, and technical support to help pastoralists adopt co-grazing. Aim is to ensure camel supply is reliable and sustainable from the outset.
6. Call expressions of interest to establish a panel of experts with 'deep' experience in breeding, handling and farming of camels to provide expertise to new operators, contractors, communities, GVROC and Government.
7. Establish a GVROC sub-committee to facilitate grant and investment applications, coordinate and support private investors, and provide guidance to locating and developing the required infrastructure (in collaboration with the panel of experts).
8. Aim to appoint a commercial project manager to liaise with stakeholders and implement the industry strategy that will deliver a sustainable camel industry within ten years.
9. Compile a register (online library) of education / training materials for pastoralists and Aboriginal stakeholders on issues relating to camel handling, domesticating, grading (age, health, condition), transporting, breeding / farming, processing, value-adding & marketing.

On 10 September 2020 a workshop was held with representatives from GEDC, GVROC, DPIRD, GRNBA, other WA Government Departments, Pastoralists and Industry to further progress the recommendations from the report. An outcome of the workshop was to establish a Camel Industry Working Group to progress the recommendations from those people that showed interest at the attendance at the workshop.

On 11 September 2020 the GVROC resolved the following:

That the GVROC:

1. note the update and the outcomes from the workshop held on the 10 September 2020 to progress the recommendations from the Camel Industry Analysis Study Report.
2. Request the Executive Officer to prepare a letter of thanks to Camel Solutions Australia for their updated presentation to the GVROC and request they submit a formal proposal in writing outlining the assistance being sought from the GVROC.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie*
Seconded: *Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies*

Carried**Comment:**

The GEDC has advised that the fourteen people had expressed interest in participating in the Camel Industry Working Group:

EOI's have been received from:

- Colin and Brie Campbell – Mundrabilla Station
- David Geraghty – Yandal Station
- Tim Carmody – Prenti Downs Station
- Jo Swan – RDAGE (Director)
- Nigel Wessels – DBCA (Manager)
- Magdalena Zabek – DPIRD (Invasive Species Specialist)
- Peter Backshall – Marketrade
- Marcel Steingieser – Good Earth Dairy
- Nat James and Gilad Berman – Camel Solutions Australia
- Andrew Parker – Eastern Districts Pet Meat
- Stephen Hoffrichter – Shark Lake Piggery
- Amanda Day – Elders (Livestock Production/ On-Road Sales/ Pastoral)

And tentative interest from:

- Brett and Dot Day – Gunnadorah Station
- Debbie Barrington – Tukahara Camel Company

It is proposed that during the initial stages, all interested stakeholders will be included in the working group, as there is likely to be some drop-off along the way.

Draft Terms of Reference for the Camel Industry Working Group (see **Attachment 10**) have been drafted by the GEDC and sent to the GVROC Chair for comment. It should be noted that the GEDC has requested that the GVROC Chair this working group.

The GVROC Chair is hesitant for GVROC inclusion on this Working Group until it receives some direction from the industry representatives of the working group. The GVROC Chair has stated to the GEDC that should there be five industry members keen to progress with the Camel Initiative then subject to GVROC endorsement, the GVROC would take on the Chair role of the working group.

Consultation: GVROC Chair & Executive Officer, GEDC, GNRBA, DPIRD, CSA

Financial Implications: Nil

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022
Objective 1, Goal 1.1

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC note the update and progress in establishing a camel industry in the region.

RESOLUTION: Moved:
Seconded:

9.3 Camel Solutions Australia – Funding Request towards

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Camel Solutions Australia Cover Letter and Business Case
(Attachment x.1 and x.2)

Background:

A presentation was provided to the GVROC at its meeting on 11 September 2020 from Camel Solutions Australia on progress with their project proposal to develop a Camel Hub and its WA Feral Camel Tracking and Management program.

Following this presentation, the GVROC resolved the following:

That the GVROC:

Request the Executive Officer to prepare a letter of thanks to Camel Solutions Australia for their updated presentation to the GVROC and request they submit a formal proposal in writing outlining the assistance being sought from the GVROC.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie*
Seconded: *Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies*

Carried

Comment:

Camel Solutions Australia (CSA), following the presentation to GVROC at the meeting on 11 September 2020, have now provided a formal letter and business case to the GVROC requesting a funding commitment totalling \$545,246 over three years towards implementation of its WA Feral Camel Tracking and Management Business Case proposal (**Attachments 11.1 and 11.2**).

The WA Feral Camel Tracking and Management proposal is what CSA see as Stage One towards the establishment of the Camel Hub plan and its required infrastructure, which would be Stage 2. This Stage is required to build the data required to understand the camel numbers and movements, which will assist in developing up the locations for and required infrastructure for establishing the Camel Hub.

CSA has identified six GVROC LGAs that would greatly benefit from the project, totalling 60 collars. These shires are:

- Wiluna
- Laverton
- Leonora
- Kalgoorlie - Boulder
- Dundas
- Ngaanyatjaraku

The first year of requested funding will be \$256,886, followed by \$144,180 for years two and three. Dividing the project funding between the six GVROC LGAs amounts to \$90,875 per LGA, which means a commitment of \$42,815 for the first year following by \$24,030 for years two and three for each LGA. CSA also state that given the minimum guaranteed battery life is four years, they therefore feel it is a wasted resource to not utilise this data and the Geo-fence feature during a fourth year. This resource provides the potential for CSA to extend the project further and should GVROC LGAs decide to go ahead with the fourth year of the project, a price will be negotiated appropriately for that year.

Funding options

In response to the CSA request there are the following options in regard to funding this request for consideration if the GVROC support the request.

1. The GVROC pursue grant funding to meet the cost as was recommended in the Quantum Consulting Camel Industry Analysis Report recommendations by seeking a 'Regional Deals' partnership through engagement with Federal and State members of parliament; with the aim to better manage Australia's feral camel population and generate economic benefits for remote and regional communities across the Goldfields-Esperance. The Regional Deals partnership program is a ten-year project between Federal, State and Local Governments to facilitate community-identified projects addressing the needs of regional Australia (see <https://www.regional.gov.au/regional/deals/>)
2. The GVROC fund it through existing finances.
3. The GVROC endorse the proposal but request the individual GVROC LGAs that will greatly benefit from the project, seek their own Councils' approval to fund their contributions and enter into direct agreements between their LGA and CSA.

In consideration of the above options, Option 2 can be ruled out as based on current finances and LGA annual contributions the GVROC does not have the financial capacity to fund it from existing finances.

Option one, could be considered but it may take some considerable time (more than 12 months) to have a Regional deal agreed and executed.

Given that not all of the GVROC LGAs would be participating or benefit from this proposal, it is therefore recommended that if the CSA business case is supported by GVROC then Option 3 is endorsed.

Consultation: GVROC Chair & Executive Officer, CSA

Financial Implications: Nil

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022
Objective 1, Goal 1.1

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. Note the request for funding assistance from Camel Solutions Australia.
2. Support /Not Support the business case proposal.
3. As per Funding Options highlighted above, Endorse Option 3 and request that the six individual GVROC LGAs nominated in the business case, take the business case proposal to their own Council to make a decision on whether they wish to participate and provide the requested funding in a direct agreement with CSA.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:
Seconded:

9.4 GVROC Drought Relief Committee update

Reporting Officers: Peter Fitchat – CEO Shire of Dundas
Andrew Mann, Executive Officer - GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

On 15 November 2019 at the GVROC meeting a motion was adopted to establish a Drought Relief Committee subject to terms of reference being established and endorsed out of session by the GVROC.

On 31 January 2020 at the GVROC meeting it was resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. **Note the Final ToR and formally endorse the establishment of a Drought Committee to further address this issue.**
2. **Endorse the following representatives as members of the Drought Relief Committee:**
 - a. **Chair of GVROC: Cr Mal Cullen – Shire of Coolgardie**
 - b. **Three GVROC delegates as follows: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas, Cr Jim Quadrio and Cr Tim Carmody – Shire of Wiluna**
 - c. **Two GVROC CEOs as follows: Mr Peter Fitchat – Shire of Dundas and Mr Colin Bastow – Shire of Wiluna**

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas**
Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire of Coolgardie

CARRIED

Peter Fitchat has taken on the role of organising the Committee from the Shire of Wiluna and is keeping note of any drought focussed information coming from the Federal or State Governments in the interim until such time that this committee can start to meet.

Officer Comment:

Following on from the presentation by June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, at our 11 September 2020 meeting, June has provided the recently released Review of the Australian Government Drought Response (see link below).

[Review of Australian Government Drought Response](#)

June is interested to hear our views on the review and is happy to pass these on to the Federal Government so that future directions around Drought can be influenced.

Additionally, June has also sent through the following grant funding opportunities:

On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme

The Federal Government has committed additional funding to this scheme from the original funding. In WA the scheme was managed through the Department of Water, Environment and Regulation, but it was over subscribed and no further applications were being accepted. There are over 400 farmers that missed out in the first round. June advised while the Federal Government has committed further funding it needs to be matched by the State Government and as yet this has not been announced by the WA State Government. June advised to watch to see what the State Government does going forward. For further details look at the attached link:

[On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme](#)

Grants now open: 'Drought Resilience Research and Adoption Program'.

Organisations can now apply on the [Community Grants Hub](#). These grants are for organisations or groups of organisations to set up Adoption and Innovation Hubs in 8 regional centres across Australia. Organisations can also visit the Programs [Have Your Say webpage](#) to register their interest to form or join a consortia. Total funding available is \$64 million to support the 8 hubs through to June 2024. Each hub can receive up to \$2 million per year.

Consultation: GVROC

Financial Implications: TBD

Strategic Implications: Improved Sustainability, Job creation and retention of Primary Industry well into the future.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the Review of the Australian Government Drought Response.
2. Request GVROC LGAs to provide their views and feedback on the response direct to June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency.
3. Note the current grant funding opportunities available.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

9.5 Prioritising social and affordable housing

Reporting Officers: Mal Cullen, GVROC Chair

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

Even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, affordability gaps in housing were increasing and apparent in both regional and metropolitan areas. The economic downturn has only aggravated inequalities in Australia's affordable housing market which needs serious attention. This is also becoming a major issue for the GVROC LGAs.

In this respect it is suggested that the GVROC could investigate further how it may be able to develop a model for delivering cost effective affordable housing and maintenance programmes, funded through the State Government, but run and managed locally, creating ongoing employment in the GVROC region.

At the meeting on 11 September 2020 the GVROC resolved:

That the GVROC:

- 1. agree on the need for an immediate solution towards addressing the maintenance and quality of current social housing and addressing affordable housing options in the region; and**
- 2. endorse the GVROC Chair and Executive Officer to further develop a proposal to address this matter for consideration and approval by the GVROC prior to submission to the WA Government seeking funding.**
- 3. endorse the GVROC Chair and Executive Officer as part of this process to engage with the DLGSC District Leadership Group to raise and discuss this matter.**

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie**
Seconded: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas

Carried

Officer Comment:

As per recent conversations that have been held amongst various GVROC LGAs on this matter, I believe there is an opportunity in the current economic climate to make a concerted effort to target this space on a regional level should the GVROC agree it is a priority.

The WA Minister for Housing, Peter Tinley, launched the State Government 2020/21 Budget in a function in Kalgoorlie on 8 October 2020. The Minister stated the Budget was built around Covid Stimulus Recovery supporting small, medium business along with major infrastructure projects to create jobs and boost the economy. It was also emphasized that the State Government would be focused on infrastructure and economic development throughout WA over the next 4 - 5 years. The Minister also made the point this State Government would favour a regional approach for project funding rather than having to deal with individual LGAs. Following on from this budget launch, as GVROC Chair, I had an opportunity for a 30-minute meeting with Minister Tinley and his advisor at which I discussed social and affordable housing in the Goldfields Esperance Region. The following is an outline of what was discussed.

Public and Social housing

Q: how are LGAs able to become involved with public housing matters in their communities?

A: the response from the Minister was for LGAs to identify their issues and needs i.e. land requirements, long or short-term housing needs, amount and types of housing, affordable village style housing, joint venture opportunities with Government.

The Minister also advised that the best opportunity for outcomes to resolve outdated - dilapidated government housing stock in each of the GVROC LGAs districts would be a joint submission to the Minister prior to the end of December, so that it would be in front of the Government before the State Election.

In relation to GROH Housing it was advised that the Department of Communities do not determine the demand or supply for new or updated GROH Housing stock in WA. This is a responsibility of each State Government Department, i.e. Police, Education, Health etc. The advice was that LGAs have to lobby these departments directly rather than the Department of Communities to ascertain demand for renewal and upgrades of GROH housing in our towns to attract and retain government employees.

If and when LGAs can identify these gaps, the most effective option is to collaborate and work together with a proposal - scope - costings of building housing together with a joint contractor at the same time, then lease back the properties under the current 10 year arrangement that exists.

At the same time other initiatives to incentivise and attract Government employees to the Goldfields Region could be actioned prior to the state election, i.e. housing subsidies, retention packages, increased zone allowances, longer terms of stay in positions, i.e. police officers increased to 3yr terms from current 2yrs, etc.

In addition to the meeting held with Minister Tinley following the State Budget Launch, the Minister launched on 14 October 2020 the State Government's new WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030, which details a social and affordable homes plan that will:

- connect 150,000 WA households to a home;
- build liveable, inclusive and connected communities that improve social and economic participation;
- create jobs and contribute to the State's economy; and
- improve outcomes through a more integrated approach to housing and service assistance.

To view the WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030 click on the following link:

<http://www.communities.wa.gov.au/wahousingstrategy>

However, one of the major obstacles with the current State and Federal Governments stimulus packages and strategies at the moment, is that they still do not consider the involvement nor the needs of LGAs in any area. Thus taking on the advice of Minister Tinley above, the GVROC and each of its LGA members need to come together to develop a joint proposal/submission to the State Government through the Minister on the region's needs, requirements and how the GVROC and its member LGAs propose to partner with the State Government to deliver on it.

Consultation: GVROC

Financial Implications: TBD

Strategic Implications: Improved Liveability, social and community wellbeing.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the update on prioritising affordable housing for the region.
2. Request each GVROC LGA CEO to identify their issues and needs i.e. land requirements, long or short-term housing needs, amount and types of housing, affordable village style housing, joint venture opportunities with Government and provide to the GVROC Executive Officer.
3. The GVROC Executive Officer with the GVROC Chair, to prepare a joint LGA GVROC submission to the Minister prior to end of December on the issues and needs of the region for public, social and GROH housing.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

9.6 Local Government Financial Ratios - Sector Reference Group Update

Reporting Officers: James Trail, CEO Shire of Coolgardie

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Local Government Financial Ratios Working Group Agenda meeting 22 October 2020 (**Attachment 12**)
Local Government Financial Ratios Working Group Defining Terms (**Attachment 12.1**)
Asset Sustainability Ratio – Comments from Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia (**Attachment 12.2**)
An extract from the Local Government Victoria Local Government Better Practice Guide: Performance Reporting Indicator Workbook 2019-20 (**Attachment 12.3**)

Background:

WALGA has established a Local Government Financial Ratios - Sector Reference Group and Working Group. The membership of the Working Group has now been confirmed, as follows:

Jason	Lyon	Executive Director Corporate Services	City of Armadale
James	Trail	CEO	Shire of Coolgardie
Paul	Breman	Executive Manager Corporate and Community	Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup
Peter	Kocian	Executive Manager Corporate and Community	Town of East Fremantle
Alan	Ellingham	Senior Financial Analyst	City of Joondalup
Ryan	Ferts	Coordinator Strategic Infrastructure Asset Management	City of Joondalup
Gary	Ticehurst	Director Corporate Services	City of Kalamunda
Casey	Mihovilovich	Director Corporate Services	City of Mandurah
Jeremy	Clapham	Finance and Administration Manager	Shire of Mingenew
Grant	Middlton	DCEO	Shire of Northampton
Khushwant	Kumar	Financial Controller	City of Rockingham
Michael	Cole	Chief Financial Officer	Town of Victoria Park
Alan	Carmichael	Senior Project Officer	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Richard	John	Chief Advisor	Western Australia Treasury Corporation
Ron	Back	Consultant	R J Back & Associates

Officers Comment:

The Working Group has held two meetings, the first an establishment meeting held on 17 September 2020 and the second held on 22 October 2022 (see agenda and referred attachments at Attachment 12, 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3).

The purpose of that meeting was to review the proposed ratios and develop final recommendations for consideration by the Financial Ratios Sector Reference Group. This will include consideration of definitions of terminology and recommended indicators/thresholds in relation to each proposed ratio.

The proposed ratios included:

- Operating Surplus Ratio
- Debt Service Coverage Ratio
- Asset Sustainability Ratio
- Current Ratio; and the
- Net Financial Liability Ratio

Consultation: WALGA

Financial Implications: N/A

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC note the update on Local Government Financial Ratios – Sector Reference Group and Working Group.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded:**

9.7 **Goldfields Esperance Regional Road Group (GERRG) - Draft Guidelines and Criteria for the Identification of Significant Local Government Roads and option for the LGAs to seek a preferred supplier panel of road construction and maintenance contractors**

Reporting Officers: Cr Mal Cullen, President Shire of Coolgardie

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Draft Guidelines and Criteria for the Identification of Significant Local Government Roads August 2020 (**Attachment 13**)
Local Roads Program Manager Report 2019-20 (**Attachment 13.1**)
Goldfields-Esperance RRG - reference information for Elected Members Nov 2019 (**Attachment 13.2**)
State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee Minutes of meeting 02/2020 (**Attachment 13.3**)

Background:

The State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement mandates the existence and operation of Regional Road Groups, which the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee oversees.

The Agreement is intended to ensure that the funds available from State Government sources for local roads are allocated across the State of Western Australia, focusing on areas of strategic importance and areas that will provide maximum benefit. The needs of all road users and the Western Australian community will be considered during the distribution process. (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement, Guiding Principles, page 2).

A Regional Road Group may establish Sub Groups to:

- Assist to identify road funding priorities
- Consider local road issues to inform decision making by the Regional Road Group
- Provide advice to the Regional Road Group

A Regional Road Group may establish a Technical Group(s) to:

- Assist with management and consideration of local road issues
- Provide technical advice to the Regional Road Group

The Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads short title Significant Local Government Roads are a documented list of regionally significant Local Government roads for each Regional Road Group (RRG) and the development strategies for them.

The first editions, Roads 2020 Regional Road Development Strategies, were released during 1997 and 1998 and were an initiative of the 1992 Memorandum of Understanding between the State Government and the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA), then known as the Western Australian Municipal Association (WAMA). Main Roads is currently in the process of reviewing the draft guidelines and criteria for significant roads and the revised document (see draft **Attachment 13**) will inform the compilation of the latest version, which will supersede Roads 2030 published in 2013.

Local Governments (via RRGs) work collaboratively to review and update the current list of Significant Local Roads to produce the latest strategy. This provides an agreed, strategic approach to the allocation of limited funding across the extensive road network within the state of Western Australia. Only projects on local roads included in the Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads will be eligible for Road Project Grant funding under the latest State Roads Funds to Local Government Agreement.

Officers Comment:

Under the Goldfields Esperance WALGA Zone, all LGAs have a requirement to have an elected member participating on the GERRG (refer **Attachment 13.2**).

Following the GERRG Technical Officers Group meeting in Kalgoorlie on 16 October 2020, there was some discussion regarding the revised criteria and whether the GVROC member LGAs could investigate options to seek a preferred supplier panel of road construction and maintenance contractors.

The Road Classification Working Group (consisting of representatives from Main Roads and WALGA) has been reviewing the current criteria and policy for determining if a road qualifies for listing in the Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads. Considerable time has been spent formulating the draft to date as well as a large number of roads tested against the criteria by way of sensitivity studies. The identification of significant roads within built up urban areas has also been addressed by adding selective criteria. The Working Group has strived to make the criteria more objective thereby driving a more consistent approach to the selection of significant roads.

Following the GERRG Technical Officer Group meeting, Joanne Brown, Business Services Co-Ordinator - Goldfields-Esperance Region for Main Roads WA has requested LGAs review the information provided and advise her of your responses by COB 11th November 2020.

It is proposed that following acceptance and adoption of the Criteria, each Regional Road Group, including the GERRG will be tasked to form a working group to review all of the roads currently showing on the their Roads 2030 list of roads. To inform the RRG review workshop, Main Roads will issue instructions including a data sheet of all the roads currently depicted in the Roads 2030 documents, along with any additions made through the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee (SAC) in later years. The final document will be live to enable amendments to be made quickly to each RRG document and be available online.

The CEO of Shire of Dundas, Peter Fitchat has advised that the new proposed criteria will exclude roads currently eligible for RRG funding, which could be seen as another cost shifting from State Government regarding Road Funding. In this respect the GVROC LGAs need to understand the impact that the changes to the criteria will have.

It has also been mentioned that any roads chosen to be funded need to be shovel ready, fully costed, with business cases and approval plans in place. Timeframes for expending funding must be met, especially given funding has a connection to the economic stimulus packages including road funding.

This raised the question of RRG LGAs having the capacity and capability to deliver on the requirements and it was suggested at the GERRG Technical Officers Group meeting in Kalgoorlie on 16 October 2020 by the GVROC Chair the possibility of a GVROC Regional Supplier Panel List for our Region that will assist the GVROC LGAs to easily contract road construction and maintenance contractors to deliver against any of the requirements placed on the funding.

Consultation: WALGA, GERRG

Financial Implications: A preferred supplier panel could reduce costs of individual LGAs on a project by project basis.

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. Note that Under the Goldfields Esperance WALGA Zone, all LGAs have a requirement to have an elected member participating on the GERRG.
2. Note the Main Roads WA and WALGA Draft Guidelines and Criteria for the Identification of Significant Local Government Roads, the potential changes and impacts to current roads that will now be excluded, and the requirement for LGAs to provide feedback on these back to Main Roads WA.
3. Note once the criteria is adopted that the GERRG will be tasked to form a working group to review all of the roads currently showing on the their Roads 2030 list of roads, which will require input from each GVROC LGA.
4. Support / Not Support the GVROC through its Chair investigating further the possibly and process for establishing GVROC Regional Supplier Panel List for our Region that will assist the GVROC LGAs to easily contract road construction and maintenance contractors to deliver against any of the requirements placed on the funding.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

9.8 GVROC Support to Shire of Wiluna to be formally recognised as part of the RDA Goldfields Esperance Boundary

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, GVROC Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: November 2020

Attachments: GVROC Letter of Support to Shire of Wiluna (**Attachment 14**)

Background:

On 29 October 2020, the CEO of Shire of Wiluna formally requested a letter of support from the GVROC towards its business case required to be submitted to the Australian Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development to be considered to change its RDA regional boundary from the Midwest to Goldfields Esperance.

The process for this change of boundary is set out in the RDA Better Practice Guide (pg17 https://www.rda.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2019_rda_better_practice_guide.pdf), which in summary states:

1.7 RDA Boundaries

In a small number of cases a local government area may be divided between two RDA Committees where a clearly definable district aligns better with one RDA Committee, whilst the remainder aligns better with another RDA Committee. Such arrangements are only entered into with the agreement of both RDA Committees and the support of relevant stakeholders such as the local governments affected and partner State or Territory governments.

1.7.1 RDA Boundary Adjustments

RDA Boundaries may be adjusted where changes to local government boundaries, changing demographics or other relevant factors make such changes desirable.

RDA Committees, and partner State or Territory governments and local governments, may request RDA Boundary adjustments. The Department may initiate boundary changes where necessary. Boundary adjustment requests must be made in writing to the Department's liaison officer specified in the Funding Agreement, and include:

- a clear business case for the proposed change;*
- written support from all RDA Committees affected by the proposed changes;*
- where relevant, written support from a partner State or Territory government; and*
- written support from other relevant stakeholders such as local chambers of commerce, local members of parliament and the like.*

Consideration of requests for boundary changes will be on a case-by-case basis by the Commonwealth Minister with responsibility for the RDA program, in conjunction with their State or Territory Ministerial counterpart in partner jurisdictions, and with the President of the Local Government Association of South Australia for RDA Committees in South Australia.

Changes to funding to support any changes resulting from boundary adjustments will be negotiated with the affected RDA Committees prior to a decision to change a Boundary. The views of partner State or Territory governments may also be considered in any changes to respective RDA Committees' Funding allocations.

Any changes to Boundaries of an RDA Committee will require a variation to their Funding Agreement(s) to reflect the changes to the area covered.

The Shire of Wiluna is also in the process of having its State Development Commission boundary changed as well from the Midwest Development Commission to the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission.

The changes to the Development Commission boundaries is a State matter and with Federal Boundaries this is with RDAs.

State Development Commission boundary changes require legislative changes to the *WA Regional Development Commissions Act 1993* to accommodate, however for Federal just a business case submitted between 15 January and 15 February of each calendar year to the Department of Regional Development addressed to the relevant Commonwealth Minister, hence this request for a letter of support from the GVROC.

In regard to the changes of the State Development Commission Boundary, the GEDC has confirmed with the Shire of Wiluna that they are just waiting on the change to go through legislation.

Officer Comment

An out of session in-principle letter of support was circulated to all GVROC delegates, other than the Shire of Wiluna on 2 November 2020 for approval and confirmation of support.

All GVROC LGAs responded their approval for the letter.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC now endorse the previous in principle letter of support to the Shire of Wiluna circulated out of session, to be formally recognised as part of the RDA Goldfields Esperance Boundary.

RESOLUTION:	Moved:	Seconded:
--------------------	---------------	------------------

9.9 Finalisation of Withdrawal of the Shire of Ravensthorpe from the GVROC

Reporting Officers: James Trail, CEO Shire of Coolgardie

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

At a special meeting of the GVROC held 26 June 2020 on the request of the Shire of Ravensthorpe to formally withdraw from the GVROC, it was resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council:

1. **Accept the withdrawal from GVROC request of the Shire of Ravensthorpe date 19 June 2020, which will take effect as at close of business 30 June 2020.**
2. **Endorse that the disbursement of an equal tenth share of proceeds and any surplus funds to the Shire of Ravensthorpe, or recovery of liabilities or debts, will be based on the GVROC financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2020 once they have been finalised and audited.**
3. **Authorise the President and CEO of the Shire of Coolgardie and the Executive Officer for GVROC, to work with the Shire of Ravensthorpe President and Chief Executive Officer to finalise all associated documentation to bring effect of this withdrawal.**

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Ian Mickle – Shire of Esperance

Carried

Officers Comment:

As per Item 7.2 – Draft GVROC Audited Financial Statements 2019/20, the GVROC can now finalise the withdrawal of the Shire of Ravensthorpe through the disbursement of an equal tenth share of proceeds and any surplus funds to the Shire of Ravensthorpe, or recovery of liabilities or debts, based on the GVROC audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2020.

This equates to a payment of **\$38,940.60** to the Shire of Ravensthorpe, being one tenth of the GVROC surplus funds (\$389,406) sitting in the GVROC accounts as of 30 June 2020.

To finalise this process, it is recommended that the GVROC endorse this payment to the Shire of Ravensthorpe.

Consultation: GVROC Chair
Shire of Ravensthorpe

Financial Implications: GVROC Finances reduced by \$38,940.60 as per the disbursement made.

Strategic Implications: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC based on the resolution of Item 7.2 on this agenda in relation to the accepting of the 2019/20 draft audited GVROC financial statements, endorse the disbursement of an equal tenth share of proceeds and any surplus GVROC funds less recovery of liabilities or debts to the Shire of Ravensthorpe, equating to a payment of \$38,940.60.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded:**

10. AGENCY REPORTS

10.1 WALGA

WALGA verbal update report by Tony Brown and Carol-Anne Bradley

10.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

DLGSCI verbal update report by Jodie Holbrook

10.3 Goldfields Esperance Development Commission

Introduction to Amy Hallam, GEDC Director Regional Development and GEDC update report.

10.4 RDA Goldfields Esperance

RDAGE verbal update report provided by Ms Jo Swan

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC note the Agency Reports as provided.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

11. LATE ITEMS as notified, introduced by decision of the Meeting

Nil.

12. FUTURE GVROC COUNCIL MEETINGS/FUNCTIONS

Next Meetings

With the continuing and evolving situation of the COVID-19 “Corona Virus” scheduling of future meetings as in person is a watching brief. This will be reviewed at each meeting by GVROC and decisions made on whether the meetings are held as in person meetings or conducted through Zoom video conferencing.

In noting the above, the following suggested dates in 2021 have been set for the remaining GVROC meetings.

- 29 January 2021 (hosted by Shire of Esperance in Esperance)
- 26 March 2021 (central meeting hosted by CKB in Kalgoorlie)
- 28 May 2021 (regional hosted tbc)
- 30 July 2021 (Aligned with LGA week in Perth possibly August tbc)
- 24 September 2021 (regional hosted tbc)
- 26 November 2021 (tbc)

The following are the WALGA State Council meeting dates in 2021 with suggested GVROC Zoom video conference meeting dates prior to these to inform the GVROC’s representatives attending the meetings with relevant input for State Council Agenda Items:

- 2 December 2020 - (GVROC Video conference on 27 November 2020)
- 3 March 2021 – (GVROC Video Conference on 19 February 2021)
- 5 May 2021 – (GVROC Video Conference on 23 April 2021)
- 7 July 2021 – (GVROC Video Conference on 25 June 2021)
- 2-3 September 2021 – (GVROC Video Conference on 20 August 2021)
- 1 December 2021 – (GVROC Video Conference on 19 November 2021)

13. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at _____.



Ph: (08) 9080 2111
Fax: (08) 908027 3125
M: 0403 447 303
PO BOX 138, KAMBALDA WA 6442
Email: ceo@coolgardie.wa.gov.au
mannadvisory@bigpond.com

GVROC Council Meeting

Friday 11th September 2020
In person meeting
hosted by City of Kalgoorlie Boulder
577 Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie WA 6430
Councillors Conference Room
8.30am – 12:30pm

Unconfirmed Minutes

CONTENTS

1.	OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	3
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	3
3.	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE	3
3.1	Attendance	3
3.2	Apologies	4
3.3	Guests	4
3.4	WALGA Representatives	4
3.5	DLGSCI Representatives	4
3.6	GEDC Representatives	4
3.7	RDAGE Representatives	4
4.	GUEST SPEAKERS	5
4.1	Hon Kyran O'Donnell, MLA Member for Kalgoorlie	5
4.2	June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	5
5.	PRESENTATIONS	6
5.1	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (15 minutes)	6
5.2	WALGA RoadWise program and its role in the Local Governments (15 minutes)	6
6.	MINUTES OF MEETINGS	7
6.1	Minutes of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) meeting held 24 July 2020	7
6.3	Matters for Noting	7
6.4	Correspondence for Noting	8
7.	GOLDFIELDS RECORDS STORAGE FACILITY	9
7.1	Goldfields Records Storage Facility – Update	9
8.	GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS BUSINESS	12
8.1	GVROC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2020-2022 and Meeting Procedures Update and Future of GVROC	12
8.2	Establishing a Camel Industry – Update Report	15
8.3	GVROC Drought Relief Committee update	18
8.4	GVROC Economic Policy Paper	19
8.5	Prioritising social and affordable housing	21
8.6	Feedback sought on WA's waste management legislation	23
9.	AGENCY REPORTS	25
9.1	WALGA	25
9.2	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	25
9.3	Goldfields Esperance Development Commission	25
9.4	RDA Goldfields Esperance	25
10.	LATE ITEMS as notified, introduced by decision of the Meeting	25
11.	FUTURE GVROC COUNCIL MEETINGS/FUNCTIONS	26
12.	CLOSURE OF MEETING	26

GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)

A in person and video conference meeting of the GVROC Council was held Friday 11 September 2020 commencing at 8:30 am.

AGENDA

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss business related to the activities of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Pursuant to the Code of Conduct, Councillors and CEOs must declare to the Chairman any potential conflict of interest they may have in a matter before the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils as soon as they become aware of it. Councillors, CEOs and Deputies may be directly or indirectly associated with some recommendations of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils. If you are affected by these recommendations, please excuse yourself from the meeting and do not participate in deliberations.

Declarations of Interest

Cr Shelley Payne, Shire of Esperance declares a standing interest as a member of the GEDC for this and all future GVROC meetings.

Cr Shelley Payne, Shire of Esperance declares a standing conflict of interest until March 2021 in relation to her selection on the agricultural region ticket for the Legislative Council for the upcoming State Election.

3. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Attendance

Cr Mal Cullen (Chair)	President, Shire of Coolgardie	
Mr James Trail	CEO, Shire of Coolgardie	
Cr Tracey Rathbone	Councillor, Shire of Coolgardie	
Mr John Walker	CEO, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	
Cr David Grills	Councillor, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	
Cr Laurene Bonza	President, Shire of Dundas	
Mr Peter Fitchat	CEO, Shire of Dundas	
Cr Sharon Warner	Councillor, Shire of Dundas	
Cr Ian Mickel	President Shire of Esperance	
Mr Shane Burge	A/CEO, Shire of Esperance	
Cr Shelley Payne	Councillor, Shire of Esperance	
Cr Patrick Hill	President, Shire of Laverton	(Via Zoom Video)
Mr Peter Naylor	CEO, Shire of Laverton	(Via Zoom Video)
Mr Jim Epis	CEO, Shire of Leonora	(Via Zoom Video)
Cr Keith Mader	Councillor, Shire of Menzies	
Mr Pascoe Durtanovich	A/CEO, Shire of Menzies	
Cr Timothy Carmody	Councillor, Shire of Wiluna	
Ms Laura Dwyer	CEO, Shire of Wiluna	(Via Zoom Video)
Mr Kevin Hannagan	CEO, Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku	(Via Zoom Video)
Mr Andrew Mann	Executive Officer, GVROC	

3.2 Apologies

Cr John Bowler	Mayor, City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Cr Shaneane Weldon	Councillor, Shire of Laverton
Cr Peter Craig	President, Shire of Leonora
Cr Jill Dwyer	Councillor, Shire of Menzies
Cr Damian McLean	President, Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku
Cr Jim Quadrio	President, Shire of Wiluna

3.3 Guests

Hon Kyran O'Donnell, MLA Member for Kalgoorlie (Joined meeting at 9:15am and departed 10:00am))

June Bell Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

3.4 WALGA Representatives

Jo Burges Intergovernmental Relations and Risk (Via Zoom Video)
Carol-Anne Bradley Goldfields-Esperance Road Safety Advisor

3.5 DLGSCI Representatives

Nil

3.6 GEDC Representatives

Kris Starcevich CEO

3.7 RDAGE Representatives

Jo Swan Director

4. GUEST SPEAKERS

4.1 Hon Kyran O'Donnell, MLA Member for Kalgoorlie

Hon. Kyran O'Donnell answered some questions from the GVROC of interest to the region regarding his party's policies going into the State Election and position on the Local Government Act Review.

4.2 June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

The GVROC has discussed the drought situation in the region and its impacts for some time and established a Drought Relief Sub Committee of GVROC to look at opportunities for funding and responding to the drought situation. Members of this sub-committee were recently approached by June Bell, the Regional Recovery Officer (RRO) for the Federal Government's National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

June provided a presentation on various assistance available in regard to drought and will feedback the questions and information asked by GVROC at the meeting to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and look to see how she can assist the GVROC LGAs address the issues of not currently being eligible for drought relief funding in the region

June also provided the following information for the GVROC regarding current assistance available and more information about the Agency post her presentation.

<https://farmhub.org.au/> (FARMHUB – contains all available assistance for Farmers)

<https://www.grants.gov.au/> (GRANT connect – has all grants that people can access – including one that could assist with the Camel project – Advancing Pest Animal and Weed Control Solutions
<https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.GO.show&GOUUID=2BCFBF4C-A6BA-F8F2-610CFC836930E55C> -applications close 25/09/2020)

<https://www.droughtandflood.gov.au/> (Drought and Flood website with more information about the agency).

June also provided a copy of a recent article in the Countryman paper titled "Drought of WA loan requests" - By Cally Dupe, Countryman Thursday 10th September 2020 [Download PDF](#) or refer to attached pdf with these minutes.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (15 minutes)

Presentation was provided by CKB CEO, John Walker, regarding overview of current developments across the City.

5.2 WALGA RoadWise program and its role in the Local Governments

(15 minutes)

Presentation was provided by Carol-Anne Bradley on the RoadWise program and its role with Local Governments.

Copy of Presentation was included with Agenda.

5.3 Establishing a Camel Hub Operation (Producing Camel Tracking, Camel Milk, Camel Meat and Camel Pet Meat Meal as a solution to the feral camel issues in the region) (15 minutes)

Update Presentation was provided by Gilad Berman and Nat James (Camel Solutions Australia) on their project proposal from the presentation provided to GVROC at our Esperance meeting in January 2020.

6. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

6.1 Minutes of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) meeting held 24 July 2020

Minutes of the GVROC Council Meeting held Friday 24 July 2020 are presented for adoption (Attachment 1).

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the GVROC Council Meeting held Friday 24 July 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Ian Mickel - Shire of Esperance**
 Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone - Shire of Coolgardie

Carried

6.2 Action Sheet Report

An update on the actions based on the resolutions from the meeting held on 24 July 2020 is presented for noting (Attachment 2).

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Action Sheet Report as listed for noting be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies**
 Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone - Shire of Coolgardie

Carried

6.3 Matters for Noting

The following matters were presented for noting.

1. WA Government Ministerial Media Statements of relevance to the Goldfields Esperance Zone since the last GVROC meeting. (Attachment 3)
2. WALGA President's Report September 2020 (Attachment 4)
3. DLGSC August Local Matters Update
<https://mailchi.mp/dlgsc/local-matters-august-2020-1096582>

RECOMMENDATION:

That the matters for noting listed be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies**
 Seconded: Cr David Grills - City of Kalgoorlie Boulder

Carried

6.4 **Correspondence for Noting**

The following correspondence is presented for noting.

1. Letter dated 14 August 2020 to WALGA CEO, Nick Sloan, requesting a potential WALGA campaign to inform the Mining Industry on how Mining Tenement Rates are Set and its impact on LGA Rates (Attachment 5).
2. Letter dated 14 August 2020 to CME CEO, Paul Everingham, outlining GVROC's concerns on how the Mining Sector disburses Native Title Compensation Payable under ILUA's (Attachment 6) and the CME response letter (Attachment 7).
3. Letter dated 24 July 2020 to CEO Shire of Coolgardie, James Trail, providing support for Shire of Coolgardie - Expression of Interest for COAG waste export ban funding (Attachment 8)
4. Email correspondence from CEO Shire of Ravensthorpe, Gavin Pollock, regarding update of the progress of the Shire's withdrawal from GVROC (Attachment 9).

RECOMMENDATION:

That the correspondence listed for noting be received.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone - Shire of Coolgardie
Seconded: Cr Laurene Bonza - Shire of Dundas

Carried

7. GOLDFIELDS RECORDS STORAGE FACILITY

7.1 Goldfields Records Storage Facility – Update

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Records Storage Facility Financial Statements (Attachment 8)

Background:

At the Special Meeting of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) held 26th June 2020, Council resolved;

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council in relation to recommendations 1 to 4:

1. Note the report on the Goldfields Records Storage Facility Draft Financials 2019-20
2. Request a final detailed financial report for the period ending 30th June 2020 be presented to the GVROC Council Meeting on the 10th July 2020.
3. Note invoices need to be raised to the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Leonora and Menzies for 12 months to cover the 2019/20 operational costs of the facility.
4. Note the current market valuation of the Goldfields Records Storage Facility of \$500,000 (with a market range of \$475,000 to \$525,000).

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Timothy Carmody - Shire of Wiluna

Carried

5. That GVROC reject the recommendation as proposed at its meeting of 15 May 2020 which was laid on the table as follows:
 - a. Note this update and that the CEOs will each receive a copy of the Variation Deed for execution in the coming weeks.
 - b. Note when all ten executed copies are received the eligible Withdrawing Regional Group will receive their cash distribution of \$25,000.00 (exc GST).
 - c. Note that for the four remaining parties will also need to execute the new replacement agreement and Transfer of Land as outlined in the above comments.
 - d. Note this will then conclude the GVROC's responsibilities for the Records Facility and the four remaining parties will manage its operations outside of the GVROC.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Jim Quadrio - Shire of Wiluna

Carried

6. That the GVROC Council as representative of the Regional Group Members of the Joint Venture (the Parties to the Archives and Record Management Agreement) endorse and adopt the without prejudiced proposed solution to the records storage facility as detailed below, with the condition that should the facility not immediately be disposed all original members continue to meet their obligations under the Archives and Record Management Agreement until such time of its disposal in regards to:
 - 6a) All members share equally the specified fixed expenses for the facility e.g. insurance, rates, building maintenance; and
 - 6b) Current members that are still utilising the facility for records storage remain responsible for all other operating costs.
- 6.1 The Original Members, as the local governments named in the Records Agreement and as beneficial owners as tenants in common in equal shares of the archives and records storage facility located at Unit 2, 12 Federal Road, South Kalgoorlie (Facility), agree to dispose of the Facility currently held in the name of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder as bare trustee for the Original Members.

- 6.2 The method of disposal for the facility will be discussed and agreed by the members at the next meeting of GVROC scheduled for 24 July 2020.
- 6.3 After the disposal of the Facility the Joint Venture promptly be wound up.
- 6.4 As part of the process of winding up of the Joint Venture an account be taken of the finances of the Joint Venture from its creation to the date of winding up to determine the annual income and expenditure of the Joint Venture during the period of its operation and to determine the assets and liabilities of the Joint Venture as at the winding up.
- 6.5 The net assets of the Joint Venture be distributed in accordance with the terms of the Records Agreement equally between the Original Members.
- 6.6 All third-party costs of the sale of the Facility and the winding up of the Joint Venture be paid for from the assets of the Joint Venture.
- 6.7 Each of the Original Members otherwise pay their own costs of the dispute and of the disposal of the Facility and winding up of the Joint Venture.
- 6.8 The winding up of the Joint Venture and payment to each of the Original Members their share of the Joint Venture assets pursuant to this proposal will be:
 - 6.8.1 in full and final satisfaction of all claims any Original Member may have against any other Original Member or the Joint Venture with regard to the Joint Venture, the Records Agreement and the Facility; and
 - 6.8.2 upon payment each Original Member releases and discharges every other Original Member and the Joint Venture from and against all such claims whether or not the Original Members were or could have been aware of such claims which an Original Member:
 - (a) now has;
 - (b) at any time had;
 - (c) may have; or
 - (d) but for this settlement, could or might have had, against any other Original Member or the Joint Venture with regard to the Joint Venture, the Records Agreement and the Facility.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie

Carried

At the last GVROC meeting held on 24 July 2020, the GVROC further resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council as representative of the Original Parties to the Records Facility Agreement:

1. Endorse the CKB as the asset holder to engage a commercial real estate agent to place the facility for sale on the open market as the agreed method of disposal.
2. Accept a selling price based on the existing market evaluation in the range of \$475,000 to \$525,000 with this price to be reviewed and amended by agreement of all parties subject to any feedback from the open market disposal method which is contrary to the current valuation.
3. Request that the CKB provide an update report regarding the progress of the above recommendations at the next GVROC meeting in September 2020.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Ian Mickel, Shire of Esperance**
Seconded: Cr Jim Quadrio, Shire of Wiluna

Carried

Officer's Report:

The Shire of Coolgardie completed the detailed financial information for the facility input for the last three financial years since the last GVROC meeting on 24 July 2020 and the P&L and Balance Sheets were distributed to the GVROC Delegates and CEOs with the minutes of the 24 July meeting sent on 28 July 2020.

Discussions are still ongoing between the City of Kalgoorlie Boulder and the Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Leonora and Menzies to discuss an approach to purchase the facility as a joint consortium, given they still require the facility for records storage requirements.

The City Kalgoorlie Boulder CEO, John Walker has advised that Daniel Lavery of John Matthew and Sons has been engaged by the CKB to market this property. Daniel has indicated it will be formally marketed from 11 September 2020 at a listed price of \$549,000. The price offered will be assessed by Daniel but will not be lower than the market valuation.

Consultation: GVROC Chair
GVROC CEOs Group

Financial Implications: Nil to the GVROC but could have implications based on disposal price for those LGAs that wish to remain or purchase the facility.

Strategic Implications: Disposal of the Facility will remove the item from the GVROC agenda

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council as representative of the Original Parties to the Records Facility Agreement note the current update in the progress to wind up the Records Storage Facility.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie**
Seconded: Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies

Carried

8. GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS BUSINESS

8.1 GVROC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2020-2022 and Meeting Procedures Update and Future of GVROC

Reporting Officers: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

GVROC is a regional grouping of local governments that operates by way of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

At the meeting of GVROC held on 15 May 2020, it was revealed that the last GVROC MOU that was executed was for the period July 2015 – October 2017 and had not been reviewed or renewed on the annual basis as it stipulated. As a result, a new MOU was drafted and presented at the meeting for execution between all parties for the period 2020 to 2022.

At its meeting on 24 July 2020 the GVROC carried the following resolution:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the GVROC:

1. Note and endorse the updated MOU and new Meeting Procedures.
2. Request each GVROC Local Government President/Mayor and CEO execute under seal Schedule 1 of the MOU and return via scanned pdf page to the Executive Officer for collation with the MOU.
3. Note on receipt of all nine executed sections the Executive Officer will distribute the final executed copy to all CEOs for their records.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie*
 Seconded: *Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton*

Carried

Officer Comment:

Since the last GVROC meeting the following LGAs have executed Schedule 1 under seal and returned to the Executive Officer:

The Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Laverton, Leonora, Menzies, Esperance, Ngaanyatjaraku and Wiluna.

Still outstanding is the City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (CKB). The CKB has advised while it can sign it giving it only has a life of 1 year, before doing so they believe the GVROC should discuss the recommendations of the Local Government Act Review Panel, namely Recommendation 14, which outlines that the Regional Council model no longer continue and be replaced by Regional Subsidiaries.

Recommendation 14. The Panel recommends:

- a. *The regional council model is discontinued.*
- b. *A flexible model of joint (regional) and single (local) subsidiaries be introduced in order to enable:*
 - (i) *collaboration between local governments; and/or*
 - (ii) *involvement of local government in economic development including commercial activities.*

Greater cooperation and collaboration is one way to address financial sustainability and capacity of local governments without the fear of loss of identity. The Panel noted that there are a range of areas that could potentially be delivered jointly by local governments, such as corporate services, economic development, IPR, waste management and community planning.

The current Local Government Act provides for two formal approaches: regional local governments and regional subsidiaries. The Panel recommends that there would be benefits to having only one broader legislative model of collaboration. A single flexible model could reduce complexity and provide for a more tailored compliance regime. Local governments would still have the flexibility to enter into voluntary arrangements outside of the legislated model. This would remove the regional local government model under the new Act, noting the need for appropriate transitional provisions for those already established.

Further discussion and recommendations on this new flexible model, including its use for economic development, can be found under Smarter Planning and Service Delivery at Recommendations 37 to 40.

At the WALGA State Council Meeting on 2 September 2020 it resolved to support recommendation 14 above based on the following comments which were discussed at the GVROC meeting held on 28 August 2020:

Recommendation 14 proposes an end to the regional council model in favour of regional cooperation models set out in the previous recommendations.

WALGA has a strong advocacy history in support of regional subsidiaries¹ and is disappointed that the complexity of the existing legislative provisions means that no regional subsidiaries have formed since the Act amendment of 2016. WALGA has independently developed a revised version of regulations that limits unnecessary compliance without diluting transparency and accountability of regional subsidiaries, and therefore welcomes recommendations that will facilitate regional cooperation under this model.

WALGA is cognisant that regional councils are often formed for a singular purpose, most commonly waste management, yet compliance obligations are generally equivalent to that of a Local Government. It is current WALGA advocacy that the compliance obligations of regional councils should be reviewed². It appears the recommendations will create a suitable opportunity for the transition of regional councils to a model more suitable to the participant Local Governments.

Based on this recommendation and WALGA's support of it the GVROC does need to consider how it will operate into the future, noting that for the time being the current MOU should still be executed and reviewed either in 12 months and renewed until such time as the above recommendation is brought into force. It is expected that this change could take at least another 12 months in any case to enact.

Consultation: GVROC Chair

Financial Implications: N/A

Strategic Implications: N/A

Voting Requirement: Simple majority

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the status of the signing and execution of the MOU.
2. based on the Local Government Act Review Panel Recommendations on the future of regional councils, request each GVROC LGA take the current MOU and its principles back to their Council for discussion and to develop their position on the future structure and operations of the GVROC.

¹ State Council Resolutions 121.6/2017; 106.6/2016; 94.4/2011; 114.5/2010

² State Council Resolution 06.3/2019

3. request the Executive Officer to organise a two-hour workshop to be held on 13 November 2020 prior to the next GVROC meeting to discuss and agree the future of the GVROC, based on each LGA having a position following recommendation 2.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Timothy Carmody - Shire of Wiluna

Seconded: Cr David Grills - City of Kalgoorlie Boulder

Carried

Ms Laura Dwyer, CEO, Shire of Wiluna left the meeting at 10:50am.

8.2 Establishing a Camel Industry – Update Report

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

The GVROC Chair and Executive Officer have continued to work with the GEDC led Working Group and the consultants (Quantum Consulting) to finalise the draft Camel Industry Analysis Report, which has been completed.

Of note in the report is the recommendation for the GVROC to be the champion to bring this all together. To do this it is recommended that the GVROC establish a Beneficial Enterprise as the parent entity for accountability, program acquittal & development oversight (e.g. Board / Management Committee) for the camel industry in the region, with funding supplied through the Federal Government Regional Deal Program.

The recommendations from the report are as follows:

1. Government and stakeholders adopt a long-term view; pursue a minimum 10-year industry development program; that camel population reduction and camel commercialisation be viewed as complementary tasks of critical importance.
2. Immediately develop a camel industry strategy and business case to accompany grant applications and investment proposals.
3. Actively pursue a 'Regional Deals' partnership through engagement with Federal and State members of parliament; to better manage Australia's feral camel population and generate economic benefits for remote and regional communities across the Goldfields.
4. Encourage and support private investors to form partnerships, resources and feasibilities /business plans to develop the ventures outlined in this report.
5. Seek grant funding and investment support to establish a GPS monitoring system, a network of self-mustering yards on pastoral and Aboriginal lands, and technical support to help pastoralists adopt co-grazing. Aim is to ensure camel supply is reliable and sustainable from the outset.
6. Call expressions of interest to establish a panel of experts with 'deep' experience in breeding, handling and farming of camels to provide expertise to new operators, contractors, communities, GVROC and Government.
7. Establish a GVROC sub-committee to facilitate grant and investment applications, coordinate and support private investors, and provide guidance to locating and developing the required infrastructure (in collaboration with the panel of experts).
8. Aim to appoint a commercial project manager to liaise with stakeholders and implement the industry strategy that will deliver a sustainable camel industry within ten years.
9. Compile a register (online library) of education / training materials for pastoralists and Aboriginal stakeholders on issues relating to camel handling, domesticating, grading (age, health, condition), transporting, breeding / farming, processing, value-adding & marketing.

At the GVROC Meeting held on 24 July 2020, GVROC resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. **Note the draft Camel Industry Analysis Report and recommendations as presented.**
2. **Members provide all feedback and comments on the draft report by the 7 August 2020 to the GVROC Executive Officer for compiling and providing back to the GEDC and Quantum Consulting.**
3. **Will make a decision on the recommendation of establishing a beneficial enterprise as the parent entity for accountability, program acquittal & development oversight (e.g. Board / Management Committee) for the camel industry in the region, with funding supplied through the Federal Government Regional Deal Program, post its presentation of the final report at its meeting in September 2020.**

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Ian Mickel – Shire of Esperance
Seconded: Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton

Carried**Comment:**

The Report has now been finalised and the Minister for Agriculture and Food, Alannah MacTiernan, announced the report's release on 28 August 2020 as well providing an additional \$100,000 towards controlling feral camels for the Southern Rangelands, refer to following link <https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2020/08/Feral-camel-control-funds-for-Southern-Rangelands.aspx>.

A workshop was also held with representatives from GEDC, GVROC, DPIRD, GRNBA, other WA Government Departments, Pastoralists and Industry on Thursday 10 September 2020 prior to this meeting to further progress the recommendations from the report. The GVROC Chair will provide an overview on the outcomes from the workshop.

In regards to the GVROC making a decision about establishing a beneficial enterprise to become the parent entity for accountability, program acquittal & development oversight (e.g. Board / Management Committee) for the camel industry in the region, with funding potentially supplied through the Federal Government Regional Deal Program, the GVROC needs to consider the recent recommendations that have been released from the Local Government Act Review Panel around Local and Joint Subsidiaries and were discussed by the WALGA State Council on 2 September 2020 as follows:

Recommendations 39 to 42 - Local & Joint Subsidiaries**Local Government Act Reference: Part 3, Division 4**

Recommendation 39 proposes Integrated Planning and Reporting frameworks be cognisant of State Government plans when developing strategies for economic development.

Recommendation 40 proposes the new Local Government Act provide freedom for commercial activities, linking with Recommendation 41 which, whilst recommending against a beneficial enterprise model, makes positive recommendations for the support of commercial activities under an updated subsidiary model required to observe competitive neutrality principles. Recommendation 42 supports the use of regional subsidiary models unless qualified by the requirement to form an entity where the Local Government is not the dominant party.

WALGA Comment – *It is noted that Recommendation 41(a) to (i) details the elements required for a flexible subsidiary model, including a proposal under 41(h) that employees of a subsidiary fall within the jurisdiction of the WA Industrial Relations Commission. This conflicts with current WALGA advocacy that such a transfer is conditional upon modernisation of the State system to be more consistent with the Federal industrial relations system³.*

WALGA has a long-held advocacy position for the creation of Beneficial Enterprises⁴ with support for a vehicle for commercial activity ('Council-controlled organisations') dating back to WALGA's Systemic Sustainability Study 2008⁵.

WALGA Recommendation: Support Recommendations 39, 40, 41(a) to (g) and (i) and 42. Oppose Recommendation 41(h).

Consultation:

Mal Cullen	GVROC Chair
Kris Starcevich	GEDC
Regan Brewer	GEDC
Michelle Donaldson	GNRBA
Bruce Mullen	DPIRD
Tony Brown	WALGA

³ State Council Resolution 78.5/2018

⁴ State Council Resolutions 06.3/2019; 121.6/2017; 107.5/2010; 114.5/2010

⁵ *The Journey: Sustainability into the Future* - Action 21, Page 49

Financial Implications: \$10,000 in the 2020/21 financial year

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022
Objective 1, Goal 1.1

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the update and the outcomes from the workshop held on the 10 September 2020 to progress the recommendations from the Camel Industry Analysis Study Report.
2. Request the Executive Officer to prepare a letter of thanks to Camel Solutions Australia for their updated presentation to the GVROC and request they submit a formal proposal in writing outlining the assistance being sought from the GVROC.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie**
Seconded: Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies

Carried

8.3 **GVROC Drought Relief Committee update**

Reporting Officers: Peter Fitchat – CEO Shire of Dundas
Andrew Mann, Executive Officer - GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

On 15 November 2019 at the GVROC meeting a motion was adopted to establish a Drought Relief Committee subject to terms of reference being established and endorsed out of session by the GVROC.

On 31 January 2020 at the GVROC meeting it was resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. **Note the Final ToR and formally endorse the establishment of a Drought Committee to further address this issue.**
2. **Endorse the following representatives as members of the Drought Relief Committee:**
 - a. **Chair of GVROC: Cr Mal Cullen – Shire of Coolgardie**
 - b. **Three GVROC delegates as follows: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas, Cr Jim Quadrio and Cr Tim Carmody – Shire of Wiluna**
 - c. **Two GVROC CEOs as follows: Mr Peter Fitchat – Shire of Dundas and Mr Colin Bastow – Shire of Wiluna**

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas**
Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire of Coolgardie

CARRIED

Peter Fitchat has taken on the role of organising the Committee from the Shire of Wiluna and is keeping note of any drought focussed information coming from the Federal or State Governments in the interim until such time that this committee can start to meet.

Officer Comment:

Since the last GVROC meeting the Shire of Laverton has had discussions with June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, which has resulted in June attending the meeting today and speaking with GVROC.

Pending the presentation today from the National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency, the Drought Relief Committee will work with June Bell as the RRO for South WA to see how it can engage with the Federal Government in regard to addressing the drought situation in the region and having this information reported back to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. We will also look at how we can address the issue of not being eligible for current drought relief funding in the region a whether the criteria for this assessment can be amended.

Consultation: GVROC
GVROC CEOs

Financial Implications: TBD

Strategic Implications: Improved Sustainability, Job creation and retention of Primary Industry well into the future.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC note the update provided.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Timothy Carmody - Shire of Wiluna**
Seconded: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas

Carried

8.4 **GVROC Economic Policy Paper**

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer, GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Final GVROC Economic Policy Paper (Attachment 10)

Background:

Following the draft outline of the paper that was presented at the meeting on 15 May 2020, engagement was held with the GEDC, RDAGE, WALGA and the DLGSC to further develop an economic policy paper for the GVROC that can be utilised to lobby the State and Federal Governments as part of the economic recovery stimulus plans post Covid-19 and also during the upcoming State and Federal Government elections. The revised paper was then presented back to the GVROC at its meeting on 24 July 2020.

This Economic Policy Paper (Paper) has been developed by the GVROC to position, assist and drive growth for the region. It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed could enable the GVROC members to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The paper provides the GVROC with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

The paper also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow its regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The action from the GVROC meeting on 24 July 2020 was that all GVROC Delegates, CEOs, GEDC, WALGA, DLGSC, RDAGE were to provide feedback to the GVROC Executive Officer on the revised paper so it could be finalised and endorsed.

At the GVROC meeting on 24 July 2020, a motion was made by the Shire of Esperance President, Ian Mickle, to lay on the table the paper and its recommendation to this meeting to allow further time for consideration of the paper by the individual GVROC LGAs.

Following discussion on this motion a vote for and against was called on the motion which was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone - Shire of Coolgardie**
Seconded: Cr Ian Mickle – Shire of Esperance

Carried

Officer Comment:

Given the recent announcements from State and Federal Governments regarding stimulus packages for the region, and the looming State Government election in March 2021, it is critical that this paper be finalised and endorsed by the GVROC so that it can be circulated to relevant State and Federal Government Ministers and all local members of Parliament to ensure that any future funding announcements meet the needs and requests of the GVROC LGAs and the region.

Any further delays in putting this paper out may result in lost funding opportunities that are now present to meet the requests outlined in the paper.

Also, in consideration of feedback from each of the GVROC LGAs on the Economic Policy paper, the following comment was received by the CKB CEO – John Walker, which needs to be discussed and deliberated on before the GVROC is able to progress and endorse the paper going forward.

“The Economic Paper in many ways contradicts the Regional Capitals Alliance WA (RCAWA) view to which the CKB is aligned. Whilst there is general support for the contents of the paper the fundamental difference is that the CKB support economic stimulus through the Regional Capitals in pretence to delivering it through a ROC. This has become more obvious following an RCAWA Strategy Session held between the ten Regional Capital LGAs on 7 August 2020. I can’t support signing this and so will need direction from Council before doing so – John Walker CEO CKB, 14 August 2020”

In discussion on this item before the paper is finalised it was requested that all references to Royalties for Regions Program be withdrawn and only request State or Federal Financial Assistance in a more generic term.

Noting the above comments, it was recommended that the GVROC endorse this paper as it will benefit all LGAs in the region if successful in attracting funding and change to government policies.

Consultation: GVROC Chair
GVROC Strategic Working Group
GEDC
WALGA
DLGSC
RDAGE

Financial Implications: Still to be determined

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council endorse the Economic Policy Paper and request that the GVROC Executive Officer circulate it to all relevant State and Federal Ministers and local members of parliament for the region.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies*
Seconded: *Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie*

Carried

8.5 Prioritising social and affordable housing

Reporting Officers: Mal Cullen, GVROC Chair

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

Even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, affordability gaps in housing were increasing and apparent in both regional and metropolitan areas. The economic downturn has only aggravated inequalities in Australia's affordable housing market which needs serious attention. This is also becoming a major issue for the GVROC LGAs.

To address the issue the following areas need to be considered:

- How investing in social and affordable housing is delivered and how it could support the regions economic recovery – supporting social safety nets, generating jobs, and maximising consumption;
- Looking at collaborative approaches to new developments and innovative investment models to drive affordable housing; and
- Tailoring the development of social and affordable housing to the needs of regional communities, to enable people to be close to jobs and to support vulnerable Australians.

Currently the State Government's focus has primarily been on the metropolitan area with little interaction or consultation with LGAs. This has been shown recently when the State Government allocated \$394 million to a METRONET Social and Affordable Housing and Jobs Package. This Package is looking at assisting communities to:

- use housing to achieve better outcomes for individuals and families in need;
- deliver inclusive and connected communities where people of all incomes and backgrounds have a place to call home and belong;
- create a housing system that is more responsive to current and future needs; and
- address the State's aging social housing stock, changing client demographics and dwellings that are no longer suitable for client needs.

However, the shortfall in this project is that the State Government did not consult with the LGAs involved in this project, who have responsibility for servicing the communities involved. This can lead to conflicting situations and priorities and inability to meet the communities and LGA areas needs.

In this respect it is suggested that the GVROC could investigate further how it may be able to develop a model for delivering cost effective affordable housing and maintenance programmes, funded through the State Government, but run and managed locally, creating ongoing employment in the GVROC region.

Officer Comment:

As per recent conversations that have been held amongst various GVROC LGAs on this matter, I believe there is an opportunity in the current economic climate to make a concerted effort to target this space on a regional level should the GVROC agree it is a priority.

There are other similar models and projects operated around Australia, e.g. the Brisbane Housing Company Model, that the GVROC could investigate to build a proposal to take to the WA State Government requesting provision of funding to GVROC to manage that will deliver a project that will benefit the whole region on a more cost effective basis with build and future maintenance programmes completed locally. This type of model could provide each GVROC LGA with an instant economic development opportunity for their town.

Consultation: GVROC

Financial Implications: TBD

Strategic Implications: Improved Liveability, social and community wellbeing.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. agree on the need for an immediate solution towards addressing the maintenance and quality of current social housing and addressing affordable housing options in the region; and
2. endorse the GVROC Chair and Executive Officer to further develop a proposal to address this matter for consideration and approval by the GVROC prior to submission to the WA Government seeking funding.
3. endorse the GVROC Chair and Executive Officer as part of this process to engage with the DLGSC District Leadership Group to raise and discuss this matter.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie

Seconded: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas

Carried

8.6 Feedback sought on WA's waste management legislation

Reporting Officers:	Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Date:	September 2020
Attachments:	Discussion Paper WARR Act Review (Attachment 11)

Background:

The Government of Western Australia has released a discussion paper and is seeking feedback on the review of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007, the principal legislation for waste management in Western Australia.

The Act requires that the legislation be reviewed every five years. The review seeks to consider the effectiveness of the legislation in meeting its objectives for reducing waste and encouraging resource recovery and its alignment to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030.

Key areas of focus in the review include:

- recommendations from the 2016 Auditor General and 2018 Public Accounts Committee reports, which outlined areas where waste management could be improved through potential changes to the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007*
- legislative changes to support the container deposit scheme – Containers for Change – and future extended producer responsibility schemes
- legislative powers relating to the making of subsidiary legislation, and changes to support effective waste management and compliance and enforcement.

This review follows recent consultations on reforming the waste regulatory framework and management approaches. Examples include the release of two waste reform papers – Closing the loop: Waste reforms for a circular economy and the Review of the Waste Levy – in February 2020.

There is opportunity for the GVROC or individual LGAs to share their views on the effectiveness of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007, by making submissions to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) by 25 November, 2020. Feedback will help inform the review of the legislation and the proposals for reform.

Officer Comment:

As was mentioned at the GVROC meeting on 28 August 2020 to discuss the WALGA State Council Agenda, there appears to be a metropolitan focus on waste and resource recovery currently by the Municipal Waste Advisory Committee. This review of the WARR Act can provide an opportunity for the GVROC region and each LGA to promote its capabilities and capacity for reducing waste and encouraging resource recovery and highlighting what the region has to offer in this area compared to the metropolitan area through submissions to this review, particularly around areas where waste management could be improved through potential changes to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007.

The City of Kalgoorlie Boulder has advised it will also be providing direct input into the State's Waste Strategy review, given it is the largest local authority with the largest municipal tip, with a significant recycling program and a commitment to container deposit schemes, tip shop and other initiatives plus its direct experience in managing the disposal of tyres and other large scale issues. The City of Kalgoorlie Boulder was also included in the Auditor General's recent performance audit on this matter tabled in Parliament.

Also for noting by the GVROC, a meeting has been arranged on 24 September 2020 between the GVROC Chair and CEO of Shire of Coolgardie to meet with the DLGSC, DWER and WALGA to discuss their development of a Waste Strategy, which is a key project through the State Local Government Partnership agreement.

It is therefore recommended that each of the GVROC LGA be encouraged to review this discussion paper and provide submissions to it as they deem appropriate.

- Consultation:** GVROC Chair
City Kalgoorlie Boulder
Shire of Coolgardie
- Financial Implications:** TBD
- Strategic Implications:** Improved Sustainability and Job creation and retention into the future.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. Notes the Discussion Paper on the WARR Act Review;
2. Encourages each GVROC LGA to consider making its own submission on the discussion paper as it will help inform the review of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 legislation and the proposals for reform.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie**
Seconded: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas

Carried

9. AGENCY REPORTS

9.1 WALGA

WALGA verbal update report by Jo Burges and Carol-Anne Bradley

9.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

DLGSC verbal update report will be provided by Jodie Holbrook, Director Local Government Policy & Engagement along with the following information provided.

Community Resilience Scorecard (also featured in the DLGSC Local matters August Newsletter)

DLGSC was launched the Community Resilience Scorecard with Minister Templeman and research partners Catalyse and Local Government Professionals.

Webinar link. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwcq_SL5Cfq

Full report <https://dlgsc.wa.gov.au/departments/publications/publication/markyt-community-resilience-scorecard-results>

As part of the brief, the final report was dis-aggregated into 10 reports based on the Regional Development Commissions. The Goldfields Esperance Report is attached for your reference (Attachment 12).

These plans provide an important social lens and legitimacy to the WA Recovery Plan at a regional level. The reports highlight what the community would like local government to prioritise;

- economic recovery
- local employment opportunities
- community health and well being
- local infrastructure

Importantly, the development commission reports reflects alignment with WA State Recovery Plan and regional recovery sub plans.

DLGSC would be happy to arrange a presentation tailored for your Zone to discuss the outcomes of the report, research methodology or analysis with our research partner Catalyse.

Review State Local Government Partnership Agreement Review

The signatures of the agreement will commence the review of the partnership agreement to conclude in December 2020. Further advice is found in the WALGA State Council agenda for 2 September 2020 in the organisation update Governance report page 45. DLGSC will seek feedback across government agencies and LG Professional WA and WALGA will discuss their respective members.

9.3 Goldfields Esperance Development Commission

GEDC verbal update report by Kris Starcevich.

9.4 RDA Goldfields Esperance

RDAGE verbal update report provided by Ms Jo Swan

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC note the Agency Reports as provided.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie
Seconded: Cr Timothy Carmody – Shire of Wiluna

Carried

10. LATE ITEMS as notified, introduced by decision of the Meeting

Nil.

11. FUTURE GVROC COUNCIL MEETINGS/FUNCTIONS**Next Meetings**

With the continuing and evolving situation of the COVID-19 “Corona Virus” scheduling of future meetings as in person is a watching brief. This will be reviewed at each meeting by GVROC and decisions made on whether the meetings are held as in person meetings or conducted through Zoom video conferencing.

In noting the above, the following suggested dates in 2020 have been set for the remaining GVROC meetings.

- 13 November 2020 (Coolgardie)

The following are the WALGA State Council meeting dates in 2020 with suggested GVROC Zoom video conference meeting dates prior to these to inform the GVROC’s representatives attending the meetings with relevant input for State Council Agenda Items:

- 25 September WALGA Annual General Meeting – Crown Perth
- 2 December 2020 - (GVROC Video conference 27 November 2020)

12. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12:15pm.



Ph: (08) 9080 2111

Fax: (08) 908027 3125

M: 0403 447 303

PO BOX 138, KAMBALDA WA 6442

Email: ceo@coolgardie.wa.gov.au

mannadvisory@bigpond.com

GVROC Council Meeting – Action Arising

From the GVROC meeting on Friday 11th September 2020

Item	Action	Responsibility	Due Date
4.2	Presentation from June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet - GVROC Officer to distribute details for June Bell – Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) with further information and weblinks around drought assistance available to GVROC Delegates.	Andrew Mann	September 2020 Completed – sent with unconfirmed minutes
5.3 & 8.2	Establishing a Camel Hub Operation (Producing Camel Tracking, Camel Milk, Camel Meat and Camel Pet Meat Meal as a solution to the feral camel issues in the region) - GVROC Officer to prepare a letter for the GVROC Chair thanking Camel Solutions Australia for its update on its proposal and request them to formally put in writing what they are seeking from the GVROC.	Andrew Mann Mal Cullen	September 2020 Email sent on 29/9/20 – discussions ongoing with Camel Solutions Australia regarding their request for GVROC assistance.
7.1	Goldfields Records Storage Facility – CKB to provide an update at the next meeting on any interest shown from market for the property since last meeting. Five remaining LGAs to meet and decide direction for purchasing and operating the facility.	CKB & Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Leonora and Menzies	November 2020 CKB has advised that since placed on the market no interest has been shown in purchasing the Facility.
8.1	GVROC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2020-2022 - Each GVROC LGA take the current MOU and its principles back to their Council for discussion and to develop their position on the future structure and operations of the GVROC, based on the recommendations from the Local Government Act Review Panel report.	All LGAs	October 2020 All LGAs committed to taking to their Councils.
	The Executive Officer to organise a two-hour workshop to be held on 13 November 2020 prior to the next GVROC meeting to discuss and agree the future of the GVROC, based on each LGA having a position following action above.	Andrew Mann	13 November 2020 Scheduled and organised
8.4	GVROC Economic Policy Paper – Executive Officer to remove all reference to Royalties for Regions Program from the paper and include additional roads of strategic importance from the Shire of Wiluna. Upon changes resend paper with unconfirmed minutes as the final version for circulation and use by all as endorsed by GVROC in meeting.	Andrew Mann	September 2020 Completed – sent with unconfirmed minutes and distributed as per Agenda Item 6.4.
8.5	Prioritising social and affordable housing - GVROC Chair and Executive Officer to further develop a proposal to address this matter for consideration and approval by the GVROC prior to submission to the WA Government seeking funding. GVROC Chair and Executive Officer as part of this process to engage with the DLGSC District Leadership Group to raise and discuss this matter further.	Mal Cullen Andrew Mann	13 November 2020 GVROC Chair has spoken with Minister Tinley and further details as per Agenda Item 9.4
8.6	Feedback sought on WA's waste management legislation - Each GVROC LGA to consider making its own submission on the discussion paper as it will help inform the review of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 legislation and the proposals for reform	All LGAs	Submissions to DWER close 25 November 2020. Details provided by Executive Officer to all LGAs in Minutes of last meeting.

WA State Government Ministerial Media Statements Sept - Nov 2020

Date	Title	Page No.
7 September 2020	New chapter for Esperance Port as master planning begins	3
11 September 2020	New agreement to supply Port of Esperance	4
11 September 2020	McGowan Government launches solar schools program for regions	5
11 September 2020	\$3.4 million boost for State's biodiversity institute	7
21 September 2020	Water-saving support extended to 19 communities between Walpole to Esperance	8
21 September 2020	More support to the Goldfields to help residents save money on their water bills	10
1 October 2020	Western Australia ready to make change!	12
5 October 2020	Golden Outback tourism businesses share in funding support	13
5 October 2020	McGowan Government welcomes \$1.1 billion infrastructure spend	15
6 October 2020	Apply now for next round of regional events funding	16
8 October 2020	New mental health services one step closer to opening	17
8 October 2020	Recovery Budget delivers relief for regional families and drives economic activity	19
8 October 2020	McGowan Government commits more than \$750 million to enhance Aboriginal wellbeing	24
8 October 2020	Recovery Budget delivers relief for Goldfields-Esperance families and drives economic activity	26
8 October 2020	\$8.3 million to fund valuable airborne fire-mapping technology	29
9 October 2020	Grant program to support connection to Country	30
12 October 2020	Round Three of Digital Farm grants to boost connectivity	31
12 October 2020	Grants open for WA sport and recreation industry to support club development	32
12 October 2020	New online register to boost opportunities for locals in Goldfields-Esperance	33
12 October 2020	New bushfire and emergency services facilities for Esperance region	35
13 October 2020	Funding awarded for regional community partnerships	36
14 October 2020	More police on the beat in regional WA as part of Budget boost	37
14 October 2020	Housing strategy details social and affordable homes plan 2020-2030	38
19 October 2020	Coolgardie-Esperance Highway set for \$52 million upgrade	40
20 October 2020	Architects appointed for \$10 million job-creating Kalgoorlie TAFE upgrades	42
20 October 2020	Major investment in Western Australia's regional water infrastructure	43
21 October 2020	State Government contributes \$85,000 to enrich country sport	45
23 October 2020	Energy technology a boon for regional WA homes	46
29 October 2020	Goldfields breast cancer support increased	47
30 October 2020	Kalgoorlie and Mirrabooka domestic violence hub operators signed	48

Date	Title	Page No.
5 November 2020	Lead contractor appointed for solar schools program	50
5 November 2020	Response to State Coroner highlights bushfire management reform	51
7 November 2020	Locals set to make a splash at Kambalda's new \$3 million aquatic centre	57

New chapter for Esperance Port as master planning begins

Monday, 7 September 2020

- Master planning for Port of Esperance gets underway to drive future economic development and jobs in the region
- Important issues survey released to gauge community and stakeholder feedback
- Port Master Plan to consider infrastructure and land use issues for the next 30 years

Master planning to chart the Esperance Port's development and infrastructure needs over the next 30 years has kicked off today, with the release of a public survey.

The McGowan Government is committed to driving economic development and local jobs in Esperance and the broader region, with the Port Master Plan to help drive investment confidence in the Port of Esperance.

The Port Master Plan will take a long-term view of the port's planning and infrastructure requirements up to 2050.

The project will examine future land uses within the port, focusing on:

- safety and security issues;
- potential port impacts;
- infrastructure demands;
- existing and potential trade drivers;
- environmental and community values; and
- operational requirements to meet current and emerging trade opportunities.

The master planning process will include consultation with the community and stakeholder groups - including the 'Important Issues Master Planning Survey', which can be accessed from Southern Ports' website until midnight September 25, 2020.

The Port Master Plan is expected to be completed during the first half of 2021.

Comments attributed to Ports Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"Esperance Port is a critical driver for the Goldfields-Esperance economy, and a major employer in the town of Esperance.

"There is plenty of product in the hinterland that can drive the economy for many decades.

"Master planning will add significant value for Esperance Port's customers, the community and the wider regional economy, and Southern Ports will be seeking input from their stakeholders to help shape the plan.

"We encourage the local community to get involved in the development of the plan, which will help to shape Esperance Port's future for the next 30 years."

Minister's office - 6552 6200

New agreement to supply Port of Esperance

Friday, 11 September 2020

- Southern Ports Authority signs 20-year power supply agreement with Horizon Power
- Port of Esperance consumes 25% of the annual electricity generated in the region
- New Esperance power station to reduce carbon emissions by almost 50%

Southern Ports Authority has signed an agreement with Horizon Power to purchase power for the Port of Esperance commencing March 2022.

The Port of Esperance is one of the largest power consumers in the Esperance region, consuming approximately 25 per cent of Horizon Power's annual electricity output for the region.

The signing of the supply agreement follows the State Government's announcement to award the new Power Purchase Agreement for Esperance's power project to Contract Power Australia.

Esperance's new power solution will include a state-of-the-art gas power station, and a centralised battery and renewables hub consisting of a solar farm and two wind turbines.

Construction of the \$80 million project is scheduled to commence in October and it is estimated that over 50 jobs will be created during the 15-month construction phase.

As part of the project, Southern Ports Authority will lease a site in Shark Lake Industrial Estate to Horizon Power to accommodate the new renewables hub.

Comments attributed to Ports Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"This is a good news story of two State trading entities working together to provide a competitive long-term solution of mutual benefit to themselves and their customers.

"Under this new supply agreement, Southern Ports Authority will become Horizon Power's largest customer in the Goldfields-Esperance region, procuring 25 per cent of Esperance Power Station's supply.

"Horizon Power will use Southern Ports Authority land in the Shark Lake Industrial Estate to construct the new renewables hub, which will help pave the way for increased activity in the area."

Comments attributed to Energy Minister Bill Johnston:

"Southern Ports Authority will be an important foundation customer for the Esperance Power Project, which is delivering cleaner, greener energy to communities in the southern coastal region.

"Horizon Power's new power solution for Esperance will deliver the State Government average annual cost savings of around \$10 million a year.

"Esperance's new power solution will deliver a 50 per cent reduction in emissions, and increase the amount of electricity generated annually through renewables including wind and solar."

Ports Minister's office - 6552 6200

Energy Minister's office - 6552 6700

McGowan Government launches solar schools program for regions

Friday, 11 September 2020

- 30 public schools in remote and regional WA to benefit from Solar Schools Program
- Horizon Power to supply and install rooftop solar systems at schools
- Program will create 12 new jobs and two apprenticeship roles in regional WA
- Another important piece of the State's transition towards a low carbon future

Education and Training Minister Sue Ellery today launched the Solar Schools Program at Port Hedland Primary School.

The \$5 million program, delivered by the Department of Education and Horizon Power, will provide rooftop solar systems to 30 regional public schools throughout Western Australia.

This investment will create approximately 12 new full-time jobs across regional WA, during the 18-month construction period, and facilitate two new Aboriginal electrical apprenticeships.

The program will reduce the school's greenhouse gas emissions by more than 2,000 tonnes each year - the equivalent of taking around 400 cars off the road.

This aligns with the McGowan Government's Distributed Energy Resources Roadmap, which is committed to providing safe and reliable electricity at the lowest cost, while also making the State cleaner and more sustainable.

The initiative is part of the McGowan Government's \$200 million School Maintenance Blitz, announced on September 22, 2019, to address high priority maintenance, minor works and upgrades.

Comments attributed to Education and Training Minister Sue Ellery:

"The Solar Schools program is creating new, practical ways for students and teachers to acquire new skills in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) areas such as solar technology.

"The McGowan Government is proud to be delivering on its commitment to improving the maintenance of schools around the State, regardless of their location."

Comments attributed to Energy Minister Bill Johnston:

"Through the Solar Schools program, the McGowan Government is delivering on its commitment to a cleaner, greener renewable energy future for Western Australia.

"Energy is a significant expense for our schools and this program will allow them to each save 27 per cent on electricity costs - collectively, that's \$1.7 million worth of savings each year."

Education and Training Minister's office - 6552 5700

Energy Minister's office - 6552 6700

The full list of participating schools include:

- Baler Primary School
- Baynton West Primary School
- Cascade Primary School
- Cassia Primary School
- Castletown Primary School

- Condingup Primary School
- Derby District High School
- Esperance Primary School
- Esperance Senior High School
- Halls Creek District High School
- Hedland Senior High School
- Karratha Primary School
- Karratha Senior High School
- Laverton School
- Leonora District High School
- Looma Remote Community School
- Meekatharra District High School
- Millars Well Primary School
- Munglinup Primary School
- Norseman District High School
- Nulsen Primary School
- One Arm Point Remote Community School
- Pegs Creek Primary School
- Port Hedland Primary School
- Salmon Gums Primary School
- Scaddan Primary School
- South Hedland Primary School
- Tambrey Primary School
- Wiluna Remote Community School
- Wyndham District High School

\$3.4 million boost for State's biodiversity institute

Friday, 11 September 2020

- McGowan Government invests a further \$3.4 million in the Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute to build on advances in biodiversity science
- Science Minister Dave Kelly welcomes new WABSI CEO Professor Owen Nevin
- WABSI's recent achievements include leading the bid for \$29.5 million Cooperative Research Centre which will support the economic transition of former mining towns

The McGowan Government has committed an additional \$3.4 million to the Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute (WABSI), to continue support for collaborative research in the biodiversity sciences.

Science Minister Dave Kelly today announced an extension of funding to June 2023, bringing its total investment since the institute started in 2015 to \$10.1 million.

The State Government funds WABSI to support research projects which protect, conserve and ensure the sustainable management of Western Australia's unique flora and fauna.

Mr Kelly also welcomed WABSI's new CEO, Professor Owen Nevin, an experienced conservation biologist and research leader with a track record of successfully bringing together industry, researchers and government.

WABSI's recent achievements include leading the successful bid for a \$29.5 million Cooperative Research Centre for Transformations in Mining Economies (CRC TiME), announced in March.

The CRC TiME research aims to transform how mine sites are closed, to support prosperous and sustainable futures for surrounding regional communities and improve their local environments.

In partnership with the State Government, WABSI also conceptualised the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessments (IBSA) which captures and consolidates the data from industry-funded biodiversity surveys and makes it publicly accessible.

The IBSA data supports the State Government's new Environment Online portal to help streamline environmental assessment processes under a \$20 million investment from the WA Recovery Plan.

For more information, visit the WABSI website at <https://wabsi.org.au>

Comments attributed to Science Minister Dave Kelly:

"The McGowan Government is pleased to commit a further \$3.4 million in funding to WABSI to ensure our State's rich and unique biodiversity assets will be preserved for future generations to enjoy.

"WA is home to one of the world's richest diversities of plant and animal life, including eight of Australia's 15 terrestrial biodiversity hotspots.

"It's crucial we invest in the understanding of our environment, as WA's biodiversity is one of the main drivers of our economy through tourism, mining and agriculture.

"I'd like to take this opportunity to thank former CEO, Peter Zurzolo, who from his appointment in 2016 successfully built and led WABSI in becoming an institution that is valued for its collaboration and creating enduring benefits for Western Australia."

Minister's office - 6552 6100

Water-saving support extended to 19 communities between Walpole to Esperance

Monday, 21 September 2020

- Great Southern region experiencing unprecedented dry conditions due to climate change
- Waterwise offers extended to 19 communities across Great Southern region
- Albany and Esperance included in 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program
- 36 million litres of water saved in the region in 2019-20

Water Minister Dave Kelly today announced that the Waterwise Towns Program would be extended to provide water-saving support to a further 17 local communities, including Albany, Katanning, Narrogin, Ravensthorpe and Esperance.

Due to the impacts of climate change, the Great Southern agricultural region is experiencing unprecedented dry conditions following two years of well below average annual rainfall.

While many parts of the Great Southern have recently experienced a good rainfall event, the Water Corporation still needs to continue to cart drinking water to a total of 11 towns across this part of the State.

Western Australia's water supplies are precious, which is why this year the McGowan Government is significantly increasing the number of communities in the Great Southern region having access to water-saving offers from two in 2019-20 to 19 as part of the Water Corporation's 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program.

The program, which last year saved 36 million litres of water in the Great Southern, will again be available in Denmark and Walpole through the popular Rainwater Rewards rebate. The Rainwater Rewards rebate incentivises the purchase and plumbing in of rainwater tanks.

Offers and programs under the Waterwise Towns Program are designed to make it easier for regional households to reduce water consumption.

Depending on location, offers can include Rainwater Rewards, plumbing checks, comparative water-use letters and the Water Corporation's free Showerhead Swap program.

Showerhead Swap allows residents in participating communities to replace old, inefficient showerheads with waterwise alternatives. Last year, nearly 900 households across regional WA exchanged 1,274 showerheads, helping to save close to 18 million litres of water.

To further assist the community with saving water, the Leak Assist Program (LAP) has now also been extended to include regional WA. The LAP enables eligible customers to claim a rebate of \$100 when they engage a licensed plumber to repair a leak.

Localised offers under the 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program are available to participating communities across regional WA from October 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021.

Since 2013-14, the State-wide program has saved an estimated 1.27 billion litres of precious water - equivalent to 564 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

For more details and to view local offers, visit <http://www.watercorporation.com.au/waterwiseoffers>

Comments attributed to Water Minister Dave Kelly:

"In areas of southern WA, the impacts of climate change are being experienced more than just about any region in Australia. As a result, it is vital we support and encourage waterwise lifestyle habits.

"The Waterwise Towns Program is an incredibly effective way the McGowan Government, through the Water Corporation, is helping regional Western Australians conserve our most precious resource.

"Every drop of water is precious, particularly as we meet the challenges posed by climate change."

Comments attributed to Albany MLA Peter Watson:

"It's fantastic to see the Waterwise Towns Program extended across the Great Southern region making it easier and cheaper for households to conserve our most precious resource.

"I'd like to encourage residents in participating Great Southern towns to take advantage of available offers and embrace a waterwise lifestyle."

Minister's office - 6552 6100

Regional participants in the 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program

Location	Offers
Albany	Showerhead Swap, comparative water-use letters
Denmark	Rainwater Rewards
Esperance	Showerhead Swap, plumbing check, comparative water-use letters
Ravensthorpe	Showerhead Swap
Hopetoun	Showerhead Swap
Salmon Gums	Showerhead Swap
Grass Patch	Showerhead Swap
Walpole	Showerhead Swap, Rainwater Rewards
Bremer Bay	Showerhead Swap, plumbing check
Katanning	Showerhead Swap, comparative water-use letters
Hyden	Showerhead Swap
Narrogin	Showerhead Swap, comparative water-use letters
Wagin	Showerhead Swap, comparative water-use letters
Borden	Showerhead Swap
Ongerup	Showerhead Swap
Jerramungup	Showerhead Swap
Rocky Gully	Plumbing check
Varley	Plumbing check
Munglinup	Showerhead Swap

More support to the Goldfields to help residents save money on their water bills

Monday, 21 September 2020

- Waterwise offers now available to residents in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Wiluna and Laverton
- Water-efficient evaporative air-conditioning trial in Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Reduced rainfall caused by climate change has increased the cost of supplying water to Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Last year the State Government provided \$46 million to the Water Corporation to subsidise water bills in Kalgoorlie-Boulder

Water Minister Dave Kelly today announced that a new trial to optimise water use in evaporative air-conditioners during summer will be offered exclusively to Kalgoorlie-Boulder residents as part of the Water Corporation's 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program.

Around 200 high water-use households will be invited to take part in the trial, which provides free services through local contractors to ensure evaporative systems are using water efficiently.

In hot weather, these systems require up to 20 litres of water each hour to keep filtration pads clean, however, many systems use significantly more. Data gathered during the trial will help determine the most effective ways to ensure evaporative air conditioners use water efficiently in local conditions.

The Waterwise Towns Program, which last year saved 30 million litres of water in the region, will also enable residents in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Wiluna and Laverton, to replace old, inefficient showerheads free of charge under the Water Corporation's Showerhead Swap program.

To further assist the Goldfields community with saving water, the Leak Assist Program (LAP) has now also been extended to include regional WA. The LAP enables eligible customers to claim a rebate of \$100 when they engage a licensed, waterwise plumber to repair a leak.

Kalgoorlie-Boulder is supplied with water from the Integrated Water Supply Scheme (IWSS) through the historic Golden Pipeline.

Reduced rainfall in the south-west of Western Australia caused by climate change has meant that 43 per cent of water supplied through the IWSS now comes from desalinated seawater.

Water from the IWSS is transferred 550 kilometres to Kalgoorlie-Boulder, travelling through 20 pump stations, taking five to eight days, and stored in a tank where it is treated and finally delivered to residents, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

All residential customers in Kalgoorlie-Boulder pay the same amount for the first 300 kilolitres of water usage each year as do residential customers in Perth (that is \$1.827 per kilolitre for 0-150 kilolitres, and \$2.434 per kilolitre for 151-300 kilolitres), as per the Water Corporation's Tariff Cap Policy.

The majority of residents in Kalgoorlie-Boulder use less than 300 kilolitres of water per annum and for these customers, water is supplied at the same price as Perth.

While it costs the Water Corporation \$14.38 for every kilolitre of water supplied to Kalgoorlie-Boulder, the majority of residential customers in Kalgoorlie-Boulder receive water for around \$10 less per kilolitre than the cost of supply.

Higher water users in Kalgoorlie-Boulder pay an increased tariff but even these customers still pay significantly less for water than it costs the Water Corporation to supply it.

The McGowan Government provides an operating subsidy to the Water Corporation to keep the price of water below cost in Kalgoorlie-Boulder - last year this subsidy was \$46 million.

Kalgoorlie-Boulder residents can further reduce their water bill by taking advantage of the waterwise offers.

The local waterwise offers are available from October 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021.

For more details and to see local offers,

visit <http://www.watercorporation.com.au/waterwiseoffers>

Comments attributed to Water Minister Dave Kelly:

"Every drop of water is precious, particularly as we meet the challenges posed by climate change.

"The Waterwise Towns Program is an incredibly effective way the McGowan Government is helping regional Western Australians conserve our most precious resource and save money on their water bills.

"As rainfall continues to fall in the South-West, the cost of supplying water to Kalgoorlie-Boulder continues to increase.

"The McGowan Government spends around \$46 million a year to subsidise the cost of supplying water to Kalgoorlie-Boulder."

Minister's office - 6552 6100

Regional participants in the 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program

Town	Offers
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	Showerhead Swap, water-efficient evaporative air-conditioning trial
Wiluna	Showerhead Swap
Laverton	Showerhead Swap

Western Australia ready to make change!

Thursday, 1 October 2020

- WA's new container deposit scheme, Containers for Change launched today
- Customers to receive a 10 cent refund on eligible drink containers
- More than 200 refund points opening across WA
- More than 600 local jobs created at refund points across the State

Containers for Change, Western Australia's new container deposit scheme, has officially launched marking the delivery of a key McGowan Government election commitment.

From today, Western Australians will be able to cash in their eligible drink containers for a 10 cent refund at any of the more than 200 authorised Containers for Change refund points across the State.

Western Australia will have the most accessible container deposit scheme in Australia, with at least 229 refund points to be opened by the end of the scheme's first year. Almost half the refund points will be in regional Western Australia, including some of the most remote parts of the State.

More than 600 local jobs have been created at Containers for Change refund points, with many of those positions being filled by people with disability or the long-term unemployed, and also by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

It is estimated that the scheme will recycle an additional 6.6 billion containers over the next 20 years. Without the scheme it is estimated that 5.9 billion of these containers would have been landfilled and 706 million would have been littered.

Containers for Change will also provide a new way for community organisations and charities to fundraise, making it easy for Western Australians to give back to their local community.

Further information about Containers for Change, including refund point locations can be found at <http://www.containersforchange.com.au>

Comments attributed to Premier Mark McGowan:

"Today marks a very important step forward for recycling in Western Australia.

"People in WA use 1.3 billion drink containers every year, that's 3.5 million a day, 150,000 an hour and more than 2,000 a minute. We know that currently, these containers make up 41 per cent of all litter here in Western Australia.

"Containers for Change is a great win for our environment, for local jobs, for community groups and charities looking to fundraise, and for our kids to learn about the benefits of recycling.

"Western Australians have been crying out for a container deposit scheme, and I'm delighted to lead the Government that has finally delivered it for our State."

Comments attributed to Environment Minister Stephen Dawson:

"Community is at the heart of our Containers for Change scheme. It provides an exciting new opportunity for community groups, sporting clubs, charities and schools to fundraise for their important causes. We have had over 1,000 organisations already register and expect that number to continue to grow.

"I am incredibly proud that Containers for Change is providing so many employment opportunities, with more than 40 per cent of the jobs being filled by those with disability, the long-term unemployed or Aboriginal people.

"I'd strongly encourage all Western Australians to get involved, to start returning their eligible containers and start making change."

Golden Outback tourism businesses share in funding support

Monday, 5 October 2020

- 19 tourism businesses in Australia's Golden Outback receive Tourism Business Survival Grants
- Kalgoorlie's Goldrush Tours and Esperance's Cindy Poole Glass Gallery among successful local applicants
- Funding will help local tourism industry operators survive ongoing impacts of COVID-19
- Survival Grants are the second round of the McGowan Government's \$14.4 million Tourism Recovery Program

Nineteen businesses in the Australia's Golden Outback tourism region have received a share of \$8.7 million in funding support from the Tourism Business Survival Grants program.

The initiative is providing funding to tourism businesses around the State as part of the second round of the McGowan Government's \$14.4 million Tourism Recovery Program.

While much of the State is enjoying a tourism boom as Western Australians holiday at home, some regions and tourism sectors are continuing to be challenged by the impacts of COVID-19.

The program is providing grants of \$15,000-\$100,000 to help tourism operators sustain and grow their businesses in the current environment - to cover fixed costs and overheads, purchase business materials and services, and shift focus to the domestic market.

Australia's Golden Outback region stretches from Mount Augustus and the Kennedy Ranges to Esperance, including Kalgoorlie and the Goldfields. Like destinations all around the State, local tourism businesses have been impacted by COVID-19.

State Government initiatives, such as the Wander out Yonder campaign, have been helping the region to rebound, with anecdotal reports showing strong bookings not only for these school holidays but looking ahead to the December break, particularly for Esperance.

The Tourism Business Survival Grants program funding follows the initial phase of tourism industry support that focused on small businesses with one-off grants of \$6,500.

The Tourism Recovery Program has provided wide support to the regions and sectors most impacted by COVID-19, with 70 per cent of all applicants successful in receiving funding.

Over \$4 million in leftover funding from the Tourism Recovery Fund has been reallocated to the Tourism Business Survival Grants program - more than doubling the original \$4 million allocation.

A full list of successful Tourism Business Survival Grants program recipients will be available from 8am today (October 5) at <http://www.tourism.wa.gov.au>

Comments attributed to Tourism Minister Paul Papalia:

"The Golden Outback region, like all of our regional destinations, saw significant disruptions this year due to COVID-19. Businesses were unable to trade for a period, and the loss of out-of-State visitors has had unavoidable impacts on the sector.

"While things have been picking up with the Wander out Yonder campaign seeing Western Australians travelling the State in huge numbers, some businesses will continue to experience difficulties.

"Tour and experience operators like Goldrush Tours, and businesses with a stronger focus on out-of-State visitors like Cindy Poole Glass Gallery are among those likely to be more impacted for longer by COVID-19.

"The Survival Grants will help our quality local tourism businesses keep afloat, providing extra support to adjust to the current environment and look at new ways of doing business."

Comments attributed to Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Kyle McGinn:

"Goldrush Tours are a fantastic local tourism operator. It is great to see them receive funding as part of the McGowan Government's \$8.7 million Tourism Business Survival Grants program.

"The McGowan Government is working hard to ensure that tourists continue to visit regional Western Australia. As a local MLC, I look forward to seeing more visitors discover the Golden Outback with the help of our fantastic tourism operators."

Minister's office - 6552 5600

McGowan Government welcomes \$1.1 billion infrastructure spend

Monday, 5 October 2020

- The McGowan Government has welcomed today's announcement of \$1.1 billion for transport infrastructure from the Commonwealth Government
- Funding to go towards key projects negotiated by State Government to create jobs and improve safety
- New funding will extend the \$6.5 billion pipeline of major transport infrastructure work already underway in Western Australia
- McGowan Government delivering an unprecedented amount of road and rail projects across Western Australia

The McGowan Government has welcomed the \$1.1 billion transport infrastructure spend today announced by the Commonwealth Government.

The projects, negotiated by the State Government, will help create thousands of local jobs and improve safety across the State.

This will extend the \$6.5 billion pipeline of road and rail works currently underway across Western Australia, creating and supporting jobs and providing opportunities for local businesses.

The McGowan Government is already spending \$260 million a month on infrastructure, with \$100 million of this funding in regional WA.

Key projects funded in today's announcement include \$16 million for Cape Leveque access roads in the Kimberley and \$16 million for works on the Goldfields Highway (Wiluna to Meekatharra), which will enable the continuation of local jobs and training opportunities in the local area.

Regional road safety is a major priority of the McGowan Government we welcome further funding for the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network, and other regional road safety projects.

Funding for other major road projects, such as the Roe Highway interchange project, will allow the project scope to expand and to be progressed as soon as possible.

The McGowan Government has also worked to fast track approvals and cut red tape for an additional 11 major transport infrastructure projects, worth \$2.37 billion and estimated to create 13,000 local jobs.

Comments attributed to Transport Minister Rita Saffioti:

"We've worked collaboratively with the Commonwealth Government to identify projects that will create and support local jobs while also improving safety and capacity across our road and rail networks.

"We already have a pipeline of \$6.5 billion of major road and rail works underway across Western Australia over the next two years - this will extend the pipeline of work and will continue to help the State economy through and past COVID-19.

"This year alone we have seven METRONET projects under construction with several more moving into procurement phase, creating thousands of local jobs, as well as major road projects underway such as the \$175 million Albany Ring Road.

"We're building the transport infrastructure needed for tomorrow - no matter where you visit in WA you will see hard hats on the ground and infrastructure works underway."

Minister's office - 6552 5500

Apply now for next round of regional events funding

Tuesday, 6 October 2020

- Applications now open for Regional Events Scheme 2021-2022
- Up to \$1 million total funding available, including a dedicated funding pool of \$150,000 for the Regional Aboriginal Events Scheme
- Supported by the State Government, through Tourism WA and the Royalties for Regions Regional Events Program

Event holders from around the State are encouraged to apply for the 2021-2022 Regional Events Scheme funding round, which opens today.

Supported by the McGowan Government, through Tourism WA and the Regional Events Program, the initiative supports smaller and developing Western Australian events.

A total of \$1 million of funding is available through the scheme, including funding of \$150,000 for the Regional Aboriginal Events Scheme (RAES). The RAES is for events that showcase Aboriginal activities and experiences through the leadership and participation of Aboriginal people.

As part of the 2020-21 funding round, 77 diverse regional events were awarded funding, including the 2020 Brew and the Moo in Dampier, Bunbury Fringe 2021 and Starry Weekend in Koorda.

To be eligible for either scheme, events must be held between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, with event holders able to make a funding submission for between \$5,000 and \$40,000.

Applications close at 5pm WST on Tuesday, December 1, 2020.

For more information or to apply, visit <http://www.tourism.wa.gov.au/events/event-sponsorship/pages/regional-events-scheme.aspx#/>

Comments attributed to Tourism Minister Paul Papalia:

"Regional tourism plays an essential part in supporting local jobs and the economy in communities around the State, and is playing an important role as WA maps its recovery from COVID-19.

"Not only do the events awarded funding through these schemes contribute to attracting visitors to our spectacular regions, they also provide promotion for the region through media coverage and create a vibrant local atmosphere for tourists to enjoy.

"This is a brilliant opportunity for event holders to apply for funding to support their event and take advantage of the huge numbers of Western Australians travelling the State at the moment."

Comments attributed to Regional Development Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"Regional events bring communities together, supporting jobs and celebrating regional Western Australia's rich tapestry of talent and natural attractions.

"With so many Western Australians exploring the regions, events such as those under the Regional Events Scheme and Regional Aboriginal Events Scheme give communities the chance to showcase all they have to offer - and hopefully build a fan base that will live on after COVID restrictions end."

Tourism Minister's office - 6552 5600

Regional Development Minister's office - 6552 6200

New mental health services one step closer to opening

Thursday, 8 October 2020

- Service providers have been appointed to operate the Mid-West, Goldfields and Pilbara community mental health Step Up/Step Down services
- Mid-West and Goldfields services to open early next year

Three regional community mental health Step Up/Step Down services are one step closer to opening with non-government organisations appointed to operate the services.

Neami National has been awarded the tender to operate the 10-bed service that will be located in Geraldton and the 10-bed service that will be located in Kalgoorlie.

Today, Parliamentary Secretary for Mental Health Alanna Clohesy and Agricultural Region MLC Laurie Graham inspected the progress of the Geraldton site.

In the last Mid-Year Review, the McGowan Government provided an extra \$2.4 million to fast track the Mid-West service so it could open 12 months earlier than expected. Both the Mid-West and Goldfields services will open early next year.

Richmond Wellbeing has also been appointed to operate the six-bed Pilbara service which is expected to open later in 2021.

The WA Country Health Service will provide clinical supports as part of each of the services.

Community mental health Step Up/Step Down services provide a vital service for people with mental health issues, aiming to support people in the community, close to their personal support from family and friends.

The McGowan Government has invested over \$87.6 million in capital and operational funding to progress the establishment of community mental health Step Up/Step Down services to better support local communities. Along with Mid-West, Goldfields and Pilbara, these include the Kimberley (six beds), South-West (10 beds) - which opened this year - and the Great Southern (6-beds) which opened in 2018.

Mental health, alcohol and other drug services in your local area can be found at <http://www.myservices.org.au>

Comments attributed to Mental Health Minister Roger Cook:

"This year, with the COVID-19 pandemic impacting all of us, wellbeing has become more important than ever and the McGowan Government is committed to helping ensure people can access help and support when they need it, close to their homes.

Our commitment to establishing regional community mental health Step Up/Step Down services has not wavered because we know people recover from mental health issues when they can receive care, support and treatment within their own community.

By appointing the service providers, we are one step closer to opening the services for the community."

Comments attributed to Parliamentary Secretary for Mental Health Alanna Clohesy:

"I am pleased that these operators have been appointed and will soon start their transition for the service.

I look forward to seeing Neami, Richmond Wellbeing and the WA Country Health Service work together with communities to help improve mental health and wellbeing in our regions."

Comments attributed to Agricultural Region MLC Laurie Graham:

"This much-awaited service in Geraldton will be of such a great benefit to the people of Geraldton and surrounds.

Many people I talk to highlight that mental health issues are an increasing concern, so this service will be opening up at the right time to provide more support in the community."

Minister's office - 6552 6500

Recovery Budget delivers relief for regional families and drives economic activity

Thursday, 8 October 2020

- 2020-21 State Budget focused on keeping WA safe and strong
- Regional Western Australians to receive \$600 credit on electricity bills
- 800 additional police officers to be recruited across the State, on top of 300 already being delivered
- \$7.5 billion investment in infrastructure in regional WA, supporting WA jobs
- Budget locks in funding for all WA Recovery Plan projects
- Major investment in local job-creating infrastructure and important services
- McGowan Government delivers record investment for the regions

The McGowan Government's strong investment in regional Western Australia continues, with the State Budget funding vital job-creating projects and services to assist with the State's recovery.

As part of the unprecedented \$644 million WA Household Electricity Credit, each and every household in regional WA will receive a \$600 credit on their electricity bill by the end of the year.

This first-of-its kind announcement recognises that financial support and relief for Western Australians is important to help continue our recovery from the pandemic.

Regional communities will also benefit from the McGowan Government's major announcement to recruit 800 more police officers, on top of the 300 new police officers already being delivered.

This is the largest increase on record, and is expected to result in WA having the highest number of police officers per person of all States.

The Budget includes a total of \$4.2 billion in Royalties for Regions funding across regional WA, and a \$7.5 billion investment in infrastructure in the regions.

The McGowan Government continues to support vital services across regional WA, such as \$239.8 million for regional school bus services, \$1 billion to subsidise water costs for country users, and \$200 million to support remote Aboriginal communities.

The Budget fully funds the suite of regional projects announced as part of the \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan, which is delivering support for businesses and households, and driving jobs and economic growth in the region.

The 2020-21 State Budget includes:

- \$78.1 million for Stage 3 of Transforming Bunbury's Waterfront project, on top of the \$34.4 million already invested in Stages 1 and 2;
- \$125.3 million to upgrade TAFE campuses across regional WA;
- \$25 million for free TAFE short courses to upskill thousands of Western Australians, with a variety of free courses available;
- \$32 million to expand the Lower Fees, Local Skills program and significantly reduce TAFE fees across 39 high priority courses;
- \$231.7 million for capital programs at regional primary and secondary schools to deliver first-class learning experiences for WA students;
- \$21.4 million for the Regional Aviation Recovery Program to ensure affordable airfares for residents and tourists in regional WA;
- \$3 million in total for regional aviation support to ensure a minimum level of service to regional locations;

- \$116 million across the State for the Regional Land Booster package that will make residential, commercial and industrial lots more affordable;
- \$100 million for the Regional State Road Safety Improvement Program;
- An additional \$5 million to the Exploration Incentive Scheme in 2020-21 to help accelerate exploration investment across WA;
- \$121.6 million for priority upgrades and improvements across WA's regional ports;
- \$25 million for the Healthy Estuaries WA program for improvement works in estuaries across regional WA;
- \$13 million to upgrade, refurbish and maintain police stations across regional WA;
- \$38.9 million to fast-track upgrades to water services in remote and town-based Aboriginal communities;
- \$9.77 million for Aboriginal regional suicide prevention plans in each region of WA prioritising Aboriginal-led and locally endorsed initiatives that accommodate a culturally informed social and emotional wellbeing approach to suicide prevention;
- \$51.2 million in renewable energy infrastructure as part of a Regional Infrastructure Stimulus Package;
- \$22.2 million for sport and community infrastructure in regional WA;
- \$87.7 million for other infrastructure upgrades at tourist destinations and natural attractions across regional WA;
- \$18.3 million to upgrade Moonamang Road to support development in the Ord;
- \$10 million to build the access road in Murujuga National Park to support the development of the Living Knowledge Centre and World Heritage Listing;
- \$10.5 million to upgrade the entrance road to Boodarie Strategic Industrial Area in Hedland;
- \$7 million for immediate measures to assist with access to the Carnarvon fascine while also finalising and implementing a long-term plan;
- \$16.6 million towards the delivery of a new power station for Esperance;
- \$7 million to expand the capacity of the Joe Lord Core Library in Kalgoorlie that stores core samples that contain valuable geoscientific information for exploration companies and others seeking mineral discoveries;
- \$18 million for the construction of a 75-bed Aboriginal short stay accommodation facility in Geraldton, providing temporary accommodation for Aboriginal people visiting Geraldton;
- \$3 million towards the construction of two new fast speed ferry jetties for passenger and commercial boats, including supporting new marine tourism ventures and tourism developments at the Houtman Abrolhos Islands;
- \$8.65 million to invest in upgraded infrastructure, including roads and drainage in East Keralup to attract private industry and create local jobs;
- \$38 million of additional funding towards the Bunbury Hospital redevelopment, on top of the \$22.8 million already allocated; and
- \$3.08 million to complete the final stage of the Margaret River Main Street Redevelopment Project, on top of the \$5.5 million already invested into the project.

The McGowan Government has a record of major investment across regional WA over the past four years. Projects currently underway or completed include:

- \$22 million towards Stage 1 and 2 of the Chinatown Revitalisation Project in Broome;
- fast-track the Great Northern Highway Ord River North Stage 3 and 4 with construction to commence in March 2021;
- \$51.5 million for the upgrade of Duncan Road and Gordon Downs Road;
- \$25.8 million to upgrade Great Northern Highway from Broome to Kununurra;
- \$42.7 million to upgrade Tanami Road;
- \$68.5 million for the Great Northern Highway upgrade at Bow River and Maggie's Jump Up;
- \$36 million to continue improvements of the Gibb River Road;

- \$65.7 million to continue work on upgrades to Broome-Cape Leveque Road (created 290 jobs with nearly two thirds of total project work hours on site completed by Aboriginal people);
- \$20 million over five years into the Aboriginal Ranger Program;
- \$19.3 million towards upgrades to Broome Senior High School;
- \$25 million for the Kimberley Schools program to drive better education outcomes in the region;
- \$310 million for the ongoing construction of the Karratha to Tom Price Road;
- \$54 million towards the upgrade of the Marble Bar Road through Coongan Gorge;
- \$136.5 million in funding towards the Port Hedland Spoilbank Marina and waterfront development;
- \$13.8 million to the Pilbara Health Initiative for medical specialists to service Karratha Health Campus and surrounding areas;
- \$61.4 million to redevelop the Newman Health Service;
- \$15 million towards much-needed upgrades and repairs at Hedland Senior High School
- \$8 million to complete work on the Karratha Health Campus;
- \$14.8 million towards the Step Up/Step Down mental health facility in Karratha;
- \$17.8 million to support the Karlarra House residential aged care facility in Port Hedland;
- \$18.8 million towards the new 38-bed residential aged and palliative care facility in Carnarvon;
- \$26.6 million to continue to deliver the Carnarvon Community College;
- \$40 million towards the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway between Emu Rocks and Norseman including reconstructing, overlaying and widening sections;
- \$24.8 million for upgrades to Great Eastern Highway between Anzac Drive and Gatacre Drive in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, created 110 jobs;
- \$18.34 million for South Regional TAFE's new Esperance campus;
- \$8 million to the Kalgoorlie City Centre project, which will help to transform central Kalgoorlie while driving local jobs and Aboriginal economic development in construction;
- \$164.1 million for sealing priority sections of Outback Way;
- \$6.3 million to build an MRI suite at Kalgoorlie Health Campus;
- \$12.5 million in funding towards the 10-bed Step Up/Step Down mental health facility in Kalgoorlie;
- \$23.8 million for upgrades to the Tjuntjuntjara community housing and infrastructure;
- \$9.8 million to Killarney Retirement Living for the construction of a new 45-unit independent village for aged pensioners;
- \$6.9 million for the State Barrier Fence Esperance extension;
- \$4.78 million for the Esperance indoor sports stadium;
- \$30 million for the upgrade of South Coast Highway - Albany to Jerramungup;
- \$175 million for the Albany Ring Road project;
- \$13.1 million to deliver radiotherapy services in Albany;
- \$6.3 million for a new Performing Arts Centre at Albany Senior High School;
- \$9.8 million for upgrades to the Albany Secondary Education Support Centre and North Albany Senior High School;
- \$15.2 million major upgrade to Albany's Mount Lockyer Primary School;
- \$5.72 million for the Katanning Early Childhood Hub;
- \$10 million to better protect the Abrolhos Islands and create tourism and job opportunities;
- \$82.3 million for the redevelopment of the Geraldton Health Campus;
- \$10.2 million for the Geraldton Step Up/Step Down mental health facility;
- \$35 million to upgrade roads related to the Square Kilometre Array project;

- \$6.5 million to upgrade the Geraldton Airport runway;
- \$21.4 million in upgrades to Geraldton's Champion Bay Senior High School;
- \$32.1 million to build the Mandurah Station car park;
- \$49.3 million funding towards the Transform Peel project;
- \$10 million for the Mandurah eastern foreshore redevelopment;
- \$27.5 million for the Pinjarra heavy haulage deviation;
- \$4.9 million to upgrade Peel Health Campus emergency department;
- \$4.4 million in upgrades to Peel Health Campus including an expanded car park; overhauled nurse call system and increased security, as well as a range of proactive building maintenance projects;
- \$7 million to upgrade level crossings on the South West train line in Cookernup, Coolup and Waroona;
- \$18 million for the Bushfire Centre of Excellence in Nambeelup;
- \$8.7 million for improvement and safety works on Pinjarra-Williams Road;
- \$4.95 million to help implement the Dwellingup Adventure Trails project;
- unveiled the designs of the brand new \$54.7 million Australind railcar sets;
- \$4.6 million for a 10-bed Step Up/Step Down facility in Bunbury, which opened in March 2020;
- \$25.4 million investment to increase prison capacity at Bunbury Regional Prison by 160 additional beds;
- \$60 million for the Collie Industry Attraction and Development Fund;
- \$18 million for the Collie Futures Fund;
- \$2 million Collie Futures Small Grants Program;
- \$5.2 million to deliver the tourism precinct for Collie's Lake Kepwari;
- \$85 million to construct Stages 1 and 2 for Bussell Highway dual carriageway;
- \$12.2 million to upgrade Collie Hospital;
- \$58 million for the Margaret River Perimeter Road;
- \$30 million for the Margaret River High School redevelopment;
- \$87.5 million for the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Route;
- \$22.5 million towards road safety treatments to the Great Eastern Highway from Walgoolan to Southern Cross;
- \$17.68 million towards the Central East Aged Care Alliance network of 71 independent living units across 11 Wheatbelt shires;
- \$10 million of funding allocated to AgLime transport networks to support the safe and efficient travel of freight vehicles;
- \$42 million redevelopment on the Northam Health Service;
- \$17.7 million for the redevelopment and upgrade of Merredin District Hospital in the Eastern Wheatbelt District and the Narrogin District Health Campus in the Upper Great Southern District;
- \$5.23 million upgrades to the Jurien Bay Health Centre;
- \$5.3 million upgrades to Moora Health Service;
- \$7 million to roll out high-speed broadband to farming properties across WA through the Digital Farm program; and
- \$33.9 million to drive local jobs in regional areas through the Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants program.

For more information, visit <https://www.ourstatebudget.wa.gov.au>

Comments attributed to Premier Mark McGowan:

"Regional households are big winners in the State Budget.

"Financial support and relief for Western Australians is important to help continue our recovery from the pandemic. That's why we've taken the unprecedented step of giving each and every household in WA a \$600 credit on their electricity bill this year.

"We know that the pandemic has been extremely challenging for many in our community, and this assistance will make life a little easier for local families.

"I'm also pleased to announce that the local community will benefit from our major boost to police officers. This is the largest increase on record, placing more officers out on the beat and keeping the community safe.

"The State Budget fully delivers on the \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan, which includes major upgrades to infrastructure and services across regional WA, driving economic recovery and creating a pipeline of local jobs.

"Even though COVID-19 caused the largest global economic shock in nearly 100 years, WA's economic and financial position is better than first expected due to our world-leading response and border controls.

"By keeping WA safe and strong, Western Australia can recover from COVID-19, stronger than ever."

Comments attributed to Regional Development Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"The State Budget continues our record of investment in regional WA.

"The McGowan Government's ongoing guarantee to deliver Royalties for Regions ensures Western Australians have access to quality services, no matter where they live.

"For the past four years, we have been focused on creating local jobs, delivering our election commitments in the region, and ensuring we continue to improve local infrastructure and services like hospitals and schools."

Premier's office - 6552 5000

Regional Development Minister's office - 6552 6200

McGowan Government commits more than \$750 million to enhance Aboriginal wellbeing

Thursday, 8 October 2020

- Significant investment in Aboriginal communities and wellbeing in 2020-21 State Budget
- More than \$326 million committed to build or improve infrastructure for Aboriginal communities
- More than \$51.2 million funding to improve the health and wellbeing of Western Australians, including for Aboriginal people
- More than \$387 million to be spent on generating economic activity and creating WA jobs to improve social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal communities
- McGowan Government continues work to reset the relationship between communities and the State

The McGowan Government has committed more than \$750 million in today's State Budget to enhance the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal communities.

This a record investment in Aboriginal communities and highlights the McGowan Government's commitment to building the resilience and capacity of Aboriginal communities and individuals.

The funding is split over three key policy areas: building strong communities, improving health and wellbeing and delivering social and economic opportunities.

Building stronger communities:

- \$193 million to deliver essential services in remote Aboriginal communities, including repairs and maintenance for Aboriginal housing, tenancy support, and delivery of essential and municipal services, following the withdrawal of Commonwealth funding;
- \$25 million for targeted maintenance of social housing in remote Aboriginal communities, as part of a broader \$80 million provided to maintain regional social housing and subsidised housing for regional government workers;
- \$20 million to build a 70 bed Aboriginal short stay accommodation facility in Kununurra, providing temporary accommodation for Aboriginal people visiting the area;
- \$12.9 million towards the response to 'Closing the Gap', as a result of the withdrawal of Commonwealth funding;
- \$38.9 million to deliver improved water and wastewater services in remote communities and town-based communities, including Ardyaloon, Djarindjin, Lombadina and Beagle Bay;
- \$18.5 million over four years to support Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation services in Derby, Broome and Kalgoorlie. These three facilities provide accommodation for Aboriginal people for up to 28 days while they access health or other government services in these regional hub towns; and
- \$18 million for Geraldton Aboriginal short stay accommodation facility.

Improving health and wellbeing:

- \$3.9 million will be spent over two years on the Syphilis Prevention and Control Program in the Kimberley, Pilbara and the Goldfields. This includes the recruitment of additional Aboriginal team members to work within syphilis prevention;

- \$19.8 million to be spent on mental health initiatives to improve the wellbeing of Aboriginal people, including \$9.8 million for Aboriginal Suicide Prevention Plans and \$10 million under the Commitment to Aboriginal Youth Wellbeing package;
- \$6.8 million in 2020-21 to fund the Aboriginal Community Connectors program to help improve community safety and reduce community consequences of alcohol and drug related at risk behaviours;
- \$9.2 million over four years for ambulance services in the Kimberley, including three paid paramedics at Derby, Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek and six new ambulances for the Kimberley; and
- \$11.5 million over four years to support adult dental services, support for people affected by lymphoedema, and improving employment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the aged-care sector.

Delivering social and economic opportunities:

- \$72 million for an Economic Benefits Package, Business Development Unit, strategic water reserves, water monitoring activities, tourism development and land parcels as part of the Yamatji Nation Indigenous Land Use Agreement;
- \$302 million for the finalisation of the South West Native Title Settlement;
- As part of the McGowan Government's Kimberley Juvenile Justice Strategy, an additional \$6.2 million will be spent over the next four years to improve youth justice outcomes in the Kimberley, including \$1.2 million in 2020-21 to deliver a work pilot skills program for juveniles in Broome and Kununurra;
- \$5.3 million will be spent over the next four years for the Gibson Desert Nature Reserve Agreement and Gibson Desert Nature Reserve Compensation Settlement;
- \$1.3 million will be spent over 2020-21 to 2022-23 to establish an Empowered Youth Leadership Network in the Kimberley;
- \$310,000 to support Aboriginal people to participate in elections, with the employment of a dedicated community liaison officer and casual regional community liaison officers to engage with Aboriginal communities in order to enhance the effectiveness of election services being delivered; and
- The Green Jobs Plan will not only protect WA's natural environment and promote growth in conservation jobs across the State, it will also support Aboriginal employment on country and provide significant opportunities for young people and unskilled workers.

Comments attributed to Treasurer and Aboriginal Affairs Minister Ben Wyatt:

"This unprecedented investment to improve the wellbeing of our First Nation Peoples is about resetting the relationship between the State and Aboriginal communities.

"The wide ranging funding initiatives are an integrated social and economic development tapestry designed to empower Aboriginal people and their communities to benefit from a growing and inclusive economy.

"It builds on our policy announced last financial year to build the resilience and capacity of Aboriginal communities through a partnership model.

"No other Government has invested so significantly in empowering Aboriginal communities and individuals to make positive changes for their communities and themselves."

Treasurer's office - 6552 5900

Recovery Budget delivers relief for Goldfields-Esperance families and drives economic activity

Thursday, 8 October 2020

- 2020-21 State Budget focused on keeping WA safe and strong
- Goldfields-Esperance region residents to receive \$600 credit on electricity bills
- 800 additional police officers to be recruited across the State, on top of 300 already being delivered
- \$7.5 billion investment in infrastructure in regional WA, supporting WA jobs
- Budget locks in funding for all Goldfields-Esperance WA Recovery Plan projects
- Major investment in local job-creating infrastructure and important services
- McGowan Government delivers record investment for the region

The McGowan Government's strong investment in the Goldfields-Esperance region continues, with the State Budget funding vital job-creating projects and services to assist with the region's recovery.

As part of the unprecedented \$644 million WA Household Electricity Credit, households in the Goldfields-Esperance region will receive a \$600 credit on their electricity bill by the end of the year.

This first-of-its kind announcement recognises that financial support and relief for Western Australians is important to help continue our recovery from the pandemic.

The region will also benefit from the McGowan Government's major announcement to recruit 800 more police officers, on top of the 300 new police officers already being delivered.

This is the largest increase on record, and is expected to result in WA having the highest number of police officers per person of all States.

The Budget includes a total of \$4.2 billion in Royalties for Regions funding across regional WA, and a \$7.5 billion investment in infrastructure in the regions.

The McGowan Government continues to support vital services across regional WA, such as \$239.8 million for regional school bus services, \$1 billion to subsidise water costs for country users, and \$200 million to support remote Aboriginal communities.

The Budget fully funds the suite of projects in the Goldfields-Esperance region announced as part of the \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan, which is delivering support for businesses and households, and driving jobs and economic growth in the region.

The 2020-21 State Budget includes:

- \$10 million to Central Regional TAFE's Kalgoorlie campus for a new Heavy Plant and Engineering Trades Workshop to expand training for mechanic and engineering trades, tailored to support resource sector needs;
- \$25 million for free TAFE short courses to upskill thousands of Western Australians, with a variety of free courses available at Central Regional TAFE's Kalgoorlie campus;
- \$32 million to expand the Lower Fees, Local Skills program and significantly reduce TAFE fees across 39 high priority courses;
- \$16.6 million towards the delivery of a new power station for Esperance;
- An additional \$5 million to the Exploration Incentive Scheme in 2020-21 to help accelerate exploration investment in the Goldfields;
- \$5 million through the Regional Road Safety Program to upgrade 275 kilometres of Goldfields-Esperance roads with shoulder sealing and installation of audible lines, creating around 25 local jobs;

- \$3 million across the State for regional aviation support to ensure a minimum level of service to regional locations, including the Goldfields-Esperance region;
- \$700,000 for upgrades to visitor facilities in national parks across the Goldfields-Esperance region including buildings, trails, camp sites and roads;
- \$150,000 to upgrade the access road to Dunn Rocks beach/camp ground in Cape Le Grand National Park near Esperance;
- \$400,000 to upgrade visitor facilities at Credo Station, Rowles Lagoon, Goongarrie National Park, Stokes National Park, Cape Le Grand National Park, Cape Arid National Park and Esperance Lakes Nature Reserves;
- \$7 million to expand the capacity of the Joe Lord Core Library in Kalgoorlie that stores core samples that contain valuable geoscientific information for exploration companies and others seeking mineral discoveries;
- \$10.2 million towards projects at Esperance Port to help expand the port and increase safety; and
- \$600,000 to install a Battery Energy System in Menzies to allow more customers to install rooftop solar systems and reduce their power bills.

To view the full list of Goldfields-Esperance region WA Recovery Plan projects funded in the State Budget, visit <https://www.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-08/Goldfields-Esperance-Recovery-Plan.pdf>

The McGowan Government has a record of major investment in the Goldfields-Esperance region over the past four years. Projects currently underway or completed include:

- \$40 million for the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway between Emu Rocks and Norseman including reconstructing, overlaying and widening sections;
- \$24.8 million for upgrades to Great Eastern Highway between Anzac Drive and Gatacre Drive in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, created 110 jobs;
- \$3.3 million widening and sealing of 11 kilometres of Great Eastern Highway between Kalgoorlie and Coolgardie;
- \$18.34 million for South Regional TAFE's new Esperance campus;
- \$8 million to the Kalgoorlie City Centre project, which will help to transform central Kalgoorlie while driving local jobs and Aboriginal economic development in construction;
- \$164.1 million for sealing priority sections of Outback Way;
- \$1.6 million for the Woodlands Cultural, Community and Visitor Centre in Norseman;
- \$1.3 million for the Great Beyond Visitor Centre in Laverton;
- \$6.3 million to build an MRI suite at Kalgoorlie Health Campus;
- \$12.5 million in funding towards the 10-bed Step Up/Step Down mental health facility in Kalgoorlie;
- \$3.5 million towards the Leonora Ageing in Place project;
- Funded a new 64-slice CT scanner for Kalgoorlie Hospital;
- Delivered science labs to Hannans, O'Connor, East Kalgoorlie, Kalgoorlie, North Kalgoorlie and South Kalgoorlie primary schools;
- A new Family and Domestic Violence One Stop Hub to be located in Kalgoorlie;
- \$3.25 million for upgrade to the Tjuntjuntjara Community Resource Centre;
- Invested \$23.8 million for upgrades to the Tjuntjuntjara community housing and infrastructure;
- \$9.8 million to Killarney Retirement Living for the construction of a new 45-unit independent village for aged pensioners;
- \$1.07 million towards maintenance of the Goldfields Arts Centre;
- \$1.9 million for upgrades to the Norseman airstrip;
- \$4 million to the Laverton Community Hub upgrade to the aquatic centre;
- \$6.9 million to upgrade Shed 4 at the Port of Esperance;
- \$6.9 million for the State Barrier Fence Esperance extension;
- \$4.78 million for the Esperance indoor sports stadium; and

- \$1.46 million to drive local jobs in the Goldfields and Esperance through the Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants program.

For more information, visit <https://www.ourstatebudget.wa.gov.au>

Comments attributed to Premier Mark McGowan:

"Goldfields-Esperance region households are big winners in the State Budget.

"Financial support and relief for Western Australians is important to help continue our recovery from the pandemic. That's why we've taken the unprecedented step of giving households across WA a \$600 credit on their electricity bill this year.

"We know that the pandemic has been extremely challenging for many in our community, and this assistance will make life a little easier for local families.

"I'm also pleased to announce that the local community will benefit from our major boost to police officers. This is the largest increase on record, placing more officers out on the beat and keeping the community safe.

"The State Budget fully delivers on the \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan, which includes major upgrades to infrastructure and services in the Goldfields-Esperance region, driving economic recovery and creating a pipeline of local jobs.

"Even though COVID-19 caused the largest global economic shock in nearly 100 years, WA's economic and financial position is better than first expected due to our world-leading response and border controls.

"By keeping WA safe and strong, Western Australia can recover from COVID-19, stronger than ever."

Comments attributed to Regional Development Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"The State Budget continues our record of investment in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

"The McGowan Government's ongoing guarantee to deliver Royalties for Regions ensures Western Australians have access to quality services, no matter where they live.

"For the past four years, we have been focused on creating local jobs, delivering our election commitments in the region, and ensuring we continue to improve local infrastructure and services like hospitals and schools."

Premier's office - 6552 5000

Regional Development Minister's office - 6552 6200

\$8.3 million to fund valuable airborne fire-mapping technology

Thursday, 8 October 2020

- Budget includes investment in multispectral line scanner and high-performance aircraft
- New line scanner and plane can provide highly valuable near real-time data for aerial fire mapping and flooding
- Enhanced mapping can play significant role in fighting fires and ensuring firefighter safety

A multimillion dollar investment in high-tech fire mapping capabilities will help Western Australian firefighters and communities better manage bushfires throughout the State.

The State Budget includes \$8.3 million for a new high-performance aircraft and multispectral line scanner that is capable of mapping a fire in just minutes.

The line scanner can also determine the range of temperatures within a fire and help firefighters map where the fire is travelling and how best to deploy resources.

The aircraft is capable of mapping multiple fires across the State in one journey, and providing near real-time data back to incident controllers and other support staff that will make a significant difference to fire management and community safety.

The line scanner technology can also be used to map large hazards such as floods and offshore oil spills.

The new line scanner and aircraft is expected to be in use for the coming bushfire season.

Comments attributed to Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan:

"Accurately mapping a fire and predicting where it will go can make a significant difference in getting it under control or contained as quickly as possible.

"That information helps determine how best to deploy firefighters and other assets as well as how best to keep them safe and other members of the community.

"The McGowan Government has committed \$8.3 million to ensure that our emergency services have access to highly valuable technology that can be quickly deployed and will provide near real-time data.

"Western Australia has used line scanners before with assistance from the Federal Government, but in recent years that support has not been readily forthcoming so the McGowan Government has stepped in to provide better certainty for our emergency services."

Minister's office - 6552 6300

Grant program to support connection to Country

Friday, 9 October 2020

- Connecting to Country grant program open now
- Grants up to \$25,000 available to Aboriginal people and organisations
- Funding to support for Country activities

A grant program opening soon will support Western Australian Aboriginal people and organisations to undertake trips to renew links between community, Country and culture.

Connecting to Country provides grants up to \$25,000 for a wide range of activities that foster the transfer of knowledge between generations, preservation of culture and strengthening of communities.

This may include activities that improve understanding of Country, ancestry and kinship; to activities that promote positive mental health, wellbeing and resilience through community-led cultural healing projects.

The funding may support costs such as travel, equipment hire, specialist services, documentation or other costs associated with the project.

Applications open on October 13, 2020 and close on November 10, 2020.

[Connecting to Country](#) is administered by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

Comments attributed to Culture and the Arts Minister David Templeman:

"Western Australia is home to diverse and varied Aboriginal communities, cultures and stories.

"Connecting to Country will support the sharing of cultural knowledge and skills between generations, such as through the preservation of language, stories and dance.

"It will support leadership development for young Aboriginal people, contribute to stronger community mental health and wellbeing, and promote traditional ways of maintaining cultural knowledge."

Comments attributed to Aboriginal Affairs Minister Ben Wyatt:

"Connecting to Country will deliver benefits for Aboriginal communities - particularly young Aboriginal people - across the State.

"The funded activities will strengthen the connections Aboriginal people have to their culture, language and Country - connections that are known to be a crucial component of Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing.

"Importantly, the program also supports Aboriginal people to have autonomy in leading initiatives that will strengthen their individual communities and culture."

Culture and the Arts Minister's office - 6552 5400

Aboriginal Affairs Minister's office - 6552 5900

Round Three of Digital Farm grants to boost connectivity

Monday, 12 October 2020

- Third round of the McGowan Government's highly successful Digital Farm Grants now open
- \$7 million available to boost broadband in priority areas across the central, south-east and Esperance grainbelt areas
- Digital Farm program already rolling out enterprise-grade broadband to more than 1,400 farms across WA

A \$7 million funding round is now open under the McGowan Government's highly successful Digital Farm Grants program to boost broadband for farms and residents across regional Western Australia.

Round Three of the program is offering funding for telecommunications providers who can deliver innovative solutions to enable high-capacity broadband connectivity.

The funding is available for three high priority areas across the central, south-east and Esperance parts of WA's grainbelt region.

In the first two rounds of the program, \$7 million was granted to six grant recipients, to assist them in rolling out broadband services to more than 1,400 farm businesses across 65,000 square kilometres - from the Kimberley to the Great Southern.

Applications close Friday November 20, 2020. For more information about the program or to submit an application - visit <http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/digitalfarm>

Comments attributed to Agriculture and Food Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"The Digital Farm Grants program has been a huge success, delivering high-speed broadband right across the grainbelt and helping our farmers to stay competitive in the 21st century.

"Access to high-speed broadband is essential for today's farmers and growers to access smart farming technologies and compete globally.

"Areas targeted under this third funding round face highly variable bandwidth, download limits and service quality: the failings of the NBN's Skymuster service is holding these regions back.

"This program has had great success in attracting commercial investment to deliver fast, reliable, affordable and scalable broadband to new areas.

"It has proven vital in helping bridge the 'digital divide' and provide regional people with comparable - and in many cases better - services than their city counterparts."

Minister's office - 6552 6200

Grants open for WA sport and recreation industry to support club development

Monday, 12 October 2020

- \$1.2 million to extend the Every Club grants scheme for two more years to support grassroots sport and recreation clubs
- Local governments and State Sporting Associations eligible for grant funding to improve the governance, planning and management practices of clubs
- Applications for the 2020-21 funding round open on October 12

The State Government has committed \$600,000 of funding per year for two years to support club development.

The application round for 2020-21 will open on October 12, 2020 and close on November 9, 2020.

The Every Club grant scheme provides funding that enables eligible State Sporting Associations (SSAs) and local governments to support sport and recreation clubs and their volunteers to build their organisational capacity and capability.

The grants are part of the broader Every Club program aimed at providing an accessible and sustainable model of club development to sport and recreation clubs across Western Australia.

The Every Club grants scheme is one of the four key initiatives of the McGowan Government's [Every Club program](#), which includes:

- Every Club Hub - access to online information and resources for clubs;
- Every Club Network - networking and professional development opportunities for club development professionals in local government authorities and State Sporting Associations;
- Every Club Education - learning and development opportunities for clubs and members of the sport and recreation workforce; and
- Every Club Grant Scheme - investment in local government authorities and State Sporting Associations to create and implement club development plans.

Application form and grant guidelines for the Every Club grant scheme can be found at <https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/funding/sport-and-recreation-funding/every-club-grant-scheme>

Comments attributed to Sport and Recreation Minister Mick Murray:

"The 5,500 sport and recreation clubs across Western Australia serve as the lifeblood of their communities, and the Every Club program ensures the invaluable volunteers that make the operation of those clubs possible have access to the information and resources they need, when they need them.

"The program funds local governments and State Sporting Associations to deliver programs to clubs that enable them to upskill and address common areas for improvement, ensuring they are in a strong position to continue delivering great sporting opportunities to grassroots participants across the State."

Minister's office - 6552 6400

New online register to boost opportunities for locals in Goldfields-Esperance

Monday, 12 October 2020

- New online business register to support local purchasing for Goldfields-Esperance businesses in the mining and mining services sector
- Initiative a result of McGowan Government and private sector collaboration

A new online business capability register will boost local opportunities for Goldfields-Esperance businesses by connecting them with the region's mining companies and major suppliers.

Premier Mark McGowan announced the launch of the G.E (Goldfields-Esperance) Business Register at Diggers and Dealers in Kalgoorlie-Boulder today.

The register, a joint initiative between the McGowan Government and local business and industry groups, will give mining companies, their major suppliers and State Government agencies more streamlined access to small to medium regional enterprises.

It will also showcase business capabilities and promote more business interaction and local procurement for products and services.

The register is a collaboration between Goldfields-Esperance mining companies, Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia, Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission, the WA Government's Regional Local Content Initiative and Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The Goldfields-Esperance region supports more than 30,000 jobs and has an annual economic output in excess of \$20 billion.

Comments attributed to Premier Mark McGowan:

"The G.E Business Register will create opportunities for local businesses and jobs for local workers.

"There are many high-quality and innovative service providers within our State and it is more important than ever to promote opportunities for these businesses, as we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This is a prime example of the Goldfields-Esperance mining and business community coming together with the State Government to support an initiative that will benefit many local regional small and medium businesses."

Comments attributed to Regional Development Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"Discussions with the mining sector have found many mining companies are not fully aware of the number of small to medium enterprises in the region or their capabilities and how to connect with them.

"This register helps overcome this challenge and ensures our region's mining and mining services sector has easier access to local businesses and the breadth of products and services on offer."

Comments attributed to Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia CEO Paul Everingham:

"Small and medium-sized businesses are vital to regional communities like the Goldfields.

"This online portal will increase opportunities for those businesses to work with our members and mining operations in the region, and will also help them to better connect and collaborate with each other.

"Our members always look to spend locally and this initiative will provide more avenues to do so, helping them plan for future tenders and procurements."

Premier's office - 6552 5000

Regional Development Minister's office - 6552 6200

New bushfire and emergency services facilities for Esperance region

Monday, 12 October 2020

- \$364,464 co-located facility for Quarry Road Bush Fire Brigade and Esperance Emergency Support Unit
- \$366,599 Coomalbidgup Bush Fire Brigade shed
- \$148,332 Howick Bush Fire Brigade shed
- New facilities complement more than \$10 million invested in bushfire management for the region since the 2015 bushfires

Just under \$900,000 of Emergency Services Levy funding has been invested in volunteer emergency services facilities in the Shire of Esperance.

Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan and Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner Darren Klemm AFSM spent Sunday and Monday joining the official openings of the new facilities.

The Quarry Road Bushfire Brigade and Esperance Emergency Support Unit now have a new \$364,464 facility.

The new station has four appliance bays, a training room, modern amenities and a base radio.

Coomalbidgup Bushfire Brigade now has a \$366,599 purpose-built station for the first time with room for two appliances and a meeting area.

The brigade also plans to hold community events at the new station.

Howick Bushfire Brigade also has a new \$148,332 building that includes an appliance bay and modern amenities.

These new stations are part of a suite of initiatives that have seen over \$10 million invested in the Esperance region to reduce bushfire risks and strengthen response and recovery capabilities following the 2015 bushfires.

Other initiatives include the interagency South East Fire Working Group to identify and prioritise bushfire risk, vehicle trials to improve all-terrain capability of the firefighting fleet, installation of a standard radio repeater at Peak Charles, replacing 14 of the 28 fire appliances based in the region and having additional DFES personnel based in Esperance when the Fire Danger Rating is severe or above.

Comments attributed to Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan:

"This investment, funded by the Emergency Services Levy, ensures the region's emergency service volunteers have access to modern facilities in time for this bushfire season.

"These new emergency service facilities and bushfire sheds will help volunteers better prepare and respond to emergencies in their area.

"Since the devastating fires in 2015, the State Government has invested in a range of initiatives to strengthen Esperance's bushfire management capacity and to support local volunteer brigades.

"That has included new fire appliances, greater mitigation, funding support for the Shire of Esperance to identify its bushfire risks and improving communications in the area."

Minister's office - 6552 6300

Funding awarded for regional community partnerships

Tuesday, 13 October 2020

- Funding awarded to support vibrant communities and thriving regions across WA
- Horizon Power allocates \$699,500 through its Community Partnerships Program
- 73 community initiatives to benefit from funding of up to \$50,000

The State Government, through Horizon Power's Community Partnerships Program, has awarded funding to 73 community programs and initiatives throughout regional Western Australia.

The program is an investment in vibrant communities and thriving regions, focused on delivering positive outcomes through the arts, sport, health and education.

An investment of \$1.1 million was allocated in July 2020 and \$699,500 was awarded in this first round of funding, with up to \$50,000 available to each community program.

Successful applicants include Glass Jar Australia and the Clontarf Foundation where funding will support the empowerment of regional Aboriginal peoples through employment pathways and positive education outcomes.

In the Kimberley, Pilbara and Mid-West, Fair Game Australia will receive funding to support community health programs, while in the Gascoyne and Goldfields, funding allocated to the Stephen Michael Foundation will support a sustainable sports program to engage local young people.

Round 2 applications will open in February 2021. For more information, visit <http://www.horizonpower.com.au/community>

Comments attributed to Energy Minister Bill Johnston:

"The State Government is committed to making a positive contribution to the wellbeing of regional Western Australian communities.

"Supporting Aboriginal peoples' employment pathways and education outcomes is a key priority for the McGowan Labor Government.

"The Community Partnerships Program is another great example of Horizon Power working alongside the communities it serves, while also helping to support the development of prosperous regional economies."

Minister's office - 6552 6700

More police on the beat in regional WA as part of Budget boost

Wednesday, 14 October 2020

- 98 additional police officers expected in regional WA in 2020-21
- Part of \$314 million boost to police numbers funded in State Budget
- WA expected to have the highest number of police officers per person of all States
- Unprecedented boost to frontline policing to keep WA safe and strong

The McGowan Government is expected to deliver 98 additional police officers to regional Western Australia this year, as part of the \$314 million boost to police numbers announced in the State Budget.

Premier Mark McGowan and Police Minister Michelle Roberts last week announced an additional 800 police officers over the next four years, meaning WA will have the highest number of officers per person of all the States.

These officers will be split between the city and the regions.

As part of the unprecedented investment in police numbers, 98 additional police officers will be allocated to regional WA in 2020-21 alone. They will fill roles including, general duties, court security and custody, youth policing and intelligence officers.

Allocations in future years will be subject to the ongoing impact of COVID-19 and will be determined by the Police Commissioner.

Comments attributed to Premier Mark McGowan:

"Regional WA will be a big winner from this unprecedented investment in police numbers, with a significant portion allocated to regional communities.

"Nearly half of the new officers recruited this year will be deployed to regional WA, part of our commitment to keeping our State safe and strong.

"Regional communities will benefit from have a more visible police presence on the streets, in the areas they are needed most.

"My Government is proud of our commitment to keeping Western Australians safe, through the biggest single injection to police officer numbers in decades."

Comments attributed to Police Minister Michelle Roberts:

"It's important that we support regional communities.

"Despite misleading claims by the Liberals and Nationals, there are already 110 more police officers in regional WA, than when they were in Government.

"WA is the biggest Policing jurisdiction in the world and our Police do an amazing job protecting communities throughout our vast State.

"This commitment by the Government demonstrates our determination to support our hardworking Police and ensure that all of WA receives a swift and effective response from our Police Force."

Premier's office - 6552 5000

Police Minister's office - 6552 6900

Housing strategy details social and affordable homes plan 2020-2030

Wednesday, 14 October 2020

- WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030 will connect people to safe, stable and sustainable homes while improving choice and affordability
- Strategy includes a target to connect 150,000 households with a home by 2030

Housing Minister Peter Tinley has launched a new housing strategy for Western Australia that will deliver a new direction for housing in the State in the coming decade.

The WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030, launched at an event hosted by the Urban Development Institute of Australia and the Housing Industry Association, with representatives from the housing not-for-profit sector and private industry, will connect people to safe, stable and sustainable homes.

At the same time, it will improve housing choice and outcomes for households and communities and create an agile housing system responsive to social and economic changes.

The Strategy commits to:

- connecting 150,000 WA households to a home;
- building liveable, inclusive and connected communities that improve social and economic participation;
- creating jobs and contributing to the State's economy; and
- improving outcomes through a more integrated approach to housing and service assistance.

To reach the 150,000 households connected to a home target by 2030, the Strategy calls for a more diverse rental sector which will support 130,000 households to access a private rental home.

It also sets a target for a six per cent net increase in social housing - adding 2,600 homes to the 42,932 social homes in WA.

The WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030 is an example of best-practice policy development and was informed by a consultation process which involved more than 600 individuals and 200 organisations across the State, including stakeholders from the private and community sectors, government and people with lived experience.

The Department of Communities is developing three plans to support implementation of the Strategy. The Affordable Housing Implementation Plan, due for completion later this year, will set the agenda and articulate the roles and responsibilities in relation to affordable housing delivery.

The Social Housing Framework will consider how to create a more agile social housing system that can respond to changing housing needs. It is expected to be launched in mid-2021.

The Regional and Remote Housing Implementation Plan will assess the unique needs and characteristics of each region and is due to be rolled out in late 2021.

The new Strategy builds on the Affordable Housing Strategy 2010-2020 and the Affordable Housing Action Plan 2017-2020 which positioned WA as a leader in affordable housing and set a target of creating 35,000 housing opportunities.

The McGowan Government eclipsed the target, providing 36,662 housing opportunities over the 10-year period. For a copy of the Strategy, visit: <http://www.communities.wa.gov.au/wahousingstrategy>

Comments attributed to Housing Minister Peter Tinley:

"In July 2019, the McGowan Government started work on a new housing strategy for WA. Even then, before the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, we recognised the need for a more agile approach to housing.

"The WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030 is not just about building houses. It is about providing the right information, education and support to help people access and sustain a suitable and affordable home that meets their needs.

"In the past 20 years, WA's housing market has struggled more and more to meet the needs of people on low-to-moderate incomes and those with specific housing needs.

"The McGowan Government has responded with unprecedented investment in WA's social and affordable housing and has also provided much-needed support for our residential construction sector.

"In the past three years we have announced \$834.6 million across three programs; the Social and Affordable Housing and Jobs Package, the Housing and Homelessness Investment Package, and the Social Housing Economic Recovery Package.

"These programs combined are expected to support 4,300 jobs and potentially generate almost \$1.8 billion in economic activity.

"The WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030 is a call to action for all sectors to work together to improve housing choices and pathways.

"Through strong partnerships across government, industry and the community sector we can create safe, stable and sustainable homes for all Western Australians - especially the most vulnerable."

Minister's office - 6552 5300

Joint media statement - Coolgardie-Esperance Highway set for \$52 million upgrade

Monday, 19 October 2020

Road safety and regional jobs in south-central Western Australia will get a boost, with Highway Construction named as the preferred proponent to upgrade the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway. Upgrades will be delivered on the 25-kilometre section between the Goldfields Highway intersection and Widgiemooltha, known as Emu Rocks South, supporting approximately 90 jobs. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael McCormack said the Australian Government was funding shovel-ready regional projects to get money flowing into jobs and businesses as soon as possible.

"Our focus is on getting people back into work quickly, which is why we have committed \$1.5 billion to prioritise shovel-ready projects and targeted road safety works that can boost the economy and support jobs immediately," the Deputy Prime Minister said.

"We are investing in our post-pandemic future by delivering lasting infrastructure that will kick-start our economic recovery and benefit Australians for years to come.

"The Australian Government's \$110 billion 10-year infrastructure pipeline will support our economy and create jobs, particularly for those in the construction and manufacturing industries."

Western Australian Minister for Transport and Planning Rita Saffioti said the project formed part of the McGowan Government's \$80 million investment to upgrade road infrastructure and support local jobs in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

"Over 290,000 vehicles use this remote stretch of road every year, of which nearly 35 per cent are heavy vehicles," Minister Saffioti said.

"This critical upgrade will significantly improve safety for locals, tourists and freight operators alike.

"The \$52 million investment is part of our ongoing commitment to provide safer regional roads across Western Australia."

Federal Member for O'Connor Rick Wilson said works included constructing a northbound and southbound passing lane north of Widgiemooltha, upgrading intersections at Goldfields Highway and Kingswood Street, and widening and sealing road shoulders.

"The Coolgardie-Esperance Highway at Emu Rocks forms part of the Perth-Adelaide route on the National Land Transport Network," Mr Wilson said.

"By investing in this stretch of the highway, we are building a safer road network for the families and communities that live and work here.

"We are also supporting the productivity of regional industries on what is a major freight route through the Goldfields-Esperance region, with around two million tonnes transported each year."

Western Australian Member for Mining and Pastoral Region Kyle McGinn said the works would provide additional employment and training opportunities for the local community.

"Not only will these upgrades improve travel time and safety, but local employment opportunities will be increased," Mr McGinn said.

"This, combined with other job-creating opportunities across the region, highlights the McGowan Government's commitment to delivering for the Goldfields-Esperance region.

"Aside from these fantastic local jobs outcomes, these upgrades will also mean a safer drive to Widgie for their famous burger and a safer trip to Esperance for tourists and travellers."

The project will also include replacement and extension of culverts and installation of signage, line marking and audio tactile edge and centre lines.

Construction is due to start in December 2020 and completion is expected by April 2022.

The \$52 million project is jointly funded with the Australian Government committing \$41.6 million and the Western Australian Government \$10.4 million.

Transport and Planning Minister's office - 6552 5500

Architects appointed for \$10 million job-creating Kalgoorlie TAFE upgrades

Tuesday, 20 October 2020

- Architects appointed for upgrades to Central Regional TAFE's Kalgoorlie campus
- ZMH will design new \$8 million trades workshop and \$2 million in equipment upgrades
- Facilities will train locals to meet the job needs of local resources industry
- Project is part of largest TAFE capital works program in WA history, creating more than 1,000 jobs

Zuideveld Marchant Hur Architects (ZMH) has been appointed to design a new \$8 million trades workshop at Central Regional TAFE's Kalgoorlie campus.

The state-of-the-art workshop will expand training for plant mechanics and engineering trades, which will support the workforce needs of the resources industry across the Goldfields region.

The project includes an additional \$2 million for the installation of industry-standard training equipment for existing workshops on campus, bringing the total investment to \$10 million.

Construction of the new workshop and equipment upgrades will unlock local jobs, and the new workshop will increase student capacity on campus when completed.

The Kalgoorlie TAFE upgrades were announced in July as part of the WA Recovery Plan, which will see a record \$167.4 million invested to fund upgrades to essential infrastructure across Western Australia's five TAFE colleges which will also create jobs during construction.

Site analysis at the Cheetham Street campus is anticipated to get underway before the end of the year, with construction expected to start in August 2021.

This project is part of \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan to guide WA through COVID-19 recovery.

Comments attributed to Education and Training Minister Sue Ellery:

"This Government is delivering world-class learning opportunities and setting up young people and jobseekers for long-term employment.

"With ZMH on board as the lead project architect, Kalgoorlie is a step closer to a state-of-the-art trades training workshop that will be an enormous boost for the Goldfields."

Comments attributed to Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Kyle McGinn:

"I was very happy to have been with the Premier Mark McGowan on site to announce this upgrade in August, so it's fantastic to see the project progressing.

"This project is vital in providing the skills required to serve and enhance the resources industry in Western Australia, and I am thrilled to see it moving quickly.

"It is also critical to ensuring young people in the area have access to training pathways into meaningful work which will only benefit the Goldfields region in the future."

Minister's office - 6552 5700

Major investment in Western Australia's regional water infrastructure

Tuesday, 20 October 2020

- \$968 million committed over the next four years to hundreds of water infrastructure projects across regional Western Australia
- \$61.4 million boost over the next four years for regional water projects from the COVID-19 Recovery Plan

Water Minister Dave Kelly today welcomed the continued strong investment in regional water, wastewater and drainage services and infrastructure announced in the recent 2020-21 State Budget.

In this year's State Budget, the McGowan Government has allocated \$968 million over the next four years to spend on new regional water infrastructure projects as well as improvements and upgrades to existing facilities through the Asset Investment Programs run by Government's three water corporations.

Regional Western Australia will benefit from a range of water infrastructure projects demonstrating the McGowan Government's commitment to delivering quality water services in regional communities.

South-West

\$208.9 million has been allocated across the South-West region over the next four years. Key projects in 2020-21 will include the following:

- \$26 million for the drainage upgrade project in the City of Busselton to increase flood protection;
- \$7 million for the Greenbushes to Kirup pipeline to complete the Bridgetown Region Water Supply Scheme;
- \$4.2 million for upgrades to the Collie and Kemerton Wastewater Treatment Plants; and
- \$400,000 for upgrades at four water treatment/distribution plant sites in Busselton.

Goldfields and Agricultural

\$151.8 million has been allocated across the Goldfields and Agricultural region over the next four years. Key projects in 2020-21 will include the following:

- \$18.4m for new water storage tanks at Merredin and Dedari
- \$2.8m to replace ageing pipelines and reduce leaks across the Farmlands area
- \$2.1m to upgrade the York Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mid-West

\$94.6 million has been allocated across the Mid-West region over the next four years. Key projects in 2020-21 will include the following:

- \$11.2 million for improving water quality in the Murchison region;
- \$2 million for a new water storage tank in Nilgen; and
- \$4.2 million for water supply scheme improvements in Geraldton.

North-West

\$265.3 million has been allocated across the North-West region over the next four years. Key projects in 2020-21 will include the following:

- \$6.8 million for a new water storage tank in Karratha;
- \$7.3 million to upgrade Onslow's Cane River borefield and water treatment plant;

- \$6.2 million on improvements to the Yule borefield which supplies water for Port Hedland; and
- \$500,000 to upgrade Derby Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Great Southern

\$145.2 million has been allocated across the Great Southern region over the next four years. Key projects in 2020-21 will include the following:

- \$18.6 million to complete the Albany to Denmark pipeline;
- \$4.9 million to expand the Werillup borefield that makes up part of the Lower Great Southern Towns Water Supply Scheme, supplies drinking water to Albany and surrounding areas;
- \$2.9 million to renew water supply pipelines in the Lake Grace area; and
- \$2.3 million on expansion and improvements to Esperance's town water supply scheme.

A total of \$61.4 million has been allocated over the next four years on new infrastructure projects as part of the WA Recovery Plan. In 2020-21 the investment in regional WA includes:

- \$11.9 million towards the Bunbury Water Resource Recovery Scheme to provide recycled water for use on major infrastructure projects and irrigation of public open spaces - reducing the impact on groundwater sources;
- \$4.2 million to normalise water and wastewater services to remote and town based Aboriginal communities;
- \$500,000 to reinstate irrigation of public open space for the Shire of Broome; and
- \$200,000 to upgrade the Coral Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant to cater for growth.

Comments attributed to Water Minister Dave Kelly:

"The McGowan Government's investment in hundreds of regional projects, to be delivered by Aqwest, Busselton Water and the Water Corporation right across Western Australia, shows our commitment to providing safe and reliable water services no matter where you live.

"One of the biggest challenges we face in 2020-21, and forever into the future, is to manage the impacts that climate change is having on our precious water supply and water infrastructure.

"Climate change has resulted in a significant reduction in rainfall across the State's south west and we're also seeing more unpredictable weather patterns in the north of WA.

"The McGowan Government takes climate change seriously, and combined with a growing State, is committed to investing in water infrastructure that is efficient and resilient.

"We also need to keep doing more with wastewater, recycle what has previously been considered a waste product, as well as inspire more efficient and 'wiser' water use through education programs.

"By doing these three things in tandem - investing in water infrastructure, recycling wastewater and saving water - we will be much better placed to respond to the impacts of climate change on our water supply."

Minister's office - 6552 6100

State Government contributes \$85,000 to enrich country sport

Wednesday, 21 October 2020

- Six regional sport initiatives to receive \$85,000 through Country Sport Enrichment Scheme
- Funding will enable high-level events to be held in the Pilbara, Goldfields, Wheatbelt, Kimberley and Gascoyne regions

A hockey festival in the Wheatbelt, a community event featuring Commonwealth Games champions, and a wind surfing championship in Carnarvon are just three events that are due to go ahead thanks to the State Government's Country Sport Enrichment Scheme.

In all, six initiatives will share \$85,000 in funding, including:

- \$10,000 to the Broome Barracudas Swimming Club to conduct a WAIS swimming camp in the Kimberley in October 2020, which will include swim clinics for young athletes, coaching sessions for club coaches and community engagement;
- \$20,000 to the Commonwealth Games Australia (WA Division) to stage the Champions 2 Country in the Pilbara in November 2020. The initiative involves Games champions conducting school visits, coaching clinics and club/community skill clinics;
- \$15,000 to help stage the Carnarvon Windfest in January 2021, a windsurfing and kitesurfing event which will attract participants from around Western Australia;
- \$22,000 to the West Coast Fever netball club to enable it to play a pre-season event in Kalgoorlie in March 2021;
- \$10,000 for the WA Hockey Association to stage the Wheatbelt Festival of Hockey in Northam in May 2021, which will include a Premier League hockey match along with community initiatives to increase participation and capacity-building opportunities; and
- \$8,000 to Netball WA to hold a Netball League match in the Wheatbelt town of Pingelly in July 2021.

The [Country Sport Enrichment Scheme](#) is administered by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

The scheme provides support to organisations to deliver high-level events or competitions or provide access to sport development opportunities for regional Western Australia.

It also aims to conduct international, national or State sporting events or competitions in regional Western Australia, as well as utilising elite athletes to promote the benefits of sport and physical activity and deliver sport development opportunities in regional WA.

Comments attributed to Sport and Recreation Minister Mick Murray:

"I am very pleased that this scheme will enable athletes around Western Australia to either take part in elite events or to take their skills to the next level.

"Some of our greatest athletes and sports stars come from WA's regions, and this scheme will not only help them develop but it will help inspire other members of their communities to become more physically active."

Minister's office - 6552 6400

Energy technology a boon for regional WA homes

Friday, 23 October 2020

- 52 stand-alone power systems installed and operating in regions
- Largest single deployment by a network business in Australia

Energy Minister Bill Johnston has congratulated Western Power on the successful deployment of 52 stand-alone power systems (SPS) at properties throughout the Mid-West, Goldfields, eastern Wheatbelt and Great Southern regions.

The final SPS unit commissioned in this roll-out, in Wansbrough, is a trial unit that will supply two customers - another Australian first.

Stand-alone power systems are a more efficient option, than traditional poles and wires, to supplying electricity to households or businesses, and typically includes solar panels, a battery and back-up generator.

The 52 units will replace around 230 kilometres of overhead powerlines, at an average of 4.5 kilometres per property, all of which would have needed to be replaced at a significant cost. This also results in improved land amenity for farmers and reduced risks of collisions or bushfire.

A SPS is part of Western Power's service area but operates independently to the main network.

The 52 unit roll-out follows a successful pilot involving six stand-alone power systems in 2016; it exceeded expectations with customers avoiding over 200 hours of power interruptions over the three-year trial.

Deploying stand-alone power systems has generated direct benefits for the State economy through supporting WA small businesses, and creating new jobs and training opportunities. The deployment beyond the trial phase was made possible by the McGowan Government's Electricity Industry Amendment Bill 2019, which passed earlier this year.

Comments attributed to Energy Minister Bill Johnston:

"Stand-alone power systems are a cost-effective and innovative approach to providing power to WA's regional customers.

"Using SPS is part of the McGowan Government's commitment to providing reliable and safe power to our customers that are on the fringe of the grid.

"We have made significant headway in transitioning towards a low carbon future with the recent release of the Whole of System Plan, DER Roadmap, the big battery and commissioning of SPS technology."

Minister's office - 6552 6700

Goldfields breast cancer support increased

Thursday, 29 October 2020

- WA Country Health Service digitally enabled service expands to Kalgoorlie
- Goldfields breast cancer patients with lymphoedema to receive specialist support closer to home

The collaborative WA Country Health Service (WACHS) and Fiona Stanley Hospital (FSH) TeleLymphoedema service has expanded to Kalgoorlie Health Campus to further support local treatment for breast cancer-related lymphoedema.

Lymphoedema is a common and lifelong side effect of some cancer treatments causing swelling and pain in the limbs, requiring ongoing management.

Expansion of the trial service to Kalgoorlie Health Campus will enable Goldfields locals to receive local lymphoedema support from a WACHS physiotherapist or occupational therapist, with a FSH specialist providing supervision and education via telehealth.

The TeleLymphoedema service launched as a pilot in 2019 at Katanning and Esperance health campuses, and has been successful in reducing patients' need to travel for care.

Results of the new Kalgoorlie Health Campus service will be used to inform expansion to other WA Country Health Service hospitals.

Comments attributed to Health Minister Roger Cook:

"Around 20 per cent of patients treated for common cancers, such as breast cancer, will be impacted for life by lymphoedema, making expansion of the TeleLymphoedema service so beneficial for country communities.

"Cancer patients and their families have enough to manage without the extra burden of travel for lymphoedema treatment, which is why this Government is pleased the innovative service is being implemented in more regional locations.

"Patients receiving lymphoedema care via telehealth at Katanning and Esperance health campuses have had to travel less and have said they are very satisfied with the service.

"The McGowan Government expects the same result will be achieved at Kalgoorlie Health Campus and commends the WA Country Health Service for their ongoing work in harnessing technology for a more equitable health system."

Comments attributed to Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Kyle McGinn:

"Using telehealth to bring lymphoedema services to patients in Kalgoorlie is fantastic.

"Many cancer patients go on to develop lymphoedema - which results in uncomfortable and painful swelling in their arms and legs - so being able to access treatment locally to help reduce the swelling without having to go to Perth is a great outcome.

"Everyone involved in delivering this initiative to Kal deserves a pat on the back."

Minister's office - 6552 6500

Kalgoorlie and Mirrabooka domestic violence hub operators signed

Friday, 30 October 2020

- McGowan Government election commitment on track to be delivered this year
- Kalgoorlie and Mirrabooka 'one-stop hubs' to make it easier for victims of family and domestic violence to access services
- State Government appoints hub providers to deliver specialist family and domestic violence services
- Appointed operators expected to begin delivering services in December, ahead of anticipated festive season spike in family and domestic violence incidents

Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence Minister Simone McGurk has announced the operators of the McGowan Government's two new family and domestic violence hubs.

The awarding of contracts for delivery of services at the two locations - Kalgoorlie and Mirrabooka - is a major step for the establishment of Western Australia's first family and domestic violence one-stop hubs.

The State Government will contract the City of Stirling to provide services at the Mirrabooka hub, and Hope Community Services Ltd to deliver the Kalgoorlie hub.

Both service providers have strong track records in delivering a variety of supports for women and children.

Under the relevant service delivery contracts, these organisations will provide integrated and place-based specialist support services to make it easier for victims of family and domestic violence to get the help they need sooner and in one location.

Both service providers have partnered with other organisations to bring together specialist family and domestic violence services and other supports, including mental health, legal, housing and financial counselling.

The development and delivery of culturally responsive practices for the hubs will be led by Aboriginal people, through partnerships with Aboriginal organisations. The City of Stirling has also partnered with culturally and linguistically diverse services to tailor service delivery for victims from these communities.

The two new hubs will meet a critical need for victims by providing wrap-around specialist supports in one location, and reducing the trauma associated with having to re-tell their story on multiple occasions to various service providers.

Together with their delivery partners, the City of Stirling and Hope Community Services Ltd will co-ordinate access to services to support improved safety and decision-making based on a holistic picture of a victim's situation.

The hub services are on track to be rolled out from December this year.

The appointment of the City of Stirling and Hope Community Services Ltd as the service providers comes after strong community involvement in the development of the hubs through an extensive co-design process.

The initial 'hub' model emerged from extensive research and stakeholder consultation conducted by Curtin University. The place-based service delivery models for Kalgoorlie and Mirrabooka were subsequently co-designed by The University of Western Australia's Centre for Social Impact, people with lived experience of family and domestic violence, Aboriginal elders, community members, peak bodies, community service providers and government agencies.

Comments attributed to Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence Minister Simone McGurk:

"These one-stop hubs will provide a specialist service for women and families experiencing family and domestic violence.

"Once in operation, the hubs will bring support services together and wrap them around those who need them using a 'one-stop' approach.

"This model, which is new to WA, will make it easier for women and children impacted by family and domestic violence to get help sooner in a safe space within their own community.

"Sadly, police observe an increase in the number of family and domestic violence incidents over the Christmas-New Year period, so it's very positive to have the hubs coming online to provide an extra layer of support ahead of the festive season."

Comments attributed to Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Kyle McGinn:

"The new regional hub will provide additional options for people experiencing family and domestic violence in Kalgoorlie-Boulder and surrounding communities to seek help.

"Having a multitude of services under one roof will not only improve access to services, but make it easier for victims to navigate the systems that are in place to support them.

"Family and domestic violence is a complex issue that can affect anyone, regardless of where we live and who we are.

"We know that any amount of domestic abuse is not acceptable, so I'm proud to be part of the McGowan Government that has delivered a valuable resource to give victims and survivors other options for seeking help."

Comments attributed to Mirrabooka MLA Janine Freeman:

"I'm proud to be part of a McGowan Government that is committed to reducing family and domestic violence in the community.

"This innovative one-stop hub model, which simplifies access to services, will no doubt provide invaluable support to people experiencing family and domestic violence in Mirrabooka and surrounding areas.

"The City of Stirling is a well-regarded partner in our efforts to family and domestic violence in our community, and I look forward to their continuing contribution to improving the safety of women and children."

Minister's office - 6552 6600

Lead contractor appointed for solar schools program

Thursday, 5 November 2020

- Mechanical Project Services appointed lead contractor for installation of rooftop solar
- Solar Schools Program to benefit 30 regional public schools and create 12 jobs
- Horizon Power's program to reduce schools' energy costs and carbon emissions

Horizon Power has engaged local company, Mechanical Project Services (MPS) to install rooftop solar systems on around 30 regional public schools.

The State Government's \$5 million Solar Schools program will give rooftop solar systems, ranging from five to 200 kilowatts, to schools across the Kimberley, Pilbara, Gascoyne and the Goldfields-Esperance regions.

The Solar Schools program will collectively save the schools \$1.7 million a year in electricity costs.

Plans are underway for the first rooftop solar system to be installed by the end of the year.

MPS will create 12 ongoing jobs across regional Western Australia during the 12-18 month construction period, including two recently appointed Aboriginal electrical apprentices.

Horizon Power is delivering the Solar Schools program in partnership with the Department of Education.

Comments attributed to Energy Minister Bill Johnston:

"I'm very pleased to see the Solar Schools program progress with the appointment of this key contractor.

"MPS has considerable experience delivering quality renewable energy systems in remote locations throughout WA.

"The Solar Schools program will deliver significant benefits to our regional public schools, providing energy at a lower cost.

"This program is another important piece of the McGowan Government's transition towards a low carbon future and its commitment for a renewable energy future."

Minister's office - 6552 6700

Response to State Coroner highlights bushfire management reform

Thursday, 5 November 2020

- State Government responds to 2015 Esperance bushfires coronial inquest
- Response details bushfire management reform for Esperance and WA
- Majority of Coroner's recommendations supported

Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan, on behalf of the State Government, has responded to the Western Australian Coroner's recommendations from the inquest into the deaths of four people during the Esperance bushfires in 2015.

Overseas farm workers Tom Butcher, Julia Kohrs-Lichte and Anna Winther, and Scaddan farmer and firefighter Kym (Freddy) Curnow tragically died on November 17, 2015 during the fires.

The State Government has supported the majority, bar two, of the Coroner's recommendations, many of which have been implemented since the McGowan Government was elected in 2017.

They include increased mitigation, greater bushfire management support for Esperance and surrounds, long-term bushfire risk mitigation funding, and enhanced radio communications for the Esperance area.

The recommendation for a career fire station in Esperance has already been addressed with a departmental resource-to-risk analysis showing there is already sufficient town-based emergency services resources.

Since the McGowan Government was elected, there has also been significant reform across bushfire management and record investment to identify and treat bushfire risks, which has benefited Esperance and the surrounding regions.

The Shire of Esperance is currently being supported by State Government funding to complete a Bushfire Risk Management (BRM) Plan, which is 95 per cent complete, and has identified nearly 2,100 assets.

That support included the assistance of a Bushfire Risk Planning Coordinator from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) to help develop the Shire's BRM Plan.

Once the plan is complete and endorsed, the Shire of Esperance will be eligible to apply for further funding under the State Government's Mitigation Activity Fund to treat those bushfire risks.

More than 63 local governments have accessed more than \$20 million in State Government funding support to identify and reduce their bushfire risks since the two funding programs were introduced.

In addition, DFES has been transformed from solely a response agency to one that focuses on prevention, preparedness, response and recovery functions.

DFES is now leading extra mitigation, on top of the Parks and Wildlife's annual mitigation program, and has formed a South East Fire Working Group to identify and prioritise bushfire mitigation across the Shires of Esperance, Jerramungup and Ravensthorpe.

The working group comprises representatives from DFES, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), local government and volunteers, including the Chief Bushfire Control Officers.

Since 2017/18 nearly \$890,000 has been spent on bushfire mitigation activities in the Esperance area.

Further initiatives in Esperance include an additional command repeater that was installed at Peak Charles in June 2020 to improve radio communications in the area in partnership with DBCA.

The State Government has also invested \$120 million in locally made, new generation fire appliances, which include vehicle types specifically requested by Esperance firefighters to meet their local conditions.

Esperance volunteer firefighters have also been part of a Bushfire Fleet Mobility Working Group to further enhance the mobility of the firefighting fleet in the area. Key initiatives of the group include central tyre inflation systems and super single tyres.

DFES has also reduced the size of the Great Southern Region by creating the Upper Great Southern Region in Narrogin to increase the focus on the Lower Great Southern Region.

DFES has also significantly enhanced its working relationship with the Shire of Esperance by basing the Esperance Community Emergency Services Manager in the DFES Esperance office.

An administration officer is also now employed in the office and a District Officer Natural Hazards is now permanently based in the Esperance office.

In the last few years, ahead of bad fire weather, DFES has pre-positioned extra support personnel and aerial support appliances. Earthmoving machinery has also been strategically pre-positioned.

Several bushfire brigades in the area have received new fire appliances and will be receiving new model Tatra trucks in the near future.

There have also been new purpose-built facilities for the first time for the Howick and Coomalbidup Bush Fire Brigades.

Scaddan Bushfire Brigade has a new fire shed, and the Quarry Road Bushfire Brigade and the Esperance Emergency Support Unit also have a new co-located facility.

The State Government's response to the Coroner's recommendations is attached.

Comments attributed to Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan:

"Shortly after the McGowan Government was elected in 2017, I travelled to Esperance to meet with those who were involved in the 2015 bush fires.

"They described extraordinary conditions on the day that the fire tragically took the lives of Kym Curnow, Tom Butcher, Julia Kohrs-Lichte and Anna Winther.

"Since that first meeting, a significant amount of work has gone into strengthening relationships with volunteers and DFES, using resources strategically and effectively and helping locals with mitigation efforts.

"The concerns and ideas from the local volunteers have also been taken on board and this is reflected in the working groups that have been established, the new vehicles that have been delivered and the record levels of mitigation support.

"DFES has significantly increased its presence in the area to support the local government to manage bushfires and mitigate bushfire risks.

"The State Government supports the majority of the Coroner's recommendations, which in many cases were either put in place before the inquest was held or have been done since the inquest concluded.

"I have also seen firsthand how successful the pre-positioning of assets and the enhanced DFES presence in the area has been in managing emergency-warning level bushfires in co-ordination with the local government."

ATTACHMENT 1: RECOMMENDATIONS AND STATE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Recommendation 1:

I recommend the DFES immediately take steps to create and fill the additional positions of a District Officer, Area Officer (Rural Competencies) and Bushfire Risk Management Officer to supplement the current Area Officer in Esperance. If these changes require additional funding, I recommend that the Honourable Minister for Emergency Services give priority to considering how funding can be allocated for these additional positions and then arranging for that funding to be made available.

Supported In Principle

The State Government accepts that emergency management staffing needs are continually evolving in regional WA. The State Government accepts that additional emergency management staffing may be required including in the Esperance region.

DFES has employed a Community Emergency Services Manager for the Shire of Esperance, and as an interim measure, seconded a Natural Hazards District Officer from the Kalgoorlie office to the Esperance office.

DFES is developing a risk to capability model which, when applied across the State will assist in prioritising resources to optimise operational service delivery. If required, DFES may then seek to secure additional permanent regional staff to support emergency management in the Esperance region.

Recommendation 2:

I recommend that DFES commence planning and fund allocation for a Career Fire and Rescue Service Station to service the Esperance – Ravensthorpe Community all year round, and to respond quickly to provide support to the local volunteer Bush Fire Brigades in the event of a bushfire. If that change requires additional funding, I recommend that the Honourable Minister for Emergency Services give priority to considering how funding can be allocated for the creation and staffing of such a station and then arranging for that funding to be made available.

Not Supported

The State Government does not support a Career Fire and Rescue Service Station to service the Esperance-Ravensthorpe community.

The State Government has instead prioritised bushfire prevention and allocated significant funding to bushfire risk mitigation in the region, to help mitigate against the threat of catastrophic bushfire.

DFES' Resource to Risk modelling does not support the establishment of a Career Fire and Rescue Station in the Esperance region. New Career Fire and Rescue Stations are recommended according to comprehensive risk modelling and finite resources available. The Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner has the statutory authority and appropriate operational expertise to recommend new fires stations based on need. Any departure from current practice will compromise the operational needs of the Department and deliver suboptimal outcomes to the wider community by redirecting funding from higher operational priorities.

Recommendation 3:

DFES adopt a policy by which: (i) any authorisation under s13 which is initiated verbally be made in writing (as required by the Act) as soon as practicable; (ii) a copy of the written authorisation be given to the local government or DPaW as soon as practicable; and (iii) the fact of any authorisation, once completed, be (where possible) communicated to those in the ICV and on the fireground as soon as practicable.

Supported

DFES has updated Incident Controller procedures to ensure local governments are notified in writing of Section 13 authorisations and/or handovers between DFES, DBCA (previously DPaW) and the respective local governments.

DFES has developed training materials to improve understanding of legislative authorisations and handover processes. Updated resources, such as guides, checklists and templates are currently being rolled out to in preparation for the 2020/2021 southern fire season.

An Incident Control Vehicle Reference Group is being established to define and improve standards of incident communications, resource management and information management during operations.

Recommendation 4:

The State Government give consideration to giving a higher drafting priority to the Consolidated Emergency Services Act.

Supported

Cabinet has approved the drafting of an Exposure Draft Bill. Parliamentary Counsel's Office will draft the legislation in accordance with Government priorities.

The proposed legislation will amalgamate and modernise current emergency services legislation, and clarify responsibilities for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

The State Government will review a higher drafting priority to the new amalgamated emergency services legislation in the second term of the McGowan State Government.

Recommendation 5:

DFES fund an additional two light tanker appliances and one heavy duty appliance to be used by the Esperance Volunteer Bushfire Brigades, at their discretion. The appliances should be provided on a permanent basis, as the Brigades need to be able to learn how to use the appliances and train on them, and the fire seasons are becoming extended and unpredictable.

Supported in Principle

The State Government supports the availability of additional firefighting resources in regional WA, including the Esperance region.

DFES is committed to undertaking a review and potential expansion of the summer season firefighting fleet allocation across the south west land division (SWLD) based on a risk to capability assessment.

Recommendation 6:

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions allocate funding to the Esperance District Regional Office to purchase an item of earth moving equipment suitable for fire mitigation works, as well as for use during a fire, together with 1.0 FTE position for an operator of the machinery, on a permanent basis. If there is insufficient funding within the Department, I recommend the Honourable Minister for Environment support an increase of funding for the Department to allow this recommendation to be fulfilled.

Not Supported

DBCA has adequate access to heavy plant machinery and operators available from within its existing resource base across the south west and from local contractors. These resources assist DBCA to meet its obligations for bushfire mitigation and response on lands for which it has legislated management responsibility, and to meet its bushfire mitigation responsibilities on unallocated Crown land (UCL) and unmanaged reserves (UMR) outside town sites as required by a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH).

Local government and DFES are responsible for developing and implementing rapid, effective, and complementary fire response arrangements for UCL and UMR. DBCA's existing arrangements to utilise contract machinery for bushfire response on lands for which it has legislated management responsibility for provides a more flexible response capacity than acquiring one additional item of earthmoving equipment.

Recommendation 7:

The South-East Fire Working Group's final plan for a long-term fire mitigation strategy be fully supported and funded by DFES and the State Government. I suggest that at a minimum, the funding should cover a period of ten years to allow for the creation of firebreaks and strategic fire exit tracks on the vast area of UCL in the Esperance region, with a view to then formalising ongoing funding for maintenance after that time on a long-term basis.

Supported

The State Government supports long-term bushfire risk mitigation planning.

The State Government supports the South-East Fire Working Group to facilitate the sharing of resources amongst stakeholders.

More than \$1 million in grants and funding allocation for bushfire risk mitigation has been invested in Esperance in the last three years, with a further \$355,000 allocated for 2020/2021.

DFES manages Emergency Service Levy funding for bushfire risk assessments, prescribed burning, firebreaks and other works in cooperation with local governments, DPLH and DBCA.

Recommendation 8:

Consideration be given to reviewing the Memorandum of Understanding between DPaW and the Shire and, as part of that process, the MOU should include a more streamlined procedure to ensure that the best balance can be met between ensuring that cognisance is taken of rare flora and fauna and areas of cultural significance on the interface with farms and UCL, but which permits farmers to undertake mitigation works expeditiously to ensure fire risk is reduced on the borders.

Supported

The State Government supports the development of an appropriate agreement between DPLH and managers of land next to UCL to facilitate and expedite bushfire risk mitigation works. DFES manages mitigation funding for government land, including on UCL.

DBCA is developing administrative processes that reflect the State's responsibility to adequately protect rare flora and fauna and areas of cultural significance as outlined in the relevant legislation. The intent is for these provisions to align with agency processes and ensure a balanced solution for bushfire risk mitigation on UCL and for the protection of biodiversity conservation values.

Recommendation 9:

The WA Government, via DFES or whatever is the relevant agency, undertake an assessment of established airstrips in the north-western quadrant of the Esperance Shire, with a view to identifying airstrips that can be enhanced to permit operation by water bombers. Once a suitable site has been identified, priority should then be given to funding the necessary upgrades to make the airstrip(s) suitable for that purpose.

Supported in Principle

The State Government supports an assessment of airstrips in the Shire of Esperance.

DBCA has the operational capacity to assist DFES and local government with the identification and assessment of existing airstrips to determine suitability for aerial suppression operations.

DBCA manages the fixed wing fire-bombing operations and, as such is the relevant agency to conduct an assessment of airstrips for their suitability for water bombing operations. DFES will provide assistance to DBCA are required.

Recommendation 10:

The Honourable Minister for Emergency Services and/or the Honourable Minister for Environment, depending upon whose portfolio water bombers actually falls, give priority to funding (at an estimated cost of approximately \$800,000) a Wheatbelt based aerial fire suppression response for the full fire season commencing in the Wheatbelt and concluding in Esperance.

Supported in Principle

The State Government supports in principle availability of additional fire suppression aircraft for the Wheatbelt to Esperance area.

Fixed wing aerial suppression assets are managed by DBCA with funding provided by DFES for maintenance support. These assets are routinely deployed to stand by at regional Forward Operating Bases on assessed risk.

DBCA and DFES support undertaking a risk to capability assessment that would assist in identifying the appropriate level of aerial suppression resource allocation to address the predicted bushfire risk on any given day.

Recommendation 11:

DFES consider updating the official bushfire season in the Esperance region to reflect the reality of the impact of climate change and other factors that have altered the start and duration of the fire season.

Supported

The State Government recognises the lengthening of 'bushfire seasons' across the State.

The State Government will seek to undertake a review of the impacts of seasonal changes, including the drying climate focusing on fire regimes within the SWLD. DFES Operations will liaise with the Shire of Esperance to extend the Restricted and Prohibited burning times based on risk and forecast weather conditions.

In the interim, Fire Service procedures allow for the high threat period to be altered (as required) based on weekly risk assessments.

Recommendation 12:

The State Government fund the installation of at least one new repeater tower in the north-western sector of the Esperance region to enhance communications during an emergency.

Supported

The State Government has supported the expansion of radio communications capability in the Esperance region through the installation of new radio repeaters at Peak Charles.

The new tower and repeaters are located approximately 130 kilometres north-north west of Esperance and services an area of approximately 15,000 square kilometres. This facility was partly funded through DPLH's Mitigation Activity Fund. An additional (linked) repeater location with an adjoining footprint is being investigated to further improve radio communications in the north-west sector of Esperance.

The State Government recognises that current technology is limited in its capacity to service growing demand and will seek to undertake a review of communications capabilities in the Esperance region and investigate flexible and mobile solutions that provide digital radio communications and enhanced Wi-Fi and phone coverage.

Locals set to make a splash at Kambalda's new \$3 million aquatic centre

Saturday, 7 November 2020

- Kambalda's redeveloped \$3 million aquatic facility officially opened
- State Government \$700,000 CSRFF funding contribution enabled project to go ahead
- New facilities and upgrades replace run-down, original 50-year-old aquatic centre

Sport and Recreation Minister Mick Murray today officially opened the Shire of Coolgardie's new \$3 million Kambalda Aquatic Facility.

The State Government provided \$700,000 to the project through its Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF), with the Western Australian Treasury Corporation providing a \$1.95 million loan to the Shire.

The newly upgraded facility, in Barnes Drive, Kambalda West, will replace the town's original swimming pool which was built 50 years ago and closed last year as it required urgent repairs and no longer met the needs of the community.

The project involved:

- upgrading the 50-metre pool and plant;
- refurbishing the change rooms;
- relocating the administration office;
- upgrading the first aid room; and
- developing a new universal access pool to replace the existing learn to swim pool.

The facility's main pool is the only outdoor 50-metre pool in the Coolgardie-Kambalda area.

Additional funding was contributed to the project by the Commonwealth Government (\$287,823); and the Gold Fields Australia Foundation (\$200,000).

Comments attributed to Sport and Recreation Minister Mick Murray:

"I'm very pleased that Kambalda has its new 'watering hole' - and that State Government funding ensured this important project could go ahead.

"Since 1970, this aquatic centre has been the recreational and social hub for the area.

"The upgraded facilities will be great for people of all ages - including kids learning water safety and for rehabilitation for older members of the community.

"This was a wonderful community-driven project that will make a big difference to the quality of life for Kambalda people particularly during the searing, hot summer months."

Comments attributed to Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Kyle McGinn:

"This project has been in the works for a long time, and due to strong advocacy from the Shire, and a very receptive Minister, we were able to make it happen. I am really glad to see the pool finally officially opened.

"This area is a huge asset to the community and no doubt there will be many memories made here with Kambalda families to fondly look back on and remember their summers in the Goldfields."

Sport and Recreation Minister's office - 6552 6400

**Advocacy
Collaboration
Representation**

We lead the sustainable strategic growth of Western Australia's regional capitals, with a focus on excellence and opportunity creation.



**Regional
Capitals
Alliance**

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**PORT
PRODUCTION
\$71 BILLION**

74% of WA's total exports



**GROSS REGIONAL
PRODUCT
\$33 BILLION**

13% of WA's GSP



“Western Australia's ten regional capitals are home to over 250,000 people; that is half the population of regional Western Australia and the engine room of the nation.”



**\$365K AVERAGE
HOUSE PRICE**

Significantly below the national average house price of \$571k

EMPLOYMENT

11% of WA's employment



**TOURISM
\$2+ BILLION**

18% of WA's economy



**\$4 BILLION
AGRICULTURE**

14% of WA's economy



Investment Framework

To seek a bipartisan commitment from State and/or Federal Governments, over a ten year period, beyond election cycles, so as to leverage the \$3.6b forward capital works programs of Alliance members.

This commitment could be accessed by Alliance members, based on demonstrating a clear alignment with State and Federal Policy, Priorities, and Benefits to surrounding Local Government communities and providing a cogent business case.

Regional Capital Investment Framework Principles

- Deliver outcomes for WA and Australia
- Planned & strategic economic development
- Outcomes focused across People, Place, Business and Economy
- Provide regional leadership
- Collaborative approach
- Use our connections with industry and government
- Opportunities are business driven
- Active use of non-financial levers

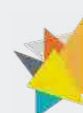
Why now?

The current global economic headwinds of COVID-19 pandemic, potential trade wars and the uncertainty of China's position in the world requires a Western Australian paradigm shift.

Many layers of government and private enterprise, since COVID-19, have presented the requirement for Australia to quickly move from a 'harvest' mindset to an economy that is more reliant on secondary processing of our abundant natural resources.

It is the time to facilitate and fast track economic development opportunities through faster pre-feasibility studies, opportunity approvals and development beyond the current WA Government Recovery Plan.

Those actions need to clear a path for investment and create an appropriate regulatory environment for public and private capital to navigate the complexities and challenges of approvals, which will then give comfort to investors.





RCAWA Proposed Approach

Facilitate, coordinate and connect with businesses of all sizes and community groups to identify key projects for the Regional Capital and region.

Identify all relevant stakeholders for each project.

Workshop 'best-path' options with other Regional Capitals to use experience of RCAWA.

Consult locally with community, regional local governments, business and relevant State and Federal Government authorities to develop project rationale and 'why'.

Develop clear Regional Capitals economic development and social plan linked to the region.

Ensure projects are attractive for all funding options available from State Government, Federal Government, business and investment groups.

Identify non-financial levers that will accelerate achievement of the vision and projects.

Support and/or prepare strategic comprehensive and coherent business cases for each project with stakeholders.



Regional Capitals Project Opportunities



880 TOTAL REGIONAL CAPITALS PROJECTS
Including ~10 aggregated projects



\$3.6B TOTAL VALUE
\$4M AV. VALUE OF PROJECTS



36

AGGREGATED PROJECTS PER REGIONAL CAPITAL

Megaprojects and Large Projects

\$50M+
PROJECT VALUE

15
PROJECTS

\$5M+
PROJECT VALUE

88
PROJECTS

Economic & Fundamental Infrastructure Projects



● TRANSPORT
\$1.25B



● TECHNOLOGY
\$150M

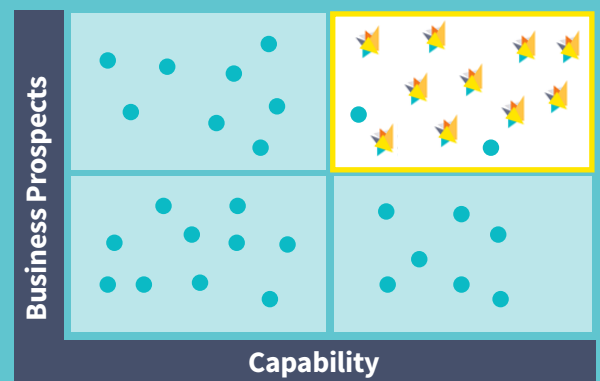


● ENERGY
\$25M



● HEALTH
\$125M

A DELIVERY MODEL FOR INVESTMENT CAPABILITY / BUSINESS PROSPECTS MATRIX



○ Other Regional LG's



RCAWA Alliance Members



We lead the sustainable strategic growth of Western Australia's regional capitals, with a focus on excellence and opportunity creation.



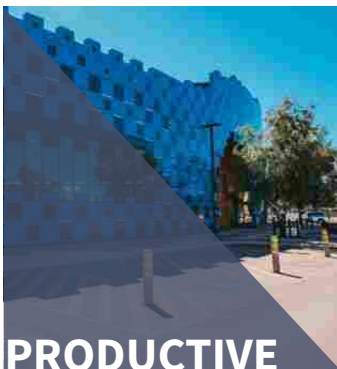
- Established communities with well developed infrastructure, services and lifestyle opportunities.

WA's regional capitals are well established centres and are now home to over 250,000 people; that is half the population of regional WA.



- Although each regional capital has a unique local context they share much in common.

WA's regional capitals are connected by global supply chains and are interacting with emerging global economies, each with capacity and prospects to grow.



- Together regional capitals continue to contribute significantly to the national economy.

WA's regional capitals have high concentrations of employment with a number experiencing significant growth over the past five years.



- Each regional capital has a high capability to grow its population base and economic diversity.

WA's regional capitals collaborate to deliver transformative projects positioning them as ideal locations to focus Government and industry investment.

▲ Agenda for Growth



PO Box 484, Albany, WA, 6331
(08) 9186 8545 or 0419 930 467
admin@waregionalcapitals.com.au

The full report can be downloaded from:
waregionalcapitals.com.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting the Environment Right"

Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Unendorsed Minutes

**4.00pm Wednesday
28 October 2020
WALGA
Online**

CONTENTS

1	PROCEDURAL MATTERS.....	4
1.1	MWAC Minutes tabled at WALGA State Council.....	4
2	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.....	4
2.1	Confirmation of the Previous MWAC Minutes.....	4
2.2	Business Arising from the Previous MWAC Minutes.....	4
3	DECISION ITEMS	5
3.1	WARR Levy and Economic Impact of COVID-19***	5
3.2	Second Wave Planning***	6
3.3	Office of the Auditor General Report Response***	6
3.4	Industry Training Reference Group***	7
4	DISCUSSION ITEMS	8
4.1	Strategic Planning and Non-Metropolitan Waste Management	8
4.2	Local Government role in collection of material***	8
5	INFORMATION ITEMS	9
5.1	Inquiry into the Recycling and Waste Reduction Bills 2020	9
5.2	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program Update	9
5.3	Review of the Product Stewardship for Oil Act	10
5.4	No (more) Time to Waste – Status of Recommendations***	10
5.5	Draft Composting Guideline	10
5.6	Container Deposit Scheme	10
5.7	Banning Helium Balloon Release.....	11
5.8	Waste Derived Material Framework	11
5.9	Waste Summit and CDS at Events***	11
5.10	WALGA Staffing	11
5.11	Waste and Carbon	12
5.12	E-waste funding	12
6	REPORTS.....	12
6.1	Working Groups/Committee Reports	12
7	OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS.....	13
7.1	WARR Act Review	13
8	NEXT MEETING	14

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Chair clarified that Cr Butterfield was the WALGA State Council representative on MWAC and apologised for any confusion. The MWAC Executive Officer apologised for the late circulation of the MWAC Agenda and undertook to ensure it was circulated at least a week before the meeting to ensure members had sufficient time to read and consider the content.

ATTENDANCE

Cr Doug Thompson (Fremantle)	Southern Metropolitan Regional Council	<i>Chair</i>
Cr Les Price (Cue)	WALGA State Council	
Mayor Logan Howlett (Cockburn)	WALGA State Council	
Cr Ruth Butterfield (Armadale)	WALGA State Council	
Cr Peter Abetz	City of Gosnells	
Cr Giorgia Johnson (City of Bayswater)	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	<i>OAG Chair</i>
Cr Bob Hall	City of Greater Geraldton	
Cr David Boothman (Stirling)	Mindarie Regional Council	
Cr Stephanie Stroud (Subiaco)	Western Metropolitan Regional Council	
Cr Tresslyn Smith (Bunbury)	Bunbury Harvey Regional Council	
Mr Tim Youé	Southern Metropolitan Regional Council	
Mr Tony Battersby	Bunbury Harvey Regional Council	
Mr Marcus Geisler	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	
Ms Jessica Felix	City of Greater Geraldton	
Mr Gunther Hoppe	Mindarie Regional Council	
Mr John McNally	Rivers Regional Council	<i>Observer</i>
Ms Libby Eustance	Western Metropolitan Regional Council	
Mr Chris Hoskisson (Joondalup)	Metropolitan Local Government	
Mr James Trail (Coolgardie)	Non-Metropolitan Local Government	
Ms Rebecca Brown	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Tazra Hawkins	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Sarah Cambetis	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Mr Mark Batty	WA Local Government Association	
Mr Brian Robartson	City of Greater Geraldton	

APOLOGIES

Mr Stefan Frodsham	Western Metropolitan Regional Council
Ms Ruth March (Albany)	Non-Metropolitan Local Government
Mr Steve Fitzpatrick	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council
Mr Mark Newman	City of Mandurah

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 MWAC Minutes tabled at WALGA State Council

A summary of the Minutes of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council meeting held Wednesday, 26 August and Wednesday, 28 October will be noted at the WA Local Government Association State Council meeting on Wednesday 2 December 2020.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Confirmation of the Previous MWAC Minutes

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council held on Wednesday, 26 August 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

2.2 Business Arising from the Previous MWAC Minutes

A	Issue	August 2018 MWAC Item 3.4 Community and Industry Engagement Grant - Feedback		
	Action	That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse: 1. Providing feedback to the Waste Authority on the CIE Projects 2. Undertaking the following Projects as staffing capacity allows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Reuse Shop Awards○ Non-Metropolitan Waste Summit○ Container Deposit Scheme – events		
	Timeframe		Status	1. Complete – response yet to be received 2. See item 5.9
B	Issue	December 2018 MWAC Item 7.1 State / Local Government Partnership Agreement		
	Action	That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council investigate the development of a State / Local Government Partnership Agreement on Waste Management and Resource Recovery.		
	Timeframe		Status	Withdraw item – no longer being progressed.
C	Issue	December 2018 MWAC Item 7.2 TV and Computer Product Stewardship Scheme		
	Action	That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council: 1. Write to the Environment Minister and Waste Authority requesting funding to assist Local Governments impacted by the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme. 2. Continue to advocate for State based Targets for the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme.		
	Timeframe		Status	1. Will write when the Product Stewardship Act is tabled 2. Ongoing
D	Issue	August 2020 MWAC Item – Office of the Auditor General		
	Action	The Chair requested that, for the next MWAC meeting, a chart be developed which highlights the areas MWAC influences. This would include membership of committees, campaigns and reach of the Council.		
	Timeframe		Status	In progress

3 DECISION ITEMS

3.1 *WARR Levy and Economic Impact of COVID-19****

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse correspondence to the Environment Minister seeking information on the future direction to the WARR Levy and identifying the economic impact of COVID-19 on Local Government and their communities.

In Brief

- Local Government needs certainty regarding the Levy in order to ensure the Waste Plans are well informed and economically considered.
- COVID-19 is likely to have a significant impact on the WA economy and on Local Governments and their communities, this impact will vary across WA and the metropolitan area.
- Government needs to reinvest the Levy to facilitate waste avoidance and resource recovery.

Background

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation progressed a review of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Levy, as part of the waste reform package. The outcomes of this review are expected to inform the future direction of the Levy. In the State Budget released on 8 October there was not a clear indication of the future direction of the Levy, with only this year's Levy income identified. Local Governments are currently developing Waste Plans – due 31 March 2021 – which need to be informed by future economic considerations such as the Levy (price and scope). Parallel to these considerations are concerns about the future impact of COVID-19 on the WA economy. Although WA may be unlikely to experience a full recession (due to export income) an economic downturn is extremely likely, as is that the economic impact will vary across WA and the Metropolitan area. This will have an impact on individual Local Governments ability to undertake activity. By way of illustrating this issue, part of the economic analysis WALGA undertook looking a variety of ways the community is being impacted for each Regional Council area is **attached pg 1**.

Comment

The WARR Levy is a powerful economic lever to change how waste is managed, however as Local Government has identified on numerous occasions, if it is not reinvested into options to facilitate waste avoidance and better waste management it is effectively a tax. The State Government has given strong direction in relation to waste avoidance and resource recovery targets which the sector is currently working to meet. Draft correspondence to the Minister is **attached pg 2**.

WALGA met with CEO's from the Rivers Regional Council, the Cities of Kwinana and Rockingham and Shire of Murray regarding their current Waste to Energy contractual commitments on 8 October. Extreme concern was expressed regarding a transition to FOGO services – which for them was likely to be at a greater cost to their communities. They also expressed concern regarding what the plan was for FOGO processing and market developed. To address these concerns WALGA requested that the work of the FOGO Reference Group be presented to this group (this was agreed to at the FOGO Reference Group meeting) and has identified the Waste Sorted Grant submitted which would facilitate access to the EMRC Cost/Benefit analysis. WALGA is undertaking analysis to determine what the impact of achieving WARR Strategy Targets will be on the revenue generated from the Levy and some potential scenarios regarding the consequent price and scope of the Levy. Local Governments are developing Waste Plans for the next 5 years without the benefit of understanding what the Levy price and scope will be, this reduces their ability to plan for investment in waste avoidance and resource recovery.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Chair indicated that at the Waste Reform Advisory Group (WRAG) meeting the Department had identified it was unlikely that decision would be made on the Levy prior to the election. However, Local Government needs that certainty for Waste Plans and to inform Budgets for 2021/22. The Levy Schedule is identified in Regulation and has as of 1 July 2019 that the Levy will be \$70/tonne for putrescible waste and \$105/cubic metre for inert waste. It was highlighted that the Government has not increased the Levy and is currently working to address issues with non-payment of the Levy on waste generated in the metropolitan area. The March 2021 election was discussed, including the likely outcome and implications for Local Government. It was agreed there was a need for a strong focus on strategic political relationships.

3.2 Second Wave Planning***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council:

- **Endorse the Second wave planning document**
- **Send correspondence highlighting the work to the Environment Minister and Director General of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.**

In Brief

- WALGA, working with Local Governments and WALGA Preferred Suppliers, has developed a staged approach to how waste management would be dealt with in relation to Second Wave of COVID-19.

Background

Local Government and the waste industry were well organised and quickly responded to the first wave of COVID-19, putting in place comprehensive business continuity and contingency plans. There is the potential – as happened in Victoria – for a second wave. Therefore WALGA, working with Local Governments and Preferred Suppliers, has developed the attached Second Wave Planning document which identifies the various waste management activities which would change based on the levels of restriction that are imposed in response to a second wave. WALGA also sought advice from the Industrial Relations Team within WALGA regarding worker safety issues.

In providing input to this document, Local Governments identified that there needs to be an agreed consistent approach to applying the restrictions at the various stages, because if one site is open while others are shut it would be over utilised.

Comment

The aim of developing and then circulating this document (**attached pg 3**) is to ensure that the State Government understands that Local Government is prepared for future events, the scope of waste management activities the sector undertakes and the need for State Government support to ensure a consistent approach.

To communicate this information to State Government there are a range of entry points – including the suggested correspondence to the Minister and Director General, Environment Minister, a presentation to the Waste Reform Advisory Group (WRAG) and through the State Health Incident Coordination Centre (SHICC).

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Council supported the approach and the Chair noted that there were some very good examples of cooperation between Local Governments and industry during the first wave and contingency arrangements put in place.

3.3 Office of the Auditor General Report Response***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council:

- **Endorse the response to Office of Auditor General report on Waste Management Service Delivery**
- **Send correspondence to the Local Government Minister highlighting the response to the Report.**

In Brief

- A short response has been drafted to the recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General Report into Waste Management Service delivery.
- The response highlights the collective approach that Local Government is taking.

Background

The Office of the Auditor General usually only audits State Government entities, however with the expansion of the role of the Office, Local Government is now also auditable. When it is a State Government entity the entity responds to the Office, however in this instance there is an opportunity for a collective Local Government response developed through MWAC. A draft response has been developed and is **attached pg 10**.

Comment

WALGA had the opportunity to comment on the audit, prior to release. This is the first time the Association has had this opportunity – as usually it is only the organisations audited who have an opportunity to respond. The Draft response has been provided to Local Governments who were part of the Audit for comment and feedback has been incorporated.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Council were supportive of the approach recommended.

3.4 <i>Industry Training Reference Group***</i>

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse:

- **The formation of an Industry Training Reference Group**
- **Terms of Reference for the Group.**

In Brief

- That an Industry Training Reference Group be formed to provide relevant input into the development of Waste Management Certificate III.

Background

The need for waste management specific qualifications has been raised by the sector on numerous occasions. To address this WALGA partnered with another Registered Training Organisation (RTO) to deliver the Waste Management Certificate III training package. The training package has now changed and WALGA is working to bring the Cert III onto WALGA's scope to deliver as WALGA is also a RTO.

Comment

To ensure the training package is fit for purpose and has good engagement with the sector it is proposed that an Industry Reference Group be formed, with representatives from Local Government, LGIS and the waste industry. The Group would be selected through an Expression of Interest process, seeking interested individuals with skills and expertise in waste education/behaviour change, waste management operations or other relevant skill sets. The Terms of Reference for the Group are **attached pg 13**.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The question was asked why an expression of interest process was required when the Officers Advisory Group already existed and had a skill set which could be utilised. The Executive Officer clarified that the membership of

the OAG was frequently at a high level – CEO or Senior Manager – and the skills set required for providing input into development of training material was at a more operational level. Other members expressed support for the Program, as currently there are no Registered Training Organisations in place to deliver this qualification.

4 DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 *Strategic Planning for Non-Metropolitan Waste Management*

In Brief

- The Office of the Auditor General identify that strategic planning for waste infrastructure had not been undertaken. Feedback from Local Governments in the non-metropolitan area has identified this is a particular issue for them.

For Discussion

- What strategic solutions can MWAC progress for the non-metropolitan area regarding data collection, infrastructure and collective options?

Background

The challenges for the non-metropolitan area in relation to strategic planning for waste management are frequently significant as there are disperse population and waste generation. Also Local Government is frequently the service provider of last resort, as there is limited commercial interest in providing services in the non-metropolitan area. That means that whereas commercial waste management is a discretionary activity in the metropolitan area it becomes a responsibility for some non-metropolitan Local Governments.

Discussion at the Officers Advisory Group identified that there is a significant need for better regional waste management planning. Some Local Governments are dealing with waste from neighbouring Local Government but this isn't included in the Waste Plans. In developing solutions there needs to be a more holistic approach to waste management solutions for the non-metropolitan area, including Local Government and commercial waste. Officers suggested that correspondence should be sent to the Waste Authority highlighting the need to fast track regional waste planning – across all waste streams.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Chair indicated at the Waste Reform Advisory Group meeting the Department had confirmed the consultants have been appointed to undertake the infrastructure scoping and plan development identified in the WARR Strategy Action Plan. It was agreed that MWAC should write to the Waste Authority identifying the need to fast track regional waste planning across all waste streams.

Tony Battersby spoke about the Bunbury Outer Ring Road (BORR) project which is being delivered via an alliance model which could be replicated in other areas.

Cr Price identified an issue with the Officer of the Auditor General's approach to auditing Local Governments which has identified contingent liability in relation to non-metropolitan landfill sites. The Executive Officer undertook to follow up on this issue.

4.2 *Local Governments role in collection of materials****

In Brief

- WALGA has received correspondence from Nespresso requesting promotion of the Nespresso take back scheme.

- There are a range of voluntary product stewardship like programs in place which Local Governments may participate in, with varying degrees of effectiveness.

For Discussion

- What are the key principles for whether Local Government would be involved in a voluntary Product Stewardship Scheme, for example:
 - Long term commitment from companies to the Program
 - Take back all types/brands not just single brand
 - Cover all the costs associated with the Program
 - No other option available (e.g. a necessary product which can be avoided).

Background

WALGA has received correspondence from Nespresso (**attached pg 14**) regarding WALGA promoting the Nespresso's take back options. The correspondence raises a broader issue regarding Local Governments role in collection of materials and under what circumstance the sector should become involved in take back programs. Particularly if they are led by one brand and do not take back other brands. Feedback from a number of Local Governments indicates that some are collecting coffee pods.

In responding to Nespresso some of the consideration include the company's commitment to the Program, suggesting that the Container Deposit Scheme Refund points could be expanded to also take Nespresso and other products – on a fee for service basis.

Prior to the Coregulatory TV and Computer Product Stewardship Scheme, WALGA facilitated the hosting of e-waste collection events funded by Apple, as part of their corporate sustainability program. However, Apple was not promoted particularly in the events and all brands of e-waste were accepted.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

MWAC were supportive of the need for long term commitment to Extended Producer Responsibility and ensuring all costs associated with any program are covered by producers.

5 INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 *Inquiry into the Recycling and Waste Reduction Bills 2020*

- There was a Senate inquiry into the various Federal Legislation which will provide the head powers for the Export Bans on various recyclable products. WALGA was unable to comment on the legislation within the timeframe provided (9 September – 14 September), therefore relied on ALGA to make a Submission.
- ALGA made a short submission in relation to fees charged to exporters (which will be including in subsequent Regulations) and the trigger for a voluntary scheme Product Stewardship Scheme to transition to a mandatory Scheme where industry does not adequately address the Bill's aims.

5.2 *Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program Update*

- Temporary Collection Days (TCDs) - 9 TCDs since August (Fremantle, Pinjarra, Wagin, Williams, Vincent, Capel and last weekend Merredin, York and Bruce Rock). All of these were postponed from last financial year due to COVID – with funding from previous financial year funding being able to be used this year. Amount collected from the last 6 TCDs = 40.5 tonnes of HHW. Servicing 1,567 attendees. Surveys taken at each event indicated:
 - 10min drive average across all events and 4km drive.

- Marketing – via unaddressed mail delivered by Australia Post, most effective and (79% on average from all recent events) also Facebook (13% on average) advertising in Metro or larger Non metro areas.
- Upcoming TCDs – Esperance on 21 November. Then Joondalup, Swan and Augusta Margaret River (final postponed event due to COVID) next calendar year.
- General HHW Program
 - Quarter 1 2020/21 expenditure \$522,113 (\$164,005 on TCDs) – approximately 25% of the Budget for this financial year
 - Undertaking a trial with Kleenheat and Cleanaway regarding gas cylinders. Kleenheat are taking back their gas cylinders for reuse, this is potential 67% of LPG cylinders accepted through Program.
 - 9 Sites are Paintback collection sites – WALGA is working with Paintback to ensure the remaining 4 sites are included in the Scheme.

5.3 Review of Product Stewardship for Oil Act

- The Product Stewardship for Oil Act is being reviewed currently. WALGA was consulted by Deloitte, the consultants undertaking the review.
- The Product Stewardship for Oil Act puts a levy on every litre of oil sold and the funds are directed to recyclers to provide a financial incentive to recycle oil back into oil. The Scheme has been relatively successful, with a number of oil to oil recycling plants being developed, including one in Bunbury by Wren Oil.
- In the consultation, WALGA highlighted the need to increase funding for the Scheme, as recycling still comes at a cost to Local Government, for additional funding for new used oil recycling infrastructure and a scheme for used oil containers (as the voluntary approach was discontinued some years ago).

5.4 No (more) Time to Waste – Status of Recommendations***

- The feedback received from the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation on the implementation of the recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General is **attached pg 16**.

5.5 Draft Composting Guideline

- Due to other competing priorities a Submission has yet to be developed on the Draft Guideline for Composting facilities. It is planned that the draft Submission will be developed and circulated to the OAG and MWAC in the coming weeks. The deadline for Submissions is 25 November 2020.

5.6 Container Deposit Scheme

- The WA Container Deposit Scheme commenced on 1 October. WALGA are keeping track of issues arising. One already raised, which was anticipated, is of people taking containers from other households recycling bins.
- An email has been sent to all Local Governments seeking feedback on the Scheme.
- Bunbury Harvey Regional Council indicated initial returns were less than was anticipated (based on the information from QLD operators). It would be useful to understand if this was across the board. There was also some confusion from customers about what containers were covered by the Scheme. WALGA will organise a meeting of Local Government refund point operators in a few weeks to gather feedback on issues. The return rate target is 65% in the first year. There needs to be significantly more work to increase the engagement with the Scheme and ensure refund points in high foot traffic areas.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Executive Officer identified that there were some refund points (16 or the 205) not meeting the minimum opening hours and the need to raise this matter with the Minister. It was agreed that correspondence should be sent to the Environment Minister to ensure that refund points are meeting minimum access requirements.

Another issue raised was how the Scheme was working outside of the refund point network. It was observed that schools, sports group etc were using services for their containers which did not pay the full 10c per container, but included collection of the containers. This is not a formal part of the Scheme but it is important to consider. Other members identified that this was the market forces in action and if containers were being collected it was reasonable that there was a charge associated. The Executive Officer undertook to raise this with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.

Feedback from members indicated the Scheme was operating well. At the Bunbury Harvey Regional Council refund point there have been instances of significant amounts of obviously littered containers being brought in with some people making up to \$140/day from their litter collection.

5.7 Banning Helium Balloon Release

- WALGA has been contacted by the City of Armadale regarding correspondence they have received from an NGO seeking support for a ban on the use of helium and other lighter than air gasses for non-scientific and environmentally detrimental commercial purposes – particularly in relation to helium balloon release.
- WALGA's existing [Discussion Paper](#) on this matter has been provided to the City. Balloons were considered as part of the State Governments Consultation on Single Use Plastics and WALGA supported a state-wide ban.

5.8 Waste Derived Material Framework

- The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation have released a Discussion Paper on the proposed [Waste Derived Material Framework](#). Submissions close 18 December. A draft Submission will be provided to the November/December OAG/MWAC meetings.

5.9 Waste Summit and CDS at Events***

- The Waste Summit is being held on 5-6 November in the Pilbara Region. The Summit will be preceded by a Tour of the local landfill, CDS refund point and national park. To register visit the [WALGA Website](#).
- WALGA has now concluded its CDS at Events Program, with 38 events held over 18 months collecting nearly 100,000 containers. A Report on the CDS at Events Program is **attached pg 22**.

5.10 WALGA Staffing

- Heather Squire, Waste Management Specialist, has tendered her resignation, effective 30 October and will be taking up a position with the Department of Health. Heather has been on working with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation over the past 9 months on emergency waste management.
- Candy Wong will continue in the A/Waste Management Specialist role and Sarah Cambetis will continue as Waste Management Support Officer until 19 February 2021.
- Mark Batty, Executive Manager Strategy, Policy and Planning, is also leaving WALGA after 13 years, his last day will be Friday 6 November.

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council moved a vote of thanks to Heather Squire and Mark Batty for their significant contribution to the Group, over many years of service, and passed on best wishes for their future endeavours.

5.11 Waste and Carbon

- WALGA has developed a Draft Paper outlining the various waste impacts relating to greenhouse gas emissions which was discussed at the October Officers Advisory Group.
- Waste contributes in two ways to greenhouse gas emissions – point source emissions from end of pipe waste management and from the embodied energy in the waste generated. The Draft Paper goes through these issues and identifies potential focus area for waste to impact on GHG generation.
- The Officers Advisory Group discussed carbon credits, including the current price for carbon. There could be the potential for FOGO to also generate carbon credits. Additions to the Draft Paper suggested were:
 - Include where emissions are generated throughout the waste management system - generation, collection, transport and processing
 - The importance of managing waste close to source and waste avoidance
 - The benefits of landfill gas capture.
- The Draft Paper is being updated following the discussion and will presented at the December MWAC meeting.

5.12 E-waste Funding

- The Environment Minister and the Minister for Innovation and ICT have [announced](#) a new grants program to support job creation in the e-waste recycling industry. This grant is funded from the New Industries Fund and administered by DWER.
- WALGA are investigating the opportunities that may be available for Local Governments, such as e-waste drop off days, working with WALGA Preferred Supplier Total Green Recycling.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Executive Officer outlined the proposed approach to access funding from the Grant which would include a series of e-waste temporary collection events across the metropolitan and non-metropolitan area.

6 Reports

6.1 Working Groups/Committee Reports

1. Metropolitan Regional Council Working Group

Delegates/Nominees: Mr Tim Youé, Working Group Chair

The Group met on 22 September to discuss the Local Government Review Panel recommendations, potential changes to the Local Government Act and FOGO / Waste to Energy.

2. Reducing Illegal Dumping Working Group

Delegates/Nominees: n/a

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC Meeting.

3. Vergeside Collection Working Group

Delegates/Nominees: n/a

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC Meeting.

4. State Government Container Deposit Scheme Advisory Group

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer / Mr Tim Youé

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC Meeting.

5. Container Deposit Scheme Policy Forum

Representative: MWAC Chair

The Policy Forum has now been dismantled, with the commencement of the Scheme, and will be removed from future Agendas.

6. Waste Reform Advisory Group

Representative: MWAC Chair, MWAC Executive Officer and CEO of SMRC

The Group met on Tuesday 27 October, the Chair and Executive Officer identified the following issues which were raised at the meeting:

- Infinity Awards 2020, the ceremony was cancelled due to COVID, however winners may still be announced. For 2021 the Awards will be renamed the WasteSorted Awards and nomination forms will be available soon, with the Awards ceremony intended for May 2021.
- The Verge Collection and Drop off Better Practice Guidelines the Department were developing have stalled but work is planned to recommence in December with the documents completed in the 2020/21 financial year.

7. State / Local Government Waste Partnership Agreement Working Group

Representative: MWAC Chair, OAG Chair, Stefan Frodsham (WMRC)

This activity is not being progressed and will be removed from future meeting Agendas.

8. Consistent Communications Collective

This Group met on 20 October to discuss upcoming promotion campaigns, such as National Recycling Week and the Container Deposit Scheme.

7 OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 WARR Act Review – Discussion Item

NOTE: This item is last on the Agenda because Tim Youé has declared a potential conflict of interest due to his position on the Waste Authority. Mr Youé declared an interest in the WARR Act Review and that he will excuse himself from any discussion on the Review that is brought to MWAC, the Officers Advisory Group or the Regional Council CEO Working Group. For the OAG and Working Group Mr Youé will hand over chairing duties to the Deputy Chair or MWAC Executive Officer. Mr Youé left the meeting at 4.50pm.

In Brief

- The WARR Act Review has been released with an opportunity for Local Government to have input into the future direction for the Waste Authority, how waste services operated in relation to the Container Deposit Scheme.

For Discussion

- Focus for the Submission
 - Should the sector again call for an independent waste agency?
 - What advice should be provided regarding Local Government operations?

Background

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation have released a [Discussion Paper on the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act](#), as part of the required 5 year review process. The key areas that the Department has identified in the Paper include:

- Role, responsibility and resourcing of the Waste Authority
- Waste Authority / Department interaction
- Clarification regarding how the WARR Act is administered
- Increase capacity in the WARR Act to “improve waste services”
- Modifications in relation to the Container Deposit Scheme

WALGA has an existing Waste Legislation Policy Statement, which identifies the key elements that have been agreed in the past as elements of effective legislation. One of the key issues relates to the operation of the Waste Authority – the WALGA Policy Statement recommends an independent Waste Authority (as in South Australia with Green Industries SA).

The other key area of concern is regarding the ability of State Government to include further powers in the Act that could potentially direct Local Government operations in relation to waste management activities.

Local Government provided considerable feedback into the first review of the Act in 2014, however no changes were made as a result of that review. Given the ongoing pressures and interest in relation to waste management it is likely that there is more political will to change some elements of the Act. However, the capacity of the sector to influence change is yet to be determined.

Feedback from the Officers Advisory Group included:

- The statutory timeframe for review of the Act has not been met
- There was very little focus on the C&D and C&I Sectors in the Review (and the Act)
- It was important to take an approach which is tailored to Local Governments, for example the approach used in the metropolitan area will not necessarily work in regional areas. There was also concern about the State Government telling Local Government how to undertake services, rather than just identifying the outcome.
- Market development and industry development were identified as a weakness of the current approach to waste management, this was considered to be because the Waste Authority is serviced by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER), which is a more regulatory based organization. It was considered that a ‘supply driven’ approach was needed for market development
- The Submission should identify the options for the future of the Waste Authority:
 - Fully independent organisation, similar to Green Industries SA, which focuses on driving improved waste management and circular economy
 - Status quo
 - Waste Authority is removed and functions allocated to the DWER/Environment Minister.
- In commenting on the review it was suggested the [WALGA Policy Statement on Waste Legislation](#) and the [Vision for Waste Management in the Metropolitan area](#) be revisited.

The proposed approach and timeline for finalizing the MWAC Submission:

- Draft Submission circulated to MWAC and Local Government for feedback – Friday 30 October
- Feedback received and incorporated – Friday 20 November
- Final Submission considered by MWAC via a Flying Minute – Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 November
- Submission date – Wednesday 25 November

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Members supported an independent Waste Authority, in a similar form to Green Industries SA, which could then progress the development of a circular economy in WA.

The meeting **closed at 5pm.**

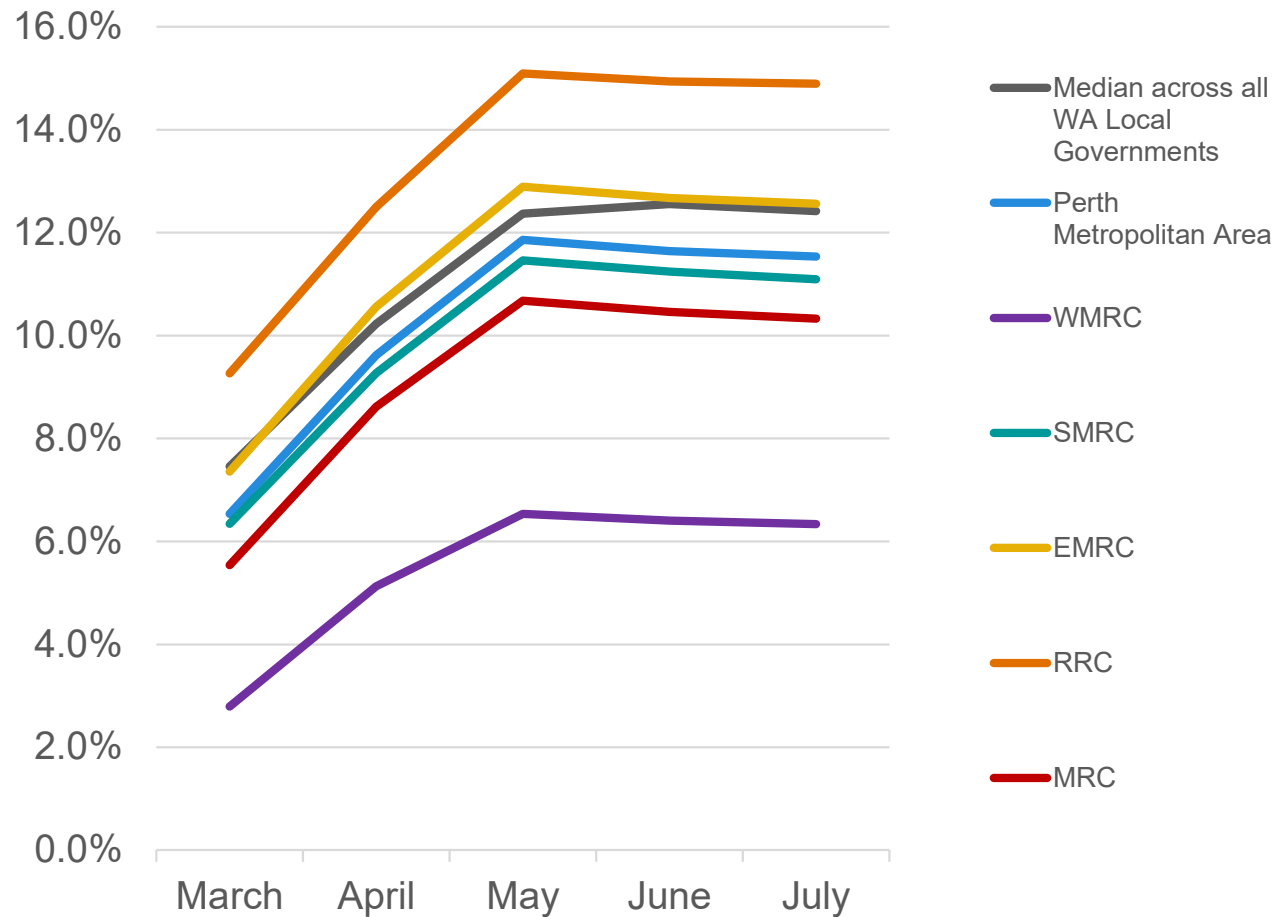
8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council will be held online at **4:00pm on Wednesday, 9 December 2020.**

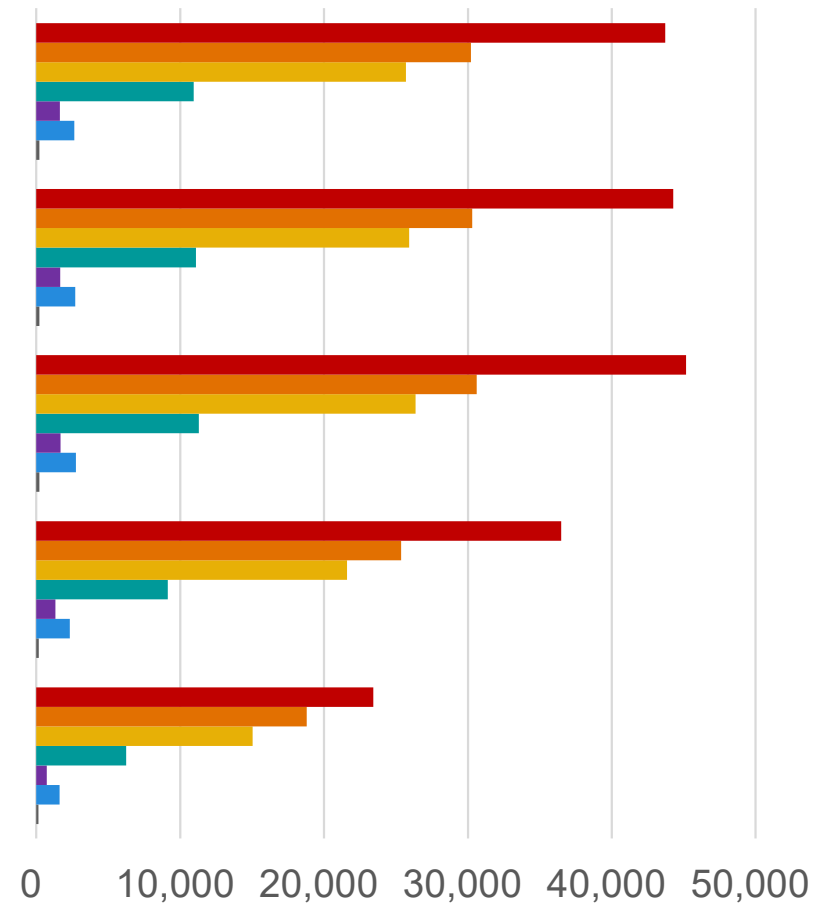


People claiming welfare payments in Perth Metropolitan Area

Estimated JobSeeker & youth allowance recipients as a % of the labour force, by location



Estimated number of people claiming JobSeeker & youth allowance by location, July





29 October 2020

Our Ref:01-006-02-0003DT:RNB

Hon. Stephen Dawson MLC
Minister for Environment; Disability Services; Electoral Affairs
12th Floor, Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Minister Dawson

Waste Levy Future Directions

I am writing to request some certainty for Local Government regarding the future direction of Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Levy to ensure Local Governments are developing informed and economically considered Waste Plans. I would also like to highlight the economic impact of COVID-19 on communities across WA and the potential for some areas to be disproportionately impacted.

Local Governments in Perth/Peel and the major regional centre are developing Waste Plans – due 31 March 2021 – which need to be informed by future economic considerations such as the WARR Levy (price and scope). MWAC provided comment to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation review of the WARR Levy.

Parallel to these considerations are concerns about the future impact of COVID-19 on the WA economy. Although WA may be unlikely to experience a full recession (due to export income) an economic downturn is extremely likely. The economic impact will vary across WA and the Metropolitan area and this will have an impact on individual Local Governments' ability to undertake activity.

Local Governments are developing Waste Plans for the next 5 years without the benefit of understanding what the Levy price and scope will be, this reduces their ability to plan for investment in waste avoidance and resource recovery. With the significant financial pressure on Local Government and the community, the reinvestment of the Levy into evidence based waste avoidance approaches and the continued political will to implement Product Stewardship is essential.

For further information, please contact Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste and Recycling on 9213 2063 or email rbrown@walga.asn.au.

Yours sincerely

Cr Doug Thompson
MWAC Chair

ONE70
LV1, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville, WA 6007
PO Box 1544, West Perth, WA 6872
T: (08) 9213 2000 F: (08) 9213 2077 info@walga.asn.au
www.walga.asn.au



COVID-19 Second Wave Planning – Taking a Phased Approach

October 2020

Status of this Submission

This Submission has been prepared through the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) for the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA). MWAC is a standing committee of WALGA, with delegated authority to represent the Association in all matters relating to solid waste management. MWAC's membership includes the major Regional Councils (waste management) as well as a number of Local Government representatives. This makes MWAC a unique forum through which all the major Local Government waste management organisations cooperate.

This Submission therefore represents the consolidated view of Western Australian Local Government. However, individual Local Governments and Regional Councils may have views that differ from the positions taken here.

This document was endorsed by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council at its meeting on Wednesday 28 October 2020.

Background

The intent of this document is to outline the key actions that would be needed for Local Government Waste Services in the event of a second wave of COVID-19 in Western Australia (or future event). The phases that are identified in this document are broadly aligned to those that occurred in the WA context, however a complete lock down is also contemplated. It is also worth noting that due to the size of the State, if intra-state movement were limited then different areas could be effected differently. Appendix 1 includes a summary of information previously documented by WALGA.

In developing the document, considerations include the need to ensure that the community can dispose of waste generated in an effective and efficient way which minimises the risk of COVID-19 transmission and facilitates adherence to Government Direction. Waste is an essential service, however the specific elements of the waste services which are required at all times needs further discussion. If this consistent approach is to work there will need to be widespread adoption – or a Government requirement – because if one site is open when others are closed it is likely to be overwhelmed.

Planning for Local Government Services during an Emergency Event

Stage of Emergency	Local Government Waste Services
<p>Complete Lock Down Characteristics: Significant community transmission and multiple outbreaks across wider geographic area.</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited movement of people between geographic areas (within and outside metropolitan area, including regional travel restrictions) Severely restricted community movement – shopping, exercise, emergency only 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal, unless concerns about ability of service provider to collect.</p> <p>Drop off Reuse shops closed Public drop off – closed Household Hazardous Waste drop off – closed</p> <p>Note</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although closed, there is the potential for it to be open by appointment, for urgent waste disposal. For some Local Governments drop off is the only waste disposal option for residents (or a portion of residents), for these Local Governments they would need to continue

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing / masks for anyone outside • Work from home, unless absolutely essential • Non-essential businesses close • Take away only from restaurants /café 	<p>providing a drop off option, with increased precaution for workers (if present at the site).</p> <p>Container Deposit Scheme Bag drop, in certain shops (e.g. charity shops) are likely to be impacted.</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations Waste management services workers need to have permits to cross borders / boundaries. Workers will need to have social distancing and wear masks, ensure that exposure risks are minimised – for example no congregating of workers, same people working together, split shifts etc. to make sure if one section of the workforce falls sick or are required to self-isolate, there are sufficient workers to cover those shifts. PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Have labour hire company or casual workforce on standby to provide labour if insufficient workers due to sickness and self-isolation requirements. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system. Workers should be encouraged to self-isolate and get tested if they are feeling unwell. Identify workers who are at high risk of serious illness/death if they contract COVID-19. Seek advice on alternative work arrangements.</p>
<p>Phase 1 Characteristics: Community transmission, across a range of geographic areas.</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited movement of people between geographic areas (within and outside metropolitan area, including regional travel restrictions) • Social distancing in public spaces • Limited number of people gathering • Work from home if you can • Non-essential businesses close • Take away only from restaurants /cafés 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal, unless concerns about ability of service provider.</p> <p>Drop off Reuse shops closed Public drop off – open Household Hazardous Waste drop off – open</p> <p>Container Deposit Scheme Bag drop, in certain shops (e.g. charity shops) are likely to be impacted.</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations Waste management services workers need to have permits to cross borders / boundaries. Workers will need to have social distancing and wear masks, ensure that exposure risks are minimised – for example no congregating of workers, same people working together, split shifts etc. to make sure if one section of the workforce falls sick or are required to self-isolate, there are sufficient workers to cover those shifts. PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Have labour hire company or casual workforce on standby to provide labour if insufficient workers due to sickness and self-isolation requirements.</p>

	<p>Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system. Workers should be encouraged to self-isolate and get tested if they are feeling unwell. Identify workers who are at high risk of serious illness/death if they contract COVID-19. Seek advice on alternative work arrangements.</p>
<p>Phase 2 Characteristics: Limited community transmission</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 square metre social distancing • Travel restrictions relaxed across majority of WA • Gatherings allowed – 20 people limit • Café & restaurants open – for food only • COVID Safety plans for businesses 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal, unless concerns about ability of service provider.</p> <p>Drop off <i>Reuse shops closed</i> Public drop off – open Household Hazardous Waste drop off – open</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations Workers will need to have social distancing and wear masks, ensure that exposure risks are minimised – for example no congregating of workers, same people working together, split shifts etc. to make sure if one section of the workforce falls sick or are required to self-isolate, there are sufficient workers to cover those shifts. PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Have labour hire company or casual workforce on standby to provide labour if insufficient workers due to sickness and self-isolation requirements. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system. Workers should be encouraged to self-isolate and get tested if they are feeling unwell.</p>
<p>Phase 3 Characteristics Very limited community transmission</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 square metre social distancing • The number of people at non-work gatherings increased, and additional businesses reopened • Café & restaurants open for dine in, with restrictions • COVID Safety plans for businesses 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Drop off Reuse shops – open Public drop off – open Household Hazardous Waste drop off – open</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations Workers will need to have social distancing, ensure that exposure risks are minimised – for example no congregating of workers, same people working together, split shifts etc. to make sure if one section of the workforce falls sick or are required to self-isolate, there are sufficient workers to cover those shifts. PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system. Workers should be encouraged to self-isolate and get tested if they are feeling unwell.</p>

<p>Phase 4 Characteristics No reported community transmission</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gatherings allowed based on the 2 square metre social distancing rule only Major venues – 50% capacity 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Drop off Reuse shops – open Public drop off – open Household Hazardous Waste drop off – open</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system Workers should take personal leave if unwell and not attend work.</p>
<p>Phase 5 Characteristics No community transmission in WA</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of 2 square meter rule Limits on venue capacity removed 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Drop off Reuse shops – open Public drop off – open Household Hazardous Waste drop off – open</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system Workers should take personal leave if unwell and not attend work.</p>
<p>Phase 6 Characteristics: Low/no community transmission in Australia Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of WA hard boarder and travel restrictions in place for remote Aboriginal communities. 	<p>Kerbside Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside Continue as normal</p> <p>Drop off Continue as normal</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system Workers should take personal leave if unwell and not attend work.</p>

Risk of transmission relating to Waste Services

Services	Risk	Likelihood of occurrence	Mitigation
Kerbside	Transmission of virus from bin to bin, if workers are touching multiple bins during the collection process	Low – feedback from Dept of Health indicated that bin to bin transmission was relatively low likelihood of occurring and straightforward to mitigate	Community messaging – wash hands after taking the bin out.
	People with the virus at home placing items which have the virus on them (e.g. tissues etc) in the waste, recycling, GO or FOGO bin	High – material is likely to be placed in the bin that does carry the virus, however there are a range of mitigation options and current procedures which reduce the risk.	Community messaging – don't put tissues in your recycling bin. Double bag your waste. Operational – No one is touching the material in the bin. Recycling, GO or FOGO sorting workers already wearing full PPE, as nasty stuff frequently in the waste.
Vergeside	People going through the piles of waste on the verge, which may have the virus on them	Medium/low – feedback from Dept of Health indicated that transmission was relatively low likelihood of occurring and straightforward to mitigate	Community messaging / enforcement – do not go through the bulk verge collection material.
Drop off	Virus infected waste being in contact with workers – directly or indirectly	Medium – waste could be infected with the virus.	Community messaging – if you have the virus double bag your waste. Operational – PPE for those working closely with waste. Ensure that the filters on vehicles sufficient. Limit the number of cars allowed on site at any one time to allow social distancing – ensure additional staff to undertake traffic control.
All	Worker concern regarding the potential impact of COVID. If an employee contracts COVID at work, the employer could be at risk of receiving a workers' compensation claim.	High – workers are rightly concerned about any potential impact of COVID through exposure in their workplace.	Ensure that workers have the most contemporary health advice from the Department of Health. Ensure workers have relevant PPE and training in how to use the PPE. Check in regularly with workers to understand any concerns or facilitate improvements to how work is being undertaken.

Outbreak planning

Usually want to divert as much waste as possible from landfill however, in outbreak in tower block for example, not an option. Therefore a system needs to be in place to ensure the waste is handled appropriately:

- Instruct residents, double bag waste, collected daily from front door – by person with full PPE and placed in waste bin
- For domestic waste, engage with Local Government who is, or contracts, the service provider to provide additional waste bins or more frequent services

- Minimise any waste collection driver contact with the Bins or waste (e.g. side lift truck, or ensure workers have face mask / hand sanitiser if they are touching the bins.)

Appendix 1: Summary Information

Waste Collection – Kerbside

Contamination of household bins – advice from the Department of Health PHEOC as follows:

It is possible that someone with COVID-19 may contaminate the surface of a bin and this could lead to transmission onto the next person to touch the bin. The bin is acting as a fomite- i.e. an inanimate object which can spread a pathogen on when touched. The risk of this occurring is no higher than any other object that people may touch throughout the course of their day. Thus, the risk mitigation strategy for this occurrence is to ensure that all staff handling bins wear gloves and wash their hands effectively after handling bins and regularly throughout the course of the day. It may also be an idea for Local Governments to remind consumers to wash their hands regularly throughout the day, including when handling bins.

Collection Vehicles – a large proportion of waste collection vehicles, for kerbside collections, are side arm trucks. This means that a person does not physically touch the bin, instead the side arm of the truck collects the bin. The content of the bin are tipped into the sealed body of the truck. This system is set up to minimise any contact between the driver and the bin or its contents, thereby minimising risk.

For those organisations using rear lift trucks, where workers are required to manoeuvre bins to be picked up by the trucks, it is recommended that the workers follow the Department of Health advice regarding hygiene. The Local Government may also want to encourage residents to wash their hands after handling bins. For workers sharing vehicles – it is suggested that waste collection vehicles are thoroughly sanitised between shifts.

Collection / Processing Contracts - Local Governments who have outsourced collection may need to consider some flexibility in their contracts, should the workforce undertaking collections be severely impacted. For example, the collection time (earlier or later) and the destination of the material. In regard to destination it may be quicker for a vehicle to go to another landfill / transfer station than the one contracted. The main message is, consider this as an option and Local Government discuss this with your contractors.

Waste Facilities

Sharing vehicles

As for collection workers, it is suggested that vehicles are thoroughly sanitised between shifts/users. This can include forklifts, front end loaders and compactors.

Material Recovery Facilities

The workers at these facilities wear full PPE – masks, glasses and gloves – as the nature and condition of the material received at these facilities is also quite variable and Material Recovery Facilities do have issues with the type of material they receive at times (for example nappies and sharps).

Composting facilities

At composting facilities, for example processing FOGO, workers would wear full PPE, practice good hygiene and utilise litter pick grabs to remove all contamination. That means tissues can continue to be disposed of in the FOGO bin.

Transfer Stations / Drop off centres / Landfills

The current approach used by these facilities is to minimise staff contact with the community who are dropping off recyclables or waste. This includes social distancing processes and additional PPE where appropriate. Most sites have closed Reuse Shops (aka Tip Shops) during this time to minimise any staff contact with the community. Currently, these sites are still open and taking 'self haul' material. Disposing of waste is necessary and people may be taking the opportunity, while self

isolating, to have a good clear out. While transfer stations/drop off centres and landfills can remain open to allow people to dispose of self haul material – while minimising staff exposure – it is encouraged that this occur, rather than the material remaining in people's homes or being illegally disposed of. However, if Government was to put in place more stringent recommendations regarding people not leaving their homes – except to get essentials – then it is suggested that transfer stations/drop off centres / landfills close their self haul facilities. In this case the community would be encouraged to store material at home until such time as the restrictions were lifted.

Where the community has a clear pathway to dispose of the waste that they are usually generating (through kerbside / verge collection) then the restriction on self haul should not prove too onerous. If these services are not in place in a Local Government – or are only in place for a proportion of the population – there is a rationale for self haul to remain in operation, as it is the only waste disposal option for the community. Depending on the size of the community being serviced, arrangements could be put in place for pre-booking of waste drop off and electronic transactions.

Cash handling

It is suggested that sites minimise cash handling from an Occupational Health and Safety point of view. If your Local Government has not yet instituted a 'no cash' policy then it is suggested that this be referred to those responsible for dealing with COVID-19 issues within your Local Government and a whole of organisation policy be put in place.

Staffing

Considering options to reduce risks, there could be the option for multiple shifts, with smaller numbers of staff, as way of social distancing and reducing risk.



Response to the Office of the Auditor General Audit of Local Government waste management service delivery

October 2020

Status of this Submission

This Submission has been prepared through the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) for the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA). MWAC is a standing committee of WALGA, with delegated authority to represent the Association in all matters relating to solid waste management. MWAC's membership includes the major Regional Councils (waste management) as well as a number of Local Government representatives. This makes MWAC a unique forum through which all the major Local Government waste management organisations cooperate.

This Submission therefore represents the consolidated view of Western Australian Local Government. However, individual Local Governments and Regional Councils may have views that differ from the positions taken here.

This Submission was endorsed by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council on Wednesday 28 October 2020.

Introduction

The Association thanks the Office of the Auditor General for the rigorous assessment of Local Government waste management service delivery and the comprehensive consultation process which accompanied this audit. This Submission from the Association outlines the various activities that the Local Government sector is undertaking and key commitments regarding the recommendations in the Report.

The Key Findings in the Auditor General Report were:

- Local Government entities deliver essential waste collection and drop-off services but few are likely to meet State and community expectations to avoid and recover waste
- State and local waste planning and data capture is inadequate
- Wider uptake of existing better practice waste management methods could be key to improving waste recovery
- The State Government has made good progress since 2016, but LG entities need more support to address local challenges.

Response to Recommendations

The Auditor General's Report split the recommendations up into areas that different entities should progress either individually or together - Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER), Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Waste Authority and Local Government sector. The Association considers there are some areas, where the Local Government sector, working with WALGA, can lead the implementation of particular recommendations. Table 1 – 3 identify the recommendations and provide specific comment.

Table 1: Waste Authority and DWER should work together on these recommendations

Recommendation	WALGA comment
1. provide support to LG entities by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. preparing a State waste infrastructure plan to ensure alignment with the State planning framework b. identifying local Perth, Peel and regional reprocessing facility requirements and markets 	1 a and b – fully support the recommendation. As identified in the WALGA Submission to Infrastructure WA, some types of infrastructure planning are best undertaken at the State or Regional level and it is entirely appropriate that the State should undertake this work.

<p>for recyclable materials, particularly for organic materials</p> <p>c. continuing to develop better practice guidance for LG entities to manage key waste streams and problematic wastes</p> <p>d. engaging with individual Perth, Peel and regional LG entities to help understand, identify and address their local challenges, risks and waste management requirements</p>	<p>c. The Association would note that the Guidelines need to be developed collaboratively with Local Governments to ensure they are fit for purpose and will easily be understood and implemented by Local Governments.</p> <p>d. The Association can facilitate engagement with Local Governments to assist the Waste Authority and DWER in relation to this recommendation.</p>
<p>2. support LG entities to improve the accuracy of their waste and recycling data in line with the Waste Data Strategy by:</p> <p>a. providing additional training and guidance for LG entities on data collection, reporting and quality control requirements</p> <p>b. developing and implementing appropriate controls to minimise the risk of inaccurate data supplied by contractors</p>	<p>Support the recommendation, however noting that the new compulsory reporting requirements will assist in ensuring accurate data provision.</p>
<p>3. provide LG entities with materials that explain the cost and environmental benefits of adopting a 3-bin FOGO system</p>	<p>As the exact system / contractual arrangements in place will differ for each Local Government an overall cost/benefit for implementing FOGO will vary. The EMRC has developed a business case approach, which it has used with its member Local Governments, to assess the viability of FOGO. The Association has applied for a WasteSorted Grant to allow this process to be implemented with Local Governments.</p>
<p>4. engage with LG entities to develop consistent and regular statewide messages, education and behaviour change programs for all LG entities and contractors that align with Waste Strategy 2030 targets.</p>	<p>Through the Consistent Communication Collective the process of consistent and collaborative education and behaviour change is well in place. The Association will be seeking formal commitment, through a Memorandum of Understanding, from Local Governments and Preferred Suppliers to embed the consistent approach.</p>

Table 2: DLGSC, Waste Authority and DWER should work together on these recommendations

Recommendation	WALGA comment
<p>5. provide guidance for LG entities to collect and publicly report consistent waste and recovery financial and performance data.</p>	<p>Support recommendation. Regarding financial performance, Local Governments vary in how they charge for waste management services, so there are likely to be some inconsistencies. For example including the waste services charge in the overall rate, or charging it separately as a service fee. Feedback from Local Government also noted that some information relating to the financial considerations could be commercial in confidence.</p>

Table 3: Local Governments should

Recommendation	WALGA comment
6. provide regular community updates on efforts to recover waste and meet Waste Strategy 2030 targets and seek community feedback where appropriate	Recommendation supported. Promoting the achievements of the community in relation to waste avoidance and recovery will ensure the community understands that their efforts do make a difference.
7. consider preparing waste plans, which demonstrate how the LG will contribute to relevant Waste Strategy 2030 headline strategies. These plans should be publicly available	Local Governments in Perth/Peel and Regional Centres have been required to develop waste plans. If there is a requirement for other Local Governments to develop plans they need to be simplified versions of what has been released to date, which are specific to the size of the Local Government and align with the compulsory data reporting requirements.
8. include performance measures in contracts with service providers to recover more waste without adding significant costs	WALGA is currently working on a Guideline for Better Practice Procurement of Waste Services. This will assist in ensuring, at a sector wide level, measures such as this can be included.
9. consider providing incentives for the community to minimise waste production.	Many Local Governments provide incentives for waste minimisation, such as Plastic Free July. What is needed in this area is an evidence based approach which provides Local Governments with the impact of these approaches. This would give Local Governments a business case for waste avoidance, based on costs of intervention and potential savings as a result. For example, Plastic Free July quantified the waste avoidance as 27 kg per person.

Industry Training Reference Group

Terms of Reference

Objective

This Group has been established to inform the development of Waste Management Certificate III which WALGA is aiming to deliver in 2021.

The methods of achieving this objective will be:

- Monthly meetings (1 – 2hrs) to discuss and inform the training material being developed
- Reviewing information outside of meetings when required and providing feedback.

Membership

Chair: WALGA

Members:

- 5 representatives from Local Government and/or the waste industry, selected through an Expression of Interest process, with skills and expertise in waste education/behaviour change, waste management operations or other relevant skill sets.
- LGIS member

First Group meeting will be held on Wednesday 25 November (1 – 2pm). Meetings can be attended in person or via teleconferencing or video conferencing, as required.

Quorum and voting

The Group will act in an advisory capacity, providing input to the Municipal Waste Advisory Council as the decision making body, as delegated by the WALGA State Council. The Group will operate by consensus.

Executive Support

The Association, through the Strategy, Policy and Planning Team unit, will provide executive support to capture the decisions and outcomes of the meeting/s and present items for consideration to the Group.

Timeline

The Group will commence in November 2020 and aim to finish all work by June 2021.

13th October 2020

Sent by email to: nsloan@walga.asn.au

Dear Mr. Nick Sloan,

Nespresso Recycling Available to Local Government

I am writing to provide an overview of **Nespresso's** Australia-wide recycling scheme given your responsibility as CEO of the WA Local Government Association, and to request a meeting to discuss the scheme in more detail and how WALGA could become involved.

Background on the Scheme

Nespresso capsules are made from aluminium, which is an infinitely recyclable material, however, like many other small products Australian Materials Recycling Facilities (MRFs) are unable to process them. This means they can't be recycled through domestic recycling bins.

Because of these infrastructure limitations, we have invested in pioneering, establishing and scaling our own dedicated recycling system for used capsules – the first of its kind in Australia. Initially launched in 2010, our ongoing investment into this system ensures our customers can conveniently recycle their used **Nespresso** capsules, regardless of where they are or how remotely they live. We take great care in product stewardship, ensuring that our scheme sees all recycled capsules, smelted, refined and turned into new aluminium products. Coffee grounds also enjoy second life as an effective fertiliser for local composting facilities.

There are now four ways customers across our in-home and professional systems can choose to recycle their used capsules. These include participating in a bulk recycling collection initiative, where businesses and community locations can choose to become a collection point, returning used aluminium capsules to a **Nespresso** boutique, dropping them off at a participating florist collection point, or posting used capsules back to **Nespresso** using a special Australia Post satchel.

Recycling is a critical part of **Nespresso's** broader sustainability commitments which include sourcing over 94% of coffee sourced through its AAA Sustainable Quality™ program and committing to be carbon neutral by 2022.

Benefit for Councils and Local Government

Local councils are set to benefit as the scheme enables more Australian's to divert a costly daily waste stream from certain landfill, as recycling infrastructure in Australia is currently unable to process small light items. The scheme also benefits councils by supporting local communities to be proactive in waste responsibility and sustainable resource management, offering second life to the infinitely recyclable aluminium used in **Nespresso** pods.

Councils can get involved with our bulk recycling program by ordering a complimentary **Nespresso** recycling kit, which includes three large recycling boxes capable of holding up to 1,500 used **Nespresso** aluminium capsules. Once filled, organise a pickup to **Nespresso's** recycling facility at no cost. At this time collection can only occur from attended buildings.

We welcome your support in spreading awareness for the scheme as we believe that the purpose built scheme can help divert a valuable resource from landfill and encourage improved environmental stewardship.

I am keen to discuss this and how it can support your sustainability efforts. Do let me know a suitable time for a video conference.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Ebert

No (More) Time To Waste

The Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee indicated in their October 2018 Report that only 5 of 16 recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General had been met. Therefore they made the following recommendations to address this. Feedback has been received from DWER regarding the status of the various recommendations (Table 1).

Table 1: No (More) Time to Waste Recommendations and current status

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
That the Waste Authority include in its Annual Report comprehensive information explain any departure from the current schedule for finalising its service level agreement and governance framework with the DWER.	<p>Waste Authority 2018/19 Annual Report (published October 2019) – complete – the service level agreement finally signed off 10 May 2019.</p> <p><i>“The agreement sets out the parties’ mutual understanding of their respective statutory and other legal functions and obligations through a statement of expectations and performance deliverables for provision of services for the period 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2020.”</i></p> <p>COMPLETE – although unclear about ongoing services level agreement.</p>	<p>Recommendation 1. Complete</p> <p>The Waste Authority 2018-19 Annual Report (published October 2019) noted the Service Level Agreement (SLA) was approved 10 May 2019.</p> <p>The SLA is reviewed and updated annually and is approved by the Waste Authority and the DWER Director General, prior to the finalisation of the annual Business Plan.</p>
The DWER ensure that the impending review of the <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007</i> (WA) removes all remaining ambiguity between the Department and the Waste Authority regarding their	The WARR Act has yet to be reviewed – anticipated in the coming months.	<p>Recommendation 2. Underway.</p> <p>It is anticipated the 12-week consultation period will be undertaken September – November 2020.</p>

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
<p>respective roles and responsibilities around the implementation of the Waste Strategy and expenditure from the WARR Account.</p>		<p>The statutory review of the <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007</i> (WARR Act) on behalf of the Minister for Environment has commenced. The review has a focus on addressing the roles and responsibilities of the Minister, CEO, and Waste Authority, noting previous findings that these were overlapping and unclear. The resolution of any remaining ambiguity requires legislative amendments, which will be subject to Government and Parliamentary consideration.</p> <p>Note that a governance agreement between DWER and the Waste Authority is in place and outlines the roles and responsibilities of each.</p>
<p>The Minister for Environment and the Waste Authority negotiate further to determine the appropriate number of staff that should work exclusively on helping the Waste Authority perform its functions and deliver its services.</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Recommendation 3: Complete.</p> <p>In accordance with the Public Sector Commission's <i>Good Governance Guide for Western Australian Boards and Committees</i>, the Minister for Environment has provided the Waste Authority with a statement of expectations to provide greater clarity about his understanding of the role of the Waste Authority and to guide its use of WARR Account funded resources.</p> <p>The application of WARR Account resources to Waste Authority functions is consistent with the Minister's statement of expectations. Arrangements regarding the form in which services</p>

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
		from the DWER are provided (i.e. exclusive or shared) is determined by the Director General in consultation with the Minister.
The Minister for Environment confirm if and when the DWER will be required to prepare business cases when proposing to use money from the WARR Account to fund internal projects linked to the Waste Strategy.	-	<p>Recommendation 4: Complete.</p> <p>This was confirmed by the Minister in his response to the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee on 11 January 2019.</p> <p>Specifically – the Minister advised:</p> <p><i>“Resources applied by DWER to administering and implementing the WARR Act and associated regulations, are approved by the Minister, quantified in the SLA, overseen by the Program Risk and Performance Committee, and reported on a quarterly basis to the Waste Authority. Separate business cases are not considered necessary for managing these ongoing functions. Ancillary or administrative services provided by DWER to the Waste Authority, including financial, human resources, ministerial, and communications, are approved by the Minister, quantified in the SLA, overseen by the Program Risk and Performance Committee, and reported on quarterly basis to the Waste Authority. It is not considered necessary to prepare separate business cases for these ongoing activities.”</i></p>

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
		<p>Business cases have been developed for all new programs and projects included in annual business plans since 2016-17. DWER also provides comprehensive quarterly financial and activity reports to the Waste Authority for all services provided under the SLA. Expenditure is detailed in the SLA as an allocation of FTE, consistent with approvals provided by the Minister for the WARR Account.</p>
<p>The Minister for Environment to explain the rationale for any decision to exempt the DWER from the requirement to prepare business cases for such spending.</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Recommendation 5: Complete.</p> <p>This was confirmed by the Minister in his response to the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee on 11 January 2019.</p> <p>Following consultation with the Minister, the Waste Authority has established a Program Risk and Performance Committee, which includes the CEO as a member, to improve oversight of the WARR Account and related program efficacy.</p> <p>To provide appropriate levels of oversight regarding expenditure, ongoing statutory responsibilities that are not discretionary (as distinct from proposed initiatives and projects), funded through the WARR Account, such as levy collection, compliance and enforcement, and waste local law processing, regular reporting to the Waste Authority and Minister is undertaken.</p> <p>Resources applied by DWER to administering and implementing the WARR Act and associated regulations, are approved by the Minister, quantified in the SLA, overseen by the Program Risk and</p>

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
		<p>Performance Committee, and reported on a quarterly basis to the Waste Authority. Separate business cases are not required for managing these ongoing functions.</p> <p>Ancillary or administrative services provided by DWER to the Waste Authority, including financial, human resources, ministerial, and communications, are approved by the Minister, quantified in the SLA, overseen by the Program Risk and Performance Committee, and reported on quarterly basis to the Waste Authority. It is not considered necessary to prepare separate business cases for these ongoing activities.</p>
<p>The Waste Authority, in its next Annual Report, clearly explain any changes it has made around how it defines its four landfill diversion categories and the impact these changes have had on the targets and rates for each category.</p>	<p>Waste Authority 2018/19 Annual Report (published October 2019)</p>	<p>Recommendation 6: Complete.</p> <p>Consistent with this recommendation, the Waste Authority's 2017-18 Annual Report included information about waste data estimation issues and changes for the most recently published data for the 2015-16 financial year. This information is included in the <i>"Significant issues impacting the Waste Authority"</i> section of the report.</p> <p>Key issues noted in the 2017-18 Annual Report included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • corrections to the 2015-16 data; • the adoption of a new method to estimate landfill disposal in the non-metropolitan region (given that non-metropolitan landfills are not required to report data); • data gaps associated with stockpiling; and

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparation of a waste data strategy to assist with data issues.
The DWER formally advise the Minister for Environment whenever it decides not to support recommendations for Waste Strategy related initiatives put forward by the Waste Authority.	-	<p>Recommendation 7: Complete</p> <p>As a public sector agency, DWER's views are expressed in the form of advice to the Minister. DWER provides advice to the Minister when requested by the Minister, or when considered necessary.</p>



Container Deposit Scheme at Events **Report**

1.0 Container Deposit Scheme at Events

1.1 CDS Results

In January 2019, WALGA received funding from the State Government to promote the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) at Local Government events across Western Australia. At the program's conclusion, on 1 October, WALGA staff had attended 38 events total and worked with Local Government to collect approximately 100,000 containers (Figure 1).

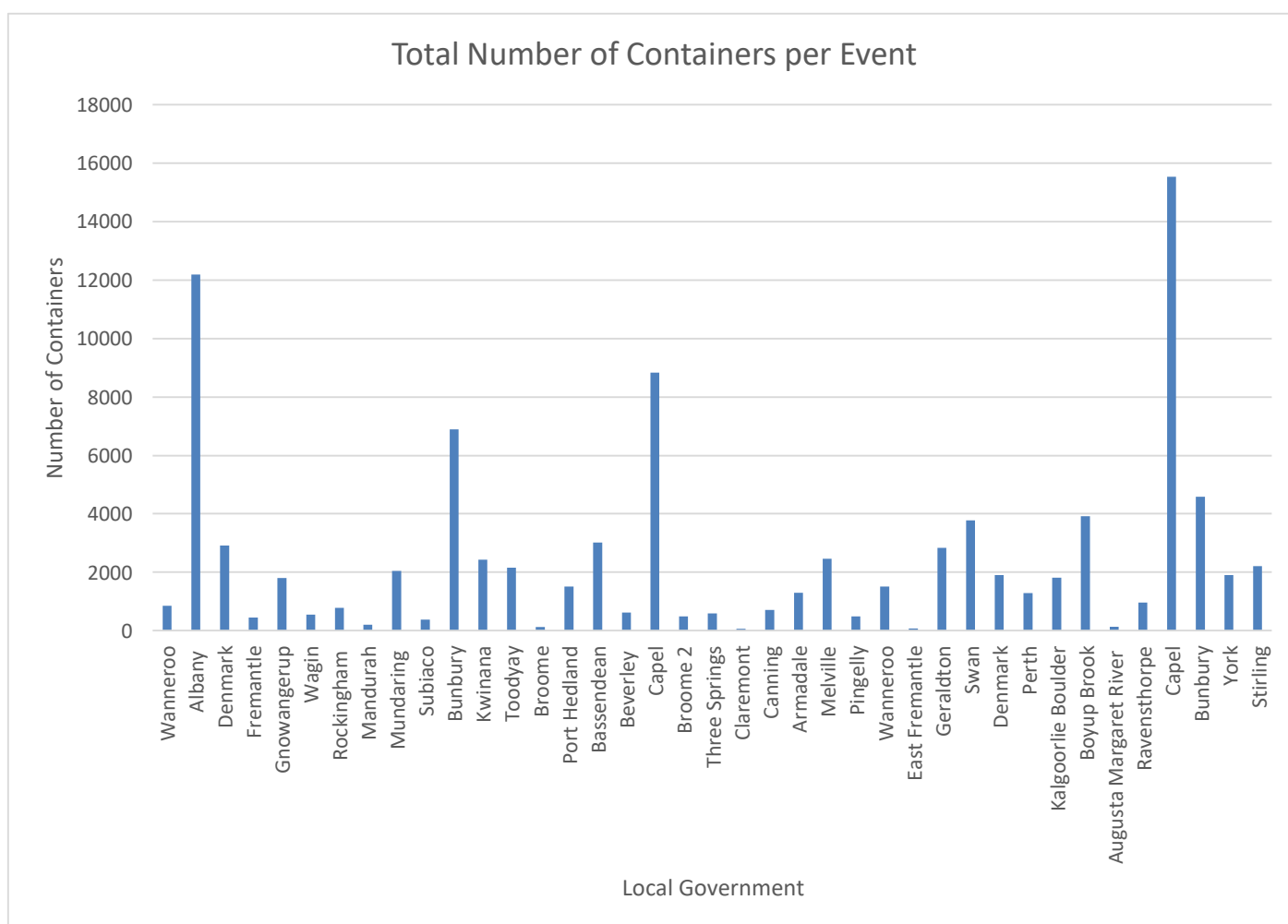


Figure 1. Total number of containers collected per Local Government event

WALGA staff also noted at each event the amount of people that handed in containers and also the people that staff spoke to about the Scheme. Figure 2 show the amount of people that interacted with the stall compared to the number of containers collected.

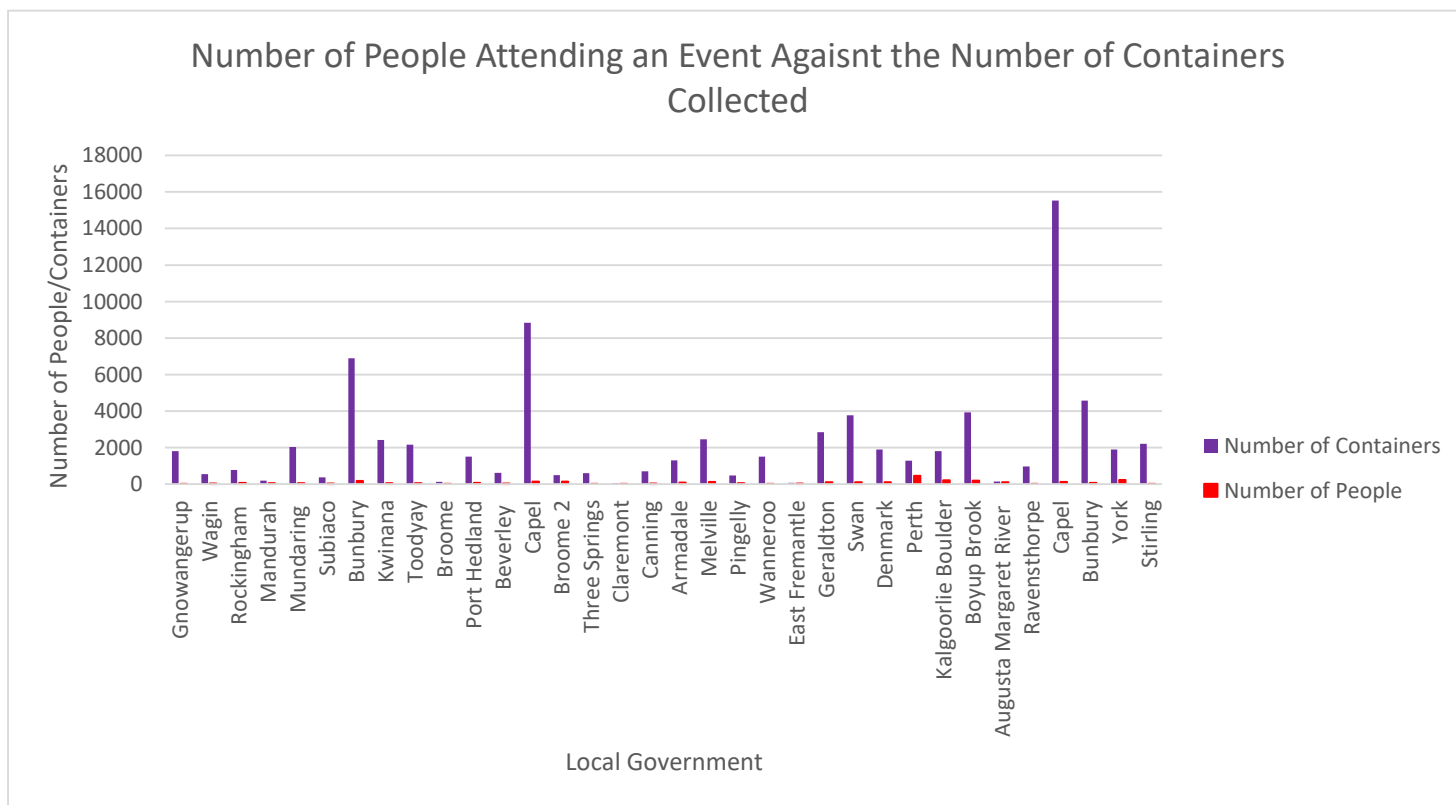


Figure 2. Amount of people at each event compared to the number of containers collected.

Of the 38 events, 16 of them took place within the Perth Metropolitan and Peel region and 22 took place in the Non-Metropolitan area. Out of the total number of containers collected across all events, 76% of containers were collected at Non-Metropolitan Local Government events (Figure 3).

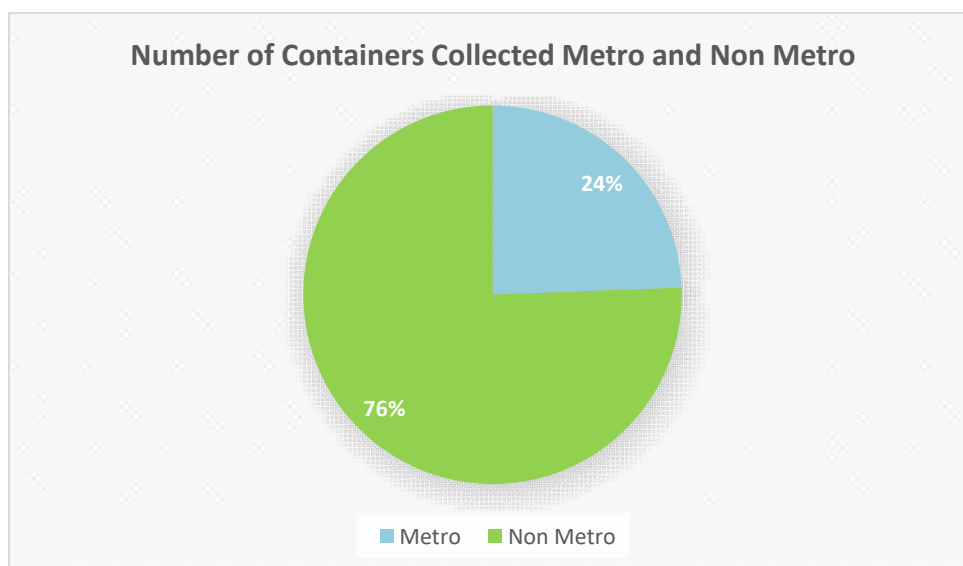


Figure 3. The percentage of containers collected in Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan regions of WA.

1.2 Photos of the Events

The first event WALGA staff attended was The City of Albany (figure 4) at the Middleton Beach Festival on 25 January 2019. This was one of the more successful events as residents brought along 12,194 containers.



Figure 4. City of Albany residents handing over their containers

The most successful metro event was at the City of Swan's Ellenbrook Christmas Pageant (Figure 5) on 14 December 2019. WALGA staff spoke to approximately 110 people about the scheme and collected 3,768 containers.



Figure 5. City of Swan's Ellenbrook Christmas Pageant.

The final promotional CDS event took place at the City of Stirling's Waste Activation Events on 19 September 2020 (Figure 6). With another successful event, WALGA staff spoke to over 30 people and collected 2,203 containers.



Figure 6. Final CDS promotional event at the City of Stirling.

Figures 7 to 11 below were taken by the WALGA Waste Team at the various promotional events for the Container Deposit Scheme.



Figure 7. From top left: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and City of Bunbury. From bottom left: Shire of Gnowangerup, City of Armadale and City of Wanneroo.



Figure 8. From top left: Shire of Augusta Margaret River, City of Melville and City of Subiaco. From bottom left: City of Kwinana and Town of Port Hedland



Figure 9. From top left: Shire of Pingelly and Town of Port Hedland From bottom left: Shire of Wagin, City of Wanneroo and City of Mandurah



Figure 10. From top left: Shire of Capel and Shire of Mundaring. From bottom left: City of Perth, Shire of Denmark and Town of Bassendean.



Figure 11. From top left: Shire of York and Shire of Denmark. From bottom left: Shire of Ravensthorpe, Shire of Broome and Shire of Boyup Brook.



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: wa-government@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon Mark McGowan BA LLB MLA, Premier of Western Australia

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Minister.Templeman@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister Templeman,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Minister.MacTiernan@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister MacTiernan

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Minister.Wyatt@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister Wyatt,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Minister.Saffioti@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister Saffioti,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: MiningPastoral.McGinn@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Kyle McGinn MLC,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Kyran.ODonnell@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Kyran O'Donnell MLA,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: darren.west.mp@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Darren West MLC,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is please to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: northwest@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Vincent Catania MLA,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Mia.Davies@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Mia Davies MLA,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: liza.harvey@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Liza Harvey MLA,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: mining-pastoral@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Robin Howard Chapple MLC,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Robin.Scott@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Robin Scott MLC,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: peter.rundle@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Peter Rundle MLA,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: rick.wilson.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Mr Rick Wilson MP,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: michael.mccormack.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Hon Michael McCormack MP,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Duncan.Ord@dlqsc.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Duncan Ord,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Ralph.Addis@dpird.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Ralph Addis,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Kris.Starcevich@gedc.wa.gov.au

Dear Kris,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: NSloan@walga.asn.au

Dear Mr Nick Sloan,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: rowena.olsen@nationalswa.com

Dear Rowena Olsen,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Parliamentary National Party of Australia (WA)

Our ref: 201020/TM

Cr Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair
459 Albany Highway
VICTORIA PARK WA 6100

via email: mannadvisory@bigpond.com

Dear Cr Cullen

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
(GVROC) ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

Thank you for taking the time to provide the GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region for Mia's consideration. I will ensure it is brought to her attention.

I have taken the liberty of sharing the plan with our Members of Parliament who have constituents within the GVROC region. I'm sure they will be in touch if they'd like to take up your offer to discuss the plan or have any questions.

Thank you again for writing to Mia.

Yours sincerely

Josh Nyman
CHIEF OF STAFF
Office of Hon Mia Davies MLA
Leader of The Nationals WA

20 OCT 2020

GVROC incoming email correspondence for 13 November 2020 meeting

Email received 20 October 2020 from Office of Liza Harvey MLA, Liberal Party Leader and Member for Scarborough regarding GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region

Good morning

Thank you for your recent correspondence, the contents of which have been noted by the Office of Hon Liza Harvey MLA, Leader of the Opposition.

Your correspondence has been forwarded to Hon Steve Thomas MLC, Shadow Minister for Finance; Agriculture & Food; Regional Development; Royalties for Regions for his information.

We appreciate the time you have taken to provide the Leader with the update.

With best regards

Office of Hon Liza Harvey MLA
Leader of the Opposition
T: 9222 7351 E: admin.harvey@loop.wa.gov.au



Email received 20 October 2020 from WALGA CEO, Nick Sloan regarding GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region

Hi Andrew

Thanks for this – fantastic initiative.

I'd appreciate the opportunity to meet and discuss how we can support GVROC with your advocacy.

Neb's will liaise on a convenient time for us all to meet.

Thanks, Nick Sloan

Email received 26 October 2020 from Director General, Ralph Addis regarding GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region

Thanks Andrew, I've had a quick read of GVROC's Plan and also forwarded it to Niegel Grazia (DDG Industry & Economic Development) and Kris Starcevich (CEO GEDC).

Let me know if there's anything particular you'd like to discuss.

Best regards

Ralph Addis

Email received 26 October 2020 from Office of Kyran O'Donnell MLA, Member for Kalgoorlie regarding GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region

Hi Mal & Andrew

Thank you for sending this through, Kyran is reviewing what you have sent, there are some very good points, issues raised and initiatives and proposals in there.

The Hon. Liza Harvey, Leader of the Opposition will be here on the 30th of November and I was wondering if you would like to meet with her and discuss this plan with both her and Kyran at the same time?

Regards

Nardia TURNER | Electorate Officer
Office of Kyran O'Donnell, MLA
Member for Kalgoorlie | Shadow Minister for Seniors and Ageing; Volunteering



Like our Facebook page to see what is happening in the Kalgoorlie Electorate!

227 Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie WA 6430
T: (08) 9021 6766 | F: (08) 9021 6724
E: nardia.turner@mp.wa.gov.au | kyran.odonnell@mp.wa.gov.au



This electronic transmission is intended only for those to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is confidential, privileged or exempt from disclosure by law. Any claim to privilege is not waived or lost by reason of mistaken transmission of this information. If you are not the intended recipient you must not distribute or copy this transmission and should please immediately notify the sender.

Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils

Financial Statement period ending 30-09-20

		Adopted Budget 2020/2021	Estimated Actual YTD to 30-06-2020	Estimated Actual YTD to 30-09-2020
Number				
Governance Income				
0501	Member Subscriptions	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 88,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
0502	Member Subscriptions - Goldfields District			
0521	Reimbursements		\$ 12,792.00	
0575.01	Interest Income GVROC	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,823.87	\$ 31.46
Total Governance Income		101,500.00	102,615.87	22,031.46
Governance Expenses				
1512	Executive Officer - Phone, Internet and Fax	\$ 800.00		
1513	Executive Officer - Professional Services	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 69,740.00	\$ 44,000.00
1514	Executive Officer - Travel & Accommodation	\$ 14,000.00		
1515	Executive Officer - Other	\$ 1,000.00		
1546	Council Expenses - Meeting Room Hire	\$ 1,500.00		
1549	Council Expenses - Teleconference	\$ 2,000.00		
1555	Council Expenses - Meeting Food and Beverage	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 1,275.00	
1556	Council Expenses - Financial Management	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,278.00	
1557	Council Expenses - Travel & Accommodation	\$ 6,000.00		
1558	Council Expenses - Other	\$ 500.00		
1559	Council Expenses - Audit	\$ 3,000.00		
	BAS Tax Payment		\$ 3,533.00	
	Payment Shire Coolgardie		\$ 40,520.97	
	Advertising Executive Officer		\$ 2,604.51	
	Strata Fees		\$ 2,855.77	

Total Governance Expenses	\$	160,300.00	\$	123,807.25	\$	44,000.00
----------------------------------	-----------	-------------------	-----------	-------------------	-----------	------------------

Total Net Governance	-\$	58,800.00	-\$	21,191.38	-\$	21,968.54
-----------------------------	------------	------------------	------------	------------------	------------	------------------

Project Income

0512 Transfer from Cash Reserves
Contribution RDA

Total Project Income	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
-----------------------------	-----------	----------	-----------	----------	-----------	----------

Project Expenses

1846 Projects General - ROSI Project

1846 Projects General	\$	30,000.00	\$	47,300.00
-----------------------	-----------	------------------	-----------	------------------

1849 Maintenance GVROC Regional Equipment Pool
Equity Payment Records Facility

Total Project Expenses	\$	30,000.00	\$	47,300.00	\$	-
-------------------------------	-----------	------------------	-----------	------------------	-----------	----------

Total Net Projects	-\$	30,000.00	-\$	47,300.00	\$	-
---------------------------	------------	------------------	------------	------------------	-----------	----------

Cash Distribution to each LG		\$	150,000.00	\$	50,000.00
-------------------------------------	--	-----------	-------------------	-----------	------------------

Opening Cash Balance 1 July GVROC	\$	285,099.93
-----------------------------------	-----------	-------------------

Estimated Closing June 2020	\$	196,299.93	-\$	218,491.38	-\$	71,968.54
------------------------------------	-----------	-------------------	------------	-------------------	------------	------------------

	Estimated to 30 June 2021	Estimated to 30 June 2020	Estimated to 30 September 2020
Telenet Saver Account	\$150,263.34	\$250,284.20	\$250,315.66
Business Transaction Account	\$46,036.59		\$67,122.28
Total Cash	\$ 196,299.93	\$ 250,284.20	\$ 317,437.94

10 November 2020

**AMD Chartered Accountants
PO Box 1306
BUNBURY WA 6230**

Dear Sirs/Madam

REPRESENTATION LETTER

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial report of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils for the year ended 30 June 2020, for the purpose of you expressing an opinion as to whether the financial report gives a true and fair view in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as outlined within Note 1.

We confirm that (to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such enquires as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves):

Financial Report

- We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement dated 30 July 2019, for the preparation of the financial report in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as outlined within Note 1; in particular the financial report gives a true and fair view in accordance therewith.
- Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed.
- All events subsequent to the date of the financial report have been adjusted or disclosed.
- There are no material uncorrected misstatements.
- The selection and application of accounting policies are appropriate.

Information Provided

- We have provided you with:
 - Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial report such as records, documentation and other matters;
 - Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
 - Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial report.
- We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial report may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

- We have disclosed to you all information in relation to fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects the entity and involves:
 - Management;
 - Employees who have significant roles in internal audit control; and
 - Others where fraud could have a material effect on the financial report.
- We have disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity's financial report communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.
- We have disclosed to you known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial report.
- We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial report.
- We have disclosed to you the identity of the entity's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.
- We have provided you with all requested information, explanations and assistance for the purposes of the audit.

Other

- We acknowledge our responsibility for the design and implementation of internal control to prevent and detect error. We have established and maintained adequate internal control to facilitate the preparation of a reliable financial report, and adequate financial records have been maintained. There are no material transactions that have not been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial report.
- There are no violations or possible violations of laws or regulations whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial report or as a basis for recording an expense.
- The entity has satisfactory title to all assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- The entity has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial report in the event of non-compliance.
- There are no liabilities, both actual and contingent, that have arisen which we have not disclosed to you.
- There were no material commitments for construction or acquisition of property, plant and equipment or to acquire other non-current assets, such as investments or intangibles, other than as disclosed in the financial report.
- The organisation is considered to be a non-reporting entity because it is likely that all users of the financial statements are able to obtain financial information by access to the Council

We understand that your examination was made in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and was, therefore, designed primarily for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial report of the entity taken as a whole, and that your tests of the financial records and other auditing procedures were limited to those which you considered necessary for that purpose.

Yours faithfully



Malcolm Cullen
Chairman
Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of
Councils



Andrew Mann
Executive Officer
Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of
Councils

6 November 2020

Mr M Cullen
Chairperson
Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils
PO Box 6456
EAST PERTH WA 6892

Dear Malcolm

30 JUNE 2020 MANAGEMENT REPORT

Following completion of our 30 June 2020 audit, we provide our Management Report and audit recommendations.

1.0 Our Audit Approach

The Australian Auditing Standards are the professional Standards applicable to all audit engagements. Accordingly, our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, with testing designed solely to enable the expression of an opinion on the financial report of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils. This involved us making an assessment of the risk of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and then using our professional judgement, applying audit procedures to mitigate that risk.

To assist those responsible for governance in understanding our role as external auditor, we have previously detailed our audit responsibilities and scope of work to be performed to meet those responsibilities in our audit engagement letter.

Australian Auditing Standards require us to document and evaluate Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils' system of internal control to establish the level of reliance on the internal control system in determining the nature, timing and extent of other auditing procedures necessary to enable us to complete our audit. This work is not primarily directed towards the discovery of weaknesses or the detection of fraud or other irregularities and should not, therefore, be taken to assume that no other weaknesses exist. Accordingly the comments within this letter refer only to those matters that have come to our attention during the course of our normal audit work and may not identify all possible improvements that an internal controls review may detect.

Our audit approach is based on a risk analysis methodology which relies upon our understanding of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils' operations, strategies and risks. We performed a review of applicable accounting systems and tested those during our audit. The level of testing performed by us is determined by the degree of reliance we place on the internal control systems in place which has a resulting impact on the amount of substantive testing required during our audit procedures. The level of testing performed is also aligned with what is required to form an overall opinion on the financial statements which may not coincide with what Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils perceives should be tested.

Our audit also included evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and judgements, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report. There were no areas of disagreement either in the accounting estimates or judgements or in the presentation and disclosures made in the financial report.

Inevitably in the environment of an organisation with a limited number of employees or contractors available to undertake accounting and administration roles, it is impracticable to have good division of duties and internal checks in place in relation to invoicing and receipting, processing and preparation of payments and recording of transactions. As a result, there is inherently an increased risk that errors or omissions may go undetected.

2.0 Assessment of Fraud and Error

The primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud is that of the Council and management. As a result, it is important that management with the oversight of the Council place a strong emphasis on fraud prevention, which may reduce opportunities for fraud to take place and fraud deterrence, which could persuade individuals not to commit fraud because of the likelihood of detection and resulting consequences.

In accordance with Australian Auditing Standards we are required to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial report taken as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. While our procedures are designed to identify material weaknesses and misstatements from fraud and error, there is an unavoidable risk that even some material misstatements may remain undiscovered. This unavoidable risk is due to the test nature and other inherent limitations of an audit, together with the inherent limitations of any accounting and internal control system.

We have confirmed that nothing has come to management's attention that may constitute an incident of fraud. In addition our audit procedures did not identify any instances of suspected or actual fraud. We take this opportunity to remind you that our audit is not designed to detect fraud and therefore our audit procedures are not designed for that purpose.

3.0 Other Matters

Please refer to Appendix 1 for one specific recommendation arising from our audit procedures.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank James for the assistance provided to us during our audit.

Should you have any questions concerning the above or would like to discuss any other aspect of our audit, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

AMD Chartered Accountants

Maria Cavallo FCA
Director

APPENDIX 1
Audit Recommendations for the year ended 30 June 2020

GUIDANCE TO FINDINGS RATING / IMPLICATION

Findings identified during the final audit have been weighted in accordance with the following scale:

Significant: *Those findings where there is potentially a significant risk to the entity should the finding not be addressed promptly.*

Moderate: *Those findings which are of sufficient concern to warrant action being taken by the entity as soon as possible.*

Minor: *Those findings that are not of primary concern however still warrant action being taken.*

AUDIT FINDINGS

1. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Finding Rating: Moderate

Minutes of Council meetings held during the year ended 30 June 2020 were not signed by chairperson

Implication

Lack of documentation in respect to Council discussions and resolutions.

Recommendation

We recommend that minutes all minutes are signed. It is good governance practice for the minutes to be signed by the Chairperson as it acts as a confirmation that the minutes are a true and fair record of actions and resolutions which have taken place in the meeting.

Management Comment

The GVROC Note the recommendation, and while all minutes are reviewed and endorsed by the GVROC at its subsequent meetings, we will ensure that they are also signed by the Chairperson and dated as an official true and fair record in future.



GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL
ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020



GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Cash Receipts		
Contribution Towards Battery Minerals Infrastructure Strategy	-	18,182
DLGC Asset Management GERCG Project	-	5,572
GST Clearing	5,968	1,763
Interest Income - GVROC	1,824	5,551
Loan Proceeds - Shire of Coolgardie	-	37,957
Member Subscriptions	80,000	89,000
Reimbursements	-	978
Total Receipts	87,792	159,003
Cash Payments		
Council Expenses - Audit	2,380	2,380
Council Expenses - Financial Management	600	2,699
Council Expenses - Meeting Food and Beverage	559	9,243
Council Expenses - Other	600	-
Council Expenses - Teleconference / Meeting Room Hire	3,396	13
DLGC Asset Management GERCG Project	-	757
Executive Officer - Other	2,368	3,078
Executive Officer - Phone, Internet and Fax	-	53
Executive Officer - Professional Fees	63,400	5,388
Executive Officer - Travel and Accommodation	-	1,172
Expenses - Goldfields Record Storage Facility Resolution	152,856	7,691
Loan Repayments - Shire of Coolgardie	37,125	-
Projects General - Digital Action Plan	20,000	-
Projects General - Member Councils	23,000	24,050
Reimbursements	-	23,300
Total Payments	306,284	79,824
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(218,492)	79,179

GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
STATEMENT OF CASH BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Opening Funds at 1 July	607,898	528,719
Add: Surplus/(Deficit) for the year <i>(refer previous page)</i>	(218,492)	79,179
Closing Funds at 30 June	389,406	607,898
Represented by:		
Bankwest Zero	139,122	80,105
Bankwest Saver	250,284	527,793
Total Funds at 30 June	389,406	607,898

Index

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH PAYMENTS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

NOTE 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Member Councils. The Council has determined that it is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Member Councils and on the cash basis of accounting whereby revenue is recorded when it is received, expenses are recorded when they are paid and no assets or liabilities, other than cash and bank balances are recorded.

Accounting Standards or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board are not applicable.

GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

The Council have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The Council have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, whereby revenue is recorded when cash receipts are received, expenses are recorded when they are paid, and no assets or liabilities, other than cash and bank balances, are recorded.

In the opinion of the Council the attached financial report presents fairly the cash receipts and payments of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils for the year ended 30 June 2020 and its cash and bank balances as at that date.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Council and is signed for and on behalf of the Council by:



Malcolm Cullen
Chairman
Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of
Councils



Andrew Mann
Executive Officer
Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of
Councils

Dated this 10th day of November 2020

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS**

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils, being a special purpose financial report, which comprises the statement of cash receipts and cash payments for the year ended 30 June 2020, notes to the financial statements and the declaration by those charged with governance.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the receipts and payments of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils for the year ended 30 June 2020, and of its cash and bank balances as at that date, in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter- Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils to meet the requirements of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Member Councils. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and for such internal control as management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management are responsible for assessing the organisations ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intend to liquidate Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organisation's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

AMD Chartered Accountants

MARIA CAVALLO
Director

28-30 Wellington Street, Bunbury, Western Australia

Dated this day of November 2020

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
TO THE MEMBERS OF GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS**

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2020, there have been no contraventions of:

- i) The auditor independence requirements as set out in the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants in relation to the audit; and
- ii) Any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

AMD Chartered Accountants

**Maria Cavallo FCA
Director**

Bunbury, WA

Dated this 6th day of November 2020



Goldfields-Esperance Camel Industry Working Group Terms of Reference

PURPOSE

To progress the development of camel related industry components in consultation with key stakeholders, including State and Local government, agencies, Pastoralists and private enterprise.

INTENT

To realise the commercial and economic benefits associated with harvesting and utilising camels in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

FOCUS

Identifying and developing opportunities for commercialisation of camel products and value add commodities.

GOALS

- Progress the industry development recommendations outlined in the *Goldfields-Esperance Camel Industry Analysis* to support emerging and existing business ventures to utilise camels as a commercially viable commodity.
- Establish the Goldfields-Esperance region as a leader in camel commercial business operations and best industry practice.

DESIRABLE OUTCOMES

1. Support Pastoralists to develop the required infrastructure to capitalise on camel related commercial opportunities.
2. Engagement and involvement of Aboriginal lease holders, ranger programs and Native Title holders to realise employment and economic development outcomes.
3. Provide advice to assist stakeholders in scoping and developing new industry projects across the Goldfields-Esperance region.
4. Provide assistance to potential proponents to access grants opportunities and funding sources.
5. Advocate for industry development

ACCOUNTABILITY

The Goldfields-Esperance Camel Industry Working Group will be supported by the partner organisation, being the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC), Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission (GEDC) and Goldfields Nullarbor Rangelands Biosecurity Association (GNRBA).

The Working Group will report on activities and progress to the partner organisations and to the Minister for Regional Development as required, or on request from the Minister.

MEMBERSHIP

The partner organisations are responsible for appointing and maintaining the membership. Members may consist of individuals or representatives from all levels of government, industry organisations, Pastoralists, private businesses or other interested stakeholders who have knowledge and expertise to assist the working group achieve its goals and desired outcomes.

The Working Group membership will endorse the Chair position. In the event that the Chair is absent for a meeting, a member will be nominated to Chair by the group.

MEETING FREQUENCY

It is expected that the Working Group will meet on an as needs basis. Due to the far reaching geographic locations of the membership, meetings will be planned giving consideration to both in-person and virtual meeting attendance. Under special circumstances a meeting may be cancelled or re-scheduled.

QUORUM AND VOTING

The Working group will operate with 50% of the membership participating. Decisions of the Working Group are made by consensus and a limit of one (1) vote is allowed per organisation.

Decisions can be made via email circular outside of scheduled meetings, provided a quorum is achieved.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

Administrative and in-kind support will be provided by the Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission.

To whom it may concern,

This letter addresses the business case of the project utilising camel GPS collars for the benefit of local shires in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

From the Goldfields-Esperance Region Camel Industry Analysis: “Estimated total impacts (costs) attributed to camels, at the LGA level, in the Goldfields-Esperance in 2019/20 was over **\$764,000.**”

GVROC will be a key beneficiary of the proposed project, as the data generated will prove extremely useful to local councils, who will be forewarned of camel movements to more effectively manage camel herds before they damage infrastructure.

After reviewing our proposal that was presented to GVROC last meeting at Kalgoorlie on September 11 we have prepared a detailed business case for WA feral camel tracking and management while utilising GPS collars and technology.

CSA has identified six shires that would greatly benefit from the project, totalling 60 collars. These shires are:

- Wiluna
- Laverton
- Leonora
- Kalgoorlie - Boulder
- Dundas
- Ngaanyatjaraku

Camel Solutions Australia (CSA) will provide 30% of the cost while seeking 35% from the Western Australian State government and 35% from GVROC.

The total cost to each of GVROC and the State Government to roll out 60 collars across these areas will be **\$545,246** for a minimum three-year project. The first year of funding will be \$256,886, followed by \$144,180 for years two and three. Dividing the project funding between the six shires amounts to \$90,875 a shire, which means \$42,815 for the first year following by \$24,030 for years two and three.

Given the minimum guaranteed battery life is four years, we therefore feel it is a wasted resource to not utilise this data and the Geo-fence feature during the fourth year. This provides the potential for us to extend the project further, and should GVROC decide to go ahead with the fourth year of the project, a price will be negotiated appropriately.

Please feel free to contact us if you require any further information.

Regards,

Nathaniel James and Gilad Berman.

Gilad Berman
Director / CEO
Camel Solutions Australia
2 The Esplanade, Exchange Tower Level 15, Perth
ABN: 72642088720
ACN: 642088720

Camel Solutions Australia

WA Feral Camel Tracking and Management

Business Case

Nathaniel James
p. 0418 478 853
e. n.james@csaustralia.net

Gilad Berman
p. 0424 477 785
e. g.berman@csaustralia.net

ACN 642 088 720
PO Box 502 Kalamunda WA 6076
WWW.CSAUSTRALIA.NET

Contents

Business Plan Summary	3
The Business	3
The Future	4
Vision statement	4
Goals/objectives.....	5
The Finances(1)	6
Project Budget	6
Project Funding Plan	7
The Management	7
Experiance	7
Funding Management.....	8
Requierd Staff.....	8
Forums/Training Programs.....	8
Services	9
Innovations	9
Legal Considerations.....	10
The Operations	10
Project Plan	10
Community impact & engagement	11
Risk Mitigation Response	11
Risk Management.....	12
Constraints.....	13
The Finances(2)	14
Expected Cash Flow 2021	14
Expected Cash Flow 2022	15
Expected Cash Flow 2023	16

Business Plan Summary

Australia's feral camel population is a very significant problem and a major concern across regional Western Australia. Due to a recurring natural increase in the camel population in 2009 the Australian Federal Government invested A\$19 million into the Australian Feral Camel Management Project that culled 160,000 camels from Central Australia. However, the AFCMP project ended in 2013 and with the camel population doubling every 8 to 10 years it is safe to say that Australia's camel population is probably back to what it was before the AFCMP culling started. The AFCMP project estimated it would take about \$4 million per year to maintain the current population, however, there is no recurring funding from Government to reduce Australia's camel population.

Camel Solutions Australia proposes an approach using off-the-shelf technology to provide up to date GPS data sourced using tracking collars, and with the support of Murdoch University, introduce a multi-disciplinary approach to camel ecology. The use of tracking collars is one of the most effective methods for monitoring wild animals spread across vast areas and provide mission critical data to help reduce the camel population. CSA aims to use the "Judas Camel" method that was proven successful by Murdoch University and apply it on a State-wide basis to address a State-wide problem. For the first time, using GPS tracking data, CSA will accurately know the location and movement of feral camels across the interior of WA, their dispersal patterns, and likely future movements during drought & floods to enable proactive management of the feral camel population before they become a problem to communities, pastoralists and Government. A geo-fencing feature will be used to alert stakeholders well in advance before problems arise and when to capitalise on pending harvest opportunities.

Data will be collected and used to protect critical assets such as areas of cultural significance, regional and remote communities, infrastructure, road networks, pastoral infrastructure and environmentally sensitive areas. Local communities and pastoralists will be alerted before camels get to critical assets or areas of significance; pastoralists will be readied to prepare mustering yards near watering points to harvest camels for sale rather than shoot, drop and cull.

Outcomes of this project will include: Mitigation of the negative impacts currently caused by the over abundance of feral camels will become possible. Removal of camels using mobile mustering and permanent self-trapping yards will become a highly targeted operation. Remote and inaccessible regions can be targeted to remove pest populations. Remote Aboriginal communities can be resourced in advance to remove approaching camels. Goals can be actioned to confidently reduce the camel population by an amount greater than natural growth.

The project has the potential to save millions of dollars annually in damage to the environment, communities and infrastructure. The project has potential to provide the basis for land managers, owners and pastoralists to gain a reliable supply of camels for dairy, meat, pet food, meat meal, fertiliser and value adding opportunities – which in turn will stimulate investment resulting in new ventures, jobs, exports and industry.

GVROC will be a key beneficiary of this project as the data generated will prove extremely useful to local councils who will be forewarned of camel movements to more effectively manage herds before they damage infrastructure (e.g. over \$760,000 damage was inflicted to local government areas' infrastructure during spring-summer 2019).

The Business

Business name: Camel Solutions Australia

Business structure: Company

ABN: 72642088720

ACN: 642088720

GST: We are registered for the purposes of GST

Domain names: csaustralia.net

Business location: 2 The Esplanade, Exchange Tower Level 15, Perth

Business owners: Nathaniel James and Gilad Berman

The Future

Vision statement:

The use of tracking collars is one of the most effective methods for monitoring wild animals spread across vast areas and provide missioncritical data to help reduce the camel population. Camel Solutions Australia, with the support of Murdoch University, plan to introduce a multidisciplinary approach to camel ecology.

Camel Solutions Australia proposes to gather information through the use of GPS collars fitted to approximately 60 feral camels spread across the interior of WA, extending from the far eastern Pilbara to the WA/SA border to Esperance to the eastern goldfields (e.g. Kalgoorlie, Laverton & Wiluna).

The GPS collars will provide insight to monitor feral camel movement patterns across the desert regions of Western Australia. We will gain two 'tracked' locations from each collar each day, shown visually on Google Earth as a 'dot' with a corresponding time and date of the geo-referenced position. Over time, CSA will develop the capacity to track movement patterns on Google Earth and provide future scenarios.

CSA aims to use the "Judas Camel" method that was proven successful by Murdoch University and apply it on a State-wide basis to address a State-wide problem. For the first time, using GPS tracking data, CSA will accurately know the location and movement of feral

camels across the interior of WA, their dispersal patterns, and likely future movements during drought & floods to enable proactive management of the feral camel population before they become a problem to communities, pastoralists and the Government.

A geo-fencing feature will be used to alert stakeholders well in advance before problems arise and when to capitalise on pending harvest opportunities.

Goals/objectives

Camel Solutions Australia can track and monitor the feral camels movement by using GPS collars that will provide us with:

- Each collar will provide two location updates a day for three years.
- A VHF transmitter for on field locating, allowing us to retract collars from deceased camels.
- Temperatures and time of day.
- Camel locations that can instantly looked at Google Earth.
- A Geo fence feature.

Having this information we can then:

- Provide better quality information to the public,
- Over time develop more reliable estimates of camel herd populations,
- Reduce response times for aerial mustering, culling & surveying (i.e. helping reduce costs),
- Locate capture yards around highly visited water points (i.e. more effective harvesting),
- Help to better protect areas of cultural significance,
- Help protect aboriginal community infrastructure with Geo-fencing (i.e. advanced warnings), and
- in collaboration with Murdoch University gain invaluable data for population control & harvesting.

The Project will be undertaken from Perth and Kalgoorlie. The project's fieldwork within WA's desert regions will be undertaken during the cooler months (e.g. April to October). Monitoring of GPS data will be a continuous process and reported weekly / monthly or when required to alert stakeholders. Mustering yards to trap and remove camels will be an ongoing process in collaboration with pastoralists, traditional owners, remote communities and regional stakeholders.

The Finances

Project Budget

Expenditure item	Description	3 Years Project Funding	GVROC %35	DPIRD %35	CSA %30	Total Budget
60 Collars inclusive of Three years data	G5 Iridium GPS Tracking Collar	\$212,700	\$74,445	\$74,445	\$63,810	\$212,700
6 Replacment Collars inclusive of Three years data	G5 Iridium GPS Tracking Collar	\$21,270	\$7,444	\$7,444	\$6,382	\$21,270
6 VHF Recievers	VHF Tracking reciever R410	\$8,368	\$2,928	\$2,928	\$2,512	\$8,368
6 Antennas for the Recivers	3-Element folding Yagi directional antenna	\$1,768	\$618	\$618	\$532	\$1,768
Tranquilliser rifle		\$4,950	\$1,732	\$1,732	\$1,486	\$4,950
Rifle License		\$450	\$157	\$157	\$136	\$450
Darts and medication	Darts and required medication	\$10,000	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,000	\$10,000
Tranquilliser rifle starter kit	Training Darts and CO ₂ cartridges	\$1,950	\$682	\$682	\$586	\$1,950
Veterinary Service	Cost of Vet	\$71,400	\$24,990	\$24,990	\$21,420	\$71,400
Helicopter Hire	Helicopter Hire R 44	\$147,000	\$51,450	\$51,450	\$44,100	\$147,000
Plant and Equipment	Vehicles, Trailers, Modifications	\$160,000	\$56,000	\$56,000	\$48,000	\$160,000
IT Equipment	Laptops Software Sat Phone Boosters	\$10,000	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,000	\$10,000
Fuel	Diesel	\$30,000	\$10,500	\$10,500	\$9,000	\$30,000
Admin	Comm's, Accommm, Ins, Subs, Courier.	\$38,000	\$13,300	\$13,300	\$11,400	\$38,000
Employment costs	Salary Superannuation Ranger Training	\$800,000	\$280,000	\$280,000	\$240,000	\$800,000
Operating expenses vehicles	Tyres, servicing, insurance, rego, repairs	\$40,000	\$14,000	\$14,000	\$12,000	\$40,000
Total		\$1,557,856	\$545,246	\$545,246	\$467,365	\$1,557,856

Project Funding Plan

Project Funding Plan	GVROC %35	DPIRD %35	CSA %30	Total Budget
Funding Year One	\$256,886.00	\$256,886.00	\$220,188.00	\$733,960.00
Funding Year Two	\$144,180.00	\$144,180.00	\$123,588.00	\$411,948.00
Funding Year Three	\$144,180.00	\$144,180.00	\$123,588.00	\$411,948.00
Total	\$545,246.00	\$545,246.00	\$467,364.00	\$1,557,856.00

Management

Experience:

Camel Solutions Australia's two directors (Gilad Berman & Nat James) both have vast yet different experience in managing projects similar to the proposed project.

Gilad coordinated the successful creation of the first automated camel dairy in Australia by bringing in feral camels from the desert, quarantining and domesticating them, before homing and milking them within a commercial dairy, demonstrating the ability to address the many challenges that come from turning a concept into a commercial venture. Gilad was pivotal in gathering a group of like-minded people and utilising their strengths to establish a new industry in WA and the driving force behind the research and development that contributed to the success of the camel dairy project. Gilad's expert analysis of camel markets, knowledge of safe practices for domesticating feral camels, and innovative milking methods that substantially improved yields, were inspired by Gilad's research and ingenuity. Gilad has a deep understanding of camels along with highly effective project and people management skills, providing him with the capacity to lead this significant project alongside Nat James.

Nat has extensive experience working with a range of communities and stakeholders, serving as a city councillor in Kalgoorlie, and as president of the local football club. Nat has hands-on involvement with three pastoral stations which he successfully operates, exporting beef to China and other countries, all the while maintaining full traceability throughout the supply chain. This has given Nat exceptional skills in commercial and project management, ensuring results are delivered effectively and on time, and reinforced the importance of adhering to standards through rigour and dedication. Nat has significant experience working with remote Aboriginal communities, collaborating on a range of initiatives, further supporting Nat's ability to lead the proposed project together with Gilad. Nat's commercial experience also provides capacity to effectively monitor and report progress of the proposed project.

Funding management

CSA is a commercial, private enterprise striving to achieve best practice. Adherence to laws, compliance and safe practices is central to our daily operations and continuity. Our ability to manage and acquit funding responsibly and effectively will be supported by "Moore Australia" professional services with our accounting systems, performance monitoring practices, internal reporting procedures, and health and safety systems. If awarded funding, CSA will establish a project plan with a schedule programmed to report milestones, provide interim updates, track progress and achievements, manage resources, and account for funding. CSA's directors will co-manage and co-authorise receipts and expenditures to ensure funds are acquitted responsibly and effectively. Key personnel.

Required staff

Job Title	Quantity	Expected staff turnover	Skills necessary	Date required
Project Manager	1	3 Years	Qualified Project Manager	TBA
Operatives Manager	1	3 Years	Qualified Operations Manager	TBA

Forums/Training programs

CSA will conduct an annual open forum to all GVROC shires, Camel industry Stakeholders and indigenous rangers. where we will provide Camel training and ethical husbandry information sessions along with presenting an annual report compiled from data received from the collars and Murdoch University genetic study progress.

services

Product/Service	Description
GEO fence	Establish a GEO fence around area of significance.
Alert system	Provide an electronic alert to the nominated person.
Data collection	Provide and collate all data through our web site.
Annual report	Presented at our annual open forums.
Industry stakeholder support and training	Camel training and ethical husbandry information sessions
Camel industry consulting	Consulting available on transporting camels, infrastructure and new business opportunity.
Access camel industry representatives	Champion the camel industry by providing up to data and access to industry representatives

Innovation

The innovation of the project lies in using GPS collars to understand the whereabouts of camels, track and predict the movements of camels, develop estimates of camel herd populations, and better understand the health and commercial value of feral camels. The project will be innovative in providing insightful data to help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of existing, ongoing programs involved in culling, trapping and aerial mustering (i.e. population control and reduction). Rather than relying on conventional practices to locate camels (e.g. helicopter patrols, ground-based reconnaissance, landowner sightings, anecdotes, etc) the project will offer geo-referenced data on camel movement patterns, camel numbers and pending risks to critical assets. Summer temperatures in remote desert regions make it extremely difficult to monitor, trap, harvest or reduce camel populations using conventional methods, however, GPS collars will work year-round irrespective of the season, drought, floods or natural events. The project will be using GPS technology to monitor extremely vast areas that would otherwise require several million dollars using less-reliable, conventional approaches, at significantly greater risk to stakeholders.

Gilad and Nat have a working relationship with Murdoch University (veterinary science dept) and have secured their support to coordinate many of the research and development aspects of the project. Murdoch University will be involved in the data collection, analysis and reporting, for example, identifying insights and implications from the signals received from the GPS collars as well as evaluating the health and genetics of the broader population of feral camels.

Legal considerations

CSA will liaise with traditional owners and stakeholders to meet all entry permit requirements. CSA will comply with OHS and ethical treatment of animal requirements.

Operations

Project Plan

Deliverable	How will the deliverable be achieved?	Timeframe
- Purchasing 200 G5 Iridium GPS Tracking Collars With 5 VHF receivers and antennas.	- Order From ATS Australia.	- Dec 2020 – Jan 2021
- Purchase IT equipment.	- Locally source Two Laptops.	- Dec 2020
- Get sample-collecting kit.	- Murdoch University.	- Dec 2020
- Put out a request for rifle licence.	- Application through Fire Arms branch (WAPOL).	- Dec 2020
- Purchasing a tranquiliser rifle with darts and medications.	- Murdoch Vet Hospital.	- Dec 2020
- Lease 4WD	- Toyota Dealership.	- Dec 2020
- Determine flying zones for capturing camels and deploying the collars.	- Using government feral camel density maps and consulting local stakeholders.	- Dec 2020
- Hire Helicopter.	- Circle H.	- Dec 2020
- Employ a certified Vet.	- Dr. Avi Bechar.	- Dec 2020
- Fit 60 collars.	- Vets will tranquilise camels along with air and ground support.	- Mar – June 2021
- Collect tissue samples for the camel genetic study.	- From each camel we capture using vials with preservative and labels.	- Mar – June 2021
- Uploading collar data.	- Through Camel Solutions Australia free to access web site.	- Jul 2021 – Jul 2024
- Engage with local stakeholders.	- Support development of camel industry initiatives and enterprises and encourage dialogue between landowners and industry stakeholders. Apply local and expert knowledge to engage with potential Stakeholders and encourage participation in industry discussion.	- Jul 2021 – Jul 2024
- Stakeholders to provide locations of areas of significance.	- Establish the Geo Fence feature.	- July 2021 – July 2024
- Analyse the genetic samples.	- Through Murdoch University.	- Apr 2021 – Apr 2024
- Publish findings from Murdoch University.	- Through Camel Solutions Australia free to access web site.	- Jan 2022 – Apr 2024

Community impact & engagement

The establishment of a publicly-available monitoring system will provide the basis for pastoralists and Aboriginal communities to undertake harvesting, locate trap yards, organise trucking operations, establish temporary holding and feeding facilities, and utilise water points to attract camels to areas less prone to damage. Commercial operators will be able to more effectively plan and organise routine operations with better quality data on camel numbers, herd movements, herd quality, herd breeding & feeding regimes, etc. Under the current system, there is no certainty of knowing where the camels are located, what size are the herds, what direction they are moving, what seasonal patterns they are following, or how many can be realistically harvested for economic gain. This project is an opportunity to provide new forms of data to enable better decisions for stakeholders spread across vast, remote areas within WA's desert regions.

CSA is mindful that 'tyranny of distance' and limited communication could potentially affect community engagement and their understanding of the potential benefits of the project. CSA plans to adopt outreach methods by travelling to various communities, engaging with them face to face, and where appropriate seek support from elders and local indigenous ranger programs. CSA will offer training on how to fit and retrieve collars, use the project data, and instil camel handling practices for when a camel penetrates their local area. Camel Solutions Australia is in a formidable position to implement and successfully coordinate the management of this project, which will deliver significant research and development outcomes, and greatly improve the effectiveness of remote and rural communities in managing the feral camel population.

Risk Mitigation Response

1. Natural events impede access to remote areas. **Response:** Use a mix of 4WD, helicopter & local communities.
2. Collars fail to endure; data is less than expected. **Response:** Use of Quality products with a proven track record for over 50 years of experience. Replacement collars will be held on-standby.
3. Occupational health and safety dealing with feral animals in remote areas. **Response:** Use of appropriately qualified Vet along with experienced cameleers. Implementation of effective Policies and procedures.
4. Animal welfare. **Response:** Use of suitably qualified Vet. Maintain a high level of ethical standards around animal handling.
5. Camels are difficult to locate & fit collars. **Response:** Fit collars within paddocks & release camels widely.
6. Satellite services breakdown; data is not available. **Response:** Switch service providers; introduce new transmitters. The collar would just continue to operate and look for the next scheduled opportunity.
7. Poor longitudinal data on camel ecology. **Response:** Collect data during harvesting (rather than fitting collars).

Risk management

Risks	Risk rating before treatment	Treatments	Risk rating after treatment
Lack of Stakeholder interest to participate in proposed engagement activities.	Medium	<p>Development of communication plan to ensure there is significant promotional media surrounding the project.</p> <p>Support development of camel industry initiatives and enterprises and encourage dialogue between landowners and industry stakeholders.</p> <p>Apply local and expert knowledge to engage with potential stakeholders and encourage participation in industry discussion.</p>	Low
Helicopter Incident	Low	<p>Fly only in favourable weather conditions.</p> <p>Use only qualified and experienced operators.</p> <p>Use only certified and appropriate aircraft.</p>	Low
Natural events impede access to remote areas.	Medium	<p>Use a mix of 4WD, helicopter & local communities.</p>	Low
Occupational health and safety dealing with feral animals in remote areas.	Medium	<p>Use of appropriately qualified Vet along with experienced cameleers.</p> <p>Implementation of effective policies and procedures including best practice guidelines for camel handling, transport and humane treatment.</p>	Low
Animal Welfare	Medium	<p>Use of a suitably qualified and experienced Vet.</p> <p>Maintain a high level of ethical standards around animal handling.</p> <p>Comply with appropriate standards and guidelines.</p>	Low

Risks	Risk rating before treatment	Treatments	Risk rating after treatment
Collared Animal not finding a herd	Low	Murdoch 2015 research finding states "Judas" Animals will wonder around and find other Camels.	Low
Camels are difficult to locate & fit collars.	Medium	Fit collars within paddocks & within existing trap yards and then organise to release camels widely across vast areas.	Low
Satellite services breakdown; data is not available.	Low	Use of quality products with a proven track record. Breakdown of satellite reception / transmission is a temporary phenomenon whilst collars would continue to operate and look for the next scheduled opportunity to transmit data.	Low
Poor longitudinal data on camel ecology.	Medium	Collect data during harvesting (rather than whilst fitting collars). Work with Aboriginal Rangers to supplement data collection if required. Work with pastoralists to access camels during regional visits to supplement data collection, if required.	Low

Constraints

A likely challenge is a camel dying whilst wearing a GPS collar. Specific plans are in place and the response will depend on the camels proximity to a nearby town or community, or dedicated access route (track). For example, if access is relatively easy then CSA will despatch a staff member or assign a ranger from a nearby community to retrieve the collar; alternatively, if the deceased camel is too isolated and distant, a collar will be fitted to a replacement (new) camel and released into the same area.

The Finances

Expected Cash Flow

Cash Flow for Camel Solutions Australia in 2021

CASH FLOW	January	Februar	March	April	May	June	July	August	Septemb	October	Novemb	Decemb
OPENING BALANCE		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contingency Fund	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
Total incoming	\$733,960	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cash outgoing												
Purchases (Collars)	\$208,125											
Purchases (Collar Equipment and Data)	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Purchases (Vet Equipment)	\$17,350											
Purchases (IT Equipment)		\$4,000										
Helicopter Hire			\$49,000	\$49,000	\$49,000							
Plant and Equipment	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440
Accountant fees	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Telephone	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Lease/loan payments	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500
Motor vehicle expenses	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100
Fuel	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830
Stationery & printing	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Licensing	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125
Insurance	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Superannuation	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125
Wages (including PAYG)	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500
Total outgoing	\$252,395	\$30,920	\$75,920	\$75,920	\$75,920	\$26,920	\$26,920	\$26,920	\$26,920	\$26,920	\$26,920	\$26,920
Monthly cash balance	\$481,565	\$450,645	\$374,725	\$298,805	\$222,885	\$195,965	\$169,045	\$142,125	\$115,205	\$88,285	\$61,365	\$34,445

Cash Flow for Camel Solutions Australia in 2022

CASH FLOW	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Septemb	October	Novembe	Decembe
OPENING BALANCE		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contingency Fund	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Total incoming	\$411,948	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cash outgoing												
Purchases (Collars)												
Purchases (Collar Equipment and Data)	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Purchases (Vet Equipment)												
Purchases (IT Equipment)		\$4,000										
Helicopter Hire												
Plant and Equipment	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440
Accountant fees	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Telephone	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Lease/loan payments	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500
Motor vehicle expenses	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100
Fuel	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830
Stationery & printing	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Licensing	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125
Insurance	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Superannuation	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575
Wages (including PAYG)	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500
Total outgoing	\$32,370	\$36,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370
Monthly cash balance	\$379,578	\$343,208	\$310,838	\$278,468	\$246,098	\$213,728	\$181,358	\$148,988	\$116,618	\$84,248	\$51,878	\$19,508

Cash Flow for Camel Solutions Australia in 2023

CASH FLOW	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Septemb	October	Novembe	Decembe
OPENING BALANCE		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contingency Fund	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Total incoming	\$411,948	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cash outgoing												
Purchases (Collars)												
Purchases (Collar Equipment and Data)	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Purchases (Vet Equipment)												
Purchases (IT Equipment)		\$4,000										
Helicopter Hire												
Plant and Equipment	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440
Accountant fees	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Telephone	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Lease/loan payments	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500
Motor vehicle expenses	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100
Fuel	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830
Stationery & printing	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Licensing	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125
Insurance	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Superannuation	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575
Wages (including PAYG)	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500
Total outgoing	\$32,370	\$36,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370
Monthly cash balance	\$379,578	\$343,208	\$310,838	\$278,468	\$246,098	\$213,728	\$181,358	\$148,988	\$116,618	\$84,248	\$51,878	\$19,508



Local Government Financial Ratios Working Group

Meeting information

Date: Thursday 22 October 2020
Time: 10am
Location: WALGA Boardroom B, L1, ONE70 Railway Parade, West Leederville
Via GoTo Meeting <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/141914269>
Access Code: **141-914-269**

Convener: Tony Brown

Attendees	City of Armadale	Jason Lyon
	Shire of Coolgardie	James Trail
	Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup	Paul Breman
	Town of East Fremantle	Peter Kocian
	City of Joondalup	Alan Ellingham
		Ryan Ferts
	City of Kalamunda	Alida Ferreira
	City of Mandurah	Casey Mihovilovich
	Shire of Mingenew	Jeremy Clapham
	Shire of Northampton	Grant Middleton
	City of Rockingham	Khushant Kumar
	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	Alan Carmichael
	Office of the Auditor General	Patrick Arulsingham
	Western Australian Treasury Corporation	Richard John
	RJ Back & Associates	Ron Back
	WALGA	Tony Brown
		James McGovern
		Felicity Morris

Apologies

Agenda items

1.0 Financial Ratios

Background

At the Working Group meeting on Thursday 17 September, the following ratio subjects and formulae were proposed. The purpose of this meeting is to review the proposed ratios and develop final recommendations for consideration by the Financial Ratios Sector Reference Group.

This will include consideration of definitions of terminology and recommended indicators/thresholds in relation to each proposed ratio.

Attachment 1: Local Government Financial Ratios Working Group Defining Terms – Document prepared by Ron Back

1.1 Operating Surplus Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Underlying Operating Surplus (Underlying operating revenue* LESS Underlying operating expenses*)}}{\text{Underlying operating revenue*}}$$

- * Adjusted for advances and subsequent adjustments in the Federal Assistance Grant.
- * Excludes Profit/Loss of Assets
- * Includes Capital Contributions

1.2 Debt Service Coverage Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Underlying operating revenue* LESS Underlying operating expenses* (excl depreciation and interest)}}{\text{Debt Service Costs (principal and interest)}}$$

- *Adjusted for advances and subsequent adjustments in the Federal Assistance Grant.

1.3 Asset Sustainability Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Capital Renewal* and Replacement}}{\text{Depreciation Expense}}$$

- * Capital renewal equals actual costs plus net transfer to asset renewal reserves

Attachment 2: Asset Sustainability Ratio – Comments from Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia

1.4 Current Ratio

(Current Assets LESS Restricted Assets LESS FAGs Advances)
(Current Liabilities LESS Borrowings LESS Liabilities associated with Restricted Assets)

1.5 Net Financial Liability Ratio

Net Financial Liabilities
Underlying Operating Revenue*

*Adjusted for advances and subsequent adjustments in the Federal Assistance Grant and other adjustments in accordance with the operating surplus ratio

For Discussion

2.0 Other indicators

Background

At the Working Group meeting on Thursday 17 September, the group resolved to review indicators from the Victorian Department of Local Government, and any others that the group considers useful.

The [Know Your Council website](#) allows comparisons of Victorian Local Government performance indicators in a number of service areas.

Attachment 3 An extract from the Local Government Victoria *Local Government Better Practice Guide: Performance Reporting Indicator Workbook 2019-20* relating to the Financial Performance Indicators is attached. Full version available [online](#).

For Discussion

3.0 Next steps and Conclusion

Local Government Financial Ratios Working Group

Defining Terms

The group need to define the exact meaning of each term and how this can be extracted from OR included in the Financial report. These need to be clear, demonstratable and free from interpretation.

The devil is in the detail

DEFINING TERMS

		Note	Year2 Actual	Year2 Budget	Year1 Actual
Revenue					
Underlying Revenue OR ?????	Rates	26(a)	8,165,843	8,074,469	7,633,920
	Specified Area Rates	26(b)	0	0	0
	Service Charges	26(c)	200	200	200
	Operating Grants/Contributions	2(a)	6,987,595	5,548,348	5,609,425
	Reimbursements etc	2(a)	0	0	0
	Fees and Charges	2(a)	4,999,717	4,253,486	4,165,652
	Interest Earnings	2(a)	498,964	385,100	413,708
	Other revenue		55,000	27,104	30,235
			20,707,319	18,288,707	17,853,140
Expenses					
Underlying Expenses OR ?????	Employee Costs		(8,896,802)	(8,772,958)	(7,826,475)
	Material & contractors		(4,120,422)	(3,926,230)	(3,064,784)
	Depreciation	11(b)	(6,907,407)	(7,100,000)	(7,435,789)
	Insurance		(336,390)	(333,163)	(326,578)
	Utilities		(443,972)	(435,600)	(404,245)
	Interest Expense	2(b)	(96,257)	(399,441)	(37,753)
	Other expenditure		(564,333)	(828,951)	(512,377)
			(21,365,583)	(21,796,343)	(19,608,001)
Underlying Surplus OR ?????			(658,264)	(3,507,636)	(1,754,861)
Other					
Anything else????	Non-operating grants/subsidies/contributions	2(a)	3,494,037	5,856,328	4,933,510
	Developer Contribution Plans: Cash	2(a)	312,246	776,290	927,065
	Developer Contribution Plans: In Kind	2(a)	2,581,044	5,868,000	2,636,417
	Non-Operating Gifted Assets: Other	2(a)	15,271,274	12,750,000	11,455,722
	Profit Disposal of assets	11(a)	44,048	2,333,736	96,518
	Loss Disposal of assets	11(a)	(98,325)	(49,155)	(43,985)
	Land ceded to the Crown	2(b)	(2,045,809)	(504,890)	(1,979,004)
	Contributions to assets of the Crown	2(b)	(2,500,000)	(2,500,000)	(5,000,000)
	Underground Power Schemes		0	0	0
	Profit/(Loss) On Investments	21	555,704	0	0
What other items What other items Regional Airports ????	Unrealised Gain/(Loss) from Regional Council	24	0	0	0
	Dividend from Regional Council	2(a)	1,953,644	0	0
	Unrealised Gain Investment In WALGA Hou	5	2,304	0	16,403
	Increase(decrease) from impaired assets/Fair Value		0	0	0
	Decrease from impaired assets/Fair Value	10	(50,000)	0	0
	Abnormal Operating Revenue		0	0	0
	Abnormal Operating Expenditure		0	0	0
			19,520,167	24,530,309	13,042,646
			18,861,903	21,022,673	11,287,785
Other Comprehensive Income					
	Revaluation of assets	13	(750,500)	0	0
	Other Comprehensive Income		(750,500)	0	0
	Total Comprehensive Income		18,111,403	21,022,673	11,287,785

TERMS FOR RATIOS

1.1 Operating Surplus Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Underlying Operating Surplus (Underlying operating revenue* LESS Underlying operating expenses*)}}{\text{Underlying operating revenue*}}$$

Underlying operating revenue	See model
Underlying operating expenses	See model
Underlying Operating Surplus	See model

Advances and subsequent adjustments in the Federal Assistance Grant Include in Note 2(a)

Profit/Loss on disposal of Assets See model

xxx Capital Contributions

What falls into this category - Renewal OR all???

1.2 Debt Service Coverage Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Underlying operating revenue* LESS Underlying operating expenses* (excl depreciation and interest)}}{\text{Debt Service Costs (principal and interest)}}$$

Underlying operating revenue see operating surplus ratio

Underlying operating expenses see operating surplus ratio

depreciation and interest see Statement of Comprehensive Income (model)

Debt Service Costs (principal and interest) see Statement of Comprehensive Income (model) and Statement of Cash Flow

xxx How do we treat refinancing or rollover of debt????

1.3 Asset Sustainability Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Capital Renewal* and Replacement}}{\text{Depreciation Expense}}$$

Capital Renewal* and Replacement

Depreciation Expense see Statement of Comprehensive Income (model)

xxx net transfer to asset renewal reserves

How do we define??? - Many reserves include components of new and renewal

1.4 Current Ratio

$$\frac{(\text{Current Assets LESS Restricted Assets LESS FAGs Advances})}{(\text{Current Liabilities LESS Borrowings LESS Liabilities associated with Restricted Assets})}$$

Restricted assets Define

Advances of the Federal Assistance Grant see operating surplus ratio

Liabilities associated with Restricted Assets Define

Borrowings see Statement of Financial Position

xxx Guidance for contract liabilities held in Reserves

1.5 Net Financial Liability Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Net Financial Liabilities}}{\text{Underlying Operating Revenue*}}$$

Financial Liabilities Define

Financial Assets Define

Underlying operating revenue see operating surplus ratio

GRANTS

Aged Friendly Communities Grant
Building Better Regions
Coastal Management Plan Assistance Program
Coastwest
Community Contributions
Community Crime Prevention Fund
Community Grants Scheme
Community Living and Participation Grants (CLPG) Program
Community Road Safety Grants Program
Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund
Community Water Supply Program
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Department of Culture and the Arts
Department of Education WA
Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Department of Housing
Department of Local Government and Communities
Department of Sport and Recreation
Department of Transport
Department of Water
Dept of Infrastructure, Regional Development & Cities
Grants Commission Infrastructure
Heritage Grants Program
Home and Community Care
Lotteries West
Main Roads - Blackspot Program
Main Roads - Grain Freight Route
Main Roads Department
Metropolitan Regional Road Group
National Stronger Regions Fund
Northlink
Perth Bike Network
Public Transport Authority
Recreational Boating Facilities Scheme (RBFS) grants
Regional Airports Development Scheme
Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program
Regional Community Services Fund
Regional Development Commssion
Regional Events Scheme
Regional Growth Fund
Regional Health Scheme
Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Fund
Regional Road Group
Regional Venues Improvement Fund
Riverbank Grants Scheme
Roads to Recovery
Safer Communities Fund
State Graffiti Fund
Tourism Industry Regional Development Funds
Veteran & Community Grants
WA Natural Disaster Relief

NOTES

Asset Sustainability Ratio

It is an important discussion and one we feel strongly about. In fact, we'd go as far to say the Asset Sustainability Ratio (ASR) has been poorly understood and applied by several State Local Government Departments and WA is no exception.

There are clear definitions of the ASR in the AIFMM (Section 2.6, Table 2.6.1.2, p.2 | 11) and IIFMM (Section 2.4.2 and Table 2.4.2.2, p.2 | 16).

The WA LG Departments own guidelines (IP&R Asset Management Guidelines, September 2016) specifies a target band between 90% and 110% which is flawed and simply wrong!

Table 2 Asset sustainability ratio

Data and Calculation	Information	Measurement and Target
Capital expenditure on replacement and renewal of assets divided by the depreciation expense. Expressed as a percentage or factor of 1. Eg Capital renewal expenditure = \$7.9m Depreciation expense = \$8.8m Asset Sustainability Ratio = 90%	This is the measure of the extent to which assets managed by the local government are being replaced as they reach the end of their useful lives. Depreciation expense measures the extent to which the assets have been consumed during that period. Capital expenditure on renewals (replacing assets that the local government already has) is an indicator of the extent to which the assets are being replaced.	Between 90% -110% Note A ratio greater than 110% indicates that the local government may be over investing in renewal and replacement of its asset base. A ratio of less than 90% indicates that the local government may be under investing in renewal and replacement of its asset base.

The Asset Sustainability Ratio is a present and historical-looking indicator measuring whether local government has been replacing or renewing its stock of infrastructure assets at the rate they are wearing out. It measures asset replacement expenditure relative to depreciation for a period over time.

It is a reasonable indicator for groups of assets that have relatively short lives, e.g. parks, unsealed roads, and sealed road surface treatments and the like.

It is less suitable for assets with long-lives, e.g. sealed road pavements, bridges, and pipelines as optimal renewal expenditure for such asset classes is likely to be lumpier between periods.

Notwithstanding its limitations the application of this indicator is worth cautious consideration in the absence of a reasonably reliable asset management plan.

Note:

If the ratio is 100% on average over time, local government is ensuring the value of its assets is maintained.

As a collective, when assets are young, the ratio can be 50% or less. When assets are old, the ratio may be more than 100%.

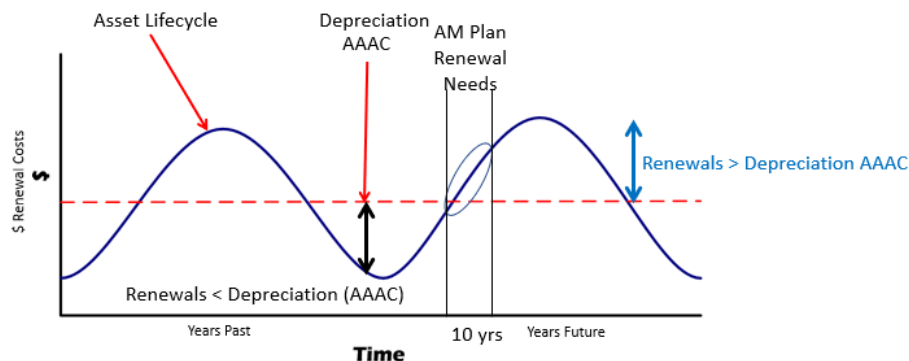
A downward trend indicates that funding levels for assets are decreasing suggesting local government may have a relatively young or new assets.

A steady trend indicates funding levels for assets may be maintained at a satisfactory level.

An upward trend indicates that funding levels for assets are increasing suggesting local government may be replacing an ageing network.

An example of this is if I am in a high growth area with a relatively new asset stock, my renewal spend will be low. I wouldn't be surprised in areas such as Mandurah, local government is likely capitalising (or adjusting the books for) most works so they can get the ratio up! The current target causes bad accounting behaviour and a strategy the Department is likely (whether they know it or not) is promoting given the current rules.

Renewal Costs are Independent of Depreciation



The indicator should be tested against the Asset Consumption Ratio (DRC/RC) that gives us an indication of life remaining, suggesting where the assets (overall) are in their lifecycle and how they should be performing. When we have confidence in these numbers, we can then connect to the messaging in the AM Plan.

If we have low confidence in these ratios, we need to use the forward looking **Asset Renewal Funding Ratio (ARFR)** which compares the **10-year Renewal Budget with the 10-year Renewal Forecast in the AM Plan**.

The ARFR indicates if we need more, or less, funding for renewals.

Where the ARFR resides outside the 90% to 110% band and is supported by credible and reliable data and information we would expect to see significant service, costs, and/or risk implications being communicated in the AM Plan.

It is less popular with the accountants as they don't trust/control the AM Planning process, hence the need for audit and follow up of long-term financial plan so that it accounts for the service, cost and risk trade-offs reported in the Asset Management Plan.

Solution is to:

- increase the level of understanding around these ratios
- lobby LG Department's to measure the correct indicators within sensible targets
- use IPWEA training to assist and to improve the reliability of AM Plans

If any of the group would like to discuss we'd be happy to present what we "preach" via a webinar.

Allen Mapstone
Director Strategic Asset Management
IPWEA Australasia | NAMS Canada

Steve Verity
Principal Advisor Asset Management
IPWEA Australasia

Local Government Better Practice Guide

Performance Reporting
Indicator Workbook 2019-20



Author

Local Government Victoria in the Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning
2 Lonsdale Street Melbourne 3000

Photo credit

Title: "Western Pygmy Possum"

Author: "Thomas Hunt"

"Western Pygmy Possum" is licenced under CC by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

© The State of Victoria Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning 2019



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence. You are free to re-use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit the State of Victoria as author. The licence does not apply to any images, photographs or branding, including the Victorian Coat of Arms, the Victorian Government logo and the

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) logo. To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

ISBN 978-1-74146-563-1 (pdf/online)

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

Accessibility

If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format, please telephone the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136186, email local.government@delwp.vic.gov.au, or via the National Relay Service on 133 677 www.relayservice.com.au. This document is also available on the internet at www.delwp.vic.gov.au.

Measures whether a council is using resources efficiently.

E1 – Average residential rate per residential property assessment (retired see E4)

As of July 1 2019, E1 has been replaced by **E4**. Councils are no longer required to report to this indicator.

E2 – Expenses per property assessment (Audited)

Definition

Total expenses per property assessment.

Calculation

Numerator

Total expenses

Denominator

Number of property assessments

Key terms

Number of property assessments

Is the number of rateable properties as at 1 July.

Classification

Output indicator – Expenditure level

Data source

Numerator

Current council financial statements and financial statements in Strategic Resource Plan

Denominator

Annual budget and forecast number of property assessments based on the number in the annual budget and underlying the financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Expenditure from the financial statements
Number of property assessments from the rates ledger

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether resources are being used efficiently to deliver services.

Suitability for target setting

Good

Data is stable, and council has some influence over the outcome.

Related to

E4 – Average rate per property assessment

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 5 (Page 62)

Notes or Case Studies

None

E3 – Resignations and terminations compared to average staff (retired see C7)

As of July 1 2020, **E3** has been moved to the Sustainable capacity subset (**C7**).

E4 – Average rate per property assessment (Audited)

Definition

The average rate revenue per property assessment.

Calculation

Numerator

Total rate revenue

Denominator

Number of property assessments

Key terms

Total rate revenue

Is total revenue leviable from general rates and municipal charges on rateable properties as at 1 July. This excludes service rates and service charges.

Number of property assessments

Is the number of rateable properties as at 1 July.

Classification

Input indicator – Revenue level

Data source

Numerator

Council financial statements and forecast total rate revenue based on the amount raised in the annual budget and underlying the financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Denominator

Annual budget and forecast number of property assessments based on the number in the

annual budget and underlying the financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Total rate revenue per the general ledger, which should be reconciled to the rates ledger
Total number of property assessments from the rates ledger

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether resources are being used efficiently to deliver services.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

E2 – Expenses per property assessment

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 5 (Page 62)

Notes or Case Studies

None

Measures whether a council is using resources efficiently.

L1 – Current assets compared to current liabilities (Audited)

Definition

Current assets as a percentage of current liabilities.

Calculation

Numerator

Current assets

Denominator

Current liabilities

The result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Current assets

Are assets that the council expects to recover or realise within the following financial year.

Current liabilities

An obligation or liability that is due to be settled, or paid, within one year.

Classification

Input indicator – working capital

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of council's financial position.
Higher assets relative to liabilities suggests councils are in a strong position.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

L2 – Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 2 (Page 60)

Notes or Case Studies

None

L2 – Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities (Audited)

Definition

Unrestricted cash as a percentage of current liabilities.

Calculation

Numerator

Unrestricted cash

Denominator

Current liabilities

The result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Unrestricted cash

Is all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash.

Restricted cash

Is cash and cash equivalents and financial assets within the meaning of the AAS that are not available for use other than for the purpose for which it is restricted and includes cash that will be used to fund carry forward capital works from the previous financial year.

Items which are considered to be restricted under the definition are:

- trust funds and deposits
- statutory or non-discretionary reserves
- cash held to fund carry forward capital works
- conditional grants unspent

Term deposits with an original maturity of greater than 90 days (i.e. other financial assets) are also considered to be restricted under this definition.

Current liabilities

An obligation or liability that is due to be settled, or paid, within one year.

Classification

Input indicator – Unrestricted cash

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Calculation of restricted cash at 30 June, including cash committed to funding carry forward capital works (this information should also be required for disclosure of commitments in the audited financial report)

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of council's abilities to pay bills on time. Higher unrestricted cash relative to liabilities suggests councils are able to pay bills in a timely manner.

Suitability for target setting

Good

Data fluctuates between years, but council has some influence over the outcome.

Related to

L1 – Current assets compared to current liabilities

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 2 (Page 60)

Notes or Case Studies

None

Measures whether the level of debt and other long term obligations is appropriate to the size and nature of the council's activities.

O1 – Asset renewal compared to depreciation (retired see O5)

As of July 1 2019, O1 has been replaced by **O5**. Councils are no longer required to report to this indicator.

O2 – Loans and borrowings compared to rates (Audited)

Definition

Interest bearing loans and borrowings as a percentage of rate revenue.

Calculation

Numerator

Interest bearing loans and borrowings

Denominator

Rate revenue

The result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Interest bearing loans and borrowings

Is a loan or borrowing in which the debt is expressed as a principal amount and interest is calculated, charged, and collected on unpaid balances.

Rate revenue

Is revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges (e.g. garbage, recycling and organic charges) levied on rateable properties

Classification

Input indicator – Loans and Borrowings

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council's level of interest-bearing loans and borrowings are appropriate to the size and nature of council's activities. Demonstration of council managing its borrowing strategy in relation to the revenue it raises.

Suitability for target setting

Good

Data fluctuates between years, but council has some influence over the outcome.

Related to

O3 – Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 3 (Page 61)

Notes or Case Studies

None

O3 – Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates (Audited)

Definition

Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings as a percentage of rate revenue.

Calculation

Numerator

Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings

Denominator

Rate revenue

The result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Interest and principal repayments

Is repayments made on principal amounts and/or interest from interest bearing loans or borrowings, where the debt is expressed as a principal amount and interest is calculated, charged, and collected on unpaid balances.

Rate revenue

Is revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges (e.g. garbage, recycling and organic charges) levied on rateable properties.

Classification

Input indicator – Loans and Borrowings

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council's level of repayments on interest-bearing loans and

borrowings are appropriate to the size and nature of council's activities. Demonstration of council managing its borrowing strategy in relation to the revenue it raises.

Suitability for target setting

Good

Data is stable and council has some influence over the outcome.

Related to

O2 – Loans and borrowings compared to rates

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 3 (Page 61)

Notes or Case Studies

None

O4 – Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue (Audited)

Definition

Non-current liabilities as a percentage of own source revenue.

Calculation

Numerator

Non-current liabilities

Denominator

Own source revenue

The result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Non-current liabilities

Financial liabilities that provide financing on a long-term basis and are not due for settlement within twelve months after the reporting period.

Own-source revenue

Is adjusted underlying revenue excluding revenue which is not under the control of council (including government grants).

Rate revenue

Is revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges (e.g. garbage, recycling and organic charges) levied on rateable properties.

Classification

Input indicator – Indebtedness

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Other advice

Documented calculation of own-source revenue, with explanation of excluded revenue items

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council long term liabilities are appropriate to the size and nature of council activities. Lower proportion of non-current liabilities suggests greater capacity to meet long-term obligations.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

None

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 3 (Page 61)

Notes or Case Studies

None

O5 – Asset renewal and upgrade expense compared to depreciation (Audited)

Definition

Asset renewal and upgrade expense compared to depreciation assesses whether council spending on assets is focused on purchasing new assets or renewing and upgrading existing ones.

Calculation

Numerator

Asset renewal and asset upgrade expenditure

Denominator

Asset Depreciation

This result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Asset renewal expenditure

Expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability.

Asset upgrade expenditure

Means expenditure that enhances an existing asset to provide a higher level of service or increases the life of the asset beyond its original life.

Asset Depreciation

A council's use of its physical assets through a systematic reduction in their value over time, usually to reflect wear and tear. Refers to total depreciation of all assets, not just the depreciation on renewed or upgraded assets.

Classification

Input indicator – Asset renewal and upgrade

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements (including the Statement of Capital Works)

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council assets are being renewed or upgraded as planned. It compares the rate of spending on existing assets through renewing, restoring, replacing or upgrading existing assets with depreciation. Ratios higher than 1.0 indicate there is a lesser risk of insufficient spending on Council's asset base.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

VAGO Renewal gap (ratio)

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 3 (Page 61)

Notes or Case Studies

If result is less than 0.5

Spending on existing assets has not kept pace with the consumption of these assets. This highlights a need to prioritise asset maintenance.

If result is between 0.5 and 1.0

May indicate insufficient spending on renewal or upgrading. This may highlight a need for better asset maintenance planning.

If result is more than 1.0

Demonstrates council's commitment to investing in the renewal and upgrading of its community infrastructure and assets.

Actions

Based on their results, councils can develop strategies to ensure they are appropriately renewing and upgrading assets to provide services and facilities that meet community needs.

Measures whether a council is able to generate an adjusted underlying surplus.

OP1 – Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) (Audited)

Definition

The underlying surplus (or deficit) as a percentage of adjusted underlying revenue.

Calculation

Numerator

Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)

Denominator

Adjusted underlying revenue

This result is multiplied by 100

Key terms

Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)

Is adjusted underlying revenue less total expenditure.

Adjusted underlying revenue

Is total income other than:

- non-recurrent capital grants used to fund capital expenditure
- non-monetary asset contributions
- contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above

Non-recurrent grant

Is operating or capital grants obtained on the condition that they be expended in a specified manner and not expected to be received again during the period covered by the Strategic Resource Plan.

Classification

Output indicator – Adjusted underlying result

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Other advice

Documented assessment of why excluded grants to fund capital expenditure are non-recurrent

Demonstrable link from other excluded contributions to fund capital expenditure, to the relevant capital expenditure

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council can generate a surplus. A significant surplus (or deficit) achieved in a particular financial year does not necessarily indicate good or bad financial performance in that year.

Suitability for target setting

Good

Data fluctuates between years, but council has some influence over the outcome.

Related to

None

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 1 (Page 60)

Notes or Case Studies

None

Measures whether a council is able to generate revenue from a range of sources.

S1 – Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue (Audited)

Definition

Rate revenue as a percentage of adjusted underlying revenue.

Calculation

Numerator

Rate revenue

Denominator

Adjusted underlying revenue

This result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Rate revenue

Is revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges (e.g. garbage, recycling and organic charges) levied on rateable properties.

Adjusted underlying revenue

Is total income other than:

- non-recurrent capital grants to fund capital expenditure
- non-monetary asset contributions
- contributions to fund capital expenditure from other sources other than those referred to above

Classification

Input indicator – Rates concentration

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council can generate revenue from a range of sources to fund services and activities. Lower proportion of rate to underlying revenue suggests greater stability.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

None

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 4 (Page 61)

Notes or Case Studies

None

S2 – Rates compared to property values (Audited)

Definition

Rate revenue as a percentage of the capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality.

Calculation

Numerator

Rate revenue

Denominator

Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality

This result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Rate revenue

Is revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges (e.g. garbage, recycling and organic charges) levied on rateable properties.

Capital Improved Value

Is the market value of a property and is measured at the end of the year and includes all valuation adjustments (e.g. supplementary valuations).

Classification

Input indicator – Rates effort

Data source

Numerator

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Denominator

Annual budget and forecast capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality based on the value in the annual budget and underlying the financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Capital Improved Value from rates ledger (e.g. Pathways).

Other advice

The source of the property values should be the same as used to determine the rates budget and/or strike the rate for the following financial year

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether councils set rates at an appropriate level. Lower proportion of rate revenue suggests a reduced rate burden on the community.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

None

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 4 (Page 62)

Notes or Case Studies

None



mainroads
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

FINAL DRAFT

*We're working for
Western Australia.*

DRAFT GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA for the Identification of Significant Local Government Roads

August 2020



Contents

Background	3
Strategy Principles.....	3
Roads Maintenance.....	3
Routine Maintenance	4
Periodic Maintenance.....	4
Reconstruction	4
Roads Forming Routes.....	4
Significant Local Roads Amendments.....	4
Criteria	5
1. NETWORK / SIGNIFICANT	5
2. ROAD FUNCTION/FREIGHT.....	5
3. TRAFFIC VOLUME	6
4. TOURISM.....	6
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS	6
DEFINITIONS.....	6
USEFUL LINKS	7
PCU CONVERSION	7
ONGOING REVIEW AND UPDATE PROCESS.....	8
SUBMISSION FORM	9

Background

The *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads* short title *Significant Local Government Roads* are a documented list of regionally significant Local Government roads for each Regional Road Group (RRG) and the development strategies for them.

The first editions, Roads 2020 Regional Road Development Strategies, were released during 1997 and 1998 and were an initiative of the 1992 Memorandum of Understanding between the State Government and the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA), then known as the Western Australian Municipal Association (WAMA). This document will inform the compilation of the latest version, which will supersede Roads 2030 published in 2013.

Local Governments (via RRGs) work collaboratively to review and update the current list of Significant Local Roads to produce the latest strategy. This provides an agreed, strategic approach to the allocation of limited funding across the extensive road network within the state of Western Australia. Only projects on local roads included in the *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads* will be eligible for *Road Project Grant* funding under the latest *State Roads Funds to Local Government Agreement*. These Guidelines will be included in the annexure of each document.

The *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads* for each RRG are available on the [WALGA website](#).

Note - A separate Main Roads process is required to amend any Road Hierarchy classification. Should you wish to discuss these or other road classification process, contact the Road Classification Manager at enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au

Strategy Principles

The *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads* are an investment-planning tool to assist with allocating funding in a systematic fashion to achieve long-term significant planning goals for the Region and State through improvement of road infrastructure. Inclusion of a road in the Regional Strategies does not influence the amount of funding provided to a Regional Road Group.

Roads Maintenance

Funds to implement the *Significant Local Government Roads* improvement strategy are sourced from the Road Project Grants (Category 1) of the State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement (SRFLGA). State funding to assist with general maintenance needs of the local road network are typically allocated as Direct Grants.

The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) defines maintenance¹ under two main types:

Reactive maintenance includes sealing cracks and fixing potholes, cleaning up verges, road markings and signs. It is short term and needs to be done on a day-to-day basis to keep roads safe and serviceable,

Planned maintenance is more costly but has long-term benefits. It includes:

- Resurfacing of roads in response to aging, traffic wear and to prevent water damage, bridge repairs and replacing road markings;

¹ Maintaining the State Road Network report (page 10),
Document No: D20#818389

- *Rebuilding to restore the structure of roads and bridges. That may include strengthening the roads and bridges, correcting the shape of the road or minor changes in road width.*

Routine Maintenance

Reactive maintenance is often referred to as Routine Maintenance. Routine maintenance work is not to be included in strategies for individual roads within *Significant Local Government Roads* as it is assumed such activities will always be undertaken on roads and thus do not need to be referred to in improvement strategies. Furthermore, by its nature, routine maintenance does not improve the road.

Periodic Maintenance

Planned maintenance is more often referred to as Periodic Maintenance.

The need for major periodic maintenance works can be included in strategies for individual roads in *Significant Local Government Roads*. This includes works such as reseals and re-sheeting, rehabilitation, shoulder reconditioning and other heavy maintenance type works.

The potential need for inclusion of any periodic heavy maintenance work on a road must be documented as part of the overall strategy for the road.

Reconstruction

Reconstruction of roads is not maintenance as it replaces the existing asset with a new one, typically with a design life of 40 years. Where appropriate, the need to undertake reconstruction of all or part of a road is to be included in strategies for individual roads within *Significant Local Government Roads*.

Roads Forming Routes

The term “road” is used throughout this document. In some instances, a number of roads may be combined to create a route that is given an appropriate name for the purposes of identification. In the context of this document, “road” includes routes which have more than one individual road and an identifying route name.

Significant Local Roads Amendments

Should a RRG agree to seek an amendment to the endorsed *Significant Local Government Roads* this must be documented on the attached *Road Justification and Development Strategy Submission Form*. After approval by the RRG, it must be sent to the Road Classification Manager² at Main Roads to confirm the road/route meets the criteria. The Road Classification Manager will then submit the application to the *State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee* (SAC) for endorsement. If endorsed, the Road Classification Manager shall update the RRG Roads List.

If an affected road crosses into an adjoining Region, then agreement should be reached with the adjoining RRG on the proposed change and both RRGs must apply for the amendments submitting copies of the approved forms from the adjoining RRG with the application.

Copies of these additional roads will be kept by the Road Classification Manager at Main Roads, who will update the *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads*.

Roads forming part of a larger Route should be shown as forming part of the Route and should be listed under the Route details on the *Road Justification and Development Strategy Submission Form*.

² enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au Attention: Road Classification Manager

Criteria

The Criteria below identifies separate consideration for NETWORK/SIGNIFICANT, ROAD FUNCTION/FREIGHT, TRAFFIC and TOURISM criteria.

For a road to be considered for inclusion in the *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads* it shall meet **two (2)** of these criteria (with at least one criteria being met from two of the four sections). A road connecting to what is deemed a significant tourist attraction/area only needs to meet the Tourism requirement.

CRITERIA FOR SIGNIFICANT LOCAL ROADS

1. NETWORK / SIGNIFICANT

- Roads connecting areas of significant population (>500) [Census quick stats data 2016 - Link Here](#) - use quick search to check ABS Census population of town (UCL). See also link below in Useful Links.
- A road that is a **Regional** or **Inter Regional Route** providing the main connection between this region and other regions, in the State and interstate. Note – “region” does not refer specifically to Main Roads or RRG Regions in this instance refers to a generic region of significance i.e. tourist region, mining region, major town or centre etc.
- A road that connects **major transport terminals** or connects a **major transport terminal** to a major route. (see definition below)
- A road that serves a **major resource or industrial site.** (see definition below)
- A road providing access to **regional institutions or regional community service centres.** (see definition below)
- A road that provides access to a remote indigenous community with a population of more than 250. (see definition below) OR a road that is the only land access between a remote indigenous community (population more than 50) and at least one town centre. (see definition below)
- URBAN ROADS – A road which is the main connector to a significant industrial area, port facility, airport, major shopping centre or similar.

2. ROAD FUNCTION/FREIGHT

- RURAL ROADS ONLY - A **Major Route** that performs a Regional Distributor function as shown in the Road Hierarchy.
- URBAN ROADS ONLY – A road that is a Local Distributor or higher category in the Road Hierarchy.
- RURAL ROADS ONLY - A road that forms part of the **Restricted Access Vehicle notice** network 2 or above.
- URBAN ROADS ONLY A road that forms part of the **Restricted Access Vehicle notice** network 4 or above.
- A road used for hauling grain from an off road rail bin to a railhead OR is included in a network such as the [Secondary Road Freight Network Map](#). (Follow link and see page 24).

3. TRAFFIC VOLUME

- Has a PCU adjusted traffic AADT count (see the attached table) of over 200 AADT. (PCU = Passenger Car Unit. AADT = Annual Average Daily Traffic)
- URBAN ROADS ONLY- has a PCU adjusted traffic count (see the attached table) of over 10% of the town or cities current population OR a minimum 200 PCU, whichever is the greater. If under the required PCU traffic count, the road has a minimum of 200 AADT heavy vehicle count.

4. TOURISM

- Roads that provide access to tourist attractions or recreation areas of State or regional significance as per the Tourism WA website link below, OR Roads that form part of a State tourist drive or way.
[Tourist Spot Map WA](#) (Click on “MAP” button).

Note 1 – To ensure the traffic figures represent seasonal demand, traffic counts should show the high demand during the peak tourist season. This should be taken over 6 to 8 weeks during the peak activity period.

Note 2 – In the absence of sufficient traffic count evidence, a road may be accepted as passing the criteria with scoring **only** from the TOURISM category if it is felt the road connects to a strong regional tourist attracter.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The development of parallel routes to roads already providing the network function should be avoided.

DEFINITIONS

Regional Route – Shall be defined as a road that provides a connection between inter – regional routes (State Roads) or between inter – regional routes (State Roads) and areas of significant population. [ABS population data by region](#). Must show more than 5000 within the relevant UCL.

Inter Regional Route – Shall be defined as a road that provides the main connection between this region and other regions, in the State and interstate. Should be listed as a Regional Distributor in the Western Australian Road Hierarchy. Note region does not refer specifically to Main Roads or RRG Regions in this instance refers to a generic region of significance i.e. tourist region, mining region, major town or centre etc.

Major Route – A road that provides both regional and inter-regional access and is a Regional Distributor in the Western Australian Road Hierarchy.

Major Transport Terminal – Container, Rail or Air that generate at least 500 freight vehicle movements per day.

Major Resource or Industrial Site – This should be based on operating mine sites etc. and significant Industrial Areas (having at least 20 businesses or fewer businesses employing more than 200 people in total). [Dept. Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety Mineral and Petroleum deposits](#).

Regional Institution or Community Services Centre – Such as regional hospitals.

Remote Indigenous Community – Refer to DPLH website [Aboriginal Community Maps](#)

Regional Heavy Haulage Route – Over 100 RAV vehicles per day of RAV 2 NETWORK and above with anecdotal evidence supporting regional movement.

Parallel Route performing the network role – If another local government road within the local government area (or close by within the region) is seen to be performing the Significant function then the road being considered should not be listed in the list of Local Government Roads of Significant Importance.

Urban Road – A road mainly located within a built up area of a town or city.

USEFUL LINKS

Town and City populations WA <https://www.citypopulation.de/php/australia-westernaustralia.php>

[ABS population data by region](#)

[Aboriginal Community Maps](#)

[Dept. Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety Mineral and Petroleum deposits.](#)

[Tourist Spot Map WA](#)

[Census quick stats data 2016 - Link Here](#)

[Secondary Road Freight Network Map](#)

[MRWA Traffic Map](#)

PCU CONVERSION

The table below adjusts the AADT count to show approximate equivalent volumes of Passenger Car Units on the roads within Western Australia.

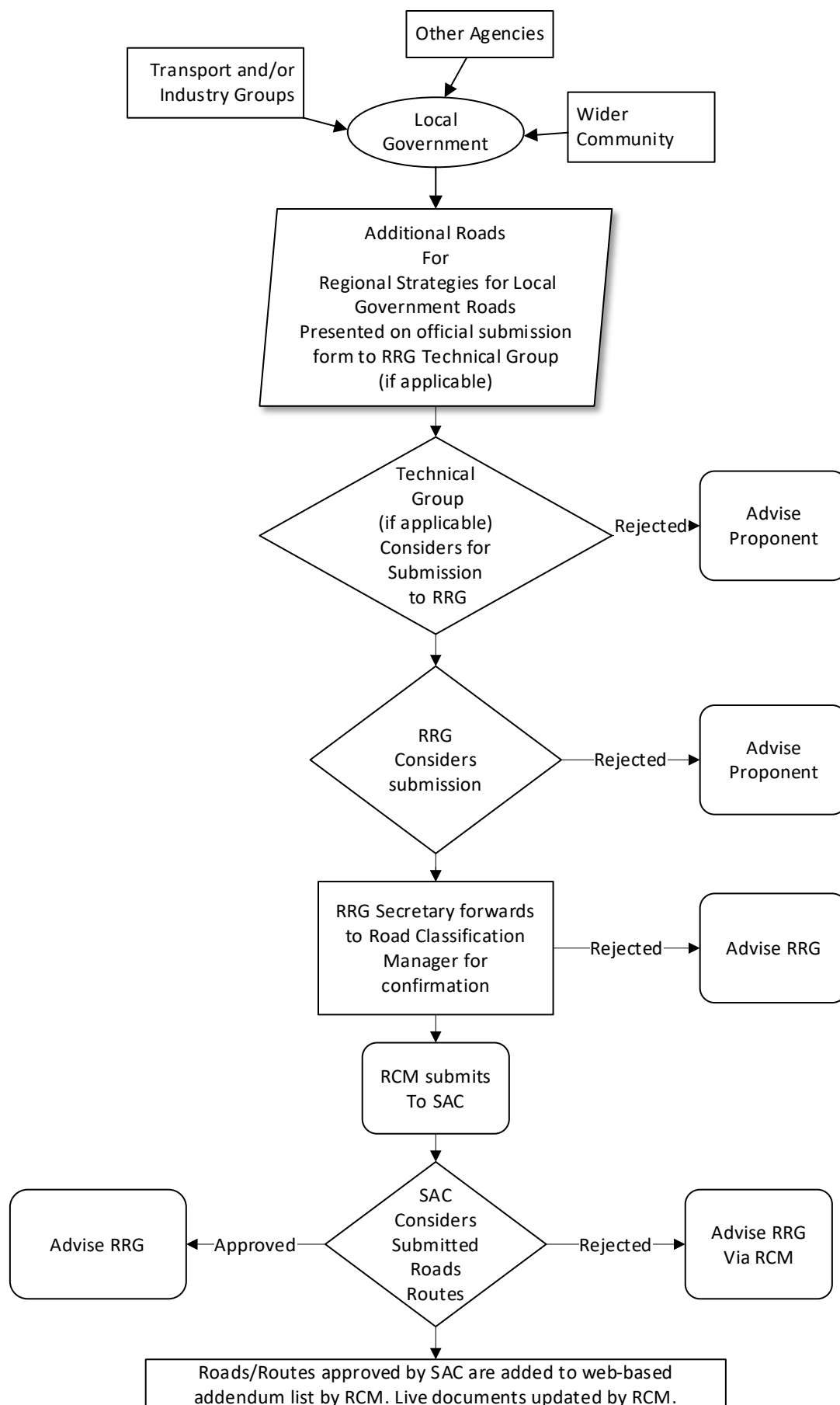
Austroads Class	Max Length in WA.	Passenger Car Unit
1 (1:1)	12.0m	1
2 to 5	14.5m	2.0
6 to 9	20.0m	3.0
10	27.5m	4.0
11	36.5m	6.0
12	53.5m	8.0
Motor cycle	-	0.4
Pedal cycle	-	0.2

Note – this conversion table is for traffic counts of mixed class vehicle types to approximate the counts to equivalent Passenger Car Units and may not be applicable to road design applications

ONGOING REVIEW AND UPDATE PROCESS

REGIONAL STRATEGIES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROADS

ONGOING REVIEW AND UPDATE PROCESS



SUBMISSION FORM

Significant Local Roads – Route/Road Justification and Development Strategy

Submission/Assessment Form..... Regional Road Group

RRG Determination

Office Use Only

Accepted ☐

Rejected ☐

Local Government:

MRWA Road Classification Manager – does the route meet the criteria

Yes ☐

No ☐

Endorsed by SAC. Date.....

Yes ☐

No ☐

Road Description and Location

Road / Route Name:

Road Name	Road Number	Start SLK	Finish SLK	Length (km)	Un sealed (km)	Sealed (km)

If Route Name nominated provide details of all roads forming the route otherwise enter details of above road on the first line below

Note – **Location map MUST be attached**

Road Justification

Road Function

Include road hierarchy category, RAV Network No (if applicable) and a comment on how the road makes a positive contribution to the economic and/or social wellbeing of the region and WA as a whole

Road Development Need

Provide details of the road's future use

Road Development Strategy

Provide a brief high level summary for the future development of the road including proposed funding sources (i.e. Road Project Grant, Black Spot)

Criteria Met

List the Criteria items consider to be met against the *CRITERIA FOR SIGNIFICANT LOCAL ROADS*

**LOCAL ROADS PROGRAM
LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT**

Prepared by Geoff Eves – Local Roads Program Manager

for the

STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

for release to

**METROPOLITAN REGIONAL ROAD GROUP
Local Government's**

DATE: 05 AUGUST 2020

CONTENTS

1. Executive Summary
2. Local Roads Program 2019-20 Review
 - 2.1 Improvement Program
 - 2.2 Rehabilitation Program
 - 2.3 State Black Spot Program
 - 2.4 Australian Government Black Spot Program
- 3 Actions Undertaken in 2019-20
 - 3.1 Review of Rehabilitation Program Penalty Process
 - 3.2 Accruals
 - 3.3 RRG Presentation – MRRG Lessons Learnt & Improvement Opportunities
 - 3.4 Recommendations from Previous years.
- 4 Improvement Opportunities
 - 4.1 Focus Areas – Project Planning, and Acquittal and Governance
 - 4.2 State Black Spot Program Review – Funding Check Point
 - 4.3 Line Marking Process
- 5 Recommendations
- 6 Attachments

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report reviews the acquittal of projects delivered by Local Governments in the Metropolitan Region funded through the State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement and the Australian Government Black Spot Program and provides commentary on the overall program performance.

There has been minor improvement in the completion and acquittal of Improvement and Rehabilitation programs in 2019/20, with the completion of several projects carried forward from previous years resulting in a reduction in the number of legacy projects.

A Summary of 2019/20 financial performance of each of the key Programs delivered by Local Governments (Rehabilitation, Improvement, State Black Spot and Australian Government Black Spot) is listed below:

Program	No of Projects	Total Value	Acquitted	Carried Forward
Improvement	30	\$20,062,345	\$14,634,456 (73%)	\$5,427,889 (27%)
Rehabilitation	172	\$19,096,510	\$16,351,098 (86%)	\$2,745,412 (14%)
State Black Spot	91	\$8,064,594	\$4,086,254 (51%)	\$3,978,340 (49%)
Aust. Govt. Black Spot	34	\$4,883,802	\$3,803,780 (78%)	\$1,080,022 (22%)

*As at 30 June 2020

Relative to the size of the programs, the Black Spot programs show the highest amounts carried forward. The Improvement program has the largest financial impacts.

The underlying fundamental issue with each of the programs is the need for LGs to consider all the known risk factors in planning and scheduling for delivery of the projects prior to 30 June each year.

Covid-19 did not have an impact on the program of works, with many LGs reporting that less traffic on the roads during the last half of the financial year assisted in the delivery of the works.

The final acquittal and governance process issues continue to be a challenge in the State Black Spot and Australian Government Black Spot programs for most Local Governments (LGs).

Based on the findings, it is recommended that in 2020/21 the Local Roads Program Manager:

1. Develop and deliver a presentation for Local Government officers on Project Planning for an Advanced Design Program.
2. Document effective acquittal processes that can be adapted and adopted by Local Governments.
3. With the MRRG Technical Officers Group, investigate the merits of introducing a check point to ensure that design, community consultation, land acquisition and third-party approvals are in place before advancing the second tranche of funding.
4. Undertake analysis of trends in program performance over the past 4 years, including further analysis of major issues influencing program performance, with a focus on providing detailed assessment of the issues that have the greatest impact on funds carried forward.

2 LOCAL ROADS PROGRAM 2019-20 REVIEW

The following is a brief overview of the performance of the various MRRG Local Road Programs and Black Spot Projects over the course of the 2019-20 year, the issues tackled and the challenges for the 2020-21 financial year.

2.1 Improvement Program

The 2019-20 Improvement program comprised 31 Projects (2 Reserve projects and 2 Advanced funded projects), with most projects staged over two or more years from 2016-17. The annual budget for staged projects is included as a full project in the year allocated. A review of the program in the table below reveals that while significant progress was made in the delivery of more recent improvement projects there are several projects from previous years affecting the overall program performance. These are listed in attachment A.

Again, apart from the withdrawal of projects from previous year approvals, one project was the prime reason for under performance of the program.

2019 - 20 Improvement Program - \$20,062,345									
Year Approved	No Projects	Complete	Staged funding fully acquitted	W'drawn	C/Fwd	Reserve	Advanced	\$ Recoup	\$ C/Fwd
2019-20	7	1	3		3	1	1	\$14,634,456 (73%)	\$5,427,889 (27%)
2018-19	11	1	4	1	5	1	1		
2017-18	11	4		3	4				
2016-17	2	1			1				
Total	31	7	7	4	13	2	2		

*As at 30 June 2020

- a) Seven projects completed
- b) Seven staged projects fully acquitted in 2019/20
- c) Four projects were withdrawn which resulted in \$2,522,912 being returned to the pool
- d) Ten projects final 20% allocations pushed out to 2020/21 to the value of \$3,892,080
- e) Two projects were awarded reserve funding to the value of \$2,609,000
- f) Two projects were awarded advanced 2020/21 funding to the value of \$2,100,267
- g) Thirteen projects were carried forward, of which three projects were accrued to the value of \$463,368 and two projects are expected to be completed under budget to a savings of \$65,239.

2.2 Rehabilitation Program

The 2019-20 Rehabilitation program comprised 172 Projects (102 new projects + 9 Reserve) with 1/3 of these projects carried forward from 2017-18 & 2018-19. A review of the program indicates that all but six of these past projects have been acquitted and completed.

2019 - 20 Rehabilitation Program - \$19,096,510							
Year Approved	No Projects	Complete	W'drawn	C/Fwd	Reserve	\$ Recoup	\$ C/Fwd
2019-20	102	29	2	71	9	\$16,351,098 (86%)	\$2,745,412 (14%)
2018-19	64	56	2	6			
2017-18	6	5	1				
Total	172	90	5	77			

- a) Ninety projects completed.
- b) Five projects were withdrawn which resulted in \$377,431 being returned to the pool (\$211, 467 budget transfers pending).
- c) Seventy-seven projects were carried forward, of which sixty-one projects were accrued to the value of \$1,980,922 and six have been approved for time extensions.
- d) Nine Reserve projects totalling \$1,389,732 were funded during the year and three have been completed.

2.3 State Black Spot Program

The 2019-20 State Black Spot program comprised 91 Projects and 39 projects were carried forward primarily due to a late start with construction.

2019 - 20 State Black Spot Program - \$8,064,594								
Year Approved	No Projects	Complete	Staged fully acquitted	W'drawn	C/Fwd	Reserve	\$ Recoup	\$ C/Fwd
2019-20	43	9	3	5	26	7	\$4,086,254 (51%)	\$3,978,340 (49%)
2018-19	33	22		3	8			
2017-18	13	7		1	5			
2016-17	1	1						
2014-15	1	1						
Total	91	40	3	9	39	7		

- a) Forty projects were fully recouped
- b) Three staged projects fully acquitted in 2019/20
- c) Nine projects were withdrawn, which resulted in \$1,300,579 being returned to the pool (\$24,333 budget transfer pending). Refer to attachment B
- d) Seven projects were awarded reserve funding to the value of \$558,101
- e) Thirty-nine projects were carried forward, of which eight projects were accrued to the value of \$558,551 and two projects are expected to be completed under budget to a savings of \$68,875.

Despite constant reminders either by Main Roads or follow-up by the Local Roads Program Manager many LGs leave the design and approvals until the construction year, and in many instances the design is not straight forward and issues with third-party approvals delay a start to the program.

2.4 Australian Government Black Spot Program

The 2019-20 Australian Government Black Spot program comprised 34 Projects, and 20 projects were carried forward primarily due to a late start with construction.

2019 - 20 National Black Spot Program - \$4,883,802						
Year Approved	No Projects	Complete	W'drawn	C/Fwd	\$ Recoup 68%	\$ C/Fwd
2019-20	14		1	13	\$3,803,780 (78%)	\$1,080,022 (22%)
2018-19	15	10		5		
2017-18	4	3		1		
2015-16	1			1		
Total	34	13	1	20		

- a) Thirteen projects were completed
- b) One project was withdrawn which resulted in \$100,000 being returned to the pool
- c) Twenty projects were carried forward, of which seven projects were accrued to the value of \$505,211 and two projects have been approved for time extensions.

3. Actions Undertaken in 2019-20

The MRRG team, comprising the Technical Officers Group, Main Roads representatives, WALGA representatives and with assistance of the Local Roads Program Manager, have been pro-active in assisting LGs to maximise their potential opportunities throughout the 2019-20 FY with the following initiatives:

3.1 Review of Rehabilitation Program Penalty Process

The 2019-20 financial year is the second year that penalties will be applied to future funding based on prior year's performance for the Rehabilitation Program.

The penalty effectively reduces the Road Rehabilitation allocation in the second subsequently funded year if more than 10% of a LGs total Rehabilitation funds remain unclaimed by 30 June.

Last year seven LGs were penalised of between 13% to 58% of the eligible Road Rehabilitation grant allocation for the 2020-21 financial year. A review indicates that six LGs completed the outstanding projects within 2019/20.

Local Government	% unclaimed subject to penalty 2018/19	Number of Projects Penalised	Status as at 30 June 2020
Armadale	26%	2	2 - Final claim outstanding
Belmont	24%	1	Fully claimed April 2020
Cambridge	15%	2	Fully claimed June 2020
Claremont	20%	7	Fully claimed August 2019
Kalamunda	58%	4	Fully claimed 1 - January 2020 3 - March 2020
Serpentine Jarrahdale	13%	2	Fully claimed September 2019
Victoria Park	13%	3	Fully claimed 2 – November 2019 1 - May 2020

There are three LGs however that have failed to complete their 2019/20 Rehabilitation program and have not taken the opportunity to withdraw or request scope changes or an extension of time despite constant reminders throughout the year. Based on their 2019/20 performance of the Rehabilitation program these LGs have been assessed to incur penalties between 3% to 15% for 2021/22.

Local Government	% unclaimed subject to penalty 2018/19	Number of Projects Penalised	Status as at 30 June 2020
Armadale	3%	2	Final claim outstanding (same projects penalised in 18/19)
Nedlands	6%	2	Final claim outstanding
Subiaco	15%	1	Second 40% claim outstanding

3.2 Accruals

Main Roads is aware of concerns raised by LGs regarding the financial finalisation of projects being delayed by the processing of payments for line marking, with the impact being mostly to the Rehabilitation program.

To monitor this impact Main Roads has been tracking the outstanding status of MRRG LGs grant funded line marking projects requests from LGs for line marking, contractor work orders, line marking completion, and contractor and LGs invoicing, and final grant claim close-out.

In line with last year's practice, Main Roads accrued the final 20% payments for projects where line marking was completed but yet to be invoiced or if the line marking works request order had been sent to the contractor before a nominated deadline. In this way LGs would not be penalised for late claims due to this delay.

In addition, as per the action agreed at the December SAC meeting, LGs were requested to advise of any other MRRG project accruals for civil and electrical works for 2019/20. LGs were required to provide photo evidence of works completion to verify the accrual.

In total the following accruals were undertaken in 2019/20 to maximise legitimate grant expenditure –

Program	2019/20 Accrual
Improvement	\$463,368
Rehabilitation	\$1,980,922
Black Spot	\$1,063,762

3.3 RRG Presentation – MRRG Lessons Learnt & Improvement Opportunities

At the request of SAC, a PowerPoint presentation of major findings and improvements along with supporting documentation was prepared for a roadshow of Regional Road Groups however following Covid-19 restrictions this was converted into a Skype Presentation, and combined with the annual Blackspot Presentation.

Five presentations sessions were given to the following seven RRG's:

Region	Date of Presentation	Region	Date of Presentation
Great Southern	21.04.20	Wheatbelt South	21.05.20
Mid-West	18.05.20	Gascoyne	02.06.20
Pilbara	12.05.20	Kimberley	02.06.20
Wheatbelt North	21.05.20	South-West	2018

The focus of the presentation was on the following key points:

Major Findings	Improvements
Planning	Legacy projects
Scheduling	Road Improvement project staging
Estimating	Road rehabilitation penalty
Project management	Accountability RAG report
Carry forward	Project submission guideline
Third-party	Grant claims
Stakeholder engagement	

The presentations were generally well received with feedback and questions on how stakeholder management was carried out, how penalties were received, and the due diligence process regarding the RAG report and grant claims. A copy of the presentation and supporting documentation can be made available on request.

3.4 Recommendations from Previous years.

The 2018-19 LRP Annual Report outlined several improvement opportunities and the following is a status report on each recommendation.

- 3.3.1 Stakeholder Management – to work one-on-one with LGs that have a history of late start SBS projects. Meetings have been held with several LGs and while there was an improvement for some this was not uniform across all LGs and timelines slipped in the last few months.
- 3.3.2 Process Mapping – this is a work-in-progress and more is required in this space.
- 3.3.3 Quarterly Reporting – to improve the accuracy and relevance of quarterly report comments has been successful with a majority providing a frank assessment rather than an optimistic forecast.
- 3.3.4 Compliance – to improve timely advice about scope or budget variations has improved for some however a few LGs are missing the opportunity.
- 3.3.5 Third-party delays – despite constant reminders and follow-up a few LGs have failed to provide a realistic risk assessment of third-party delays on projects. This will be included as a focus for improvement during 2020-21.

4 Improvement Opportunities

Consideration has been given to areas where LGs appear to require assistance and where the program can be improved by reviewing process issues.

4.1 Focus Areas – Project Planning, and Acquittal and Governance

The advantages of an advanced design programme, advocated over the past four years, appears beyond the comprehension of many. While the message has been on better planning, scheduling, estimating and project management feedback suggests a bureaucratic inertia or lack of experience or insight into how to bring about change within existing resource. Where change has been seriously contemplated it is often only thought possible through additional resource and/or budget. As a result, the tendency has been to do nothing because of organisational constraints over FTE numbers. The first thing however is to look at process to remove duplication, rework, and waste to gain efficiencies.

It is perhaps time to tackle this issue differently and conduct workshops on the focus areas of project planning for an advanced design program, and the requirements of the final acquittal and governance process. This has worked well at LGs where all staff, from managers to supervisors and support staff, have been involved in the review process workshop.

It is recommended that two workshops formats be developed. One on project planning for an advanced design program, and the second on the final acquittal and governance process. The latter process should have immediate effect; however, the former process may take a few years to influence program performance.

4.2 State Black Spot Program Review – Funding Check Point

The time taken to achieve third-party approvals has been highlighted as an issue. There is evidence of cases that suggests that this can drag on late into the financial year and often into the second funding year. This is primarily a LGs responsibility to prioritise and follow-up where a delay goes beyond a few weeks. The draft program of works is known 7-8 months before the year of approval however few LGs plan to commence a design until well into the funding year. Experience suggest that this is often due to design and construction being separate functions with little or no performance measurement or accountability between one and the other. This delay is compounded if services and works by public utilities (e.g. street lighting) are not sought until the design is complete and can add another 3-6 months to the process.

An option to improve performance maybe through a funding check point.

The funding check point would apply to satisfactory performance, and with respect to Black Spot projects, would be when design and third-party approvals are obtained before funding is given for deliverability, and then only if construction can be completed within the remaining time.

It is recommended that the Technical Group consider whether this can be implemented and still meeting the constraints of the SBS funding allocations.

4.3 Line Marking Process

In response to an action item from the MRRG Elected Members meeting on 28 May 2020 Main Roads has been proactive in investigating an alternative process for line marking that reduces the impact on the financial finalisation of projects.

The proposed change will see the cost of line marking separated out from the project budget. This will enable Local Governments to submit their final 20% claim once all costs (excluding the line marking invoice) are received and a line marking request has been accepted by Traffic Services.

Based on data gathered in 2020 this process potentially will provide LGs with the opportunity to acquit Road Rehabilitation Project grants months earlier.

SAC has endorsed this new process to be run as a trial for the 2020/21 Rehabilitation program. Note that it is not envisaged that this change to process will apply across all programs.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 Focus Areas – the Local Roads Program Manager develop presentations for LGs on:
 - a) Project Planning for an Advanced Design Program; and,
 - b) Final Acquittal and Governance Process.
- 5.2 State Black Spot Program Review – that the MRRG Technical Officers Group investigate the merits of introducing a funding check point to ensure satisfactory achievement of design and third-party approvals before advancing the second tranche of funding.
- 5.3 Local Roads Program Manager undertake analysis of trends in program performance over the past 4 years.
- 5.4 Local Roads Program Manager undertake further analysis of major issues influencing program performance, with a focus on providing detailed assessment of the top few issues.
- 5.5 This report be approved for release to the 30 Metropolitan LGs.

6 Attachments

Attachment A – Improvement Project Outstanding Expenditure Project Delay

Local Authority	Grant \$ unclaimed	Reason for delay
Armadale		
Powell Cres	Withdrawn July 2019	Development control land acquisition issues \$172,828 returned to the pool.
Forrest Rd	Withdrawn Feb 2020	Development control land acquisition issues. \$1,007,319 returned to the pool.
Canning		
Sevenoaks St	Withdrawn Oct 2019	Design Works – Uncertainty regarding impact of MetroNet on scope \$522,388 returned to the pool.
Cockburn		
Jandakot Rd	2,533,333	Land acquisition delays and tendering.
Gosnells		
Spencer Rd	66,667	Design Works - Final 20% claim outstanding.
Burslem Dve	192,000	Design Works - Final 20% claim outstanding. Advanced 2020/21 funding approved February 2020
Garden St	Withdrawn July 2019	Environmental permit not approved \$820,377 returned to the pool.
Joondalup		
Burns Beach Rd	384,000	Scope impacted by Main Roads project – EOT until June 2021.
Nedlands		
Aberdare Rd	15,000	Design Works - EOT Variation until June 2021 under review
Serpentine Jarrahdale		
Abernethy-Kargotich	112,000	Reserve Project - Final 20% claim outstanding.
Abernethy Rd	297,837	Scope impacted by DoT Railway Works - EOT until June 2021.

Attachment B – Black Spot Projects Withdrawn

Local Authority	Grant \$	Reason for delay
Armadale		
Chevin Road	Withdrawn Aug 2019	Revised design estimate does not meet BCR requirements \$48,913 returned to the pool
Cockburn		
Jandakot Road	Withdrawn Mar 2020	Land acquisition issues \$166,000 returned to the pool
Kalamunda		
Canning Road	Withdrawn Jun 2020	Constructed treatment does not meet program requirements \$24,333 returned to the pool (transfer pending)
Nedlands		
Broadway	Withdrawn Nov 2019	Not supported by Community \$60,000 returned to the pool
Perth		
Aberdeen St	Withdrawn Feb 2020	Intended scope does not meet swept path analysis \$48,333 returned to the pool
Subiaco		
Townsend Rd	Withdrawn Sept 2019	Revised design no longer feasible \$30,000 returned to the pool
Onslow Rd	Withdrawn Apr 2020	Revised design estimate does not meet BCR requirements \$14,000 returned to the pool
Stirling		
Walcott St	Withdrawn Nov 2019	Australian Government Black Spot - Not supported by Community \$100,000 returned
Swan		
Mayo Rd	Withdrawn Mar 2020	Land acquisition issues \$160,000 returned to the pool
Victoria Park		
Shepperton Rd	Withdrawn Dec 2019	Extension of time not approved \$749,000 returned to the pool

Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group

Reference information for Elected Members on a Regional Road Group

November 2019

This reference information is designed to inform Elected Members of a Regional Road Group of matters pertinent to the business of that Group.

Specifically, the contents will inform Elected Members of:

- State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement
- Role of the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee
- Terms of Reference for a Regional Road Group
- Roads 2030
- Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) network
- Accredited Mass Management Scheme (AMMS)
- Funding sources for road projects
- Key Performance Indicators for a Regional Road Group
- WALGA RoadWise

Contact:

Ian Duncan

Executive Manager, Infrastructure Unit

WALGA

ONE70, LV 1, 170 Railway Parade West Leederville

Phone: (08) 9213 2031

Fax: (08) 9213 2077

Mobile: 0439 947 716

Email: iduncan@walga.asn.au

Website: www.walga.asn.au

Document Information

Author:	Western Australian Local Government Association
Title:	Reference information for Elected Members on a Regional Road Group
Version:	1.2
Version date:	November 2019
Review date:	As required

Table of Contents

1.0	Regional Road Groups	4
2.0	Regional Road Sub-Groups.....	4
3.0	State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement.....	5
4.0	State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee	6
	Membership	6
	Scope	6
5.0	Goldfields-Esperance Road Funding Distribution	6
6.0	Roads 2030	7
7.0	Key Performance Indicators for Regional Road Groups	7
	Expenditure performance.....	7
	Asset management	8
	Road safety.....	8
	Local road inventory data.....	8
8.0	Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) Network.....	8
	Framework for adding a Local Government road to the Restricted Access Vehicle network	9
	Framework for downgrading a Local Government road on the Restricted Access Vehicle network	9
	Model policy for “Assessing applications to operate Restricted Access Vehicles on Local Government roads”	9
	As of right vehicles.....	9
9.0	Accredited Mass Management Scheme (AMMS)	10
10.0	Informing Own Councils	10
11.0	WALGA RoadWise.....	10
12.0	Main Roads WA Contact	11
13.0	WALGA Contacts	11
14.0	ANNEXURE 1 – Terms of Reference for Regional Road Groups	12
15.0	ANNEXURE 2 - Road Funding Sources	18
16.0	ANNEXURE 3 – Timetable for funding submissions.....	20
17.0	ANNEXURE 4 – Key Performance Indicators.....	22
18.0	ANNEXURE 5 – Profile of Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group.....	26

1.0 Regional Road Groups

The State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement mandates the existence and operation of Regional Road Groups, which the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee oversees.

The State Roads to Local Government management structure identified the following Regional Road Groups:

- Gascoyne
- Goldfields-Esperance
- Great Southern
- Kimberley
- Metropolitan
- Mid-West
- Pilbara
- South West
- Wheatbelt North
- Wheatbelt South

The Chairperson of a Regional Road Group shall be an Elected Member.

The role of a Regional Road Group is to:

- Recommend Local Government road funding priorities to the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.
- Monitor the implementation of the Local Government Road Program in their region.

Main Roads Western Australia provides technical and administrative support to Regional Road Groups.

See Annexure 1 for Terms of Reference for Regional Road Groups; and Annexure 5 for the profile of the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group.

2.0 Regional Road Sub-Groups

A Regional Road Group may establish Sub Groups to:

- Assist to identify road funding priorities
- Consider local road issues to inform decision making by the Regional Road Group
- Provide advice to the Regional Road Group

A Regional Road Group may establish a Technical Group(s) to:

- Assist with management and consideration of local road issues
- Provide technical advice to the Regional Road Group

Elected Members can be members of Regional Road Sub-Groups or Technical Groups. Ordinarily, Local Government technical staff comprise a Technical Group.

A Regional Road Group will determine and approve the Terms of Reference for Regional Road Sub-Groups or Technical Group(s). The Terms of Reference will include:

- Roles and responsibilities of the Sub-Groups or Technical Groups(s)
- Process to elect a Chairperson

- Membership of the Sub-Groups or Technical Group(s)

3.0 State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement

The State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement (the Agreement) is a formal agreement between State and Local Government in Western Australia.

The Agreement is *intended to ensure that the funds available from State Government sources for local roads are allocated across the State of Western Australia, focusing on areas of strategic importance and areas that will provide maximum benefit. The needs of all road users and the Western Australian community will be considered during the distribution process.* (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement, Guiding Principles, page 2)

The current Agreement expires in 2022/2023 and is based on the equivalent of 20% of motor vehicle licence fee collections.

The Agreement recognises and determines the membership of:

- State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee
- Regional Road Groups; and Regional Road Sub Groups (if considered necessary)

Under the Agreement the available funding is split into two categories:

1. Local Government Managed Programs (Category 1)
2. Main Roads Western Australia Managed Programs (Category 2)

The Agreement is projected to produce annual allocations from State road funds to Local Government roads for the years 2018/19 to 2022/23 as per the following schedule:

2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
\$182.3 million	\$188.9 million	\$193.4 million	\$198.4 million	\$203.4 million

The revenue is to be distributed to Local Government roads on the basis of¹:

Local Government Managed Programs (Category 1): 66%

Direct Grants
Road Project Grants
State Black Spot
Strategic and Technical Support

Main Roads Western Australian Managed Programs (Category 2): 34%

State Initiative on Local Roads
Traffic Management, Signs and Pavement Markings
Bridgeworks and Inspections
Remote Aboriginal Access Roads
Regional Road Group Support

¹ See Annexure 2: Road Funding Sources, and Annexure 3: Timetable for Funding Submissions.

The allocation to the categories and sub categories will move in line with the total Agreement pool or as otherwise approved by the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee. (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement, page 4)

4.0 State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee

The Agreement stipulates the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee (SAC) will oversee, monitor and recommend to the Minister for Transport the distribution of State funds to Local Government roads.

The SAC sets and is responsible for the procedures covering the administration and functioning of the Agreement.

Membership

The SAC consists of:

- Managing Director of Main Roads Western Australia
- Chief Executive Officer of the Western Australian Local Government Association (or their nominee)
- Four elected State Councillors as nominated by the Western Australian Local Government Association
- Four Main Roads Western Australia senior officers nominated by the Managing Director of Main Roads.

The Committee is chaired by the Managing Director of Main Roads Western Australia.

Scope

The SAC is accountable for the:

- Assessment of Local Government road funding needs
- Annual distribution of State Funds to Local Government roads
- Monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of the application of State Funds to Local Government roads in the State of Western Australia

The SAC recommends to the Minister for Transport the annual Local Government Roads Program and other relevant issues.

The SAC meets four times each year and its meeting agendas and minutes are published on the WALGA website at:

<http://walga.asn.au/Policy-Advice-and-Advocacy/Infrastructure/Funding.aspx>

5.0 Goldfields-Esperance Road Funding Distribution

The Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group has a document titled “Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group Road Funding Distribution”. The document provides information on:

- Road Funding Distribution, which includes information on (1) Distribution of funds between preservation and improvement/expansion projects; and (2) Project proposal submissions

- Project Prioritisation Guidelines, which contains information on (1) Process; (2) Project Evaluation; (3) Application; (4) Road improvement/expansion criteria; and (5) Road preservation projects criteria

The manual can be accessed [here](#).

6.0 Roads 2030

Roads 2030 documents a strategic view of regionally significant Local Government roads and the development strategies for those roads.

Each Regional Road Group has a *Roads 2030* strategy document.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the State Government and WALGA requires that Regional Road Groups review their road development strategies at five yearly intervals to assess the effects of changing circumstances and demand on the local road network.

Local Governments (via Regional Road Groups) worked collaboratively to review their local road network to produce *Roads 2030* thus providing an agreed strategic approach to allocate limited funding across the extensive local road network in WA.

It is important to note that only projects on local roads included in *Roads 2030* are eligible for Road Project Grant funding under the current State Roads Funds to Local Government Agreement.

See Annexure 2 for a breakdown of State Government and Federal Government funding sources for Local Government roads.

Should a Regional Road Group agree to seek to amend their *Roads 2030* strategy document, this amendment must be endorsed by the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee. If the road for which the proposed amendment is sought crosses into an adjoining region, agreement should be reached with that Regional Road Group.

Roads 2030 for each Regional Road Group can be accessed on the WALGA website at:

<http://walga.asn.au/Policy-Advice-and-Advocacy/Infrastructure/Roads/Roads-2030-Regional-Road-Development-Strategies.aspx>

7.0 Key Performance Indicators for Regional Road Groups

Part 7 of the Agreement relates to Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Regional Road Groups. Part 7 states, *Key Performance Indicators will focus on Expenditure Performance, asset management and road safety. KPIs have been established for monitoring purposes and no financial incentives or penalties will apply on the basis of performance against KPIs. Main Roads Western Australia and WALGA will prepare an annual KPI report for SAC. The report will be provided to the Regional Road Groups.*

Expenditure performance

- 1.1 Number of Regional Road Group meetings held. Minimum 2 meetings per year.
- 1.2 Percentage of State Government and Australian Government Black Spot Programs funding expended. Target 90%.

- 1.3 Percentage of road project grants expended (includes commodity route funds). Target 90%.
- 1.4 Road project grant applications submitted to SAC (via Main Roads WA) by November each year.

Asset management

- 2.1 Percentage of sealed road length subject to a documented visual condition survey in the previous 5 years within the region. Target is 50%.

Road safety

- 3.1 Metropolitan Regional Road Group only - Percentage of road project grant funded road improvements subject to road safety audits/inspections. Target is 100%
- 3.2 Other Regional Road Groups - Percentage of Road Project Grant funded projects that include Safe System improvements to roads and roadsides. Target is 50%.

Local road inventory data

- 4.1 Number of Local Governments by RRG that have uploaded road inventory data into the Main Roads WA IRIS database in the last three financial years. Target is 100%.

Reporting on the KPIs commenced in 2012-2013. The KPI report for 2018/2019 is attached as Annexure 4, which includes a comparison of the reporting years of 2013/2014, 2014/2015 and 2015/2016.

8.0 Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) Network

The Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) Network consists of ten levels of road network (i.e. RAV Network 1 to RAV Network 10) on which an approved category of restricted access (heavy) vehicle can be driven (i.e. category 1 restricted access vehicle to category 10 restricted access vehicle). Main Roads WA maintains an electronic list of all roads in the RAV Network.

A restricted access vehicle cannot travel on any road not listed in the RAV network - to do so is contrary to the law.

A higher category restricted access vehicle (e.g. a category 10 restricted access vehicle) cannot be driven on a lower RAV rated road (e.g. a RAV network 5 road); however a lower category restricted access vehicle (e.g. a category 4 restricted access vehicle) can be driven on a higher RAV rated road (e.g. a RAV network 7 road).

Main Roads WA maintains the *Standard Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) Route Assessment Guidelines* to assist Local Government, Main Roads' staff, transport operators or consultants assess the suitability of routes for inclusion on the RAV network. Restricted access vehicle categories are grouped into four (4) assessment levels:

- Level 1 - RAV Categories 2, 3 and 4 (e.g. pocket road train, B-double, and other restricted access vehicles with a maximum length of either 25m or 27.5m).
- Level 2 - RAV Categories 5 and 6 (e.g. restricted access vehicles with a maximum length of 36.5m and a maximum mass of 87.5t).
- Level 3 - RAV Categories 7 and 8 (e.g. restricted access vehicles with a maximum length of 36.5m and a maximum mass of 107.5t).
- Level 4 - RAV Categories 9 and 10 (e.g. restricted access vehicles with a maximum length of 53.5m).

The guidelines are available on the Main Roads website:

<https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/UsingRoads/HVS/roadaccess/Pages/default.aspx>

Framework for adding a Local Government road to the Restricted Access Vehicle network

To assist Local Governments, Main Roads WA has developed a framework to approve the inclusion of a local road on the RAV network.

The framework is available on the Main Roads website:

<https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/UsingRoads/HVS/roadaccess/Pages/default.aspx>

Framework for downgrading a Local Government road on the Restricted Access Vehicle network

To assist Local Governments, Main Roads WA has developed a framework on the process of downgrading a local road on the RAV network.

The framework is available on the Main Roads website:

<https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/UsingRoads/HVS/roadaccess/Pages/default.aspx>

Model policy for “Assessing applications to operate Restricted Access Vehicles on Local Government roads”

Restricted Access Vehicles can only operate on a road (RAV route) approved by Main Roads WA. Vehicle operators may apply to Main Roads WA to add or amend a RAV route and it is the policy of Main Roads WA to refer applications to Local Governments for preliminary assessment.

The (model) “Policy for Assessing Applications to Operate Restricted Access Vehicles on Local Government Roads” is designed to assist Local Government in the process to assess an application to add or amend a road on the RAV network.

The model policy is found at the WALGA website: *Local Government > Policy Advice and Advocacy > Infrastructure > Roads*

As of right vehicles

An *as of right vehicle* is any vehicle not a restricted access vehicle, for example, rigid trucks and semi-trailers. These vehicles may operate state-wide provided they are:

- Not a road train or b-double;
- Within regulation axle mass limits;
- Less than nineteen (19) metres in combination length or less than 12.5 metres in length for rigid vehicles;
- Less than 42.5 tonnes in total combination mass;
- Less than 2.5 metres wide (excluding mirrors and lights); and
- Less than 4.3 metres high.

9.0 Accredited Mass Management Scheme (AMMS)

The Accredited Mass Management Scheme (AMMS) is a scheme allowing heavy vehicles to carry additional payload on an identified and limited part of the road network assessed as suitable by Main Roads WA.

AMMS allows for three concessional mass levels and allows for any product and use of any proven loading control method. Vehicles accredited under the AMMS can only carry additional mass

Local Governments retain control over heavy vehicles using local roads. A transport operator applies to have local roads assessed for inclusion in the AMMS network. Main Roads WA seek the support of Local Government before assessing the suitability of a local road for inclusion in the AMMS network. At that time, Local Governments can seek to have relevant conditions applied to the use of a particular local road.

Once a road is approved for access, it is included on the AMMS network list of roads published on the AMMS page of the Main Roads WA website.

Similar to the RAV network, transport operators must comply with the particular conditions of the AMMS network on which they are operating.

Information about the AMMS is available on the Main Roads WA website:
<https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/UsingRoads/HVS/Permits/Permits/Pages/AMMS.aspx>

10.0 Informing Own Councils

Each Regional Road Group approves and recommends to the SAC a substantial amount of road funding on behalf of member Local Governments. It is useful that delegates to each Regional Road Group or Sub-Group keep their own Councils informed of the business and decisions made by the Regional Road Group of which they are a member.

11.0 WALGA RoadWise

WALGA RoadWise aims to engage Local Governments and communities in actions that support and contribute to the implementation of *Towards Zero*, which is the road safety strategy for Western Australia (2008-2020).

WALGA RoadWise supports Local Governments, community groups, local businesses and individuals to become involved in the community road safety network across Western Australia.

A team of regional and metropolitan based RoadWise Road Safety Advisors assist members of the statewide community road safety network (that includes Local Governments) by:

- promoting participation and community ownership
- facilitating opportunities for leadership in local road safety
- supporting local road safety committees
- providing access to resources and training
- sharing information

These actions contribute to building the capacity of the network to make an effective contribution to preventing or reducing death or serious injury on the public road network in Western Australia.

The WALGA RoadWise Road Safety Advisor position for the Goldfields-Esperance Region is currently vacant.

For any information or assistance regarding the WALGA RoadWise Program or road safety, please email: roadwise@walga.asn.au or telephone any of the WALGA contacts listed below.

12.0 Main Roads WA Contact

Contact details for Main Roads WA Goldfields-Esperance Region are:

83 Piesse Street
Boulder WA 6432

or

PO Box 99
Kalgoorlie WA 6433

Telephone 9080 1428

13.0 WALGA Contacts

For further information, please contact the people listed below.

Ian Duncan, Executive Manager, Infrastructure
Telephone: 9213 2031
Email: iduncan@walga.asn.au

Mark Bondietti, Manager, Transport and Roads
Telephone: 9213 2040
Email: mbondietti@walga.asn.au

Sebastian Davies-Slate, Policy Officer Transport and Roads
Telephone: 9213 2050
Email: sdavies-slate@walga.asn.au

Mal Shervill, Policy Officer Road Safety
Telephone: 9213 2068
Email: mshervill@walga.asn.au

14.0 ANNEXURE 1 – Terms of Reference for Regional Road Groups

Excerpt from *State Road Funds to Local Government Procedures*
(Issue 6.0 – 6 May 2013 – document number 6200/04/02, Main Roads Western Australia)

6. Terms of Reference for Regional Road Groups

6.1 Introduction

Regional Road Groups will operate under the delegated authority of the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.

These Terms of Reference shall apply to the role and activities of the Regional Road Groups.

6.2 Management and Administration

6.2.1 Region

Each Local Government in Western Australia shall be included in an appropriate region as defined by the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee. Local Governments may apply to the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee for a transfer from one region to another. Such applications should be accompanied with supporting documentation to justify the reasons for such a change. As a general principle, it is intended that the regions be as similar as possible to those used by Main Roads Western Australia. This principle will be taken into consideration by the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee when considering Local Governments' applications for transfer.

Where approval is granted for a Local Government to transfer to another Regional Road Group, funding allocations will be amended to reflect this change.

6.2.2 Sub Groups

The Regional Road Group may establish a structure of Regional Sub Groups in consultation with Local Governments in order to assist with management and consideration of local road issues.

6.2.3 Membership

Local Governments may apply to the Regional Road Group for a transfer to another Sub Group.

Each Local Government within a region shall be offered representation on either:

- the Regional Road Group for that region, if no Sub Groups have been established; or
- a Sub Group within the region.

Each Local Government seeking representation on the Regional Road Group/Sub Group shall nominate a Councillor to be its member of the Regional Road Group/Sub Group.

Each Regional Road Group may determine the appropriate representation of Sub Groups on the Regional Road Group, provided that all Sub Groups are offered equal representation.

6.2.4 Chairperson

The Chairperson of the Regional Road Group shall be an elected Local Government person and be elected by the Regional Road Group annually.

6.2.5 Secretariat

Technical and administrative support to the Regional Road Group will be provided by Main Roads Western Australia. Main Road Western Australia's Regional Managers will provide the primary contact for Regional Road Group. (See Attachment 5 for a Guide)

6.2.6 Observers

Members of the Regional Road Group/Sub Group may invite to meetings of the Regional Road Group/Sub Group, support staff and other personnel who they consider would assist.

6.2.7 Decision Making

As far as practicable, decisions should be arrived at by consensus. However, where voting is necessary, only elected Local Government members will be the voting representatives with:

- one vote for each Local Government represented at Sub Group meetings;
- one vote for each Local Government represented at Regional Road Group meetings, for Regional Road Groups with no Sub Groups; and
- one vote for each Sub Group represented at Regional Road Group meetings, for Regional Road Groups with Sub Groups.

Subject to approval by the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee, variations to voting procedures may be agreed to as long as an equitable balance is maintained.

6.2.8 Meetings

The Chairperson of the Regional Road Group, through the Secretariat, will develop an annual meeting timetable relating to the timetable of the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.

The annual meeting timetable shall be determined at the first meeting after the meeting timetable of the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee has been advised to the Regional Road Group.

6.2.9 Delegated Representatives

Each member may delegate authority to an elected Local Government representative to attend and otherwise represent the Regional Road Group member.

6.2.10 Reporting Structure

The Regional Road Group shall record minutes of its meetings and forward a copy to each member and the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.

The Regional Road Group shall make its recommendations to the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.

6.2.11 Correspondence

All correspondence is to be addressed to the:

Chairperson
Regional Road Group
C/- Regional Manager
Main Roads Western Australia

6.3 Regional Road Group Responsibilities

6.3.1 Scope

Within policies and guidelines established by the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee, the Regional Road Group shall be responsible for the assessment of road funding needs, the annual distribution of State funds to Local Government roads, monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of the application of the State funds for Local Government roads in its region.

In so far as Local Government roads are concerned, the Regional Road Group shall ensure that funds made available by the State are applied to the road network to:

- maximise capacity and resources through joint purchasing and resource sharing;
- maximise benefits to the community;
- preserve, improve and extend the road system; and
- comply with the obligations of the Managing Director of Main Roads under legislation.

6.3.2 Responsibilities

The Regional Road Group shall arrange for sufficient information for it to comply with these Terms of Reference and other tasks including the following:

- determining the relative road funding need in its region, both present and future;
- establishing a five year plan for distribution of State road funds in the region;
- developing methods for annual distribution of road funds to Local Government roads within the region;
- providing funding information to Local Governments to facilitate expenditure of road funds;
- making recommendations to the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee for improved procedures and guidelines;
- assisting the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee with Local Government priorities at the regional level;
- monitoring the implementation of the program in their region;

- providing the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee with a summary of the annual Direct Grant expenditure (refer to clause 8.4); and
- applying criteria developed for Roads 2030 or the Functional Road Hierarchy to determine a network of roads that are eligible for Road Project Grants.

6.3.3 Delegated Responsibilities

The Regional Road Group may delegate certain functions and tasks to Regional Sub Groups, provided that all Regional Sub Groups shall have the same delegated responsibilities.

6.4 Improvements to Terms of Reference and Procedures

The Regional Road Group shall made recommendations to the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee for improvements to these Terms of Reference and Procedures.

Attachment 5 – State Road Funds to Local Government Administrative Procedures

(To be used as a guide)

Executive Support

Main Roads Western Australia's Regional Office will provide the executive support and all other administrative, technical support to the Regional Road Groups. (Where there are Sub Groups to the Regional Road Group, support is to be provided by Local Government.) The following is an outline of the support to be provided:

- Provide information to Regional Road Groups and Local Governments on annual and programs of works, indicative funding and other financial matters.
- Provide the necessary support to assist Local Governments in programming and prioritising projects.
- Provide minute takers for meetings, distribute the minutes to the Regional Road Group members and State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.
- Provide the necessary administrative duties involved in the follow up of meeting action.

Records

The following will be maintained by Main Roads Western Australia to support Regional Road Groups:

- Correspondence File (which provides background information required to support action of the Regional Road Group).
- Meeting and Agenda files (to ensure that ready access is available and records of Minutes maintained).
- Annual and Five Year Program of Works including amendments.
- Summary of Payments of Local Road Funds to Local Governments.
- Certificates of Completion for Local Roads Projects and Direct Grants.
- An up to date Procedures and Road Projects Evaluation Guidelines Manual.
- An up to date list of Regional Road Group and Sub Group membership.

Meetings

Timing and Venue

An annual timetable will be established and meeting should be conducted on a regular basis. The date and venue of meetings to be determined by the Regional Road Group. Consideration to meetings being held at locations that are equitable for all participants should be given.

Meeting Agenda

Main Roads Western Australia staff to prepare the Agenda in consultation with Chairperson of the Regional Road Group.

Agenda Format

- Chairperson to open meeting, welcome members and observers and call for apologies.
- Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting.
- Business arising from previous minutes.
- Presentation of Advisory Committee Minutes since last Regional Road Group meeting.
- Inwards and Outwards Correspondence.
- Reports:
 - Chairperson
 - Western Australian Local Government Association Representative
 - Submissions from Local Governments
 - Recommendations to State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee
 - Summary of payments made to Local Governments (Recoups, Audit Forms)
 - Amendments to Program of Works
 - Black Spot and Road Safety Progress Reports
- General Business.
- Future meeting dates.
- Meeting close.

The Agenda provided to each Regional Road Group member is to include the following:

- Minutes of the previous meeting.
- Summary of financial status and completion of projects.
- Copies of Inward and Outward correspondence.
- Any other papers, maps, etc. that are relevant and will assist the Group.

Correspondence

In general, correspondence is to be dealt with in the following manner:

- Regional Road Group correspondence is addressed to the Chairperson or the Regional Manager.

- All correspondence dealing with Local Roads Funding and Regional Road Group involvement is treated as inwards correspondence at the Regional Road Group meetings.
- Urgent matters are referred by email/facsimile direct to the Chairperson, or otherwise presented at the Regional Road Group meeting.

15.0 ANNEXURE 2 - Road Funding Sources

The following funding sources are available to Local Governments for roads.

Direct Grants (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

Provided annually for routine maintenance of local roads at the discretion of Local Governments.

Road Project Grants (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

Provided annually for specific road improvements; provision of new roads; and major preservation works such as resealing to maintain the road asset.

Commodity Routes (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

Provided annually for routes where there is a significant high priority transport task associated with the transport of a commodity such as grain, timber, agricultural lime, iron ore, etc.

Road and Bridge Condition Data Collection Fund (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

Provided annually for the condition assessment of regionally significant Local Government bituminous sealed roads as defined in the Roads 2030 (or later) strategy; and to assist Local Governments perform Level 1 bridge inspections on local roads.

Remote Aboriginal Community Access Roads (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

A combination of State Government and Australian Government funding provided annually for access roads serving Aboriginal communities.

State Initiatives on Local Roads (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

Provided annually for works that are generally larger in nature and fall outside the criteria of other funding groups, however are still of strategic importance to the State.

State Black Spot Program (State Government)

The Program targets improving the safety of roads with a proven crash history or high-risk location with the likelihood of crashes occurring identified by a road safety audit/inspection.

Projects on local roads are funded by a joint contribution of two dollars from the State Government and a one dollar contribution from the Local Government where the project resides.

Australian Government Black Spot Program (Australian Government)

The Program aims to reduce the social and economic costs of road trauma by treating locations with a record of casualty crashes or with the likelihood of crashes occurring identified by a road safety audit/inspection.

The Australian Government fully funds projects on local roads under this program.

Roads to Recovery (Australian Government)

Funded by the Australian Government, the Roads to Recovery Program commenced in 2001 to address the significant amount of Local Government road infrastructure reaching the end of its economic life and its replacement was beyond the capacity of Local Governments.

Roads to Recovery funds are paid directly to Local Governments for priority road projects chosen by Local Governments.

See Annexure 3 – Timetable for funding submissions

16.0 ANNEXURE 3 – Timetable for funding submissions

Below is the indicative timetable for funding applications with proposed meetings of the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT BLACK SPOT PROGRAM

Process step	Month
Call for submissions	April
Submissions close	July
Submissions assessed	September/October
Prepare recommended program	October/November
Proposed Goldfields-Esperance RRG meeting	November
State Panel meets and assesses recommended program	December
Submit recommended program to State Government for approval	December
Approved program announced	May

STATE GOVERNMENT BLACK SPOT PROGRAM

Process step	Month
Call for submissions	April
Submissions close	July/August
Submissions assessed	September/October
Proposed Goldfields-Esperance RRG meeting	November
Prepare recommended program	November
State Panel meets and assesses recommended program	December
Submit recommended program to State Government for approval	December
Approved program announced	May

ROAD PROJECT GRANTS

Process step	Month
Local Governments apply to the RRG for project funds with supporting justification	September (for next financial year)
Proposed Goldfields-Esperance RRG meeting	November
RRG's provide project recommendations to SAC	November (for next financial year)
SAC makes project recommendations to the Managing Director, Main Roads WA	December (for next financial year)
Local Governments advised of approved projects	June (for next financial year)
RRG to advise SAC of likely under expenditure of allocated funds (if applicable)	Before end of June (for current financial year)

COMMODITY ROUTE SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING

Process step	Month
Call for submissions	June
Submissions close	September
RRG assesses projects and makes recommendations to Technical Review Group (consists of representatives from WALGA and Main Roads WA, Perth)	September/October
Technical Review Group assesses projects and makes recommendations to SAC	October/November
Proposed Goldfields-Esperance RRG meeting	November
SAC approval	December
To State Government for approval	January
Approved program announced	January

17.0 ANNEXURE 4 – Key Performance Indicators

Regional Road Group Key Performance Indicators Annual Report 2018/2019

Regional Road Group Statistics

1.1 Number of Regional Road Group meetings held. (Minimum 2 meetings per year)

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Great Southern	2	2	2	2	2
South West	4	4	4	4	4
Gascoyne	3	3	3	3	3
Mid-West	2	2	2	2	2
Goldfields-Esperance	1	1	2	2	2
Kimberley	2	2	2	2	2
Wheatbelt South	2	2	2	2	2
Wheatbelt North	2	2	2	2	2
Pilbara	1	2	2	1	1
Metropolitan	2	2	2	2	2

Regional Road Groups met at least twice during the reporting year except for the Pilbara Regional Road Group.

1.2 Percentage of Black Spot Programs funding expended. (Target is 90%) (Note: Includes State Government and Australian Government Black Spot Programs)

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
	%	%	%	%	%
Great Southern	65	90	83	87	61
South West	93	87	86	90	91
Gascoyne	100	100	0*	0*	96
Mid-West	74	36	87	49	4*
Goldfields-Esperance	95	48	100	50	66
Kimberley	100	91	49	39	85
Wheatbelt South	82	53	78	75	74
Wheatbelt North	84	64	55	52	83
Pilbara	18	93	125	100	0**
Metropolitan	57	72	52	63	66
Total	77	73	70	60	62

The South West and Gascoyne Regional Road Groups achieved the 90% target.

*The Mid-West Regional Road Group suffered delays due to design, land issues and inclement weather.

**The Pilbara Regional Road Group had a small number of projects with resourcing issues.

1.3 Percentage of road project grants expended. (Target is 90%) (Note: Includes Commodity Route Supplementary Fund projects)

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
	%	%	%	%	%
Great Southern	88	93	82	86	69
South West	89	91	90	89	83
Gascoyne	100	100	100	97	98
Mid-West	96	97	100	94	100
Goldfields-Esperance	98	92	78	89	96
Kimberley	99	79	87	89	84
Wheatbelt South	81	89	91	99	94
Wheatbelt North	98	96	97	91	85
Pilbara	69	100	100	63	55
Metropolitan	77	95	79	79	78
Total	90	93	86	88	84

Four Regional Road Groups met the 90% target.

Metropolitan Region by Sub Group

Sub Group	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
	%	%	%	%	%
North West	98	100	100	89	61
West	63	62	83	86	78
Central	64	100	61	78	93
East	100	100	79	97	91
South East	85	100	58	76	79
South West	71	100	92	92	95
Total	80	95	79	86*	79

Three of the six metropolitan sub-groups achieved the 90% target.

Member Local Governments of Metropolitan Subgroups

North West	Joondalup, Stirling & Wanneroo
West	Cambridge, Claremont, Cottesloe, Mosman Park, Nedlands & Peppermint Grove
Central	Perth, Subiaco & Vincent
East	Bassendean, Bayswater, Kalamunda, Mundaring & Swan
South East	Armadale, Belmont, Canning, Gosnells, Serpentine-Jarrahdale, South Perth & Victoria Park
South West	Cockburn, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Kwinana, Melville & Rockingham

1.4 Road project grant applications submitted to the State Advisory Committee (via Main Roads WA) by November each year.

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Great Southern	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
South West	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gascoyne	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mid-West	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Goldfields-Esperance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kimberley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wheatbelt South	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wheatbelt North	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pilbara	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Metropolitan	✓	X	✓	✓	✓

2.1 Percentage of sealed road length subject to a documented visual condition survey within the region in the previous 5 years. (Target is 50%)

Region	% of sealed road length surveyed in the past 5 years				
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016/2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Great Southern	72	71	71	73	54
South West	82	74	71	68	74
Gascoyne	44	46	46	36	89
Mid-West	70	67	62	37	68
Goldfields-Esperance	38	35	40	69	44
Kimberley	75	75	74	53	76
Wheatbelt South	59	66	62	62	90
Wheatbelt North	62	86	83	80	83
Pilbara	94	92	100	100	100
Metropolitan	81	84	72	78	74
Total for WA	71	75	70	65	77

The data excludes 11 Local Governments that do not use RAMM to manage road condition data.

3.1 Metropolitan Regional Road Group only - Percentage of Road Project Grant funded road improvements subject to road safety audits. (Target is 100%)

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
	%	%	%	%	%
Metropolitan	100	100	100	100	100

3.2 Other Regional Road Groups - Percentage of Road Project Grant funded projects that include Safe System improvements to roads and roadsides. (Target is 50%)

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
	%	%	%	%	%
Great Southern	68	69	51	51	56
South West	67	75	66	68	58
Gascoyne	50	70	57	100	100
Mid-West	91	66	62	100	100
Goldfields-Esperance	52	50	51	60	50
Kimberley	83	86	92	75	84
Wheatbelt South	50	96	40	70	66
Wheatbelt North	50	84	34	59	63
Pilbara	90	80	79	100	80

All the non-metropolitan Regional Road Groups achieved the target.

4.1 Number of Local Governments by RRG that have uploaded road inventory data into the Main Roads WA IRIS database in the last three financial years (2015/2016, 2016/2017 and 2017/2018). (Target is 100%)

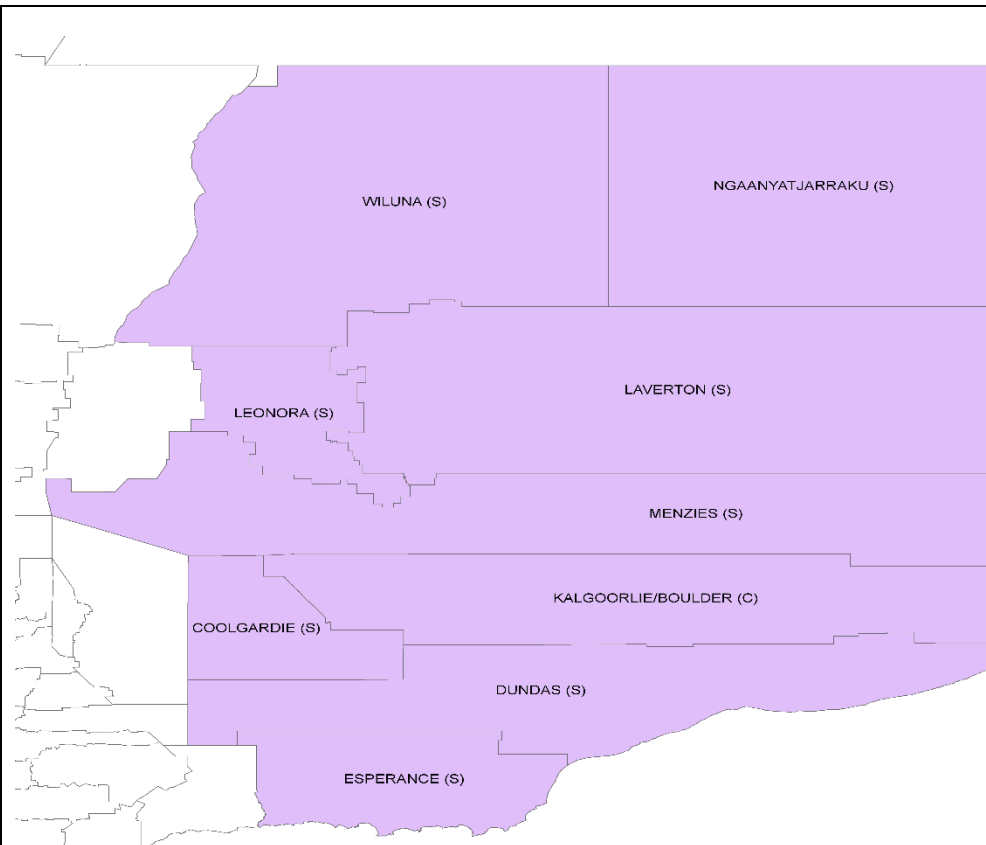
Region	Number of Local Governments in RRG	2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-2017	2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18
Great Southern	12	7	5
South West	16	10	10
Gascoyne	4	2	3
Mid-West	16	7	8
Goldfields-Esperance	9	2	3
Kimberley	4	1	3
Wheatbelt South	18	14	12
Wheatbelt North	24	13	13
Pilbara	4	3	3
Metropolitan	30	16	21
Total	137	75	81

59% of Local Governments have uploaded road inventory data into the Main Roads WA IRIS database in the last three financial years.

18.0 ANNEXURE 5 – Profile of Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group

(Source: Report of Local Government Road Assets & Expenditure Report 2017/18, Appendix 6, page 65)

Local Governments (9)	Coolgardie, Dundas, Esperance, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Laverton, Leonora, Menzies, Ngaanyatjaraku, Wiluna	
Length of Roads in Region (km)	Sealed:	1,576
	Gravel:	7,343
	Formed:	3,830
	Unformed:	5,100
	Total:	17,849
Shire of Coolgardie	Total road km*	847
Shire of Dundas	Total road km*	633
Shire of Esperance	Total road km*	4,259
City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder	Total road km*	1,371
Shire of Laverton	Total road km*	4,209
Shire of Leonora	Total road km*	1,226
Shire of Menzies	Total road km*	2,066
Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku	Total road km*	1,329
Shire of Wiluna	Total road km*	1,908



* Includes sealed, gravel, formed and unformed roads

STATE ROAD FUNDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES (Meeting 02/2020)

Held at Main Roads on
Thursday, 13th August 2020 9:00am

Committee Members Present:

Mr D Snook	MRWA	(Chair)
Cr K Chappel	WALGA	
Cr J Brown	WALGA	
Cr C Pavlovich	WALGA	
Cr M Rich	WALGA	
Mr N Sloan	WALGA	
Mr D Morgan	MRWA	
Mr M Cammack	MRWA	
Mr J Erceg	MRWA	

Others in Attendance:

Mr I Duncan	WALGA	
Mr K Pethick	MRWA	
Mr S Purdy	IPWEA	
Mr G Eves	MRWA / WALGA	
Mr M Hoare	MRWA	(Secretariat)

Apologies:

Mr P Woronzow	MRWA
---------------	------

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed the Committee members noting the apology from Peter Woronzow. The Chairman welcomed the new WALGA delegates and congratulated Karen Chappel on her appointment as Deputy President WALGA.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

Four items of correspondence were noted.

- 1) WALGA letter – Local Government delegates to SAC advised
- 2) Minister signed memo – Approval of the 2020-21 Local Roads Program
- 3) DSWO letter – Response to concerns with condition of SWH and Donnybrook Boyup-Brook Road
- 4) Four letters were sent out to former RRG Chairpersons thanking them for their service

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (01/2020)

As SAC Meeting 01/2020 was not held in April 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions, the meeting proceeded as an 'out of session' process. A pack of Agenda papers with expanded commentary was distributed to delegates that included 4 motions put forward for consideration by SAC, these being:

Item 5.1 Indicative Local Government Roads Program 2020/21

The indicative Local Government Roads Program 2020/21 be endorsed and Main Roads WA proceed to request approval from the Minister for Transport.

Item 6.2 State BlackSpot Program 2020/21

The 2020/21 State BlackSpot Program be endorsed and Main Roads WA proceed to request approval from the Minister for Transport.

Item 11.3

That the addition of Old Coast Road and Jameson - Wanarn Road to ROADS 2030 Goldfields Esperance Region be endorsed.

Item 11.3

That the addition of Leopold Downs Road and Russ Road to ROADS 2030 Kimberley Region be endorsed.

Advice was received from both the Local Government and Main Roads delegates to SAC supporting each of the four motions.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 Summary of Outstanding Actions

Reference Item No/Officer	Action Required / Taken
Flushing / Bleeding SWH & DBB Rd 01/2020-1 MH	13/08/2020 Complete - DSWO Rob Barnsley has responded by letter to the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup regarding the reseals issue. This matter has been included on the Agenda for the next SWRRG meeting. 08/04/2020 The issue of flushing/bleeding on the South Western Highway and the Donnybrook-Boyup Brook Road raised by members in the South West Zone will be forwarded to Main Roads South West Region.
Cross roads on a Regional Distributor 01/2020-2 DS	13/08/2020 Complete - Refer response Item 11 Heavy Vehicle issues. 08/04/2020 The concern raised regarding situations where the cross roads on a Regional Distributor are more than 1 kilometre apart will be forwarded to Main Roads Heavy Vehicle Services.
Letter of Thanks to retiring RRG Chairs 01/2020-3 MC / ID	13/08/20 Complete - 4 letters posted out to individual recipients (refer Item 2.1) 08/04/2020 Send a formal thank you letter to the retiring RRG Chairs acknowledging their service jointly signed by the SAC Chairperson and WALGA CEO.
RRG Technical / Members Meeting 03/2019-3 GE	13/08/20 Complete – Geoff Eves has delivered presentations via Skype meetings to regions (refer Item 5.5) 08/04/2020 Email offer for Geoff Eves to visit sent out to rural RRG March 2020. Now on hold due to COVID-19 13/11/2019 Geoff Eves will be available to visit Regional Road Group Technical and / or Members meetings over the next 12 months to discuss ideas on improving delivery performance

Continued next page

Reference Item No/Officer	Action Required / Taken
Orphan Roads 01/2019 – 4 MC	<p>13/08/20 DPC has reviewed revised Guidelines and provided comments. Kevin Pethick has addressed DPC comments. DPC to arrange a meeting with MRWA to finalise the document.</p> <p>08/04/2020 Working Group meeting held 02Dec19 and a draft document was circulated to all Working Group members MRWA (3), External (4), DPC (1) and Communities (3). LG was not involved in this Working Group meeting. This meeting was to seek alignment on a way forward with no resolution at this time.</p> <p>13/11/19 (Ongoing) Initial draft Guidelines are underway. A group to meet for further discussions.</p> <p>Peter Woronzow advised that the Minister for Transport has written to the Commonwealth seeking a \$12 million per annum funding (80%) contribution using the \$3 million per annum (20%) from SRFLGA as the State's contribution towards normalising road access to remote Aboriginal Communities.</p> <p>A copy of the letter to Minister McCormack regarding funding for remote Aboriginal community access roads (orphan roads) to be included with the minutes.</p> <p>04/09/2019 In progress. Commitment to developing Guidelines that have LGA input.</p> <p>11/04/19 State Service Guidelines are being developed for unallocated remote roads (Orphan Roads).</p>

Continued next page

Reference Item No/Officer	Action Required / Taken
Operational Responsibility 02/2016-6 DS	<p>13/08/20 Complete - All Sub Groups confirmed their support of the draft Operational Boundaries and Asset Responsibilities document at the MRRG Technical Group meeting. The document was tabled at the Elected Members meeting (28/5/20) and subsequently passed (Refer Item 11.2).</p> <p>08/04/2020 Working Group meeting held 11Dec19 and document was reviewed and changes confirmed. The latest version of the document was then distributed for presentation in the agenda for upcoming Sub Group meetings. Feedback has been positive to date.</p> <p>13/11/19 Working group to review operational Responsibilities established with first meeting on Thursday, 21 November 2019.</p> <p>04/09/2019 Main Roads and WALGA have agreed to progress the proposal.</p> <p>11/04/19 Resolve offline the issue of chairing the Operational Responsibility for Public Roads in WA Working Group.</p> <p>17/08/18 Des Snook to provide WALGA with comments on the Draft Terms of Reference for Operational Responsibilities between Local Government and Main Roads.</p> <p>06/04/18 Draft Terms of Reference for a working group to define what would be required in non legal binding agreement with Government (MRWA).</p> <p>Ian Duncan advised that that the Metropolitan Regional Road Group resolved to write to SAC on this matter. Geoff Eves agreed to contact both Main Roads and Local Government to understand the background to this issue, what specific issues local government have and report back.</p> <p>Jeff Anderson to consult further and advise SAC of the proposed document development time line at the next meeting (ensuring this matter is addressed before new ISA contracts are in place). Des Snook to follow up with Jeff Anderson regarding the number of road intersections involved.</p> <p>15/08/2017 Des Snook to refocus on confirming what the actual issue is and what is a practical and best practice solution once the actual issue is agreed.</p> <p>Jeff Anderson and Des met with Mark Bondietti and Ian Duncan. Legal information to be followed up and the number of intersections that are involved.</p> <p>John Erceg to review progress on the Operational Responsibilities in Road Reserves document and the inclusion of regional areas. Mark Bondietti to discuss with the Technical Group for each Regional Road Group. Geoff Eves to include in discussions with Metropolitan Regional Road Group members.</p>

Maurice Cammack spoke to the business arising and elaborated on the following items:

Orphan Roads

- A \$3 million per year allocation, under the SRFLGA, has been nominally allocated to normalise roads that service remote aboriginal communities and that are currently not under the maintenance and control of any Local Government. The idea is that, through incentives and agreement, a Local Government would take on responsibility of the care and maintenance of these roads.
- The process for this initiative is being worked through by DPC (Aboriginal Engagement) not Main Roads.
- DPC has arranged a meeting with Main Roads to fine-tune draft guidelines
- Following this meeting, conversation with Local Government through WALGA can take place. Local Government consultation is a requirement as some aboriginal community populations are transient in the remote areas and the Local Government will work with such local communities and DPC to target and prioritise appropriate locations.

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROADS PROGRAM

5.1 Expenditure Profile - State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement program

The Committee noted the report on the Summary of State Funding on Local Roads for the period ending 30th June 2020.

2019/20 Budget	\$213.420 M (including \$17.5m funds carried forward from 2018/19)
2019/20 Expenditure	\$184.775 M
Overall result	\$ 28.645 M (under expenditure)

The 2019/20 \$28.65 under expenditure represents around 13.4% of the total budget comprised of \$22 million Local Government underspend and Main Roads underspend of \$6.6 million. This compared to \$17.5 million underspend for 2018/19 or around 9.4% of the total budget comprised of \$22 million Local Government underspend and Main Roads overspend of \$4.5 million.

Areas of significant under expenditure have not changed from previous years. Road Project Grants were under spent across the State by \$15.3 Million compared to \$15.7 million last year. The 3 largest contributors being Metropolitan (\$8.6m), South West (\$2.3m) and Great Southern (\$1.1m) where Metropolitan were able to spend around 78.3% of their program, South West were able to spend around 84.9% of their program and Great Southern had spent around 86.1% of their program.

The other major area of significant under expenditure was the State Black Spot Program in which 57.4% of the program funding was acquitted compared to 61.9% last year.

State initiatives on Local Roads recorded a \$9.6 million under expenditure. Rottnest Island resurfacing works were delayed by the use of the island as a Covid-19 quarantine facility resulting in a \$4 million under expenditure.

There was a discussion centred on the areas of significant under expenditure and the approaches taken to address this issue such as the development of a 3-year works program included in the Procedures (S12.7) as a potential source of reserve projects. The adoption of Advanced Programming for 2020-21 Road Project Grants to allow for funds being brought forward if the Local Government has the capacity to deliver a project.

Nick Sloan commented that one of the challenges that will present itself over the next 12 to 18 months is the significant pressure on the sector to bring forward capital and maintenance programs to try and stimulate local economies and local communities and in this regard capacity will be stretched in terms of project management and, engineering skills. There needs to be some caution and not be overly ambitious as to the overall value of the program that could actually be delivered this year regarding budget implications of bringing projects forward.

John Erceg commented on expenditure forecasting for projects and in regards to Local Government, they are part of our regional budgets and are shown in our regional forecasts. Main Roads officers work closely with Local Government and the experience is that early on there is a reasonable expectation of project delivery and later in the year there is under expenditure. The challenge for Regional Managers and their staff in engaging with Local Governments is at some point we have to enter realistic forecasts which, if known early enough will enable the flexibility to move funding around to mitigate anticipated under expenditure.

Karen Chappel indicated that the end of September / early October deadlines for estimate discussions would be ambitious as Local Government budgets are not generally adopted until mid-August so there will be no project expenditure until this time. Local Government budget reviews do not start to take place until December / January and that is when Local Government will be in a better position to work out that they are not going to have the capacity to deliver.

It was noted that it is important that we still discuss these issues at Regional Road Groups and other forums to identify and try out solutions e.g. advanced programming, actions around line marking in the metropolitan area, improve the claiming of the final 20% and asking for more robust estimates earlier in the process.

5.2 Expenditure Profile YTD 2020/21 - State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement program

The Committee noted that the report on the Summary of State Funding on Local Roads for the end of July 2020 period.

The report reflected the 2020/21 allocation of \$200.955 million approved by the Minister and \$28.645 million carried over for a total budget of \$229.600 million. The carry over process is being finalised and August expenditure will be confirmed later in September.

5.3 MINDER (Financial Report)

The Committee noted the report included in the agenda.

Ian Duncan expanded on the Road Safety Management System for Local Government project progress. Tools and resources developed by Road Safety Branch Main Roads are being piloted in the South West Region. WALGA and Main Roads SW Region staff are exploring changes to the MCA, which underpins funding allocations that would more strongly support safety outcomes from road projects.

Noted that the *Environmental Protection Amendment Bill 2020* is currently being considered by Parliament. If the Bill and associated regulation amendments (*Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*) are passed this may streamline the State approval process for clearing vegetation in road reserves. The limited native vegetation outside of the road reserve in Agricultural areas means that approval to clear in these regions remains a challenge.

5.4 2018/19 Report on Local Government Road Assets and Expenditures

The Committee noted the report included in the agenda.

Highlighted points from the report included:

Total expenditure by Local Governments on the local road network fell by \$10 million in 2018/19 compared to the previous year largely driven by reduced flood restoration work.

Federal Government funding has continued to decline. Local Governments continue to invest increasing proportions of funding on preservation and maintenance but the gap between actual maintenance / renewal expenditure and that required to maintain the road network at the current condition level is still growing.

The 2018/19 Report introduced a summary of the access for Restricted Access Vehicles (RAV) across the network. It was noted that currently 70,000 km of the 127,000 km network is open to RAV4 vehicles and 31,000 km is open to RAV7 vehicles.

5.5 Local Roads Program Manager (LRPM) 2019/20 Annual Report

The Committee endorsed the report included in the agenda.

Geoff Eves spoke to the report and commented from a Metropolitan Region perspective that the Improvement Program has the largest financial impact. Attachment A (of the Metropolitan Local Roads Program 2019-20 Annual Report) provides reasons for delayed or non-delivery of projects. Four legacy projects were withdrawn (two because of land acquisition issues, one impacted by MetroNet and one failed to receive environmental approval) and funds were reallocated where they could. There is one legacy project now remaining, that being Abernethy Road, Byford, where an extension of time has been given to address PTA issues at a level crossing.

It was noted that regarding land and environmental issues there has been a lot of optimism that they will be resolved in a reasonable timeframe where in some cases it can take over 2 years. The working group will be reviewing projects in the next couple of months and if a staging gap of 1 or 2 years is needed then that is what will be recommended. Similarly, if construction is occurring in the third or fourth quarters then the reality is that last 20% claim is unlikely to occur within the financial year and will be budgeted in the following year.

Rehabilitation program projects are generally the easiest to deliver but the longest to acquit and do the governance to close out the last 20%. Line marking was identified as a significant issue and a trial improvement process will be put in place for 2020-21. Final claims for completed 2019/20 projects waiting on line marking invoices had those funds accrued at the end of the financial year. With the introduction of penalties and reminders there are quite a few Local Governments delivering their resurfacing programs before Christmas by starting earlier.

The State Black Spot program is a difficult area. Projects have been delayed by third party works and approvals that are required for design. Resourcing needs to be re-organised to deliver projects i.e. get approvals in place, look at third parties and public utilities.

Local Governments over the last four years are being encouraged and supported to plan better. There is incremental improvement, and long-term legacy projects are reducing each year with the objective of not having any funds from the previous year carried forward.

The recommendations below as set out in Section 5 of the Report were considered and endorsed by the committee:

The Local Roads Program Manager develop presentations for LGs on:

- a) Project Planning for an Advanced Design Program; and,
- b) Final Acquittal and Governance Process.

State Black Spot Program Review – that the MRRG Technical Officers Group investigate the merits of introducing a funding checkpoint to ensure satisfactory achievement of design and third-party approvals before advancing the second tranche of funding.

Local Roads Program Manager undertake analysis of trends in program performance over the past 4 years.

Local Roads Program Manager undertake further analysis of major issues influencing program performance, with a focus on providing detailed assessment of the top few issues.

This report be approved for release to the 30 Metropolitan Local Governments.

6. STATE BLACK SPOT PROGRAM

6.1 Summary and Financial Reports

The Committee noted the Summary and Financial Reports for the period – 2019/20 (as at 30/06/20).

Overall

- Final expenditure was \$18.554M (55.3% of the full year budget that included a \$12.28M carryover)

State

- Final expenditure was \$9.12M (53.3% of budget)

Local

- Final year expenditure was \$9.43M (57.4% of budget)

The 2019/20 State Black Spot Program (State Roads) delivery was impacted by similar delivery performance issues as mentioned previously and can only be addressed by the same measures i.e. need to start gaining approvals early and getting planning/scheduling in place.

The 2019/20 State Black Spot Program (Local Roads) acquitted 63.9% of budget in rural regions and 50.7% in the Metropolitan Region.

Main Roads noted that in 2019/20 responsibility for project development was shared amongst a number of different groups within Main Roads, but following organisation changes there is now a single point of accountability. This is intended to make project development more effective.

Chris Pavlovich questioned whether there is sufficient flexibility to apply for project funding over a number of years to match project development times. Delegates noted that project staging over two to four years is encouraged and built into the State Black Spot Guidelines as projects have become more complex, and take longer to deliver. Works should be programmed to meet delivery realities.

State Black Spot Program 2020/21

The 2020/21 projects recommended for approved are with the Minister for Transport awaiting formal approval. Projects to the value of \$5.711M are in the Metropolitan Region and projects to the value of \$5.711M are in the regional areas.

7. AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT BLACK SPOT PROGRAM

7.1 Summary and Financial Reports

The Committee noted the Summary and Financial Reports for the period - 2019/20 (as at 30/06/20).

Overall

- Final expenditure was \$10.73 million (64%) of the 2019/20 year budget which included a \$11.90 million carryover

National & State

- Final expenditure was \$2.24 million (5%) of the 2019/20 budget which included \$0.92 million carryover)

Local

- Total expenditure was \$8.49 million (71%) of the full year budget which included \$1.87 million carryover

From a Local Roads project perspective progress for the year at 71% is slightly down on last year and for the overall program over half of the \$16.85 million budget has been expended. Compared with 76% of the \$10.58 budget for 2018/19

In terms of the overall program non-metropolitan regions acquitted 64.9% of budget expenditure and Metropolitan acquitted 77.9% of budget.

Ian Duncan informed the Committee that next week Cr Karen Chappel and WALGA staff will be giving evidence to the Joint Select Committee on Road Safety. Australian Government Black Spot program may form part of that conversation as the submission provided to the Committee encouraged evolution of the program to enable network scale treatments, such as measures to reduce travel speeds at urban intersections and shoulder sealing and line marking treatments on rural roads, to be considered for funding.

Australian Government Black Spot Program 2020/21

Maurice Cammack presented the project funding approval instruments for the 2020/21 year advising it is a \$15.4 million program (33 projects).

The Committee noted the 2020/21 program included in the agenda.

8. REGIONAL ROAD GROUP ATTENDANCE

The Committee noted the report attached to the Agenda.

Regional Road Groups did not meet in person during April and May but the program was not hindered too much. Mechanisms such as video conferencing, and email resolutions kept the process going.

Regional Road Group Chairs have a tentative meeting date for 18 September.

9. ROAD CLASSIFICATION REVIEW

9.1 Classifications & Proclamations

The Committee noted the attached table of classifications and proclamation actions.

Ocean Reef / Gngarra, Road (Marmion Av to Tonkin Hwy) and Curtin Avenue are the first roads gazetted for reclassification to State roads this year but these have been put on hold. Agreement has been reached with Local Governments about road asset handovers effective from 1 July 2020. The actual classification / proclamation will happen next year.

9.2 Future State Roads Project

The Urban / Metropolitan roads process is finished with 26 roads identified for transfer to State Roads with Government processes to inform the timing.

The rural section of the Future Roads project is going through an assessment phase to identify potential roads that will produce a short list that will be considered through a detailed assessment.

The process is proceeding well with good engagement with Local Government and the regions.

The preliminary assessment is planned for completion at the end of this quarter (September) and then the detailed assessment of the roads will commence.

9.3 Local Government Roads of Strategic Importance

This work underpins the RRG Roads List (Roads 2040) in relation to the SRFLGA and Road Project Grants. This is done RRG by RRG by reviewing the current significant roads list documents, road hierarchy and strategic view of the local roads network.

10 STATE ROAD FUNDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT

10.1 Actions Contained In The Agreement

Maurice Cammack provided an update on active items from the Agreement.

- 1) Local Government Road Safety Project
WALGA and Main Roads are working towards the establishment of a Road Safety Management System to suit the needs of Local Government (refer Item 5.3 Minder). Work is continuing with a draft road safety management plan document to be piloted in the South West and a review of the multi criteria analysis in terms of safety is ongoing.
- 2) Road and Bridge Data Collection
A contract for a visual road condition survey in the Mid-West was awarded in 2019-20 but no field work was undertaken due to COVID-19 restrictions. This work has now started on the ground in the Mid-West.
- 3) Review of the Agreement within 2 years
A review has been completed and a presentation provided to the Minister for Transport in February. The Minister indicated that this matter would be considered by Government as part of the State Budget process, now in October.
- 4) Level 1 Bridge Inspection Framework
MRWA and WALGA have completed the framework document for Local Governments and training has been provided by ARRB. There is now an operational process cycle in place where the requirement for Local Government to undertake annual Level 1 visual bridge inspections is informed directly. The inspection results are then reported back to Main Roads for entering into the Bridge Management System and then feedback to Local Governments and the Regional Road Group concerning any gaps in the Level 1 inspection data.

Doug Morgan explained the 3 tiers of bridge inspections:

- Level 1 – There has always been a requirement for an annual visual inspection by the asset owner to check for obvious deterioration in the structure. There is a particular exposure for bridges in poor condition when this is not done and recorded, as was the case when a bridge collapsed in Albany. With the development of this framework, the asset owners are made aware of bridge condition by actively looking at their assets. This in turn becomes a lead indicator for action.

- Level 2 – Bridge inspections are undertaken by trained Main Roads people on all structures on public roads. These are completed at least every 7 years for steel and concrete bridges and at least every 5 years for timber bridges.
- Level 3 – Where serious structural issues are found, structural engineers are engaged to do a detailed inspection and develop remediation works.

- **ACTION 02/2020-1:** Regional Road Groups encouraged to add Level 1 bridge inspection reports on as a standing agenda item for meetings.

5) SRFLGA Procedures (refer Item 10.2).

Review Road Funding Distribution Methodology

The Committee noted the report included in the agenda

Ian Duncan spoke to the report tabled in the agenda papers. One of the items noted in the Agreement (Page 4 Road Project Grants) was that during the course of this Agreement, no time was specified; a review of the percentage split to the Metropolitan (MRRG) and Rural Regional Road Groups (RRG) would be undertaken.

A discussion took place on what actual information would form part of this review.

It was agreed that this review has to take place with the scope of that review to be developed and confirmed by SAC.

- **ACTION 02/2020-2:** Maurice Cammack and Ian Duncan to develop a potential scope of work for a review of the current Road Project Grant funding split between Metropolitan and Rural RRGs

10.2 SRFLGA Procedures

The Committee endorsed the Procedures document included in the agenda developed by MRWA and WALGA in consultation with Regional Road Group feedback subject to the following amendments being approved out of session.

3.Scope

Figure 1: State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement categories
20% of Motor Vehicle License Fee Collections (MVLFC)

Amended to:

Funding Available under the Agreement)

12.2.2 Commodity Route Funding

A commodity route is defined as a route where there is a significant high priority transport task associated with the transport of a commodity such as grain, timber, agricultural lime, iron ore, etc.

Amended to:

A commodity route is defined as a route where there is a significant high priority transport task associated with the transport of a commodity such as grain, timber, agricultural lime, iron ore and/or other commodities.

12.9.3 Payment

A further 40% will be paid to the Local Government on submission of a further Progress Payment Certificate (Attachment 4a) signed by the Chief Executive Officer, certifying that actual expenditure on the project has exceeded 40% of the project funding approved (Attachment 4a)

Amended to:

A further 40% will be paid to the Local Government on submission of a further Progress Payment Certificate (Attachment 4a) signed by the Chief Executive Officer, certifying that incurred expenditure on the project has exceeded 40% of the project funding approved (Attachment 4a)

ATTACHMENT 1 – TIMETABLE

Road Project Grants (Category 1)

7	SAC reallocate where appropriate	Before end of March
---	----------------------------------	---------------------

Amended to:

7	RRG advise SAC of underspend	January
8	SAC reallocate funding	February

- **ACTION 02/2020-3:** Mike Hoare to send an out of session email to SAC delegates with amended SRFLGA Procedures for endorsement

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 Over Size, Over Mass Unit, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator and Harvest Management Scheme

The Committee noted the report included in the agenda

Heavy Vehicle Services (HVS) Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) has 30 outstanding RAV assessments within the Wheatbelt Region as at June 2020 dropping from 123 in July 2019. There are now only 13 outstanding roads awaiting review within the Wheatbelt region.

CA07 - Main Roads is collating feedback and working on an alternative approach to this issue. Currently this new arrangement is being researched and drafted (about three quarters complete) and when finished will be discussed with stakeholders.

Pilots for movement of agricultural machinery – the requirement for a Licenced Pilot to be in the convoy when travelling more than 1km on a Regional Distributor (orange road) was identified by Local Governments as being a significant constraint where the local cross roads (green roads) are more than 1km apart (outstanding action from Item 4.1 deferred to 11.1).

Main Roads advised members that a risk-based approach was taken. For longer travel distances on Regional Distributor roads there is a greater chance that passing and on-coming traffic will need to be managed.

It was noted that a Licenced Pilot is permitted to be operating any of the vehicles in the convoy and can supervise the two agricultural pilots required by two-way radio.

There are no changes to the Harvest Mass Management Scheme and it will come back into operation at the next harvest.

11.2 Operational Responsibility for Public Roads in WA

Action from Item 4.1 deferred to Item 11.2

Kevin Pethick advised that the Main Roads Operational Responsibility procedure where Main Roads intersect with Local Government roads has been drafted and will be ready once an opening paragraph / preamble about going forward and not being retrospective is added.

This document is not meant to solve every single situation but there are some drawn examples to help clarify, as there are a myriad of different scenarios.

Kevin Pethick will talk to Ian Duncan and Mark Bondietti about what funding arrangements will be put in place.

Essentially this will now be implemented as a trial for 2020/21 and rolled out in conjunction with the resurfacing program.

The Committee noted the report presented.

11.3 Roundtable (other business)

Geoff Eves Contract Extension

Geoff Eves, Local Roads Program Manager (Metropolitan) current contract expires in August 2020; he has been engaged in that role for the past four years. There have been a number of good outcomes over this time, operating as an independent voice, improving processes as demonstrated by the reduction in legacy projects.

Through the conversations that have taken place it was agreed to redefine and refocus the role to provide guidance and analysis as set out in the recommendations at the end of the Local Roads Program Manager 2019-20 Annual Report included with the agenda (refer 5.5).

Following discussion, SAC endorsed the proposed 6 month contract extension for Geoff Eves.

12 NEXT MEETING

To be held at WALGA at 10am on Tuesday, 1 December 2020.

13 MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11:25am.

APPENDIX A

Action List

Reference Item No/Officer	Action Required / Taken
Level 1 bridge inspection reports 02/2020-1 MH	13/08/2020 Regional Road Groups to put Level 1 bridge inspection reports on as a standing agenda item for meetings
Review Road Funding Distribution Methodology 02/2020-2 MC / ID	13/08/2020 Maurice Cammack and Ian Duncan to develop a potential scope of work for a review of the current Road Project Grant funding split between Metropolitan and Rural RRGs
SRFLGA Procedures 01/2020-3 MH	13/08/20 Mike Hoare to send an out of session email to SAC delegates with amended SRFLGA Procedures for endorsement
Orphan Roads 01/2019 – 4 MC	<p>13/08/20 DPC has reviewed revised Guidelines and provided comments. Kevin Pethick has addressed DPC comments. DPC to arrange a meeting with MRWA to finalise the document.</p> <p>08/04/2020 Working Group meeting held 02Dec19 and a draft document was circulated to all Working Group members MRWA (3), External (4), DPC (1) and Communities (3). LG was not involved in this Working Group meeting. This meeting was to seek alignment on a way forward with no resolution at this time.</p> <p>13/11/19 (Ongoing) Initial draft Guidelines are underway. A group to meet for further discussions.</p> <p>Peter Woronzow advised that the Minister for Transport has written to the Commonwealth seeking a \$12 million per annum funding (80%) contribution using the \$3 million per annum (20%) from SRFLGA as the State's contribution towards normalising road access to remote Aboriginal Communities.</p> <p>A copy of the letter to Minister McCormack regarding funding for remote Aboriginal community access roads (orphan roads) to be included with the minutes.</p> <p>04/09/2019 In progress. Commitment to developing Guidelines that have LGA input.</p> <p>11/04/19 State Service Guidelines are being developed for unallocated remote roads (Orphan Roads).</p>



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com

M: 0403 447 303

A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

30 October 2020

C/- Laura Dwyer
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Wiluna
PO Box 38, Wiluna WA 6646

To Whom it May Concern,

Re: Support for Shire of Wiluna to be formally recognised as part of the RDA Goldfields Esperance Boundary

I am pleased to provide a letter of in principle support on behalf of the Goldfields Voluntary Organisation of Regional Councils (GVROC) for the Shire of Wiluna in its bid to have its RDA boundary changed from the Midwest to the Goldfields Esperance region, through the Australian Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development.

Given the Shire of Wiluna is already a valued member of the GVROC and that the WA State Government is supportive and in the process of amending legislation to move the Shire of Wiluna from the Midwest Development Commission to the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission regional boundary under the *WA Regional Development Commissions Act 1993*, it is also a logical step to have its Australian Government RDA boundary changed to reflect this position.

The GVROC Council is supportive of the Shire of Wiluna's case to change its RDA boundary, especially given the strong relationships that the Shire of Wiluna has created with its GVROC Local Government Authority partners in the Goldfields Esperance region.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this letter further.

Yours sincerely

Mal Cullen
GVROC Chair and Shire of Coolgardie President



Ph: (08) 9080 2111
Fax: (08) 908027 3125
M: 0403 447 303
PO BOX 138, KAMBALDA WA 6442
Email: ceo@coolgardie.wa.gov.au
mannadvisory@bigpond.com

GVROC Council Meeting

Friday 13th November 2020
In person meeting
hosted by Shire of Coolgardie
Kambalda Community Recreation Facility
Barnes Drive, Kambalda
10.30am – 12:30pm

Agenda

For those Zoom videoconferencing in
Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on the following link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82063980130?pwd=WUJvbUVXS0J0a0s3VzhmVHQ1STVZQT09>
Meeting ID: 820 6398 0130
Enter Passcode: 527260

CONTENTS

1.	OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	3
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	3
3.	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE	3
3.1	Attendance	3
3.2	Apologies	4
3.3	Guests	4
3.4	WALGA Representatives	4
3.5	DLGSCI Representatives	4
3.6	GEDC Representatives	4
3.7	RDAGE Representatives	4
4.	GUEST SPEAKERS	5
5.	PRESENTATIONS	5
5.1	Shire of Coolgardie (15 minutes)	5
6.	MINUTES OF MEETINGS	6
6.1	Minutes of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) meeting held 11 September 2020	6
6.3	Matters for Noting	6
6.4	Correspondence for Noting	7
7.	GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS FINANCE	8
7.1	Financial Statement for 30 September 2020	8
7.2	Draft Audited Financial Statement for 30 June 2020	10
8.	GOLDFIELDS RECORDS STORAGE FACILITY	11
8.1	Goldfields Records Storage Facility – Update	11
9.	GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS BUSINESS	14
9.1	GVROC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2020-2022 and Meeting Procedures Update and Future of GVROC	14
9.2	Establishing a Camel Industry – Update Report	16
9.3	Camel Solutions Australia – Funding Request towards	18
9.4	GVROC Drought Relief Committee update	20
9.5	Prioritising social and affordable housing	22
9.6	Local Government Financial Ratios - Sector Reference Group Update	24
9.7	Goldfields Esperance Regional Road Group (GERRG) - Draft Guidelines and Criteria for the Identification of Significant Local Government Roads and option for the LGAs to seek a preferred supplier panel of road construction and maintenance contractors	26
9.8	GVROC Support to Shire of Wiluna to be formally recognised as part of the RDA Goldfields Esperance Boundary	28
9.9	Finalisation of Withdrawal of the Shire of Ravensthorpe from the GVROC	30
10.	AGENCY REPORTS	31
10.1	WALGA	31
10.2	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	31
10.3	Goldfields Esperance Development Commission	31
10.4	RDA Goldfields Esperance	31
11.	LATE ITEMS as notified, introduced by decision of the Meeting	31
12.	FUTURE GVROC COUNCIL MEETINGS/FUNCTIONS	32
13.	CLOSURE OF MEETING	32

GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)

**A in person and video conference meeting of the GVROC Council to be held
Friday 13 November 2020 commencing at 10:30 am**

AGENDA

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss business related to the activities of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Pursuant to the Code of Conduct, Councillors and CEOs must declare to the Chairman any potential conflict of interest they may have in a matter before the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils as soon as they become aware of it. Councillors, CEOs and Deputies may be directly or indirectly associated with some recommendations of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils. If you are affected by these recommendations, please excuse yourself from the meeting and do not participate in deliberations.

Declaration of Interest

Cr Shelley Payne, Shire of Esperance declares a standing interest as a member of the GEDC for this and all future GVROC meetings.

Cr Shelley Payne, Shire of Esperance declares a standing conflict of interest until March 2021 in relation to her selection on the agricultural region ticket for the Legislative Council for the upcoming State Election.

3. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Attendance

Cr Mal Cullen (Chair)	President, Shire of Coolgardie
Mr James Trail	CEO, Shire of Coolgardie
Cr Tracey Rathbone	Councillor, Shire of Coolgardie
Cr John Bowler	Mayor, City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Mr John Walker	CEO, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder
Cr David Grills	Councillor, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder
Cr Laurene Bonza	President, Shire of Dundas
Mr Peter Fitchat	CEO, Shire of Dundas
Cr Sharon Warner	Councillor, Shire of Dundas
Cr Ian Mickel	President Shire of Esperance
Mr Shane Burge	A/CEO, Shire of Esperance
Cr Shelley Payne	Councillor, Shire of Esperance
Cr Patrick Hill	President, Shire of Laverton
Mr Peter Naylor	CEO, Shire of Laverton
Cr Shaneane Weldon	Councillor, Shire of Laverton
Cr Peter Craig	President, Shire of Leonora
Mr Jim Epis	CEO, Shire of Leonora
Cr Keith Mader	Councillor, Shire of Menzies
Cr Jill Dwyer	Councillor, Shire of Menzies
Mr Eddie Piper	A/CEO, Shire of Menzies
Cr Jim Quadrio	President, Shire of Wiluna
Cr Timothy Carmody	Councillor, Shire of Wiluna

Ms Laura Dwyer	CEO, Shire of Wiluna	
Mr Kevin Hannagan	CEO, Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku	(Via Zoom Video)
Mr Andrew Mann	Executive Officer, GVROC	

3.2 **Apologies**

Cr Damian McLean	President, Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku
------------------	------------------------------------

3.3 **Guests**

Hon Kyran O'Donnell, MLA	Member for Kalgoorlie (Via Zoom Video for 1 st hour)
--------------------------	---

3.4 **WALGA Representatives**

Tony Brown	Executive Manager Governance and Organisational Services (Via Zoom Video)
Carol-Anne Bradley	Goldfields-Esperance Road Safety Advisor

3.5 **DLGSCI Representatives**

Darrelle Merritt	A/Director – Strategic Initiatives (Via Zoom Video)
Liz Toohey	Manager Local Government Policy and Engagement (Via Zoom Video)

3.6 **GEDC Representatives**

Kris Starcevich	CEO	(Via Zoom Video)
Amy Hallam	Director	

3.7 **RDAGE Representatives**

Jo Swan	Director
---------	----------

4. GUEST SPEAKERS

Hon Kyran O'Donnell, MLA

Member for Kalgoorlie

General Update will be provided by Hon. Kyran O'Donnell on matters of interest to the Region followed by short Q&A session.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Shire of Coolgardie (15 minutes)

Presentation from Shire President, Mal Cullen and CEO, James Trail

6. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

6.1 Minutes of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) meeting held 11 September 2020

Minutes of the GVROC Council Meeting held Friday 11 September 2020 are presented for adoption (**Attachment 1**).

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the GVROC Council Meeting held Friday 11 September 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded:**

6.2 Action Sheet Report

An update on the actions based on the resolutions from the meeting held on 11 September 2020 is presented for noting (**Attachment 2**).

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Action Sheet Report as listed for noting be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded:**

6.3 Matters for Noting

The following matters were presented for noting.

1. WA Government Ministerial Media Statements of relevance to the Goldfields Esperance Zone since the last GVROC meeting. (**Attachment 3**)
2. Regional Capitals Alliance WA - Investment Prospectus (**Attachment 4**)
3. WALGA Municipal Waste Advisory Council - Unendorsed Minutes from meeting on 28 October 2020 (**Attachment 5.1 and 5.2**)
4. The Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements Report

<https://naturaldisaster.royalcommission.gov.au/publications/royal-commission-national-natural-disaster-arrangements-report>

and the Shire of Dundas, Transcript 1046

<https://naturaldisaster.royalcommission.gov.au/search?query=Shire+of+Dundas>

RECOMMENDATION:

That the matters for noting listed be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded:**

6.4 Correspondence for Noting

The following correspondence is presented for noting.

Letters were sent via email on 19 October 2020 from the GVROC Chair to the following people with a copy of the final endorsed GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region. (**Attachment 6**)

- Premier, Hon Mark McGowan MLA
- Minister for Local Government; Heritage and Culture and Arts, Hon David Templeman MLA
- Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; and Ports, Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLC
- Treasurer and Minister for Finance; Lands and Aboriginal Affairs, Hon Ben Wyatt MLA
- Minister for Transport and Planning, Hon Rita Saffioti MLA
- Member for Mining and Pastoral Region, Hon Kyle McGinn MLC
- Member for Kalgoorlie, Mr Kyran O'Donnell MLA
- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Ports, Hon Darren West MLC
- Member for North West Central, Mr Vince Catania MLA
- Nationals Party Leader and Member for Central Wheatbelt, Hon Mia Davies MLA
- Liberal Party Leader and Member for Scarborough, Hon Liza Harvey MLA
- Member for Mining and Pastoral Region, Hon Robin Chapple MLC
- Member for Mining and Pastoral Region, Hon Robin Scott MLC
- Member for Roe, Mr Peter Rundle MLA
- Federal Member for O'Connor, Rick Wilson MP
- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, Hon Michael McCormack MP
- Director General, DLGSC, Mr Duncan Ord
- Director General, DPIRD, Mr Ralph Addis
- CEO, GEDC, Mr Kris Starceвич
- CEO, WALGA, Mr Nick Sloan
- The Nationals WA, Kalgoorlie Candidate, Ms Rowena Olsen

Correspondence received:

- Letter from the Parliamentary National Party of Australia (WA) Chief of Staff to Mia Davies re GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region dated 20 October 2020 (**Attachment 7**)
- Emails received regarding the GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region being sent out from (**Attachment 8**):
 - Office of Liza Harvey, Liberal Party Leader and Member for Scarborough on 20 October 2020
 - Nick Sloan, CEO WALGA on 20 October 2020
 - Ralph Addis, Director General – Department Primary Industries and Regional Development on 26 October 2020
 - Office of Kyran O'Donnell MLA, Member for Kalgoorlie on 26 October 2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the correspondence listed for noting be received.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

7. GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS FINANCE

7.1 Financial Statement for 30 September 2020

Reporting Officer: James Trail, Chief Executive Officer Shire Coolgardie

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 02 November 2020

Attachments: Financial Statement and accounts paid to 30 September 2020 (**Attachment 9**)

Background:

Presenting the financial statement for the period 1 July 2020 to 30th September 2020 and the accounts approved for payment for the period 1 July 2020 to 30th September 2020.

Financial Statement:

The Officer provides the following comment:

Note No	Account No	Details
1	575.01	Interest - Interest on funds held by GVROC
2	1513	Executive Officer - Professional Services
3	0501	Payment of 2019/2020 Annual Contributions
4	Other	Payment as per GVROC Resolution for equity share in Records Facility

Accounts Paid:

GVROC Expenses 01st July 2020 to 30th September 2020				
Payment Type	Date	Payee	Details	Amount inc GST
<i>EFT</i>	<i>21-Jul-20</i>	<i>Shire Menzies</i>	<i>Payment from GVROC re Contribution Resolution</i>	<i>\$25,000.00</i>
<i>EFT</i>	<i>21-Jul-20</i>	<i>Shire Wiluna</i>	<i>Payment from GVROC re Contribution Resolution</i>	<i>\$25,000.00</i>
<i>EFT</i>	<i>21-Sep-20</i>	<i>Mann Advisory</i>	<i>Executive Fees for July and August</i>	<i>\$22,000.00</i>
<i>EFT</i>	<i>7-Aug-20</i>	<i>Mann Advisory</i>	<i>Executive Fees for June</i>	<i>\$11,000.00</i>
<i>EFT</i>	<i>9-Jul-20</i>	<i>Mann Advisory</i>	<i>Executive Fees for May</i>	<i>\$11,000.00</i>
			Total Expenses paid	\$94,000.00

Accounts for 2020/2021 annual contributions have been raised and send the GVROC Members

Consultation: Nil

Financial Implications: Funds for the expenditure is included in the 2020/2021 Budget

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022 Objective 3

RECOMMENDATION:

That GVROC:

1. Endorse the Statement of Financial Position for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 September 2020 and the accounts approved for payment for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 September 2020 totalling \$94,000.
2. Endorse the actions taken by the Shire of Coolgardie Chief Executive Officer to pay for GVROC expenses and receipt of GVROC Revenue.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

7.2 Draft Audited Financial Statement for 30 June 2020

Reporting Officer: James Trail, Chief Executive Officer Shire of Coolgardie

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: 9 November 2020

Attachments: Representation letter (**Attachment 9.1**)
Management Report (**Attachment 9.2**)
GVROC Audited Financial Statements to 30 June 2020 (**Attachment 9.3**)

Background:

Presenting the draft Audited Financial Statement, Representation Letter and Management Letter for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020

Executive Officer Comment:

GVROC's Auditor, AMD Chartered Accountants, has provided the Executive Officer with the following documents for consideration:

- Draft Financial Report;
- Representation Letter; and
- Draft Management Letter.

The Auditor has requested that the Financial Report be reviewed, the "Statement by Members of the Committee" within the Draft Financial Report be signed by the Chair and Executive Officer and the Representation Letter reviewed and signed by the Executive Officer. This process is particularly important if the Management Letter contains recommendations as it gives the GVROC an opportunity to comment before the final report is provided by the Auditor for consideration and adoption.

It should be noted that once the draft reports have been signed and returned to the Auditors the final Audit Report will be provided to the GVROC.

Consultation: GVROC Auditors AMD Chartered Accountants

Financial Implications: Audit Fees included in 2019/2020 Budget

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022 Objective 3

RECOMMENDATION:

GVROC approve the Draft Financial Report, Representation Letter and Draft Management Letter for the period ending 30 June 2020 and authorise the Chair and Executive Officer to sign as indicated.

RESOLUTION:	Moved:	Seconded:
--------------------	---------------	------------------

8. GOLDFIELDS RECORDS STORAGE FACILITY

8.1 Goldfields Records Storage Facility – Update

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

At the Special Meeting of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) held 26th June 2020, Council resolved;

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council in relation to recommendations 1 to 4:

1. Note the report on the Goldfields Records Storage Facility Draft Financials 2019-20
2. Request a final detailed financial report for the period ending 30th June 2020 be presented to the GVROC Council Meeting on the 10th July 2020.
3. Note invoices need to be raised to the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Leonora and Menzies for 12 months to cover the 2019/20 operational costs of the facility.
4. Note the current market valuation of the Goldfields Records Storage Facility of \$500,000 (with a market range of \$475,000 to \$525,000).

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Timothy Carmody - Shire of Wiluna

Carried

5. That GVROC reject the recommendation as proposed at its meeting of 15 May 2020 which was laid on the table as follows:
 - a. Note this update and that the CEOs will each receive a copy of the Variation Deed for execution in the coming weeks.
 - b. Note when all ten executed copies are received the eligible Withdrawing Regional Group will receive their cash distribution of \$25,000.00 (exc GST).
 - c. Note that for the four remaining parties will also need to execute the new replacement agreement and Transfer of Land as outlined in the above comments.
 - d. Note this will then conclude the GVROC's responsibilities for the Records Facility and the four remaining parties will manage its operations outside of the GVROC.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Jim Quadrio - Shire of Wiluna

Carried

6. That the GVROC Council as representative of the Regional Group Members of the Joint Venture (the Parties to the Archives and Record Management Agreement) endorse and adopt the without prejudiced proposed solution to the records storage facility as detailed below, with the condition that should the facility not immediately be disposed all original members continue to meet their obligations under the Archives and Record Management Agreement until such time of its disposal in regards to:
 - 6a) All members share equally the specified fixed expenses for the facility e.g. insurance, rates, building maintenance; and
 - 6b) Current members that are still utilising the facility for records storage remain responsible for all other operating costs.
- 6.1 The Original Members, as the local governments named in the Records Agreement and as beneficial owners as tenants in common in equal shares of the archives and records storage facility located at Unit 2, 12 Federal Road, South Kalgoorlie (Facility), agree to dispose of the Facility currently held in the name of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder as bare trustee for the Original Members.

- 6.2 The method of disposal for the facility will be discussed and agreed by the members at the next meeting of GVROC scheduled for 24 July 2020.
- 6.3 After the disposal of the Facility the Joint Venture promptly be wound up.
- 6.4 As part of the process of winding up of the Joint Venture an account be taken of the finances of the Joint Venture from its creation to the date of winding up to determine the annual income and expenditure of the Joint Venture during the period of its operation and to determine the assets and liabilities of the Joint Venture as at the winding up.
- 6.5 The net assets of the Joint Venture be distributed in accordance with the terms of the Records Agreement equally between the Original Members.
- 6.6 All third-party costs of the sale of the Facility and the winding up of the Joint Venture be paid for from the assets of the Joint Venture.
- 6.7 Each of the Original Members otherwise pay their own costs of the dispute and of the disposal of the Facility and winding up of the Joint Venture.
- 6.8 The winding up of the Joint Venture and payment to each of the Original Members their share of the Joint Venture assets pursuant to this proposal will be:
 - 6.8.1 in full and final satisfaction of all claims any Original Member may have against any other Original Member or the Joint Venture with regard to the Joint Venture, the Records Agreement and the Facility; and
 - 6.8.2 upon payment each Original Member releases and discharges every other Original Member and the Joint Venture from and against all such claims whether or not the Original Members were or could have been aware of such claims which an Original Member:
 - (a) now has;
 - (b) at any time had;
 - (c) may have; or
 - (d) but for this settlement, could or might have had,
 against any other Original Member or the Joint Venture with regard to the Joint Venture, the Records Agreement and the Facility.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
 Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie

Carried

At the last GVROC meeting held on 24 July 2020, the GVROC further resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council as representative of the Original Parties to the Records Facility Agreement:

- 1. Endorse the CKB as the asset holder to engage a commercial real estate agent to place the facility for sale on the open market as the agreed method of disposal.
- 2. Accept a selling price based on the existing market evaluation in the range of \$475,000 to \$525,000 with this price to be reviewed and amended by agreement of all parties subject to any feedback from the open market disposal method which is contrary to the current valuation.
- 3. Request that the CKB provide an update report regarding the progress of the above recommendations at the next GVROC meeting in September 2020.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Ian Mickel, Shire of Esperance**
 Seconded: Cr Jim Quadrio, Shire of Wiluna

Carried

Officer's Report:

Discussions are still ongoing between the City of Kalgoorlie Boulder and the Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Leonora and Menzies to discuss an approach to purchase the facility as a joint consortium, given they still require the facility for records storage requirements.

The City Kalgoorlie Boulder CEO, John Walker has advised that since the building was listed by listed by Daniel Lavery of John Matthew and Sons, in September 2020, as yet there has been no interest shown by any party to purchase.

Consultation: GVROC Chair
GVROC CEOs Group

Financial Implications: Nil to the GVROC but could have implications based on disposal price for those LGAs that wish to remain or purchase the facility.

Strategic Implications: Disposal of the Facility will remove the item from the GVROC agenda

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council as representative of the Original Parties to the Records Facility Agreement note the current update in the progress to wind up the Records Storage Facility.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded**

9. GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS BUSINESS

9.1 GVROC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2020-2022 and Meeting Procedures Update and Future of GVROC

Reporting Officers: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

GVROC is a regional grouping of local governments that operates by way of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

At the meeting of GVROC held on 15 May 2020, it was revealed that the last GVROC MOU that was executed was for the period July 2015 – October 2017 and had not been reviewed or renewed on the annual basis as it stipulated. As a result, a new MOU was drafted and presented at the meeting for execution between all parties for the period 2020 to 2022.

At its meeting on 24 July 2020 the GVROC carried the following resolution:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the GVROC:

1. Note and endorse the updated MOU and new Meeting Procedures.
2. Request each GVROC Local Government President/Mayor and CEO execute under seal Schedule 1 of the MOU and return via scanned pdf page to the Executive Officer for collation with the MOU.
3. Note on receipt of all nine executed sections the Executive Officer will distribute the final executed copy to all CEOs for their records.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie*
Seconded: *Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton*

Carried

Following the MOU being presented back to the GVROC at its meeting held 11 September 2020, GVROC carried the following resolution:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the status of the signing and execution of the MOU.
2. based on the Local Government Act Review Panel Recommendations on the future of regional councils, request each GVROC LGA take the current MOU and its principles back to their Council for discussion and to develop their position on the future structure and operations of the GVROC.
3. request the Executive Officer to organise a two-hour workshop to be held on 13 November 2020 prior to the next GVROC meeting to discuss and agree the future of the GVROC, based on each LGA having a position following recommendation 2.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Timothy Carmody - Shire of Wiluna*
Seconded: *Cr David Grills - City of Kalgoorlie Boulder*

Carried

Officer Comment:

As per the resolution above from last GVROC meeting, a workshop was organised and held prior to this meeting to discuss and agree the future of the GVROC and the execution of the current MOU for the next twelve months.

Options considered at the workshop include:

Option 1: Remain as is and execute current MOU and review in 12 months' time.

Option 2: Wind-up the GVROC and reform as a regional subsidiary or similar cooperation body not bound under the current regional council model.

Option 3: Wind-up the GVROC permanently and only partner with ex-member LGAs as required on a project by project basis.

The outcome of this workshop will be presented by the GVROC Chair during this meeting and reflected in the recommendation below.

Consultation: GVROC and all LGA members

Financial Implications: N/A

Strategic Implications:

Voting Requirement: Simple majority

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the outcomes from the workshop held prior to this meeting as advised by the GVROC Chair.
2. endorse Option 1 to remain as is and execute the current MOU but review in 12 months' time or as and when the Local Government Act Review recommendations are implemented by the State Government, effectively abolishing the regional council model..

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

9.2 Establishing a Camel Industry – Update Report

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Camel Industry Working Group Draft ToR (**Attachment 10**)

Background:

The Camel Industry Analysis Report undertaken by the GEDC in partnership with GVROC, DPIRD and the GNRBA has been completed.

Of note in the report is the recommendation for the GVROC to be the champion to bring this all together. To do this it is recommended that the GVROC establish a Beneficial Enterprise as the parent entity for accountability, program acquittal & development oversight (e.g. Board / Management Committee) for the camel industry in the region, with funding supplied through the Federal Government Regional Deal Program.

The recommendations from the report are as follows:

1. Government and stakeholders adopt a long-term view; pursue a minimum 10-year industry development program; that camel population reduction and camel commercialisation be viewed as complementary tasks of critical importance.
2. Immediately develop a camel industry strategy and business case to accompany grant applications and investment proposals.
3. Actively pursue a 'Regional Deals' partnership through engagement with Federal and State members of parliament; to better manage Australia's feral camel population and generate economic benefits for remote and regional communities across the Goldfields.
4. Encourage and support private investors to form partnerships, resources and feasibilities /business plans to develop the ventures outlined in this report.
5. Seek grant funding and investment support to establish a GPS monitoring system, a network of self-mustering yards on pastoral and Aboriginal lands, and technical support to help pastoralists adopt co-grazing. Aim is to ensure camel supply is reliable and sustainable from the outset.
6. Call expressions of interest to establish a panel of experts with 'deep' experience in breeding, handling and farming of camels to provide expertise to new operators, contractors, communities, GVROC and Government.
7. Establish a GVROC sub-committee to facilitate grant and investment applications, coordinate and support private investors, and provide guidance to locating and developing the required infrastructure (in collaboration with the panel of experts).
8. Aim to appoint a commercial project manager to liaise with stakeholders and implement the industry strategy that will deliver a sustainable camel industry within ten years.
9. Compile a register (online library) of education / training materials for pastoralists and Aboriginal stakeholders on issues relating to camel handling, domesticating, grading (age, health, condition), transporting, breeding / farming, processing, value-adding & marketing.

On 10 September 2020 a workshop was held with representatives from GEDC, GVROC, DPIRD, GRNBA, other WA Government Departments, Pastoralists and Industry to further progress the recommendations from the report. An outcome of the workshop was to establish a Camel Industry Working Group to progress the recommendations from those people that showed interest at the attendance at the workshop.

On 11 September 2020 the GVROC resolved the following:

1. note the update and the outcomes from the workshop held on the 10 September 2020 to progress the recommendations from the Camel Industry Analysis Study Report.
2. Request the Executive Officer to prepare a letter of thanks to Camel Solutions Australia for their updated presentation to the GVROC and request they submit a formal proposal in writing outlining the assistance being sought from the GVROC.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie*
 Seconded: *Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies*

Carried

Comment:

The GEDC has advised that the fourteen people had expressed interest in participating in the Camel Industry Working Group:

EOI's have been received from:

- Colin and Brie Campbell – Mundrabilla Station
- David Geraghty – Yandal Station
- Tim Carmody – Prenti Downs Station
- Jo Swan – RDAGE (Director)
- Nigel Wessels – DBCA (Manager)
- Magdalena Zabek – DPIRD (Invasive Species Specialist)
- Peter Backshall – Marketrade
- Marcel Steingieser – Good Earth Dairy
- Nat James and Gilad Berman – Camel Solutions Australia
- Andrew Parker – Eastern Districts Pet Meat
- Stephen Hoffrichter – Shark Lake Piggery
- Amanda Day – Elders (Livestock Production/ On-Road Sales/ Pastoral)

And tentative interest from:

- Brett and Dot Day – Gunnadorah Station
- Debbie Barrington – Tukahara Camel Company

It is proposed that during the initial stages, all interested stakeholders will be included in the working group, as there is likely to be some drop-off along the way.

Draft Terms of Reference for the Camel Industry Working Group (see **Attachment 10**) have been drafted by the GEDC and sent to the GVROC Chair for comment. It should be noted that the GEDC has requested that the GVROC Chair this working group.

The GVROC Chair is hesitant for GVROC inclusion on this Working Group until it receives some direction from the industry representatives of the working group. The GVROC Chair has stated to the GEDC that should there be five industry members keen to progress with the Camel Initiative then subject to GVROC endorsement, the GVROC would take on the Chair role of the working group.

Consultation: GVROC Chair & Executive Officer, GEDC, GNRBA, DPIRD, CSA

Financial Implications: Nil

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022
Objective 1, Goal 1.1

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC note the update and progress in establishing a camel industry in the region.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:
Seconded:

9.3 Camel Solutions Australia – Funding Request towards

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Camel Solutions Australia Cover Letter and Business Case
(Attachment x.1 and x.2)

Background:

A presentation was provided to the GVROC at its meeting on 11 September 2020 from Camel Solutions Australia on progress with their project proposal to develop a Camel Hub and its WA Feral Camel Tracking and Management program.

Following this presentation, the GVROC resolved the following:

That the GVROC:

Request the Executive Officer to prepare a letter of thanks to Camel Solutions Australia for their updated presentation to the GVROC and request they submit a formal proposal in writing outlining the assistance being sought from the GVROC.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie*
Seconded: *Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies*

Carried

Comment:

Camel Solutions Australia (CSA), following the presentation to GVROC at the meeting on 11 September 2020, have now provided a formal letter and business case to the GVROC requesting a funding commitment totalling \$545,246 over three years towards implementation of its WA Feral Camel Tracking and Management Business Case proposal (**Attachments 11.1 and 11.2**).

The WA Feral Camel Tracking and Management proposal is what CSA see as Stage One towards the establishment of the Camel Hub plan and its required infrastructure, which would be Stage 2. This Stage is required to build the data required to understand the camel numbers and movements, which will assist in developing up the locations for and required infrastructure for establishing the Camel Hub.

CSA has identified six GVROC LGAs that would greatly benefit from the project, totalling 60 collars. These shires are:

- Wiluna
- Laverton
- Leonora
- Kalgoorlie - Boulder
- Dundas
- Ngaanyatjaraku

The first year of requested funding will be \$256,886, followed by \$144,180 for years two and three. Dividing the project funding between the six GVROC LGAs amounts to \$90,875 per LGA, which means a commitment of \$42,815 for the first year following by \$24,030 for years two and three for each LGA. CSA also state that given the minimum guaranteed battery life is four years, they therefore feel it is a wasted resource to not utilise this data and the Geo-fence feature during a fourth year. This resource provides the potential for CSA to extend the project further and should GVROC LGAs decide to go ahead with the fourth year of the project, a price will be negotiated appropriately for that year.

Funding options

In response to the CSA request there are the following options in regard to funding this request for consideration if the GVROC support the request.

1. The GVROC pursue grant funding to meet the cost as was recommended in the Quantum Consulting Camel Industry Analysis Report recommendations by seeking a 'Regional Deals' partnership through engagement with Federal and State members of parliament; with the aim to better manage Australia's feral camel population and generate economic benefits for remote and regional communities across the Goldfields-Esperance. The Regional Deals partnership program is a ten-year project between Federal, State and Local Governments to facilitate community-identified projects addressing the needs of regional Australia (see <https://www.regional.gov.au/regional/deals/>)
2. The GVROC fund it through existing finances.
3. The GVROC endorse the proposal but request the individual GVROC LGAs that will greatly benefit from the project, seek their own Councils' approval to fund their contributions and enter into direct agreements between their LGA and CSA.

In consideration of the above options, Option 2 can be ruled out as based on current finances and LGA annual contributions the GVROC does not have the financial capacity to fund it from existing finances.

Option one, could be considered but it may take some considerable time (more than 12 months) to have a Regional deal agreed and executed.

Given that not all of the GVROC LGAs would be participating or benefit from this proposal, it is therefore recommended that if the CSA business case is supported by GVROC then Option 3 is endorsed.

Consultation: GVROC Chair & Executive Officer, CSA

Financial Implications: Nil

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022
Objective 1, Goal 1.1

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. Note the request for funding assistance from Camel Solutions Australia.
2. Support /Not Support the business case proposal.
3. As per Funding Options highlighted above, Endorse Option 3 and request that the six individual GVROC LGAs nominated in the business case, take the business case proposal to their own Council to make a decision on whether they wish to participate and provide the requested funding in a direct agreement with CSA.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:
Seconded:

9.4 **GVROC Drought Relief Committee update**

Reporting Officers: Peter Fitchat – CEO Shire of Dundas
Andrew Mann, Executive Officer - GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

On 15 November 2019 at the GVROC meeting a motion was adopted to establish a Drought Relief Committee subject to terms of reference being established and endorsed out of session by the GVROC.

On 31 January 2020 at the GVROC meeting it was resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. **Note the Final ToR and formally endorse the establishment of a Drought Committee to further address this issue.**
2. **Endorse the following representatives as members of the Drought Relief Committee:**
 - a. **Chair of GVROC: Cr Mal Cullen – Shire of Coolgardie**
 - b. **Three GVROC delegates as follows: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas, Cr Jim Quadrio and Cr Tim Carmody – Shire of Wiluna**
 - c. **Two GVROC CEOs as follows: Mr Peter Fitchat – Shire of Dundas and Mr Colin Bastow – Shire of Wiluna**

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas**
Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire of Coolgardie

CARRIED

Peter Fitchat has taken on the role of organising the Committee from the Shire of Wiluna and is keeping note of any drought focussed information coming from the Federal or State Governments in the interim until such time that this committee can start to meet.

Officer Comment:

Following on from the presentation by June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, at our 11 September 2020 meeting, June has provided the recently released Review of the Australian Government Drought Response (see link below).

[Review of Australian Government Drought Response](#)

June is interested to hear our views on the review and is happy to pass these on to the Federal Government so that future directions around Drought can be influenced.

Additionally, June has also sent through the following grant funding opportunities:

On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme

The Federal Government has committed additional funding to this scheme from the original funding. In WA the scheme was managed through the Department of Water, Environment and Regulation, but it was over subscribed and no further applications were being accepted. There are over 400 farmers that missed out in the first round. June advised while the Federal Government has committed further funding it needs to be matched by the State Government and as yet this has not been announced by the WA State Government. June advised to watch to see what the State Government does going forward. For further details look at the attached link:

[On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme](#)

Grants now open: 'Drought Resilience Research and Adoption Program'.

Organisations can now apply on the [Community Grants Hub](#). These grants are for organisations or groups of organisations to set up Adoption and Innovation Hubs in 8 regional centres across Australia. Organisations can also visit the Programs [Have Your Say webpage](#) to register their interest to form or join a consortia. Total funding available is \$64 million to support the 8 hubs through to June 2024. Each hub can receive up to \$2 million per year.

Consultation: GVROC

Financial Implications: TBD

Strategic Implications: Improved Sustainability, Job creation and retention of Primary Industry well into the future.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the Review of the Australian Government Drought Response.
2. Request GVROC LGAs to provide their views and feedback on the response direct to June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency.
3. Note the current grant funding opportunities available.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

9.5 Prioritising social and affordable housing

Reporting Officers: Mal Cullen, GVROC Chair

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

Even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, affordability gaps in housing were increasing and apparent in both regional and metropolitan areas. The economic downturn has only aggravated inequalities in Australia's affordable housing market which needs serious attention. This is also becoming a major issue for the GVROC LGAs.

In this respect it is suggested that the GVROC could investigate further how it may be able to develop a model for delivering cost effective affordable housing and maintenance programmes, funded through the State Government, but run and managed locally, creating ongoing employment in the GVROC region.

At the meeting on 11 September 2020 the GVROC resolved:

That the GVROC:

1. **agree on the need for an immediate solution towards addressing the maintenance and quality of current social housing and addressing affordable housing options in the region; and**
2. **endorse the GVROC Chair and Executive Officer to further develop a proposal to address this matter for consideration and approval by the GVROC prior to submission to the WA Government seeking funding.**
3. **endorse the GVROC Chair and Executive Officer as part of this process to engage with the DLGSC District Leadership Group to raise and discuss this matter.**

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie**
Seconded: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas

Carried

Officer Comment:

As per recent conversations that have been held amongst various GVROC LGAs on this matter, I believe there is an opportunity in the current economic climate to make a concerted effort to target this space on a regional level should the GVROC agree it is a priority.

The WA Minister for Housing, Peter Tinley, launched the State Government 2020/21 Budget in a function in Kalgoorlie on 8 October 2020. The Minister stated the Budget was built around Covid Stimulus Recovery supporting small, medium business along with major infrastructure projects to create jobs and boost the economy. It was also emphasized that the State Government would be focused on infrastructure and economic development throughout WA over the next 4 - 5 years. The Minister also made the point this State Government would favour a regional approach for project funding rather than having to deal with individual LGAs. Following on from this budget launch, as GVROC Chair, I had an opportunity for a 30-minute meeting with Minister Tinley and his advisor at which I discussed social and affordable housing in the Goldfields Esperance Region. The following is an outline of what was discussed.

Public and Social housing

Q: how are LGAs able to become involved with public housing matters in their communities?

A: the response from the Minister was for LGAs to identify their issues and needs i.e. land requirements, long or short-term housing needs, amount and types of housing, affordable village style housing, joint venture opportunities with Government.

The Minister also advised that the best opportunity for outcomes to resolve outdated - dilapidated government housing stock in each of the GVROC LGAs districts would be a joint submission to the Minister prior to the end of December, so that it would be in front of the Government before the State Election.

In relation to GROH Housing it was advised that the Department of Communities do not determine the demand or supply for new or updated GROH Housing stock in WA. This is a responsibility of each State Government Department, i.e. Police, Education, Health etc. The advice was that LGAs have to lobby these departments directly rather than the Department of Communities to ascertain demand for renewal and upgrades of GROH housing in our towns to attract and retain government employees.

If and when LGAs can identify these gaps, the most effective option is to collaborate and work together with a proposal - scope - costings of building housing together with a joint contractor at the same time, then lease back the properties under the current 10 year arrangement that exists.

At the same time other initiatives to incentivise and attract Government employees to the Goldfields Region could be actioned prior to the state election, i.e. housing subsidies, retention packages, increased zone allowances, longer terms of stay in positions, i.e. police officers increased to 3yr terms from current 2yrs, etc.

In addition to the meeting held with Minister Tinley following the State Budget Launch, the Minister launched on 14 October 2020 the State Government's new WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030, which details a social and affordable homes plan that will:

- connect 150,000 WA households to a home;
- build liveable, inclusive and connected communities that improve social and economic participation;
- create jobs and contribute to the State's economy; and
- improve outcomes through a more integrated approach to housing and service assistance.

To view the WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030 click on the following link:

<http://www.communities.wa.gov.au/wahousingstrategy>

However, one of the major obstacles with the current State and Federal Governments stimulus packages and strategies at the moment, is that they still do not consider the involvement nor the needs of LGAs in any area. Thus taking on the advice of Minister Tinley above, the GVROC and each of its LGA members need to come together to develop a joint proposal/submission to the State Government through the Minister on the region's needs, requirements and how the GVROC and its member LGAs propose to partner with the State Government to deliver on it.

Consultation: GVROC

Financial Implications: TBD

Strategic Implications: Improved Liveability, social and community wellbeing.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the update on prioritising affordable housing for the region.
2. Request each GVROC LGA CEO to identify their issues and needs i.e. land requirements, long or short-term housing needs, amount and types of housing, affordable village style housing, joint venture opportunities with Government and provide to the GVROC Executive Officer.
3. The GVROC Executive Officer with the GVROC Chair, to prepare a joint LGA GVROC submission to the Minister prior to end of December on the issues and needs of the region for public, social and GROH housing.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

9.6 Local Government Financial Ratios - Sector Reference Group Update

Reporting Officers: James Trail, CEO Shire of Coolgardie

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Local Government Financial Ratios Working Group Agenda meeting 22 October 2020 (**Attachment 12**)
Local Government Financial Ratios Working Group Defining Terms (**Attachment 12.1**)
Asset Sustainability Ratio – Comments from Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia (**Attachment 12.2**)
An extract from the Local Government Victoria Local Government Better Practice Guide: Performance Reporting Indicator Workbook 2019-20 (**Attachment 12.3**)

Background:

WALGA has established a Local Government Financial Ratios - Sector Reference Group and Working Group. The membership of the Working Group has now been confirmed, as follows:

Jason	Lyon	Executive Director Corporate Services	City of Armadale
James	Trail	CEO	Shire of Coolgardie
Paul	Breman	Executive Manager Corporate and Community	Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup
Peter	Kocian	Executive Manager Corporate and Community	Town of East Fremantle
Alan	Ellingham	Senior Financial Analyst	City of Joondalup
Ryan	Ferts	Coordinator Strategic Infrastructure Asset Management	City of Joondalup
Gary	Ticehurst	Director Corporate Services	City of Kalamunda
Casey	Mihovilovich	Director Corporate Services	City of Mandurah
Jeremy	Clapham	Finance and Administration Manager	Shire of Mingenew
Grant	Middlton	DCEO	Shire of Northampton
Khushwant	Kumar	Financial Controller	City of Rockingham
Michael	Cole	Chief Financial Officer	Town of Victoria Park
Alan	Carmichael	Senior Project Officer	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Richard	John	Chief Advisor	Western Australia Treasury Corporation
Ron	Back	Consultant	R J Back & Associates

Officers Comment:

The Working Group has held two meetings, the first an establishment meeting held on 17 September 2020 and the second held on 22 October 2022 (see agenda and referred attachments at Attachment 12, 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3).

The purpose of that meeting was to review the proposed ratios and develop final recommendations for consideration by the Financial Ratios Sector Reference Group. This will include consideration of definitions of terminology and recommended indicators/thresholds in relation to each proposed ratio.

The proposed ratios included:

- Operating Surplus Ratio
- Debt Service Coverage Ratio
- Asset Sustainability Ratio
- Current Ratio; and the
- Net Financial Liability Ratio

Consultation: WALGA

Financial Implications: N/A

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC note the update on Local Government Financial Ratios – Sector Reference Group and Working Group.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded:**

9.7 **Goldfields Esperance Regional Road Group (GERRG) - Draft Guidelines and Criteria for the Identification of Significant Local Government Roads and option for the LGAs to seek a preferred supplier panel of road construction and maintenance contractors**

Reporting Officers: Cr Mal Cullen, President Shire of Coolgardie

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Draft Guidelines and Criteria for the Identification of Significant Local Government Roads August 2020 (**Attachment 13**)
Local Roads Program Manager Report 2019-20 (**Attachment 13.1**)
Goldfields-Esperance RRG - reference information for Elected Members Nov 2019 (**Attachment 13.2**)
State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee Minutes of meeting 02/2020 (**Attachment 13.3**)

Background:

The State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement mandates the existence and operation of Regional Road Groups, which the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee oversees.

The Agreement is intended to ensure that the funds available from State Government sources for local roads are allocated across the State of Western Australia, focusing on areas of strategic importance and areas that will provide maximum benefit. The needs of all road users and the Western Australian community will be considered during the distribution process. (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement, Guiding Principles, page 2).

A Regional Road Group may establish Sub Groups to:

- Assist to identify road funding priorities
- Consider local road issues to inform decision making by the Regional Road Group
- Provide advice to the Regional Road Group

A Regional Road Group may establish a Technical Group(s) to:

- Assist with management and consideration of local road issues
- Provide technical advice to the Regional Road Group

The Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads short title Significant Local Government Roads are a documented list of regionally significant Local Government roads for each Regional Road Group (RRG) and the development strategies for them.

The first editions, Roads 2020 Regional Road Development Strategies, were released during 1997 and 1998 and were an initiative of the 1992 Memorandum of Understanding between the State Government and the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA), then known as the Western Australian Municipal Association (WAMA). Main Roads is currently in the process of reviewing the draft guidelines and criteria for significant roads and the revised document (see draft **Attachment 13**) will inform the compilation of the latest version, which will supersede Roads 2030 published in 2013.

Local Governments (via RRGs) work collaboratively to review and update the current list of Significant Local Roads to produce the latest strategy. This provides an agreed, strategic approach to the allocation of limited funding across the extensive road network within the state of Western Australia. Only projects on local roads included in the Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads will be eligible for Road Project Grant funding under the latest State Roads Funds to Local Government Agreement.

Officers Comment:

Under the Goldfields Esperance WALGA Zone, all LGAs have a requirement to have an elected member participating on the GERRG (refer **Attachment 13.2**).

Following the GERRG Technical Officers Group meeting in Kalgoorlie on 16 October 2020, there was some discussion regarding the revised criteria and whether the GVROC member LGAs could investigate options to seek a preferred supplier panel of road construction and maintenance contractors.

The Road Classification Working Group (consisting of representatives from Main Roads and WALGA) has been reviewing the current criteria and policy for determining if a road qualifies for listing in the Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads. Considerable time has been spent formulating the draft to date as well as a large number of roads tested against the criteria by way of sensitivity studies. The identification of significant roads within built up urban areas has also been addressed by adding selective criteria. The Working Group has strived to make the criteria more objective thereby driving a more consistent approach to the selection of significant roads.

Following the GERRG Technical Officer Group meeting, Joanne Brown, Business Services Co-Ordinator - Goldfields-Esperance Region for Main Roads WA has requested LGAs review the information provided and advise her of your responses by COB 11th November 2020.

It is proposed that following acceptance and adoption of the Criteria, each Regional Road Group, including the GERRG will be tasked to form a working group to review all of the roads currently showing on the their Roads 2030 list of roads. To inform the RRG review workshop, Main Roads will issue instructions including a data sheet of all the roads currently depicted in the Roads 2030 documents, along with any additions made through the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee (SAC) in later years. The final document will be live to enable amendments to be made quickly to each RRG document and be available online.

The CEO of Shire of Dundas, Peter Fitchat has advised that the new proposed criteria will exclude roads currently eligible for RRG funding, which could be seen as another cost shifting from State Government regarding Road Funding. In this respect the GVROC LGAs need to understand the impact that the changes to the criteria will have.

It has also been mentioned that any roads chosen to be funded need to be shovel ready, fully costed, with business cases and approval plans in place. Timeframes for expending funding must be met, especially given funding has a connection to the economic stimulus packages including road funding.

This raised the question of RRG LGAs having the capacity and capability to deliver on the requirements and it was suggested at the GERRG Technical Officers Group meeting in Kalgoorlie on 16 October 2020 by the GVROC Chair the possibility of a GVROC Regional Supplier Panel List for our Region that will assist the GVROC LGAs to easily contract road construction and maintenance contractors to deliver against any of the requirements placed on the funding.

Consultation: WALGA, GERRG

Financial Implications: A preferred supplier panel could reduce costs of individual LGAs on a project by project basis.

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. Note that Under the Goldfields Esperance WALGA Zone, all LGAs have a requirement to have an elected member participating on the GERRG.
2. Note the Main Roads WA and WALGA Draft Guidelines and Criteria for the Identification of Significant Local Government Roads, the potential changes and impacts to current roads that will now be excluded, and the requirement for LGAs to provide feedback on these back to Main Roads WA.
3. Note once the criteria is adopted that the GERRG will be tasked to form a working group to review all of the roads currently showing on the their Roads 2030 list of roads, which will require input from each GVROC LGA.
4. Support / Not Support the GVROC through its Chair investigating further the possibly and process for establishing GVROC Regional Supplier Panel List for our Region that will assist the GVROC LGAs to easily contract road construction and maintenance contractors to deliver against any of the requirements placed on the funding.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

9.8 GVROC Support to Shire of Wiluna to be formally recognised as part of the RDA Goldfields Esperance Boundary

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, GVROC Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: November 2020

Attachments: GVROC Letter of Support to Shire of Wiluna (**Attachment 14**)

Background:

On 29 October 2020, the CEO of Shire of Wiluna formally requested a letter of support from the GVROC towards its business case required to be submitted to the Australian Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development to be considered to change its RDA regional boundary from the Midwest to Goldfields Esperance.

The process for this change of boundary is set out in the RDA Better Practice Guide (pg17 https://www.rda.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2019_rda_better_practice_guide.pdf), which in summary states:

1.7 RDA Boundaries

In a small number of cases a local government area may be divided between two RDA Committees where a clearly definable district aligns better with one RDA Committee, whilst the remainder aligns better with another RDA Committee. Such arrangements are only entered into with the agreement of both RDA Committees and the support of relevant stakeholders such as the local governments affected and partner State or Territory governments.

1.7.1 RDA Boundary Adjustments

RDA Boundaries may be adjusted where changes to local government boundaries, changing demographics or other relevant factors make such changes desirable.

RDA Committees, and partner State or Territory governments and local governments, may request RDA Boundary adjustments. The Department may initiate boundary changes where necessary. Boundary adjustment requests must be made in writing to the Department's liaison officer specified in the Funding Agreement, and include:

- a clear business case for the proposed change;*
- written support from all RDA Committees affected by the proposed changes;*
- where relevant, written support from a partner State or Territory government; and*
- written support from other relevant stakeholders such as local chambers of commerce, local members of parliament and the like.*

Consideration of requests for boundary changes will be on a case-by-case basis by the Commonwealth Minister with responsibility for the RDA program, in conjunction with their State or Territory Ministerial counterpart in partner jurisdictions, and with the President of the Local Government Association of South Australia for RDA Committees in South Australia.

Changes to funding to support any changes resulting from boundary adjustments will be negotiated with the affected RDA Committees prior to a decision to change a Boundary. The views of partner State or Territory governments may also be considered in any changes to respective RDA Committees' Funding allocations.

Any changes to Boundaries of an RDA Committee will require a variation to their Funding Agreement(s) to reflect the changes to the area covered.

The Shire of Wiluna is also in the process of having its State Development Commission boundary changed as well from the Midwest Development Commission to the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission.

The changes to the Development Commission boundaries is a State matter and with Federal Boundaries this is with RDAs.

State Development Commission boundary changes require legislative changes to the *WA Regional Development Commissions Act 1993* to accommodate, however for Federal just a business case submitted between 15 January and 15 February of each calendar year to the Department of Regional Development addressed to the relevant Commonwealth Minister, hence this request for a letter of support from the GVROC.

In regard to the changes of the State Development Commission Boundary, the GEDC has confirmed with the Shire of Wiluna that they are just waiting on the change to go through legislation.

Officer Comment

An out of session in-principle letter of support was circulated to all GVROC delegates, other than the Shire of Wiluna on 2 November 2020 for approval and confirmation of support.

All GVROC LGAs responded their approval for the letter.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC now endorse the previous in principle letter of support to the Shire of Wiluna circulated out of session, to be formally recognised as part of the RDA Goldfields Esperance Boundary.

RESOLUTION:	Moved:	Seconded:
--------------------	---------------	------------------

9.9 Finalisation of Withdrawal of the Shire of Ravensthorpe from the GVROC

Reporting Officers: James Trail, CEO Shire of Coolgardie

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: November 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

At a special meeting of the GVROC held 26 June 2020 on the request of the Shire of Ravensthorpe to formally withdraw from the GVROC, it was resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council:

1. **Accept the withdrawal from GVROC request of the Shire of Ravensthorpe date 19 June 2020, which will take effect as at close of business 30 June 2020.**
2. **Endorse that the disbursement of an equal tenth share of proceeds and any surplus funds to the Shire of Ravensthorpe, or recovery of liabilities or debts, will be based on the GVROC financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2020 once they have been finalised and audited.**
3. **Authorise the President and CEO of the Shire of Coolgardie and the Executive Officer for GVROC, to work with the Shire of Ravensthorpe President and Chief Executive Officer to finalise all associated documentation to bring effect of this withdrawal.**

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Ian Mickle – Shire of Esperance

Carried

Officers Comment:

As per Item 7.2 – Draft GVROC Audited Financial Statements 2019/20, the GVROC can now finalise the withdrawal of the Shire of Ravensthorpe through the disbursement of an equal tenth share of proceeds and any surplus funds to the Shire of Ravensthorpe, or recovery of liabilities or debts, based on the GVROC audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2020.

This equates to a payment of **\$38,940.60** to the Shire of Ravensthorpe, being one tenth of the GVROC surplus funds (\$389,406) sitting in the GVROC accounts as of 30 June 2020.

To finalise this process, it is recommended that the GVROC endorse this payment to the Shire of Ravensthorpe.

Consultation: GVROC Chair
Shire of Ravensthorpe

Financial Implications: GVROC Finances reduced by \$38,940.60 as per the disbursement made.

Strategic Implications: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC based on the resolution of Item 7.2 on this agenda in relation to the accepting of the 2019/20 draft audited GVROC financial statements, endorse the disbursement of an equal tenth share of proceeds and any surplus GVROC funds less recovery of liabilities or debts to the Shire of Ravensthorpe, equating to a payment of \$38,940.60.

RESOLUTION: **Moved:** **Seconded:**

10. AGENCY REPORTS

10.1 WALGA

WALGA verbal update report by Tony Brown and Carol-Anne Bradley

10.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

DLGSCI verbal update report by Jodie Holbrook

10.3 Goldfields Esperance Development Commission

Introduction to Amy Hallam, GEDC Director Regional Development and GEDC update report.

10.4 RDA Goldfields Esperance

RDAGE verbal update report provided by Ms Jo Swan

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC note the Agency Reports as provided.

RESOLUTION:

Moved:

Seconded:

11. LATE ITEMS as notified, introduced by decision of the Meeting

Nil.

12. FUTURE GVROC COUNCIL MEETINGS/FUNCTIONS

Next Meetings

With the continuing and evolving situation of the COVID-19 “Corona Virus” scheduling of future meetings as in person is a watching brief. This will be reviewed at each meeting by GVROC and decisions made on whether the meetings are held as in person meetings or conducted through Zoom video conferencing.

In noting the above, the following suggested dates in 2021 have been set for the remaining GVROC meetings.

- 29 January 2021 (hosted by Shire of Esperance in Esperance)
- 26 March 2021 (central meeting hosted by CKB in Kalgoorlie)
- 28 May 2021 (regional hosted tbc)
- 30 July 2021 (Aligned with LGA week in Perth possibly August tbc)
- 24 September 2021 (regional hosted tbc)
- 26 November 2021 (tbc)

The following are the WALGA State Council meeting dates in 2021 with suggested GVROC Zoom video conference meeting dates prior to these to inform the GVROC’s representatives attending the meetings with relevant input for State Council Agenda Items:

- 2 December 2020 - (GVROC Video conference on 27 November 2020)
- 3 March 2021 – (GVROC Video Conference on 19 February 2021)
- 5 May 2021 – (GVROC Video Conference on 23 April 2021)
- 7 July 2021 – (GVROC Video Conference on 25 June 2021)
- 2-3 September 2021 – (GVROC Video Conference on 20 August 2021)
- 1 December 2021 – (GVROC Video Conference on 19 November 2021)

13. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at _____.



Ph: (08) 9080 2111
Fax: (08) 908027 3125
M: 0403 447 303
PO BOX 138, KAMBALDA WA 6442
Email: ceo@coolgardie.wa.gov.au
mannadvisory@bigpond.com

GVROC Council Meeting

Friday 11th September 2020
In person meeting
hosted by City of Kalgoorlie Boulder
577 Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie WA 6430
Councillors Conference Room
8.30am – 12:30pm

Unconfirmed Minutes

CONTENTS

1.	OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	3
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	3
3.	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE	3
3.1	Attendance	3
3.2	Apologies	4
3.3	Guests	4
3.4	WALGA Representatives	4
3.5	DLGSCI Representatives	4
3.6	GEDC Representatives	4
3.7	RDAGE Representatives	4
4.	GUEST SPEAKERS	5
4.1	Hon Kyran O'Donnell, MLA Member for Kalgoorlie	5
4.2	June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	5
5.	PRESENTATIONS	6
5.1	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (15 minutes)	6
5.2	WALGA RoadWise program and its role in the Local Governments (15 minutes)	6
6.	MINUTES OF MEETINGS	7
6.1	Minutes of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) meeting held 24 July 2020	7
6.3	Matters for Noting	7
6.4	Correspondence for Noting	8
7.	GOLDFIELDS RECORDS STORAGE FACILITY	9
7.1	Goldfields Records Storage Facility – Update	9
8.	GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS BUSINESS	12
8.1	GVROC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2020-2022 and Meeting Procedures Update and Future of GVROC	12
8.2	Establishing a Camel Industry – Update Report	15
8.3	GVROC Drought Relief Committee update	18
8.4	GVROC Economic Policy Paper	19
8.5	Prioritising social and affordable housing	21
8.6	Feedback sought on WA's waste management legislation	23
9.	AGENCY REPORTS	25
9.1	WALGA	25
9.2	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	25
9.3	Goldfields Esperance Development Commission	25
9.4	RDA Goldfields Esperance	25
10.	LATE ITEMS as notified, introduced by decision of the Meeting	25
11.	FUTURE GVROC COUNCIL MEETINGS/FUNCTIONS	26
12.	CLOSURE OF MEETING	26

GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)

A in person and video conference meeting of the GVROC Council was held Friday 11 September 2020 commencing at 8:30 am.

AGENDA

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss business related to the activities of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Pursuant to the Code of Conduct, Councillors and CEOs must declare to the Chairman any potential conflict of interest they may have in a matter before the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils as soon as they become aware of it. Councillors, CEOs and Deputies may be directly or indirectly associated with some recommendations of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils. If you are affected by these recommendations, please excuse yourself from the meeting and do not participate in deliberations.

Declarations of Interest

Cr Shelley Payne, Shire of Esperance declares a standing interest as a member of the GEDC for this and all future GVROC meetings.

Cr Shelley Payne, Shire of Esperance declares a standing conflict of interest until March 2021 in relation to her selection on the agricultural region ticket for the Legislative Council for the upcoming State Election.

3. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Attendance

Cr Mal Cullen (Chair)	President, Shire of Coolgardie	
Mr James Trail	CEO, Shire of Coolgardie	
Cr Tracey Rathbone	Councillor, Shire of Coolgardie	
Mr John Walker	CEO, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	
Cr David Grills	Councillor, City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	
Cr Laurene Bonza	President, Shire of Dundas	
Mr Peter Fitchat	CEO, Shire of Dundas	
Cr Sharon Warner	Councillor, Shire of Dundas	
Cr Ian Mickel	President Shire of Esperance	
Mr Shane Burge	A/CEO, Shire of Esperance	
Cr Shelley Payne	Councillor, Shire of Esperance	
Cr Patrick Hill	President, Shire of Laverton	(Via Zoom Video)
Mr Peter Naylor	CEO, Shire of Laverton	(Via Zoom Video)
Mr Jim Epis	CEO, Shire of Leonora	(Via Zoom Video)
Cr Keith Mader	Councillor, Shire of Menzies	
Mr Pascoe Durtanovich	A/CEO, Shire of Menzies	
Cr Timothy Carmody	Councillor, Shire of Wiluna	
Ms Laura Dwyer	CEO, Shire of Wiluna	(Via Zoom Video)
Mr Kevin Hannagan	CEO, Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku	(Via Zoom Video)
Mr Andrew Mann	Executive Officer, GVROC	

3.2 Apologies

Cr John Bowler	Mayor, City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Cr Shaneane Weldon	Councillor, Shire of Laverton
Cr Peter Craig	President, Shire of Leonora
Cr Jill Dwyer	Councillor, Shire of Menzies
Cr Damian McLean	President, Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku
Cr Jim Quadrio	President, Shire of Wiluna

3.3 Guests

Hon Kyran O'Donnell, MLA Member for Kalgoorlie (Joined meeting at 9:15am and departed 10:00am))

June Bell Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

3.4 WALGA Representatives

Jo Burges Intergovernmental Relations and Risk (Via Zoom Video)
Carol-Anne Bradley Goldfields-Esperance Road Safety Advisor

3.5 DLGSCI Representatives

Nil

3.6 GEDC Representatives

Kris Starcevich CEO

3.7 RDAGE Representatives

Jo Swan Director

4. GUEST SPEAKERS

4.1 Hon Kyran O'Donnell, MLA Member for Kalgoorlie

Hon. Kyran O'Donnell answered some questions from the GVROC of interest to the region regarding his party's policies going into the State Election and position on the Local Government Act Review.

4.2 June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

The GVROC has discussed the drought situation in the region and its impacts for some time and established a Drought Relief Sub Committee of GVROC to look at opportunities for funding and responding to the drought situation. Members of this sub-committee were recently approached by June Bell, the Regional Recovery Officer (RRO) for the Federal Government's National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

June provided a presentation on various assistance available in regard to drought and will feedback the questions and information asked by GVROC at the meeting to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and look to see how she can assist the GVROC LGAs address the issues of not currently being eligible for drought relief funding in the region

June also provided the following information for the GVROC regarding current assistance available and more information about the Agency post her presentation.

<https://farmhub.org.au/> (FARMHUB – contains all available assistance for Farmers)

<https://www.grants.gov.au/> (GRANT connect – has all grants that people can access – including one that could assist with the Camel project – Advancing Pest Animal and Weed Control Solutions
<https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.GO.show&GOUUID=2BCFBF4C-A6BA-F8F2-610CFC836930E55C> -applications close 25/09/2020)

<https://www.droughtandflood.gov.au/> (Drought and Flood website with more information about the agency).

June also provided a copy of a recent article in the Countryman paper titled "Drought of WA loan requests" - By Cally Dupe, Countryman Thursday 10th September 2020 [Download PDF](#) or refer to attached pdf with these minutes.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (15 minutes)

Presentation was provided by CKB CEO, John Walker, regarding overview of current developments across the City.

5.2 WALGA RoadWise program and its role in the Local Governments

(15 minutes)

Presentation was provided by Carol-Anne Bradley on the RoadWise program and its role with Local Governments.

Copy of Presentation was included with Agenda.

5.3 Establishing a Camel Hub Operation (Producing Camel Tracking, Camel Milk, Camel Meat and Camel Pet Meat Meal as a solution to the feral camel issues in the region) (15 minutes)

Update Presentation was provided by Gilad Berman and Nat James (Camel Solutions Australia) on their project proposal from the presentation provided to GVROC at our Esperance meeting in January 2020.

6. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

6.1 Minutes of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) meeting held 24 July 2020

Minutes of the GVROC Council Meeting held Friday 24 July 2020 are presented for adoption (Attachment 1).

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the GVROC Council Meeting held Friday 24 July 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Ian Mickel - Shire of Esperance**
 Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone - Shire of Coolgardie

Carried

6.2 Action Sheet Report

An update on the actions based on the resolutions from the meeting held on 24 July 2020 is presented for noting (Attachment 2).

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Action Sheet Report as listed for noting be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies**
 Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone - Shire of Coolgardie

Carried

6.3 Matters for Noting

The following matters were presented for noting.

1. WA Government Ministerial Media Statements of relevance to the Goldfields Esperance Zone since the last GVROC meeting. (Attachment 3)
2. WALGA President's Report September 2020 (Attachment 4)
3. DLGSC August Local Matters Update
<https://mailchi.mp/dlgsc/local-matters-august-2020-1096582>

RECOMMENDATION:

That the matters for noting listed be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies**
 Seconded: Cr David Grills - City of Kalgoorlie Boulder

Carried

6.4 Correspondence for Noting

The following correspondence is presented for noting.

1. Letter dated 14 August 2020 to WALGA CEO, Nick Sloan, requesting a potential WALGA campaign to inform the Mining Industry on how Mining Tenement Rates are Set and its impact on LGA Rates (Attachment 5).
2. Letter dated 14 August 2020 to CME CEO, Paul Everingham, outlining GVROC's concerns on how the Mining Sector disburses Native Title Compensation Payable under ILUA's (Attachment 6) and the CME response letter (Attachment 7).
3. Letter dated 24 July 2020 to CEO Shire of Coolgardie, James Trail, providing support for Shire of Coolgardie - Expression of Interest for COAG waste export ban funding (Attachment 8)
4. Email correspondence from CEO Shire of Ravensthorpe, Gavin Pollock, regarding update of the progress of the Shire's withdrawal from GVROC (Attachment 9).

RECOMMENDATION:

That the correspondence listed for noting be received.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone - Shire of Coolgardie
Seconded: Cr Laurene Bonza - Shire of Dundas

Carried

7. GOLDFIELDS RECORDS STORAGE FACILITY

7.1 Goldfields Records Storage Facility – Update

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Records Storage Facility Financial Statements (Attachment 8)

Background:

At the Special Meeting of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) held 26th June 2020, Council resolved;

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council in relation to recommendations 1 to 4:

1. Note the report on the Goldfields Records Storage Facility Draft Financials 2019-20
2. Request a final detailed financial report for the period ending 30th June 2020 be presented to the GVROC Council Meeting on the 10th July 2020.
3. Note invoices need to be raised to the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Leonora and Menzies for 12 months to cover the 2019/20 operational costs of the facility.
4. Note the current market valuation of the Goldfields Records Storage Facility of \$500,000 (with a market range of \$475,000 to \$525,000).

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Timothy Carmody - Shire of Wiluna

Carried

5. That GVROC reject the recommendation as proposed at its meeting of 15 May 2020 which was laid on the table as follows:
 - a. Note this update and that the CEOs will each receive a copy of the Variation Deed for execution in the coming weeks.
 - b. Note when all ten executed copies are received the eligible Withdrawing Regional Group will receive their cash distribution of \$25,000.00 (exc GST).
 - c. Note that for the four remaining parties will also need to execute the new replacement agreement and Transfer of Land as outlined in the above comments.
 - d. Note this will then conclude the GVROC's responsibilities for the Records Facility and the four remaining parties will manage its operations outside of the GVROC.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Jim Quadrio - Shire of Wiluna

Carried

6. That the GVROC Council as representative of the Regional Group Members of the Joint Venture (the Parties to the Archives and Record Management Agreement) endorse and adopt the without prejudiced proposed solution to the records storage facility as detailed below, with the condition that should the facility not immediately be disposed all original members continue to meet their obligations under the Archives and Record Management Agreement until such time of its disposal in regards to:
 - 6a) All members share equally the specified fixed expenses for the facility e.g. insurance, rates, building maintenance; and
 - 6b) Current members that are still utilising the facility for records storage remain responsible for all other operating costs.
- 6.1 The Original Members, as the local governments named in the Records Agreement and as beneficial owners as tenants in common in equal shares of the archives and records storage facility located at Unit 2, 12 Federal Road, South Kalgoorlie (Facility), agree to dispose of the Facility currently held in the name of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder as bare trustee for the Original Members.

- 6.2 The method of disposal for the facility will be discussed and agreed by the members at the next meeting of GVROC scheduled for 24 July 2020.
- 6.3 After the disposal of the Facility the Joint Venture promptly be wound up.
- 6.4 As part of the process of winding up of the Joint Venture an account be taken of the finances of the Joint Venture from its creation to the date of winding up to determine the annual income and expenditure of the Joint Venture during the period of its operation and to determine the assets and liabilities of the Joint Venture as at the winding up.
- 6.5 The net assets of the Joint Venture be distributed in accordance with the terms of the Records Agreement equally between the Original Members.
- 6.6 All third-party costs of the sale of the Facility and the winding up of the Joint Venture be paid for from the assets of the Joint Venture.
- 6.7 Each of the Original Members otherwise pay their own costs of the dispute and of the disposal of the Facility and winding up of the Joint Venture.
- 6.8 The winding up of the Joint Venture and payment to each of the Original Members their share of the Joint Venture assets pursuant to this proposal will be:
 - 6.8.1 in full and final satisfaction of all claims any Original Member may have against any other Original Member or the Joint Venture with regard to the Joint Venture, the Records Agreement and the Facility; and
 - 6.8.2 upon payment each Original Member releases and discharges every other Original Member and the Joint Venture from and against all such claims whether or not the Original Members were or could have been aware of such claims which an Original Member:
 - (a) now has;
 - (b) at any time had;
 - (c) may have; or
 - (d) but for this settlement, could or might have had,against any other Original Member or the Joint Venture with regard to the Joint Venture, the Records Agreement and the Facility.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Kevin Hannagan - Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku**
Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie

Carried

At the last GVROC meeting held on 24 July 2020, the GVROC further resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council as representative of the Original Parties to the Records Facility Agreement:

1. Endorse the CKB as the asset holder to engage a commercial real estate agent to place the facility for sale on the open market as the agreed method of disposal.
2. Accept a selling price based on the existing market evaluation in the range of \$475,000 to \$525,000 with this price to be reviewed and amended by agreement of all parties subject to any feedback from the open market disposal method which is contrary to the current valuation.
3. Request that the CKB provide an update report regarding the progress of the above recommendations at the next GVROC meeting in September 2020.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Ian Mickel, Shire of Esperance**
Seconded: Cr Jim Quadrio, Shire of Wiluna

Carried

Officer's Report:

The Shire of Coolgardie completed the detailed financial information for the facility input for the last three financial years since the last GVROC meeting on 24 July 2020 and the P&L and Balance Sheets were distributed to the GVROC Delegates and CEOs with the minutes of the 24 July meeting sent on 28 July 2020.

Discussions are still ongoing between the City of Kalgoorlie Boulder and the Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Leonora and Menzies to discuss an approach to purchase the facility as a joint consortium, given they still require the facility for records storage requirements.

The City Kalgoorlie Boulder CEO, John Walker has advised that Daniel Lavery of John Matthew and Sons has been engaged by the CKB to market this property. Daniel has indicated it will be formally marketed from 11 September 2020 at a listed price of \$549,000. The price offered will be assessed by Daniel but will not be lower than the market valuation.

Consultation: GVROC Chair
GVROC CEOs Group

Financial Implications: Nil to the GVROC but could have implications based on disposal price for those LGAs that wish to remain or purchase the facility.

Strategic Implications: Disposal of the Facility will remove the item from the GVROC agenda

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council as representative of the Original Parties to the Records Facility Agreement note the current update in the progress to wind up the Records Storage Facility.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie**
Seconded: Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies

Carried

8. GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS BUSINESS

8.1 GVROC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2020-2022 and Meeting Procedures Update and Future of GVROC

Reporting Officers: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

GVROC is a regional grouping of local governments that operates by way of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

At the meeting of GVROC held on 15 May 2020, it was revealed that the last GVROC MOU that was executed was for the period July 2015 – October 2017 and had not been reviewed or renewed on the annual basis as it stipulated. As a result, a new MOU was drafted and presented at the meeting for execution between all parties for the period 2020 to 2022.

At its meeting on 24 July 2020 the GVROC carried the following resolution:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the GVROC:

1. Note and endorse the updated MOU and new Meeting Procedures.
2. Request each GVROC Local Government President/Mayor and CEO execute under seal Schedule 1 of the MOU and return via scanned pdf page to the Executive Officer for collation with the MOU.
3. Note on receipt of all nine executed sections the Executive Officer will distribute the final executed copy to all CEOs for their records.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie*
 Seconded: *Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton*

Carried

Officer Comment:

Since the last GVROC meeting the following LGAs have executed Schedule 1 under seal and returned to the Executive Officer:

The Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Laverton, Leonora, Menzies, Esperance, Ngaanyatjaraku and Wiluna.

Still outstanding is the City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (CKB). The CKB has advised while it can sign it giving it only has a life of 1 year, before doing so they believe the GVROC should discuss the recommendations of the Local Government Act Review Panel, namely Recommendation 14, which outlines that the Regional Council model no longer continue and be replaced by Regional Subsidiaries.

Recommendation 14. The Panel recommends:

- a. *The regional council model is discontinued.*
- b. *A flexible model of joint (regional) and single (local) subsidiaries be introduced in order to enable:*
 - (i) *collaboration between local governments; and/or*
 - (ii) *involvement of local government in economic development including commercial activities.*

Greater cooperation and collaboration is one way to address financial sustainability and capacity of local governments without the fear of loss of identity. The Panel noted that there are a range of areas that could potentially be delivered jointly by local governments, such as corporate services, economic development, IPR, waste management and community planning.

The current Local Government Act provides for two formal approaches: regional local governments and regional subsidiaries. The Panel recommends that there would be benefits to having only one broader legislative model of collaboration. A single flexible model could reduce complexity and provide for a more tailored compliance regime. Local governments would still have the flexibility to enter into voluntary arrangements outside of the legislated model. This would remove the regional local government model under the new Act, noting the need for appropriate transitional provisions for those already established.

Further discussion and recommendations on this new flexible model, including its use for economic development, can be found under Smarter Planning and Service Delivery at Recommendations 37 to 40.

At the WALGA State Council Meeting on 2 September 2020 it resolved to support recommendation 14 above based on the following comments which were discussed at the GVROC meeting held on 28 August 2020:

Recommendation 14 proposes an end to the regional council model in favour of regional cooperation models set out in the previous recommendations.

WALGA has a strong advocacy history in support of regional subsidiaries¹ and is disappointed that the complexity of the existing legislative provisions means that no regional subsidiaries have formed since the Act amendment of 2016. WALGA has independently developed a revised version of regulations that limits unnecessary compliance without diluting transparency and accountability of regional subsidiaries, and therefore welcomes recommendations that will facilitate regional cooperation under this model.

WALGA is cognisant that regional councils are often formed for a singular purpose, most commonly waste management, yet compliance obligations are generally equivalent to that of a Local Government. It is current WALGA advocacy that the compliance obligations of regional councils should be reviewed². It appears the recommendations will create a suitable opportunity for the transition of regional councils to a model more suitable to the participant Local Governments.

Based on this recommendation and WALGA's support of it the GVROC does need to consider how it will operate into the future, noting that for the time being the current MOU should still be executed and reviewed either in 12 months and renewed until such time as the above recommendation is brought into force. It is expected that this change could take at least another 12 months in any case to enact.

Consultation: GVROC Chair

Financial Implications: N/A

Strategic Implications: N/A

Voting Requirement: Simple majority

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the status of the signing and execution of the MOU.
2. based on the Local Government Act Review Panel Recommendations on the future of regional councils, request each GVROC LGA take the current MOU and its principles back to their Council for discussion and to develop their position on the future structure and operations of the GVROC.

¹ State Council Resolutions 121.6/2017; 106.6/2016; 94.4/2011; 114.5/2010

² State Council Resolution 06.3/2019

3. request the Executive Officer to organise a two-hour workshop to be held on 13 November 2020 prior to the next GVROC meeting to discuss and agree the future of the GVROC, based on each LGA having a position following recommendation 2.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Timothy Carmody - Shire of Wiluna

Seconded: Cr David Grills - City of Kalgoorlie Boulder

Carried

Ms Laura Dwyer, CEO, Shire of Wiluna left the meeting at 10:50am.

8.2 Establishing a Camel Industry – Update Report

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

The GVROC Chair and Executive Officer have continued to work with the GEDC led Working Group and the consultants (Quantum Consulting) to finalise the draft Camel Industry Analysis Report, which has been completed.

Of note in the report is the recommendation for the GVROC to be the champion to bring this all together. To do this it is recommended that the GVROC establish a Beneficial Enterprise as the parent entity for accountability, program acquittal & development oversight (e.g. Board / Management Committee) for the camel industry in the region, with funding supplied through the Federal Government Regional Deal Program.

The recommendations from the report are as follows:

1. Government and stakeholders adopt a long-term view; pursue a minimum 10-year industry development program; that camel population reduction and camel commercialisation be viewed as complementary tasks of critical importance.
2. Immediately develop a camel industry strategy and business case to accompany grant applications and investment proposals.
3. Actively pursue a 'Regional Deals' partnership through engagement with Federal and State members of parliament; to better manage Australia's feral camel population and generate economic benefits for remote and regional communities across the Goldfields.
4. Encourage and support private investors to form partnerships, resources and feasibilities /business plans to develop the ventures outlined in this report.
5. Seek grant funding and investment support to establish a GPS monitoring system, a network of self-mustering yards on pastoral and Aboriginal lands, and technical support to help pastoralists adopt co-grazing. Aim is to ensure camel supply is reliable and sustainable from the outset.
6. Call expressions of interest to establish a panel of experts with 'deep' experience in breeding, handling and farming of camels to provide expertise to new operators, contractors, communities, GVROC and Government.
7. Establish a GVROC sub-committee to facilitate grant and investment applications, coordinate and support private investors, and provide guidance to locating and developing the required infrastructure (in collaboration with the panel of experts).
8. Aim to appoint a commercial project manager to liaise with stakeholders and implement the industry strategy that will deliver a sustainable camel industry within ten years.
9. Compile a register (online library) of education / training materials for pastoralists and Aboriginal stakeholders on issues relating to camel handling, domesticating, grading (age, health, condition), transporting, breeding / farming, processing, value-adding & marketing.

At the GVROC Meeting held on 24 July 2020, GVROC resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. **Note the draft Camel Industry Analysis Report and recommendations as presented.**
2. **Members provide all feedback and comments on the draft report by the 7 August 2020 to the GVROC Executive Officer for compiling and providing back to the GEDC and Quantum Consulting.**
3. **Will make a decision on the recommendation of establishing a beneficial enterprise as the parent entity for accountability, program acquittal & development oversight (e.g. Board / Management Committee) for the camel industry in the region, with funding supplied through the Federal Government Regional Deal Program, post its presentation of the final report at its meeting in September 2020.**

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Ian Mickel – Shire of Esperance
Seconded: Cr Patrick Hill, Shire of Laverton

Carried**Comment:**

The Report has now been finalised and the Minister for Agriculture and Food, Alannah MacTiernan, announced the report's release on 28 August 2020 as well providing an additional \$100,000 towards controlling feral camels for the Southern Rangelands, refer to following link <https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2020/08/Feral-camel-control-funds-for-Southern-Rangelands.aspx>.

A workshop was also held with representatives from GEDC, GVROC, DPIRD, GRNBA, other WA Government Departments, Pastoralists and Industry on Thursday 10 September 2020 prior to this meeting to further progress the recommendations from the report. The GVROC Chair will provide an overview on the outcomes from the workshop.

In regards to the GVROC making a decision about establishing a beneficial enterprise to become the parent entity for accountability, program acquittal & development oversight (e.g. Board / Management Committee) for the camel industry in the region, with funding potentially supplied through the Federal Government Regional Deal Program, the GVROC needs to consider the recent recommendations that have been released from the Local Government Act Review Panel around Local and Joint Subsidiaries and were discussed by the WALGA State Council on 2 September 2020 as follows:

Recommendations 39 to 42 - Local & Joint Subsidiaries**Local Government Act Reference: Part 3, Division 4**

Recommendation 39 proposes Integrated Planning and Reporting frameworks be cognisant of State Government plans when developing strategies for economic development.

Recommendation 40 proposes the new Local Government Act provide freedom for commercial activities, linking with Recommendation 41 which, whilst recommending against a beneficial enterprise model, makes positive recommendations for the support of commercial activities under an updated subsidiary model required to observe competitive neutrality principles. Recommendation 42 supports the use of regional subsidiary models unless qualified by the requirement to form an entity where the Local Government is not the dominant party.

WALGA Comment – *It is noted that Recommendation 41(a) to (i) details the elements required for a flexible subsidiary model, including a proposal under 41(h) that employees of a subsidiary fall within the jurisdiction of the WA Industrial Relations Commission. This conflicts with current WALGA advocacy that such a transfer is conditional upon modernisation of the State system to be more consistent with the Federal industrial relations system³.*

WALGA has a long-held advocacy position for the creation of Beneficial Enterprises⁴ with support for a vehicle for commercial activity ('Council-controlled organisations') dating back to WALGA's Systemic Sustainability Study 2008⁵.

WALGA Recommendation: Support Recommendations 39, 40, 41(a) to (g) and (i) and 42. Oppose Recommendation 41(h).

Consultation:

Mal Cullen	GVROC Chair
Kris Starceвич	GEDC
Regan Brewer	GEDC
Michelle Donaldson	GNRBA
Bruce Mullen	DPIRD
Tony Brown	WALGA

³ State Council Resolution 78.5/2018

⁴ State Council Resolutions 06.3/2019; 121.6/2017; 107.5/2010; 114.5/2010

⁵ *The Journey: Sustainability into the Future* - Action 21, Page 49

Financial Implications: \$10,000 in the 2020/21 financial year

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022
Objective 1, Goal 1.1

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. note the update and the outcomes from the workshop held on the 10 September 2020 to progress the recommendations from the Camel Industry Analysis Study Report.
2. Request the Executive Officer to prepare a letter of thanks to Camel Solutions Australia for their updated presentation to the GVROC and request they submit a formal proposal in writing outlining the assistance being sought from the GVROC.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie**
Seconded: Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies

Carried

8.3 **GVROC Drought Relief Committee update**

Reporting Officers: Peter Fitchat – CEO Shire of Dundas
Andrew Mann, Executive Officer - GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

On 15 November 2019 at the GVROC meeting a motion was adopted to establish a Drought Relief Committee subject to terms of reference being established and endorsed out of session by the GVROC.

On 31 January 2020 at the GVROC meeting it was resolved:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. **Note the Final ToR and formally endorse the establishment of a Drought Committee to further address this issue.**
2. **Endorse the following representatives as members of the Drought Relief Committee:**
 - a. **Chair of GVROC: Cr Mal Cullen – Shire of Coolgardie**
 - b. **Three GVROC delegates as follows: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas, Cr Jim Quadrio and Cr Tim Carmody – Shire of Wiluna**
 - c. **Two GVROC CEOs as follows: Mr Peter Fitchat – Shire of Dundas and Mr Colin Bastow – Shire of Wiluna**

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas**
Seconded: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire of Coolgardie

CARRIED

Peter Fitchat has taken on the role of organising the Committee from the Shire of Wiluna and is keeping note of any drought focussed information coming from the Federal or State Governments in the interim until such time that this committee can start to meet.

Officer Comment:

Since the last GVROC meeting the Shire of Laverton has had discussions with June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, which has resulted in June attending the meeting today and speaking with GVROC.

Pending the presentation today from the National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency, the Drought Relief Committee will work with June Bell as the RRO for South WA to see how it can engage with the Federal Government in regard to addressing the drought situation in the region and having this information reported back to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. We will also look at how we can address the issue of not being eligible for current drought relief funding in the region a whether the criteria for this assessment can be amended.

Consultation: GVROC
GVROC CEOs

Financial Implications: TBD

Strategic Implications: Improved Sustainability, Job creation and retention of Primary Industry well into the future.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC note the update provided.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Timothy Carmody - Shire of Wiluna**
Seconded: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas

Carried

8.4 **GVROC Economic Policy Paper**

Reporting Officer: Andrew Mann, Executive Officer, GVROC

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Final GVROC Economic Policy Paper (Attachment 10)

Background:

Following the draft outline of the paper that was presented at the meeting on 15 May 2020, engagement was held with the GEDC, RDAGE, WALGA and the DLGSC to further develop an economic policy paper for the GVROC that can be utilised to lobby the State and Federal Governments as part of the economic recovery stimulus plans post Covid-19 and also during the upcoming State and Federal Government elections. The revised paper was then presented back to the GVROC at its meeting on 24 July 2020.

This Economic Policy Paper (Paper) has been developed by the GVROC to position, assist and drive growth for the region. It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed could enable the GVROC members to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The paper provides the GVROC with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

The paper also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow its regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The action from the GVROC meeting on 24 July 2020 was that all GVROC Delegates, CEOs, GEDC, WALGA, DLGSC, RDAGE were to provide feedback to the GVROC Executive Officer on the revised paper so it could be finalised and endorsed.

At the GVROC meeting on 24 July 2020, a motion was made by the Shire of Esperance President, Ian Mickle, to lay on the table the paper and its recommendation to this meeting to allow further time for consideration of the paper by the individual GVROC LGAs.

Following discussion on this motion a vote for and against was called on the motion which was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone - Shire of Coolgardie**
Seconded: Cr Ian Mickle – Shire of Esperance

Carried

Officer Comment:

Given the recent announcements from State and Federal Governments regarding stimulus packages for the region, and the looming State Government election in March 2021, it is critical that this paper be finalised and endorsed by the GVROC so that it can be circulated to relevant State and Federal Government Ministers and all local members of Parliament to ensure that any future funding announcements meet the needs and requests of the GVROC LGAs and the region.

Any further delays in putting this paper out may result in lost funding opportunities that are now present to meet the requests outlined in the paper.

Also, in consideration of feedback from each of the GVROC LGAs on the Economic Policy paper, the following comment was received by the CKB CEO – John Walker, which needs to be discussed and deliberated on before the GVROC is able to progress and endorse the paper going forward.

“The Economic Paper in many ways contradicts the Regional Capitals Alliance WA (RCAWA) view to which the CKB is aligned. Whilst there is general support for the contents of the paper the fundamental difference is that the CKB support economic stimulus through the Regional Capitals in pretence to delivering it through a ROC. This has become more obvious following an RCAWA Strategy Session held between the ten Regional Capital LGAs on 7 August 2020. I can’t support signing this and so will need direction from Council before doing so – John Walker CEO CKB, 14 August 2020”

In discussion on this item before the paper is finalised it was requested that all references to Royalties for Regions Program be withdrawn and only request State or Federal Financial Assistance in a more generic term.

Noting the above comments, it was recommended that the GVROC endorse this paper as it will benefit all LGAs in the region if successful in attracting funding and change to government policies.

Consultation: GVROC Chair
GVROC Strategic Working Group
GEDC
WALGA
DLGSC
RDAGE

Financial Implications: Still to be determined

Strategic Implications: GVROC Strategic Plan 2017-2022

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC Council endorse the Economic Policy Paper and request that the GVROC Executive Officer circulate it to all relevant State and Federal Ministers and local members of parliament for the region.

RESOLUTION: Moved: *Cr Keith Mader - Shire of Menzies*
Seconded: *Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie*

Carried

8.5 Prioritising social and affordable housing

Reporting Officers: Mal Cullen, GVROC Chair

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: September 2020

Attachments: Nil

Background:

Even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, affordability gaps in housing were increasing and apparent in both regional and metropolitan areas. The economic downturn has only aggravated inequalities in Australia's affordable housing market which needs serious attention. This is also becoming a major issue for the GVROC LGAs.

To address the issue the following areas need to be considered:

- How investing in social and affordable housing is delivered and how it could support the regions economic recovery – supporting social safety nets, generating jobs, and maximising consumption;
- Looking at collaborative approaches to new developments and innovative investment models to drive affordable housing; and
- Tailoring the development of social and affordable housing to the needs of regional communities, to enable people to be close to jobs and to support vulnerable Australians.

Currently the State Government's focus has primarily been on the metropolitan area with little interaction or consultation with LGAs. This has been shown recently when the State Government allocated \$394 million to a METRONET Social and Affordable Housing and Jobs Package. This Package is looking at assisting communities to:

- use housing to achieve better outcomes for individuals and families in need;
- deliver inclusive and connected communities where people of all incomes and backgrounds have a place to call home and belong;
- create a housing system that is more responsive to current and future needs; and
- address the State's aging social housing stock, changing client demographics and dwellings that are no longer suitable for client needs.

However, the shortfall in this project is that the State Government did not consult with the LGAs involved in this project, who have responsibility for servicing the communities involved. This can lead to conflicting situations and priorities and inability to meet the communities and LGA areas needs.

In this respect it is suggested that the GVROC could investigate further how it may be able to develop a model for delivering cost effective affordable housing and maintenance programmes, funded through the State Government, but run and managed locally, creating ongoing employment in the GVROC region.

Officer Comment:

As per recent conversations that have been held amongst various GVROC LGAs on this matter, I believe there is an opportunity in the current economic climate to make a concerted effort to target this space on a regional level should the GVROC agree it is a priority.

There are other similar models and projects operated around Australia, e.g. the Brisbane Housing Company Model, that the GVROC could investigate to build a proposal to take to the WA State Government requesting provision of funding to GVROC to manage that will deliver a project that will benefit the whole region on a more cost effective basis with build and future maintenance programmes completed locally. This type of model could provide each GVROC LGA with an instant economic development opportunity for their town.

Consultation: GVROC

Financial Implications: TBD

Strategic Implications: Improved Liveability, social and community wellbeing.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. agree on the need for an immediate solution towards addressing the maintenance and quality of current social housing and addressing affordable housing options in the region; and
2. endorse the GVROC Chair and Executive Officer to further develop a proposal to address this matter for consideration and approval by the GVROC prior to submission to the WA Government seeking funding.
3. endorse the GVROC Chair and Executive Officer as part of this process to engage with the DLGSC District Leadership Group to raise and discuss this matter.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie

Seconded: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas

Carried

8.6 Feedback sought on WA's waste management legislation

Reporting Officers:	Andrew Mann, Executive Officer GVROC
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Date:	September 2020
Attachments:	Discussion Paper WARR Act Review (Attachment 11)

Background:

The Government of Western Australia has released a discussion paper and is seeking feedback on the review of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007, the principal legislation for waste management in Western Australia.

The Act requires that the legislation be reviewed every five years. The review seeks to consider the effectiveness of the legislation in meeting its objectives for reducing waste and encouraging resource recovery and its alignment to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030.

Key areas of focus in the review include:

- recommendations from the 2016 Auditor General and 2018 Public Accounts Committee reports, which outlined areas where waste management could be improved through potential changes to the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007*
- legislative changes to support the container deposit scheme – Containers for Change – and future extended producer responsibility schemes
- legislative powers relating to the making of subsidiary legislation, and changes to support effective waste management and compliance and enforcement.

This review follows recent consultations on reforming the waste regulatory framework and management approaches. Examples include the release of two waste reform papers – Closing the loop: Waste reforms for a circular economy and the Review of the Waste Levy – in February 2020.

There is opportunity for the GVROC or individual LGAs to share their views on the effectiveness of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007, by making submissions to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) by 25 November, 2020. Feedback will help inform the review of the legislation and the proposals for reform.

Officer Comment:

As was mentioned at the GVROC meeting on 28 August 2020 to discuss the WALGA State Council Agenda, there appears to be a metropolitan focus on waste and resource recovery currently by the Municipal Waste Advisory Committee. This review of the WARR Act can provide an opportunity for the GVROC region and each LGA to promote its capabilities and capacity for reducing waste and encouraging resource recovery and highlighting what the region has to offer in this area compared to the metropolitan area through submissions to this review, particularly around areas where waste management could be improved through potential changes to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007.

The City of Kalgoorlie Boulder has advised it will also be providing direct input into the State's Waste Strategy review, given it is the largest local authority with the largest municipal tip, with a significant recycling program and a commitment to container deposit schemes, tip shop and other initiatives plus its direct experience in managing the disposal of tyres and other large scale issues. The City of Kalgoorlie Boulder was also included in the Auditor General's recent performance audit on this matter tabled in Parliament.

Also for noting by the GVROC, a meeting has been arranged on 24 September 2020 between the GVROC Chair and CEO of Shire of Coolgardie to meet with the DLGSC, DWER and WALGA to discuss their development of a Waste Strategy, which is a key project through the State Local Government Partnership agreement.

It is therefore recommended that each of the GVROC LGA be encouraged to review this discussion paper and provide submissions to it as they deem appropriate.

- Consultation:** GVROC Chair
City Kalgoorlie Boulder
Shire of Coolgardie
- Financial Implications:** TBD
- Strategic Implications:** Improved Sustainability and Job creation and retention into the future.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC:

1. Notes the Discussion Paper on the WARR Act Review;
2. Encourages each GVROC LGA to consider making its own submission on the discussion paper as it will help inform the review of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 legislation and the proposals for reform.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie**
Seconded: Cr Laurene Bonza – Shire of Dundas

Carried

9. AGENCY REPORTS

9.1 WALGA

WALGA verbal update report by Jo Burges and Carol-Anne Bradley

9.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

DLGSC verbal update report will be provided by Jodie Holbrook, Director Local Government Policy & Engagement along with the following information provided.

Community Resilience Scorecard (also featured in the DLGSC Local matters August Newsletter)

DLGSC was launched the Community Resilience Scorecard with Minister Templeman and research partners Catalyse and Local Government Professionals.

Webinar link. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwcq_SL5Cfq

Full report <https://dlgsc.wa.gov.au/departments/publications/publication/markyt-community-resilience-scorecard-results>

As part of the brief, the final report was dis-aggregated into 10 reports based on the Regional Development Commissions. The Goldfields Esperance Report is attached for your reference (Attachment 12).

These plans provide an important social lens and legitimacy to the WA Recovery Plan at a regional level. The reports highlight what the community would like local government to prioritise;

- economic recovery
- local employment opportunities
- community health and well being
- local infrastructure

Importantly, the development commission reports reflects alignment with WA State Recovery Plan and regional recovery sub plans.

DLGSC would be happy to arrange a presentation tailored for your Zone to discuss the outcomes of the report, research methodology or analysis with our research partner Catalyse.

Review State Local Government Partnership Agreement Review

The signatures of the agreement will commence the review of the partnership agreement to conclude in December 2020. Further advice is found in the WALGA State Council agenda for 2 September 2020 in the organisation update Governance report page 45. DLGSC will seek feedback across government agencies and LG Professional WA and WALGA will discuss their respective members.

9.3 Goldfields Esperance Development Commission

GEDC verbal update report by Kris Starcevich.

9.4 RDA Goldfields Esperance

RDAGE verbal update report provided by Ms Jo Swan

RECOMMENDATION:

That the GVROC note the Agency Reports as provided.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Tracey Rathbone – Shire Coolgardie
Seconded: Cr Timothy Carmody – Shire of Wiluna

Carried

10. LATE ITEMS as notified, introduced by decision of the Meeting

Nil.

11. FUTURE GVROC COUNCIL MEETINGS/FUNCTIONS**Next Meetings**

With the continuing and evolving situation of the COVID-19 “Corona Virus” scheduling of future meetings as in person is a watching brief. This will be reviewed at each meeting by GVROC and decisions made on whether the meetings are held as in person meetings or conducted through Zoom video conferencing.

In noting the above, the following suggested dates in 2020 have been set for the remaining GVROC meetings.

- 13 November 2020 (Coolgardie)

The following are the WALGA State Council meeting dates in 2020 with suggested GVROC Zoom video conference meeting dates prior to these to inform the GVROC’s representatives attending the meetings with relevant input for State Council Agenda Items:

- 25 September WALGA Annual General Meeting – Crown Perth
- 2 December 2020 - (GVROC Video conference 27 November 2020)

12. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12:15pm.



Ph: (08) 9080 2111

Fax: (08) 908027 3125

M: 0403 447 303

PO BOX 138, KAMBALDA WA 6442

Email: ceo@coolgardie.wa.gov.au

mannadvisory@bigpond.com

GVROC Council Meeting – Action Arising

From the GVROC meeting on Friday 11th September 2020

Item	Action	Responsibility	Due Date
4.2	Presentation from June Bell - Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) - National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet - GVROC Officer to distribute details for June Bell – Regional Recovery Officer (South WA) with further information and weblinks around drought assistance available to GVROC Delegates.	Andrew Mann	September 2020 Completed – sent with unconfirmed minutes
5.3 & 8.2	Establishing a Camel Hub Operation (Producing Camel Tracking, Camel Milk, Camel Meat and Camel Pet Meat Meal as a solution to the feral camel issues in the region) - GVROC Officer to prepare a letter for the GVROC Chair thanking Camel Solutions Australia for its update on its proposal and request them to formally put in writing what they are seeking from the GVROC.	Andrew Mann Mal Cullen	September 2020 Email sent on 29/9/20 – discussions ongoing with Camel Solutions Australia regarding their request for GVROC assistance.
7.1	Goldfields Records Storage Facility – CKB to provide an update at the next meeting on any interest shown from market for the property since last meeting. Five remaining LGAs to meet and decide direction for purchasing and operating the facility.	CKB & Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Leonora and Menzies	November 2020 CKB has advised that since placed on the market no interest has been shown in purchasing the Facility.
8.1	GVROC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2020-2022 - Each GVROC LGA take the current MOU and its principles back to their Council for discussion and to develop their position on the future structure and operations of the GVROC, based on the recommendations from the Local Government Act Review Panel report.	All LGAs	October 2020 All LGAs committed to taking to their Councils.
	The Executive Officer to organise a two-hour workshop to be held on 13 November 2020 prior to the next GVROC meeting to discuss and agree the future of the GVROC, based on each LGA having a position following action above.	Andrew Mann	13 November 2020 Scheduled and organised
8.4	GVROC Economic Policy Paper – Executive Officer to remove all reference to Royalties for Regions Program from the paper and include additional roads of strategic importance from the Shire of Wiluna. Upon changes resend paper with unconfirmed minutes as the final version for circulation and use by all as endorsed by GVROC in meeting.	Andrew Mann	September 2020 Completed – sent with unconfirmed minutes and distributed as per Agenda Item 6.4.
8.5	Prioritising social and affordable housing - GVROC Chair and Executive Officer to further develop a proposal to address this matter for consideration and approval by the GVROC prior to submission to the WA Government seeking funding. GVROC Chair and Executive Officer as part of this process to engage with the DLGSC District Leadership Group to raise and discuss this matter further.	Mal Cullen Andrew Mann	13 November 2020 GVROC Chair has spoken with Minister Tinley and further details as per Agenda Item 9.4
8.6	Feedback sought on WA's waste management legislation - Each GVROC LGA to consider making its own submission on the discussion paper as it will help inform the review of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 legislation and the proposals for reform	All LGAs	Submissions to DWER close 25 November 2020. Details provided by Executive Officer to all LGAs in Minutes of last meeting.

WA State Government Ministerial Media Statements Sept - Nov 2020

Date	Title	Page No.
7 September 2020	New chapter for Esperance Port as master planning begins	3
11 September 2020	New agreement to supply Port of Esperance	4
11 September 2020	McGowan Government launches solar schools program for regions	5
11 September 2020	\$3.4 million boost for State's biodiversity institute	7
21 September 2020	Water-saving support extended to 19 communities between Walpole to Esperance	8
21 September 2020	More support to the Goldfields to help residents save money on their water bills	10
1 October 2020	Western Australia ready to make change!	12
5 October 2020	Golden Outback tourism businesses share in funding support	13
5 October 2020	McGowan Government welcomes \$1.1 billion infrastructure spend	15
6 October 2020	Apply now for next round of regional events funding	16
8 October 2020	New mental health services one step closer to opening	17
8 October 2020	Recovery Budget delivers relief for regional families and drives economic activity	19
8 October 2020	McGowan Government commits more than \$750 million to enhance Aboriginal wellbeing	24
8 October 2020	Recovery Budget delivers relief for Goldfields-Esperance families and drives economic activity	26
8 October 2020	\$8.3 million to fund valuable airborne fire-mapping technology	29
9 October 2020	Grant program to support connection to Country	30
12 October 2020	Round Three of Digital Farm grants to boost connectivity	31
12 October 2020	Grants open for WA sport and recreation industry to support club development	32
12 October 2020	New online register to boost opportunities for locals in Goldfields-Esperance	33
12 October 2020	New bushfire and emergency services facilities for Esperance region	35
13 October 2020	Funding awarded for regional community partnerships	36
14 October 2020	More police on the beat in regional WA as part of Budget boost	37
14 October 2020	Housing strategy details social and affordable homes plan 2020-2030	38
19 October 2020	Coolgardie-Esperance Highway set for \$52 million upgrade	40
20 October 2020	Architects appointed for \$10 million job-creating Kalgoorlie TAFE upgrades	42
20 October 2020	Major investment in Western Australia's regional water infrastructure	43
21 October 2020	State Government contributes \$85,000 to enrich country sport	45
23 October 2020	Energy technology a boon for regional WA homes	46
29 October 2020	Goldfields breast cancer support increased	47
30 October 2020	Kalgoorlie and Mirrabooka domestic violence hub operators signed	48

Date	Title	Page No.
5 November 2020	Lead contractor appointed for solar schools program	50
5 November 2020	Response to State Coroner highlights bushfire management reform	51
7 November 2020	Locals set to make a splash at Kambalda's new \$3 million aquatic centre	57

New chapter for Esperance Port as master planning begins

Monday, 7 September 2020

- Master planning for Port of Esperance gets underway to drive future economic development and jobs in the region
- Important issues survey released to gauge community and stakeholder feedback
- Port Master Plan to consider infrastructure and land use issues for the next 30 years

Master planning to chart the Esperance Port's development and infrastructure needs over the next 30 years has kicked off today, with the release of a public survey.

The McGowan Government is committed to driving economic development and local jobs in Esperance and the broader region, with the Port Master Plan to help drive investment confidence in the Port of Esperance.

The Port Master Plan will take a long-term view of the port's planning and infrastructure requirements up to 2050.

The project will examine future land uses within the port, focusing on:

- safety and security issues;
- potential port impacts;
- infrastructure demands;
- existing and potential trade drivers;
- environmental and community values; and
- operational requirements to meet current and emerging trade opportunities.

The master planning process will include consultation with the community and stakeholder groups - including the 'Important Issues Master Planning Survey', which can be accessed from Southern Ports' website until midnight September 25, 2020.

The Port Master Plan is expected to be completed during the first half of 2021.

Comments attributed to Ports Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"Esperance Port is a critical driver for the Goldfields-Esperance economy, and a major employer in the town of Esperance.

"There is plenty of product in the hinterland that can drive the economy for many decades.

"Master planning will add significant value for Esperance Port's customers, the community and the wider regional economy, and Southern Ports will be seeking input from their stakeholders to help shape the plan.

"We encourage the local community to get involved in the development of the plan, which will help to shape Esperance Port's future for the next 30 years."

Minister's office - 6552 6200

New agreement to supply Port of Esperance

Friday, 11 September 2020

- Southern Ports Authority signs 20-year power supply agreement with Horizon Power
- Port of Esperance consumes 25% of the annual electricity generated in the region
- New Esperance power station to reduce carbon emissions by almost 50%

Southern Ports Authority has signed an agreement with Horizon Power to purchase power for the Port of Esperance commencing March 2022.

The Port of Esperance is one of the largest power consumers in the Esperance region, consuming approximately 25 per cent of Horizon Power's annual electricity output for the region.

The signing of the supply agreement follows the State Government's announcement to award the new Power Purchase Agreement for Esperance's power project to Contract Power Australia.

Esperance's new power solution will include a state-of-the-art gas power station, and a centralised battery and renewables hub consisting of a solar farm and two wind turbines.

Construction of the \$80 million project is scheduled to commence in October and it is estimated that over 50 jobs will be created during the 15-month construction phase.

As part of the project, Southern Ports Authority will lease a site in Shark Lake Industrial Estate to Horizon Power to accommodate the new renewables hub.

Comments attributed to Ports Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"This is a good news story of two State trading entities working together to provide a competitive long-term solution of mutual benefit to themselves and their customers.

"Under this new supply agreement, Southern Ports Authority will become Horizon Power's largest customer in the Goldfields-Esperance region, procuring 25 per cent of Esperance Power Station's supply.

"Horizon Power will use Southern Ports Authority land in the Shark Lake Industrial Estate to construct the new renewables hub, which will help pave the way for increased activity in the area."

Comments attributed to Energy Minister Bill Johnston:

"Southern Ports Authority will be an important foundation customer for the Esperance Power Project, which is delivering cleaner, greener energy to communities in the southern coastal region.

"Horizon Power's new power solution for Esperance will deliver the State Government average annual cost savings of around \$10 million a year.

"Esperance's new power solution will deliver a 50 per cent reduction in emissions, and increase the amount of electricity generated annually through renewables including wind and solar."

Ports Minister's office - 6552 6200

Energy Minister's office - 6552 6700

McGowan Government launches solar schools program for regions

Friday, 11 September 2020

- 30 public schools in remote and regional WA to benefit from Solar Schools Program
- Horizon Power to supply and install rooftop solar systems at schools
- Program will create 12 new jobs and two apprenticeship roles in regional WA
- Another important piece of the State's transition towards a low carbon future

Education and Training Minister Sue Ellery today launched the Solar Schools Program at Port Hedland Primary School.

The \$5 million program, delivered by the Department of Education and Horizon Power, will provide rooftop solar systems to 30 regional public schools throughout Western Australia.

This investment will create approximately 12 new full-time jobs across regional WA, during the 18-month construction period, and facilitate two new Aboriginal electrical apprenticeships.

The program will reduce the school's greenhouse gas emissions by more than 2,000 tonnes each year - the equivalent of taking around 400 cars off the road.

This aligns with the McGowan Government's Distributed Energy Resources Roadmap, which is committed to providing safe and reliable electricity at the lowest cost, while also making the State cleaner and more sustainable.

The initiative is part of the McGowan Government's \$200 million School Maintenance Blitz, announced on September 22, 2019, to address high priority maintenance, minor works and upgrades.

Comments attributed to Education and Training Minister Sue Ellery:

"The Solar Schools program is creating new, practical ways for students and teachers to acquire new skills in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) areas such as solar technology.

"The McGowan Government is proud to be delivering on its commitment to improving the maintenance of schools around the State, regardless of their location."

Comments attributed to Energy Minister Bill Johnston:

"Through the Solar Schools program, the McGowan Government is delivering on its commitment to a cleaner, greener renewable energy future for Western Australia.

"Energy is a significant expense for our schools and this program will allow them to each save 27 per cent on electricity costs - collectively, that's \$1.7 million worth of savings each year."

Education and Training Minister's office - 6552 5700

Energy Minister's office - 6552 6700

The full list of participating schools include:

- Baler Primary School
- Baynton West Primary School
- Cascade Primary School
- Cassia Primary School
- Castletown Primary School

- Condingup Primary School
- Derby District High School
- Esperance Primary School
- Esperance Senior High School
- Halls Creek District High School
- Hedland Senior High School
- Karratha Primary School
- Karratha Senior High School
- Laverton School
- Leonora District High School
- Looma Remote Community School
- Meekatharra District High School
- Millars Well Primary School
- Munglinup Primary School
- Norseman District High School
- Nulsen Primary School
- One Arm Point Remote Community School
- Pegs Creek Primary School
- Port Hedland Primary School
- Salmon Gums Primary School
- Scaddan Primary School
- South Hedland Primary School
- Tambrey Primary School
- Wiluna Remote Community School
- Wyndham District High School

\$3.4 million boost for State's biodiversity institute

Friday, 11 September 2020

- McGowan Government invests a further \$3.4 million in the Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute to build on advances in biodiversity science
- Science Minister Dave Kelly welcomes new WABSI CEO Professor Owen Nevin
- WABSI's recent achievements include leading the bid for \$29.5 million Cooperative Research Centre which will support the economic transition of former mining towns

The McGowan Government has committed an additional \$3.4 million to the Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute (WABSI), to continue support for collaborative research in the biodiversity sciences.

Science Minister Dave Kelly today announced an extension of funding to June 2023, bringing its total investment since the institute started in 2015 to \$10.1 million.

The State Government funds WABSI to support research projects which protect, conserve and ensure the sustainable management of Western Australia's unique flora and fauna.

Mr Kelly also welcomed WABSI's new CEO, Professor Owen Nevin, an experienced conservation biologist and research leader with a track record of successfully bringing together industry, researchers and government.

WABSI's recent achievements include leading the successful bid for a \$29.5 million Cooperative Research Centre for Transformations in Mining Economies (CRC TiME), announced in March.

The CRC TiME research aims to transform how mine sites are closed, to support prosperous and sustainable futures for surrounding regional communities and improve their local environments.

In partnership with the State Government, WABSI also conceptualised the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessments (IBSA) which captures and consolidates the data from industry-funded biodiversity surveys and makes it publicly accessible.

The IBSA data supports the State Government's new Environment Online portal to help streamline environmental assessment processes under a \$20 million investment from the WA Recovery Plan.

For more information, visit the WABSI website at <https://wabsi.org.au>

Comments attributed to Science Minister Dave Kelly:

"The McGowan Government is pleased to commit a further \$3.4 million in funding to WABSI to ensure our State's rich and unique biodiversity assets will be preserved for future generations to enjoy.

"WA is home to one of the world's richest diversities of plant and animal life, including eight of Australia's 15 terrestrial biodiversity hotspots.

"It's crucial we invest in the understanding of our environment, as WA's biodiversity is one of the main drivers of our economy through tourism, mining and agriculture.

"I'd like to take this opportunity to thank former CEO, Peter Zurzolo, who from his appointment in 2016 successfully built and led WABSI in becoming an institution that is valued for its collaboration and creating enduring benefits for Western Australia."

Minister's office - 6552 6100

Water-saving support extended to 19 communities between Walpole to Esperance

Monday, 21 September 2020

- Great Southern region experiencing unprecedented dry conditions due to climate change
- Waterwise offers extended to 19 communities across Great Southern region
- Albany and Esperance included in 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program
- 36 million litres of water saved in the region in 2019-20

Water Minister Dave Kelly today announced that the Waterwise Towns Program would be extended to provide water-saving support to a further 17 local communities, including Albany, Katanning, Narrogin, Ravensthorpe and Esperance.

Due to the impacts of climate change, the Great Southern agricultural region is experiencing unprecedented dry conditions following two years of well below average annual rainfall.

While many parts of the Great Southern have recently experienced a good rainfall event, the Water Corporation still needs to continue to cart drinking water to a total of 11 towns across this part of the State.

Western Australia's water supplies are precious, which is why this year the McGowan Government is significantly increasing the number of communities in the Great Southern region having access to water-saving offers from two in 2019-20 to 19 as part of the Water Corporation's 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program.

The program, which last year saved 36 million litres of water in the Great Southern, will again be available in Denmark and Walpole through the popular Rainwater Rewards rebate. The Rainwater Rewards rebate incentivises the purchase and plumbing in of rainwater tanks.

Offers and programs under the Waterwise Towns Program are designed to make it easier for regional households to reduce water consumption.

Depending on location, offers can include Rainwater Rewards, plumbing checks, comparative water-use letters and the Water Corporation's free Showerhead Swap program.

Showerhead Swap allows residents in participating communities to replace old, inefficient showerheads with waterwise alternatives. Last year, nearly 900 households across regional WA exchanged 1,274 showerheads, helping to save close to 18 million litres of water.

To further assist the community with saving water, the Leak Assist Program (LAP) has now also been extended to include regional WA. The LAP enables eligible customers to claim a rebate of \$100 when they engage a licensed plumber to repair a leak.

Localised offers under the 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program are available to participating communities across regional WA from October 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021.

Since 2013-14, the State-wide program has saved an estimated 1.27 billion litres of precious water - equivalent to 564 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

For more details and to view local offers, visit <http://www.watercorporation.com.au/waterwiseoffers>

Comments attributed to Water Minister Dave Kelly:

"In areas of southern WA, the impacts of climate change are being experienced more than just about any region in Australia. As a result, it is vital we support and encourage waterwise lifestyle habits.

"The Waterwise Towns Program is an incredibly effective way the McGowan Government, through the Water Corporation, is helping regional Western Australians conserve our most precious resource.

"Every drop of water is precious, particularly as we meet the challenges posed by climate change."

Comments attributed to Albany MLA Peter Watson:

"It's fantastic to see the Waterwise Towns Program extended across the Great Southern region making it easier and cheaper for households to conserve our most precious resource.

"I'd like to encourage residents in participating Great Southern towns to take advantage of available offers and embrace a waterwise lifestyle."

Minister's office - 6552 6100

Regional participants in the 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program

Location	Offers
Albany	Showerhead Swap, comparative water-use letters
Denmark	Rainwater Rewards
Esperance	Showerhead Swap, plumbing check, comparative water-use letters
Ravensthorpe	Showerhead Swap
Hopetoun	Showerhead Swap
Salmon Gums	Showerhead Swap
Grass Patch	Showerhead Swap
Walpole	Showerhead Swap, Rainwater Rewards
Bremer Bay	Showerhead Swap, plumbing check
Katanning	Showerhead Swap, comparative water-use letters
Hyden	Showerhead Swap
Narrogin	Showerhead Swap, comparative water-use letters
Wagin	Showerhead Swap, comparative water-use letters
Borden	Showerhead Swap
Ongerup	Showerhead Swap
Jerramungup	Showerhead Swap
Rocky Gully	Plumbing check
Varley	Plumbing check
Munglinup	Showerhead Swap

More support to the Goldfields to help residents save money on their water bills

Monday, 21 September 2020

- Waterwise offers now available to residents in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Wiluna and Laverton
- Water-efficient evaporative air-conditioning trial in Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Reduced rainfall caused by climate change has increased the cost of supplying water to Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Last year the State Government provided \$46 million to the Water Corporation to subsidise water bills in Kalgoorlie-Boulder

Water Minister Dave Kelly today announced that a new trial to optimise water use in evaporative air-conditioners during summer will be offered exclusively to Kalgoorlie-Boulder residents as part of the Water Corporation's 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program.

Around 200 high water-use households will be invited to take part in the trial, which provides free services through local contractors to ensure evaporative systems are using water efficiently.

In hot weather, these systems require up to 20 litres of water each hour to keep filtration pads clean, however, many systems use significantly more. Data gathered during the trial will help determine the most effective ways to ensure evaporative air conditioners use water efficiently in local conditions.

The Waterwise Towns Program, which last year saved 30 million litres of water in the region, will also enable residents in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Wiluna and Laverton, to replace old, inefficient showerheads free of charge under the Water Corporation's Showerhead Swap program.

To further assist the Goldfields community with saving water, the Leak Assist Program (LAP) has now also been extended to include regional WA. The LAP enables eligible customers to claim a rebate of \$100 when they engage a licensed, waterwise plumber to repair a leak.

Kalgoorlie-Boulder is supplied with water from the Integrated Water Supply Scheme (IWSS) through the historic Golden Pipeline.

Reduced rainfall in the south-west of Western Australia caused by climate change has meant that 43 per cent of water supplied through the IWSS now comes from desalinated seawater.

Water from the IWSS is transferred 550 kilometres to Kalgoorlie-Boulder, travelling through 20 pump stations, taking five to eight days, and stored in a tank where it is treated and finally delivered to residents, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

All residential customers in Kalgoorlie-Boulder pay the same amount for the first 300 kilolitres of water usage each year as do residential customers in Perth (that is \$1.827 per kilolitre for 0-150 kilolitres, and \$2.434 per kilolitre for 151-300 kilolitres), as per the Water Corporation's Tariff Cap Policy.

The majority of residents in Kalgoorlie-Boulder use less than 300 kilolitres of water per annum and for these customers, water is supplied at the same price as Perth.

While it costs the Water Corporation \$14.38 for every kilolitre of water supplied to Kalgoorlie-Boulder, the majority of residential customers in Kalgoorlie-Boulder receive water for around \$10 less per kilolitre than the cost of supply.

Higher water users in Kalgoorlie-Boulder pay an increased tariff but even these customers still pay significantly less for water than it costs the Water Corporation to supply it.

The McGowan Government provides an operating subsidy to the Water Corporation to keep the price of water below cost in Kalgoorlie-Boulder - last year this subsidy was \$46 million.

Kalgoorlie-Boulder residents can further reduce their water bill by taking advantage of the waterwise offers.

The local waterwise offers are available from October 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021.

For more details and to see local offers,

visit <http://www.watercorporation.com.au/waterwiseoffers>

Comments attributed to Water Minister Dave Kelly:

"Every drop of water is precious, particularly as we meet the challenges posed by climate change.

"The Waterwise Towns Program is an incredibly effective way the McGowan Government is helping regional Western Australians conserve our most precious resource and save money on their water bills.

"As rainfall continues to fall in the South-West, the cost of supplying water to Kalgoorlie-Boulder continues to increase.

"The McGowan Government spends around \$46 million a year to subsidise the cost of supplying water to Kalgoorlie-Boulder."

Minister's office - 6552 6100

Regional participants in the 2020-21 Waterwise Towns Program

Town	Offers
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	Showerhead Swap, water-efficient evaporative air-conditioning trial
Wiluna	Showerhead Swap
Laverton	Showerhead Swap

Western Australia ready to make change!

Thursday, 1 October 2020

- WA's new container deposit scheme, Containers for Change launched today
- Customers to receive a 10 cent refund on eligible drink containers
- More than 200 refund points opening across WA
- More than 600 local jobs created at refund points across the State

Containers for Change, Western Australia's new container deposit scheme, has officially launched marking the delivery of a key McGowan Government election commitment.

From today, Western Australians will be able to cash in their eligible drink containers for a 10 cent refund at any of the more than 200 authorised Containers for Change refund points across the State.

Western Australia will have the most accessible container deposit scheme in Australia, with at least 229 refund points to be opened by the end of the scheme's first year. Almost half the refund points will be in regional Western Australia, including some of the most remote parts of the State.

More than 600 local jobs have been created at Containers for Change refund points, with many of those positions being filled by people with disability or the long-term unemployed, and also by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

It is estimated that the scheme will recycle an additional 6.6 billion containers over the next 20 years. Without the scheme it is estimated that 5.9 billion of these containers would have been landfilled and 706 million would have been littered.

Containers for Change will also provide a new way for community organisations and charities to fundraise, making it easy for Western Australians to give back to their local community.

Further information about Containers for Change, including refund point locations can be found at <http://www.containersforchange.com.au>

Comments attributed to Premier Mark McGowan:

"Today marks a very important step forward for recycling in Western Australia.

"People in WA use 1.3 billion drink containers every year, that's 3.5 million a day, 150,000 an hour and more than 2,000 a minute. We know that currently, these containers make up 41 per cent of all litter here in Western Australia.

"Containers for Change is a great win for our environment, for local jobs, for community groups and charities looking to fundraise, and for our kids to learn about the benefits of recycling.

"Western Australians have been crying out for a container deposit scheme, and I'm delighted to lead the Government that has finally delivered it for our State."

Comments attributed to Environment Minister Stephen Dawson:

"Community is at the heart of our Containers for Change scheme. It provides an exciting new opportunity for community groups, sporting clubs, charities and schools to fundraise for their important causes. We have had over 1,000 organisations already register and expect that number to continue to grow.

"I am incredibly proud that Containers for Change is providing so many employment opportunities, with more than 40 per cent of the jobs being filled by those with disability, the long-term unemployed or Aboriginal people.

"I'd strongly encourage all Western Australians to get involved, to start returning their eligible containers and start making change."

Golden Outback tourism businesses share in funding support

Monday, 5 October 2020

- 19 tourism businesses in Australia's Golden Outback receive Tourism Business Survival Grants
- Kalgoorlie's Goldrush Tours and Esperance's Cindy Poole Glass Gallery among successful local applicants
- Funding will help local tourism industry operators survive ongoing impacts of COVID-19
- Survival Grants are the second round of the McGowan Government's \$14.4 million Tourism Recovery Program

Nineteen businesses in the Australia's Golden Outback tourism region have received a share of \$8.7 million in funding support from the Tourism Business Survival Grants program.

The initiative is providing funding to tourism businesses around the State as part of the second round of the McGowan Government's \$14.4 million Tourism Recovery Program.

While much of the State is enjoying a tourism boom as Western Australians holiday at home, some regions and tourism sectors are continuing to be challenged by the impacts of COVID-19.

The program is providing grants of \$15,000-\$100,000 to help tourism operators sustain and grow their businesses in the current environment - to cover fixed costs and overheads, purchase business materials and services, and shift focus to the domestic market.

Australia's Golden Outback region stretches from Mount Augustus and the Kennedy Ranges to Esperance, including Kalgoorlie and the Goldfields. Like destinations all around the State, local tourism businesses have been impacted by COVID-19.

State Government initiatives, such as the Wander out Yonder campaign, have been helping the region to rebound, with anecdotal reports showing strong bookings not only for these school holidays but looking ahead to the December break, particularly for Esperance.

The Tourism Business Survival Grants program funding follows the initial phase of tourism industry support that focused on small businesses with one-off grants of \$6,500.

The Tourism Recovery Program has provided wide support to the regions and sectors most impacted by COVID-19, with 70 per cent of all applicants successful in receiving funding.

Over \$4 million in leftover funding from the Tourism Recovery Fund has been reallocated to the Tourism Business Survival Grants program - more than doubling the original \$4 million allocation.

A full list of successful Tourism Business Survival Grants program recipients will be available from 8am today (October 5) at <http://www.tourism.wa.gov.au>

Comments attributed to Tourism Minister Paul Papalia:

"The Golden Outback region, like all of our regional destinations, saw significant disruptions this year due to COVID-19. Businesses were unable to trade for a period, and the loss of out-of-State visitors has had unavoidable impacts on the sector.

"While things have been picking up with the Wander out Yonder campaign seeing Western Australians travelling the State in huge numbers, some businesses will continue to experience difficulties.

"Tour and experience operators like Goldrush Tours, and businesses with a stronger focus on out-of-State visitors like Cindy Poole Glass Gallery are among those likely to be more impacted for longer by COVID-19.

"The Survival Grants will help our quality local tourism businesses keep afloat, providing extra support to adjust to the current environment and look at new ways of doing business."

Comments attributed to Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Kyle McGinn:

"Goldrush Tours are a fantastic local tourism operator. It is great to see them receive funding as part of the McGowan Government's \$8.7 million Tourism Business Survival Grants program.

"The McGowan Government is working hard to ensure that tourists continue to visit regional Western Australia. As a local MLC, I look forward to seeing more visitors discover the Golden Outback with the help of our fantastic tourism operators."

Minister's office - 6552 5600

McGowan Government welcomes \$1.1 billion infrastructure spend

Monday, 5 October 2020

- The McGowan Government has welcomed today's announcement of \$1.1 billion for transport infrastructure from the Commonwealth Government
- Funding to go towards key projects negotiated by State Government to create jobs and improve safety
- New funding will extend the \$6.5 billion pipeline of major transport infrastructure work already underway in Western Australia
- McGowan Government delivering an unprecedented amount of road and rail projects across Western Australia

The McGowan Government has welcomed the \$1.1 billion transport infrastructure spend today announced by the Commonwealth Government.

The projects, negotiated by the State Government, will help create thousands of local jobs and improve safety across the State.

This will extend the \$6.5 billion pipeline of road and rail works currently underway across Western Australia, creating and supporting jobs and providing opportunities for local businesses.

The McGowan Government is already spending \$260 million a month on infrastructure, with \$100 million of this funding in regional WA.

Key projects funded in today's announcement include \$16 million for Cape Leveque access roads in the Kimberley and \$16 million for works on the Goldfields Highway (Wiluna to Meekatharra), which will enable the continuation of local jobs and training opportunities in the local area.

Regional road safety is a major priority of the McGowan Government we welcome further funding for the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network, and other regional road safety projects.

Funding for other major road projects, such as the Roe Highway interchange project, will allow the project scope to expand and to be progressed as soon as possible.

The McGowan Government has also worked to fast track approvals and cut red tape for an additional 11 major transport infrastructure projects, worth \$2.37 billion and estimated to create 13,000 local jobs.

Comments attributed to Transport Minister Rita Saffioti:

"We've worked collaboratively with the Commonwealth Government to identify projects that will create and support local jobs while also improving safety and capacity across our road and rail networks.

"We already have a pipeline of \$6.5 billion of major road and rail works underway across Western Australia over the next two years - this will extend the pipeline of work and will continue to help the State economy through and past COVID-19.

"This year alone we have seven METRONET projects under construction with several more moving into procurement phase, creating thousands of local jobs, as well as major road projects underway such as the \$175 million Albany Ring Road.

"We're building the transport infrastructure needed for tomorrow - no matter where you visit in WA you will see hard hats on the ground and infrastructure works underway."

Minister's office - 6552 5500

Apply now for next round of regional events funding

Tuesday, 6 October 2020

- Applications now open for Regional Events Scheme 2021-2022
- Up to \$1 million total funding available, including a dedicated funding pool of \$150,000 for the Regional Aboriginal Events Scheme
- Supported by the State Government, through Tourism WA and the Royalties for Regions Regional Events Program

Event holders from around the State are encouraged to apply for the 2021-2022 Regional Events Scheme funding round, which opens today.

Supported by the McGowan Government, through Tourism WA and the Regional Events Program, the initiative supports smaller and developing Western Australian events.

A total of \$1 million of funding is available through the scheme, including funding of \$150,000 for the Regional Aboriginal Events Scheme (RAES). The RAES is for events that showcase Aboriginal activities and experiences through the leadership and participation of Aboriginal people.

As part of the 2020-21 funding round, 77 diverse regional events were awarded funding, including the 2020 Brew and the Moo in Dampier, Bunbury Fringe 2021 and Starry Weekend in Koorda.

To be eligible for either scheme, events must be held between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, with event holders able to make a funding submission for between \$5,000 and \$40,000.

Applications close at 5pm WST on Tuesday, December 1, 2020.

For more information or to apply, visit <http://www.tourism.wa.gov.au/events/event-sponsorship/pages/regional-events-scheme.aspx#/>

Comments attributed to Tourism Minister Paul Papalia:

"Regional tourism plays an essential part in supporting local jobs and the economy in communities around the State, and is playing an important role as WA maps its recovery from COVID-19.

"Not only do the events awarded funding through these schemes contribute to attracting visitors to our spectacular regions, they also provide promotion for the region through media coverage and create a vibrant local atmosphere for tourists to enjoy.

"This is a brilliant opportunity for event holders to apply for funding to support their event and take advantage of the huge numbers of Western Australians travelling the State at the moment."

Comments attributed to Regional Development Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"Regional events bring communities together, supporting jobs and celebrating regional Western Australia's rich tapestry of talent and natural attractions.

"With so many Western Australians exploring the regions, events such as those under the Regional Events Scheme and Regional Aboriginal Events Scheme give communities the chance to showcase all they have to offer - and hopefully build a fan base that will live on after COVID restrictions end."

Tourism Minister's office - 6552 5600

Regional Development Minister's office - 6552 6200

New mental health services one step closer to opening

Thursday, 8 October 2020

- Service providers have been appointed to operate the Mid-West, Goldfields and Pilbara community mental health Step Up/Step Down services
- Mid-West and Goldfields services to open early next year

Three regional community mental health Step Up/Step Down services are one step closer to opening with non-government organisations appointed to operate the services.

Neami National has been awarded the tender to operate the 10-bed service that will be located in Geraldton and the 10-bed service that will be located in Kalgoorlie.

Today, Parliamentary Secretary for Mental Health Alanna Clohesy and Agricultural Region MLC Laurie Graham inspected the progress of the Geraldton site.

In the last Mid-Year Review, the McGowan Government provided an extra \$2.4 million to fast track the Mid-West service so it could open 12 months earlier than expected. Both the Mid-West and Goldfields services will open early next year.

Richmond Wellbeing has also been appointed to operate the six-bed Pilbara service which is expected to open later in 2021.

The WA Country Health Service will provide clinical supports as part of each of the services.

Community mental health Step Up/Step Down services provide a vital service for people with mental health issues, aiming to support people in the community, close to their personal support from family and friends.

The McGowan Government has invested over \$87.6 million in capital and operational funding to progress the establishment of community mental health Step Up/Step Down services to better support local communities. Along with Mid-West, Goldfields and Pilbara, these include the Kimberley (six beds), South-West (10 beds) - which opened this year - and the Great Southern (6-beds) which opened in 2018.

Mental health, alcohol and other drug services in your local area can be found at <http://www.myservices.org.au>

Comments attributed to Mental Health Minister Roger Cook:

"This year, with the COVID-19 pandemic impacting all of us, wellbeing has become more important than ever and the McGowan Government is committed to helping ensure people can access help and support when they need it, close to their homes.

Our commitment to establishing regional community mental health Step Up/Step Down services has not wavered because we know people recover from mental health issues when they can receive care, support and treatment within their own community.

By appointing the service providers, we are one step closer to opening the services for the community."

Comments attributed to Parliamentary Secretary for Mental Health Alanna Clohesy:

"I am pleased that these operators have been appointed and will soon start their transition for the service.

I look forward to seeing Neami, Richmond Wellbeing and the WA Country Health Service work together with communities to help improve mental health and wellbeing in our regions."

Comments attributed to Agricultural Region MLC Laurie Graham:

"This much-awaited service in Geraldton will be of such a great benefit to the people of Geraldton and surrounds.

Many people I talk to highlight that mental health issues are an increasing concern, so this service will be opening up at the right time to provide more support in the community."

Minister's office - 6552 6500

Recovery Budget delivers relief for regional families and drives economic activity

Thursday, 8 October 2020

- 2020-21 State Budget focused on keeping WA safe and strong
- Regional Western Australians to receive \$600 credit on electricity bills
- 800 additional police officers to be recruited across the State, on top of 300 already being delivered
- \$7.5 billion investment in infrastructure in regional WA, supporting WA jobs
- Budget locks in funding for all WA Recovery Plan projects
- Major investment in local job-creating infrastructure and important services
- McGowan Government delivers record investment for the regions

The McGowan Government's strong investment in regional Western Australia continues, with the State Budget funding vital job-creating projects and services to assist with the State's recovery.

As part of the unprecedented \$644 million WA Household Electricity Credit, each and every household in regional WA will receive a \$600 credit on their electricity bill by the end of the year.

This first-of-its kind announcement recognises that financial support and relief for Western Australians is important to help continue our recovery from the pandemic.

Regional communities will also benefit from the McGowan Government's major announcement to recruit 800 more police officers, on top of the 300 new police officers already being delivered.

This is the largest increase on record, and is expected to result in WA having the highest number of police officers per person of all States.

The Budget includes a total of \$4.2 billion in Royalties for Regions funding across regional WA, and a \$7.5 billion investment in infrastructure in the regions.

The McGowan Government continues to support vital services across regional WA, such as \$239.8 million for regional school bus services, \$1 billion to subsidise water costs for country users, and \$200 million to support remote Aboriginal communities.

The Budget fully funds the suite of regional projects announced as part of the \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan, which is delivering support for businesses and households, and driving jobs and economic growth in the region.

The 2020-21 State Budget includes:

- \$78.1 million for Stage 3 of Transforming Bunbury's Waterfront project, on top of the \$34.4 million already invested in Stages 1 and 2;
- \$125.3 million to upgrade TAFE campuses across regional WA;
- \$25 million for free TAFE short courses to upskill thousands of Western Australians, with a variety of free courses available;
- \$32 million to expand the Lower Fees, Local Skills program and significantly reduce TAFE fees across 39 high priority courses;
- \$231.7 million for capital programs at regional primary and secondary schools to deliver first-class learning experiences for WA students;
- \$21.4 million for the Regional Aviation Recovery Program to ensure affordable airfares for residents and tourists in regional WA;
- \$3 million in total for regional aviation support to ensure a minimum level of service to regional locations;

- \$116 million across the State for the Regional Land Booster package that will make residential, commercial and industrial lots more affordable;
- \$100 million for the Regional State Road Safety Improvement Program;
- An additional \$5 million to the Exploration Incentive Scheme in 2020-21 to help accelerate exploration investment across WA;
- \$121.6 million for priority upgrades and improvements across WA's regional ports;
- \$25 million for the Healthy Estuaries WA program for improvement works in estuaries across regional WA;
- \$13 million to upgrade, refurbish and maintain police stations across regional WA;
- \$38.9 million to fast-track upgrades to water services in remote and town-based Aboriginal communities;
- \$9.77 million for Aboriginal regional suicide prevention plans in each region of WA prioritising Aboriginal-led and locally endorsed initiatives that accommodate a culturally informed social and emotional wellbeing approach to suicide prevention;
- \$51.2 million in renewable energy infrastructure as part of a Regional Infrastructure Stimulus Package;
- \$22.2 million for sport and community infrastructure in regional WA;
- \$87.7 million for other infrastructure upgrades at tourist destinations and natural attractions across regional WA;
- \$18.3 million to upgrade Moonamang Road to support development in the Ord;
- \$10 million to build the access road in Murujuga National Park to support the development of the Living Knowledge Centre and World Heritage Listing;
- \$10.5 million to upgrade the entrance road to Boodarie Strategic Industrial Area in Hedland;
- \$7 million for immediate measures to assist with access to the Carnarvon fascine while also finalising and implementing a long-term plan;
- \$16.6 million towards the delivery of a new power station for Esperance;
- \$7 million to expand the capacity of the Joe Lord Core Library in Kalgoorlie that stores core samples that contain valuable geoscientific information for exploration companies and others seeking mineral discoveries;
- \$18 million for the construction of a 75-bed Aboriginal short stay accommodation facility in Geraldton, providing temporary accommodation for Aboriginal people visiting Geraldton;
- \$3 million towards the construction of two new fast speed ferry jetties for passenger and commercial boats, including supporting new marine tourism ventures and tourism developments at the Houtman Abrolhos Islands;
- \$8.65 million to invest in upgraded infrastructure, including roads and drainage in East Keralup to attract private industry and create local jobs;
- \$38 million of additional funding towards the Bunbury Hospital redevelopment, on top of the \$22.8 million already allocated; and
- \$3.08 million to complete the final stage of the Margaret River Main Street Redevelopment Project, on top of the \$5.5 million already invested into the project.

The McGowan Government has a record of major investment across regional WA over the past four years. Projects currently underway or completed include:

- \$22 million towards Stage 1 and 2 of the Chinatown Revitalisation Project in Broome;
- fast-track the Great Northern Highway Ord River North Stage 3 and 4 with construction to commence in March 2021;
- \$51.5 million for the upgrade of Duncan Road and Gordon Downs Road;
- \$25.8 million to upgrade Great Northern Highway from Broome to Kununurra;
- \$42.7 million to upgrade Tanami Road;
- \$68.5 million for the Great Northern Highway upgrade at Bow River and Maggie's Jump Up;
- \$36 million to continue improvements of the Gibb River Road;

- \$65.7 million to continue work on upgrades to Broome-Cape Leveque Road (created 290 jobs with nearly two thirds of total project work hours on site completed by Aboriginal people);
- \$20 million over five years into the Aboriginal Ranger Program;
- \$19.3 million towards upgrades to Broome Senior High School;
- \$25 million for the Kimberley Schools program to drive better education outcomes in the region;
- \$310 million for the ongoing construction of the Karratha to Tom Price Road;
- \$54 million towards the upgrade of the Marble Bar Road through Coongan Gorge;
- \$136.5 million in funding towards the Port Hedland Spoilbank Marina and waterfront development;
- \$13.8 million to the Pilbara Health Initiative for medical specialists to service Karratha Health Campus and surrounding areas;
- \$61.4 million to redevelop the Newman Health Service;
- \$15 million towards much-needed upgrades and repairs at Hedland Senior High School
- \$8 million to complete work on the Karratha Health Campus;
- \$14.8 million towards the Step Up/Step Down mental health facility in Karratha;
- \$17.8 million to support the Karlarra House residential aged care facility in Port Hedland;
- \$18.8 million towards the new 38-bed residential aged and palliative care facility in Carnarvon;
- \$26.6 million to continue to deliver the Carnarvon Community College;
- \$40 million towards the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway between Emu Rocks and Norseman including reconstructing, overlaying and widening sections;
- \$24.8 million for upgrades to Great Eastern Highway between Anzac Drive and Gatacre Drive in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, created 110 jobs;
- \$18.34 million for South Regional TAFE's new Esperance campus;
- \$8 million to the Kalgoorlie City Centre project, which will help to transform central Kalgoorlie while driving local jobs and Aboriginal economic development in construction;
- \$164.1 million for sealing priority sections of Outback Way;
- \$6.3 million to build an MRI suite at Kalgoorlie Health Campus;
- \$12.5 million in funding towards the 10-bed Step Up/Step Down mental health facility in Kalgoorlie;
- \$23.8 million for upgrades to the Tjuntjuntjara community housing and infrastructure;
- \$9.8 million to Killarney Retirement Living for the construction of a new 45-unit independent village for aged pensioners;
- \$6.9 million for the State Barrier Fence Esperance extension;
- \$4.78 million for the Esperance indoor sports stadium;
- \$30 million for the upgrade of South Coast Highway - Albany to Jerramungup;
- \$175 million for the Albany Ring Road project;
- \$13.1 million to deliver radiotherapy services in Albany;
- \$6.3 million for a new Performing Arts Centre at Albany Senior High School;
- \$9.8 million for upgrades to the Albany Secondary Education Support Centre and North Albany Senior High School;
- \$15.2 million major upgrade to Albany's Mount Lockyer Primary School;
- \$5.72 million for the Katanning Early Childhood Hub;
- \$10 million to better protect the Abrolhos Islands and create tourism and job opportunities;
- \$82.3 million for the redevelopment of the Geraldton Health Campus;
- \$10.2 million for the Geraldton Step Up/Step Down mental health facility;
- \$35 million to upgrade roads related to the Square Kilometre Array project;

- \$6.5 million to upgrade the Geraldton Airport runway;
- \$21.4 million in upgrades to Geraldton's Champion Bay Senior High School;
- \$32.1 million to build the Mandurah Station car park;
- \$49.3 million funding towards the Transform Peel project;
- \$10 million for the Mandurah eastern foreshore redevelopment;
- \$27.5 million for the Pinjarra heavy haulage deviation;
- \$4.9 million to upgrade Peel Health Campus emergency department;
- \$4.4 million in upgrades to Peel Health Campus including an expanded car park; overhauled nurse call system and increased security, as well as a range of proactive building maintenance projects;
- \$7 million to upgrade level crossings on the South West train line in Cookernup, Coolup and Waroona;
- \$18 million for the Bushfire Centre of Excellence in Nambeelup;
- \$8.7 million for improvement and safety works on Pinjarra-Williams Road;
- \$4.95 million to help implement the Dwellingup Adventure Trails project;
- unveiled the designs of the brand new \$54.7 million Australind railcar sets;
- \$4.6 million for a 10-bed Step Up/Step Down facility in Bunbury, which opened in March 2020;
- \$25.4 million investment to increase prison capacity at Bunbury Regional Prison by 160 additional beds;
- \$60 million for the Collie Industry Attraction and Development Fund;
- \$18 million for the Collie Futures Fund;
- \$2 million Collie Futures Small Grants Program;
- \$5.2 million to deliver the tourism precinct for Collie's Lake Kepwari;
- \$85 million to construct Stages 1 and 2 for Bussell Highway dual carriageway;
- \$12.2 million to upgrade Collie Hospital;
- \$58 million for the Margaret River Perimeter Road;
- \$30 million for the Margaret River High School redevelopment;
- \$87.5 million for the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Route;
- \$22.5 million towards road safety treatments to the Great Eastern Highway from Walgoolan to Southern Cross;
- \$17.68 million towards the Central East Aged Care Alliance network of 71 independent living units across 11 Wheatbelt shires;
- \$10 million of funding allocated to AgLime transport networks to support the safe and efficient travel of freight vehicles;
- \$42 million redevelopment on the Northam Health Service;
- \$17.7 million for the redevelopment and upgrade of Merredin District Hospital in the Eastern Wheatbelt District and the Narrogin District Health Campus in the Upper Great Southern District;
- \$5.23 million upgrades to the Jurien Bay Health Centre;
- \$5.3 million upgrades to Moora Health Service;
- \$7 million to roll out high-speed broadband to farming properties across WA through the Digital Farm program; and
- \$33.9 million to drive local jobs in regional areas through the Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants program.

For more information, visit <https://www.ourstatebudget.wa.gov.au>

Comments attributed to Premier Mark McGowan:

"Regional households are big winners in the State Budget.

"Financial support and relief for Western Australians is important to help continue our recovery from the pandemic. That's why we've taken the unprecedented step of giving each and every household in WA a \$600 credit on their electricity bill this year.

"We know that the pandemic has been extremely challenging for many in our community, and this assistance will make life a little easier for local families.

"I'm also pleased to announce that the local community will benefit from our major boost to police officers. This is the largest increase on record, placing more officers out on the beat and keeping the community safe.

"The State Budget fully delivers on the \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan, which includes major upgrades to infrastructure and services across regional WA, driving economic recovery and creating a pipeline of local jobs.

"Even though COVID-19 caused the largest global economic shock in nearly 100 years, WA's economic and financial position is better than first expected due to our world-leading response and border controls.

"By keeping WA safe and strong, Western Australia can recover from COVID-19, stronger than ever."

Comments attributed to Regional Development Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"The State Budget continues our record of investment in regional WA.

"The McGowan Government's ongoing guarantee to deliver Royalties for Regions ensures Western Australians have access to quality services, no matter where they live.

"For the past four years, we have been focused on creating local jobs, delivering our election commitments in the region, and ensuring we continue to improve local infrastructure and services like hospitals and schools."

Premier's office - 6552 5000

Regional Development Minister's office - 6552 6200

McGowan Government commits more than \$750 million to enhance Aboriginal wellbeing

Thursday, 8 October 2020

- Significant investment in Aboriginal communities and wellbeing in 2020-21 State Budget
- More than \$326 million committed to build or improve infrastructure for Aboriginal communities
- More than \$51.2 million funding to improve the health and wellbeing of Western Australians, including for Aboriginal people
- More than \$387 million to be spent on generating economic activity and creating WA jobs to improve social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal communities
- McGowan Government continues work to reset the relationship between communities and the State

The McGowan Government has committed more than \$750 million in today's State Budget to enhance the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal communities.

This is a record investment in Aboriginal communities and highlights the McGowan Government's commitment to building the resilience and capacity of Aboriginal communities and individuals.

The funding is split over three key policy areas: building strong communities, improving health and wellbeing and delivering social and economic opportunities.

Building stronger communities:

- \$193 million to deliver essential services in remote Aboriginal communities, including repairs and maintenance for Aboriginal housing, tenancy support, and delivery of essential and municipal services, following the withdrawal of Commonwealth funding;
- \$25 million for targeted maintenance of social housing in remote Aboriginal communities, as part of a broader \$80 million provided to maintain regional social housing and subsidised housing for regional government workers;
- \$20 million to build a 70 bed Aboriginal short stay accommodation facility in Kununurra, providing temporary accommodation for Aboriginal people visiting the area;
- \$12.9 million towards the response to 'Closing the Gap', as a result of the withdrawal of Commonwealth funding;
- \$38.9 million to deliver improved water and wastewater services in remote communities and town-based communities, including Ardyaloon, Djarindjin, Lombadina and Beagle Bay;
- \$18.5 million over four years to support Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation services in Derby, Broome and Kalgoorlie. These three facilities provide accommodation for Aboriginal people for up to 28 days while they access health or other government services in these regional hub towns; and
- \$18 million for Geraldton Aboriginal short stay accommodation facility.

Improving health and wellbeing:

- \$3.9 million will be spent over two years on the Syphilis Prevention and Control Program in the Kimberley, Pilbara and the Goldfields. This includes the recruitment of additional Aboriginal team members to work within syphilis prevention;

- \$19.8 million to be spent on mental health initiatives to improve the wellbeing of Aboriginal people, including \$9.8 million for Aboriginal Suicide Prevention Plans and \$10 million under the Commitment to Aboriginal Youth Wellbeing package;
- \$6.8 million in 2020-21 to fund the Aboriginal Community Connectors program to help improve community safety and reduce community consequences of alcohol and drug related at risk behaviours;
- \$9.2 million over four years for ambulance services in the Kimberley, including three paid paramedics at Derby, Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek and six new ambulances for the Kimberley; and
- \$11.5 million over four years to support adult dental services, support for people affected by lymphoedema, and improving employment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the aged-care sector.

Delivering social and economic opportunities:

- \$72 million for an Economic Benefits Package, Business Development Unit, strategic water reserves, water monitoring activities, tourism development and land parcels as part of the Yamatji Nation Indigenous Land Use Agreement;
- \$302 million for the finalisation of the South West Native Title Settlement;
- As part of the McGowan Government's Kimberley Juvenile Justice Strategy, an additional \$6.2 million will be spent over the next four years to improve youth justice outcomes in the Kimberley, including \$1.2 million in 2020-21 to deliver a work pilot skills program for juveniles in Broome and Kununurra;
- \$5.3 million will be spent over the next four years for the Gibson Desert Nature Reserve Agreement and Gibson Desert Nature Reserve Compensation Settlement;
- \$1.3 million will be spent over 2020-21 to 2022-23 to establish an Empowered Youth Leadership Network in the Kimberley;
- \$310,000 to support Aboriginal people to participate in elections, with the employment of a dedicated community liaison officer and casual regional community liaison officers to engage with Aboriginal communities in order to enhance the effectiveness of election services being delivered; and
- The Green Jobs Plan will not only protect WA's natural environment and promote growth in conservation jobs across the State, it will also support Aboriginal employment on country and provide significant opportunities for young people and unskilled workers.

Comments attributed to Treasurer and Aboriginal Affairs Minister Ben Wyatt:

"This unprecedented investment to improve the wellbeing of our First Nation Peoples is about resetting the relationship between the State and Aboriginal communities.

"The wide ranging funding initiatives are an integrated social and economic development tapestry designed to empower Aboriginal people and their communities to benefit from a growing and inclusive economy.

"It builds on our policy announced last financial year to build the resilience and capacity of Aboriginal communities through a partnership model.

"No other Government has invested so significantly in empowering Aboriginal communities and individuals to make positive changes for their communities and themselves."

Treasurer's office - 6552 5900

Recovery Budget delivers relief for Goldfields-Esperance families and drives economic activity

Thursday, 8 October 2020

- 2020-21 State Budget focused on keeping WA safe and strong
- Goldfields-Esperance region residents to receive \$600 credit on electricity bills
- 800 additional police officers to be recruited across the State, on top of 300 already being delivered
- \$7.5 billion investment in infrastructure in regional WA, supporting WA jobs
- Budget locks in funding for all Goldfields-Esperance WA Recovery Plan projects
- Major investment in local job-creating infrastructure and important services
- McGowan Government delivers record investment for the region

The McGowan Government's strong investment in the Goldfields-Esperance region continues, with the State Budget funding vital job-creating projects and services to assist with the region's recovery.

As part of the unprecedented \$644 million WA Household Electricity Credit, households in the Goldfields-Esperance region will receive a \$600 credit on their electricity bill by the end of the year.

This first-of-its kind announcement recognises that financial support and relief for Western Australians is important to help continue our recovery from the pandemic.

The region will also benefit from the McGowan Government's major announcement to recruit 800 more police officers, on top of the 300 new police officers already being delivered.

This is the largest increase on record, and is expected to result in WA having the highest number of police officers per person of all States.

The Budget includes a total of \$4.2 billion in Royalties for Regions funding across regional WA, and a \$7.5 billion investment in infrastructure in the regions.

The McGowan Government continues to support vital services across regional WA, such as \$239.8 million for regional school bus services, \$1 billion to subsidise water costs for country users, and \$200 million to support remote Aboriginal communities.

The Budget fully funds the suite of projects in the Goldfields-Esperance region announced as part of the \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan, which is delivering support for businesses and households, and driving jobs and economic growth in the region.

The 2020-21 State Budget includes:

- \$10 million to Central Regional TAFE's Kalgoorlie campus for a new Heavy Plant and Engineering Trades Workshop to expand training for mechanic and engineering trades, tailored to support resource sector needs;
- \$25 million for free TAFE short courses to upskill thousands of Western Australians, with a variety of free courses available at Central Regional TAFE's Kalgoorlie campus;
- \$32 million to expand the Lower Fees, Local Skills program and significantly reduce TAFE fees across 39 high priority courses;
- \$16.6 million towards the delivery of a new power station for Esperance;
- An additional \$5 million to the Exploration Incentive Scheme in 2020-21 to help accelerate exploration investment in the Goldfields;
- \$5 million through the Regional Road Safety Program to upgrade 275 kilometres of Goldfields-Esperance roads with shoulder sealing and installation of audible lines, creating around 25 local jobs;

- \$3 million across the State for regional aviation support to ensure a minimum level of service to regional locations, including the Goldfields-Esperance region;
- \$700,000 for upgrades to visitor facilities in national parks across the Goldfields-Esperance region including buildings, trails, camp sites and roads;
- \$150,000 to upgrade the access road to Dunn Rocks beach/camp ground in Cape Le Grand National Park near Esperance;
- \$400,000 to upgrade visitor facilities at Credo Station, Rowles Lagoon, Goongarrie National Park, Stokes National Park, Cape Le Grand National Park, Cape Arid National Park and Esperance Lakes Nature Reserves;
- \$7 million to expand the capacity of the Joe Lord Core Library in Kalgoorlie that stores core samples that contain valuable geoscientific information for exploration companies and others seeking mineral discoveries;
- \$10.2 million towards projects at Esperance Port to help expand the port and increase safety; and
- \$600,000 to install a Battery Energy System in Menzies to allow more customers to install rooftop solar systems and reduce their power bills.

To view the full list of Goldfields-Esperance region WA Recovery Plan projects funded in the State Budget, visit <https://www.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-08/Goldfields-Esperance-Recovery-Plan.pdf>

The McGowan Government has a record of major investment in the Goldfields-Esperance region over the past four years. Projects currently underway or completed include:

- \$40 million for the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway between Emu Rocks and Norseman including reconstructing, overlaying and widening sections;
- \$24.8 million for upgrades to Great Eastern Highway between Anzac Drive and Gatacre Drive in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, created 110 jobs;
- \$3.3 million widening and sealing of 11 kilometres of Great Eastern Highway between Kalgoorlie and Coolgardie;
- \$18.34 million for South Regional TAFE's new Esperance campus;
- \$8 million to the Kalgoorlie City Centre project, which will help to transform central Kalgoorlie while driving local jobs and Aboriginal economic development in construction;
- \$164.1 million for sealing priority sections of Outback Way;
- \$1.6 million for the Woodlands Cultural, Community and Visitor Centre in Norseman;
- \$1.3 million for the Great Beyond Visitor Centre in Laverton;
- \$6.3 million to build an MRI suite at Kalgoorlie Health Campus;
- \$12.5 million in funding towards the 10-bed Step Up/Step Down mental health facility in Kalgoorlie;
- \$3.5 million towards the Leonora Ageing in Place project;
- Funded a new 64-slice CT scanner for Kalgoorlie Hospital;
- Delivered science labs to Hannans, O'Connor, East Kalgoorlie, Kalgoorlie, North Kalgoorlie and South Kalgoorlie primary schools;
- A new Family and Domestic Violence One Stop Hub to be located in Kalgoorlie;
- \$3.25 million for upgrade to the Tjuntjuntjara Community Resource Centre;
- Invested \$23.8 million for upgrades to the Tjuntjuntjara community housing and infrastructure;
- \$9.8 million to Killarney Retirement Living for the construction of a new 45-unit independent village for aged pensioners;
- \$1.07 million towards maintenance of the Goldfields Arts Centre;
- \$1.9 million for upgrades to the Norseman airstrip;
- \$4 million to the Laverton Community Hub upgrade to the aquatic centre;
- \$6.9 million to upgrade Shed 4 at the Port of Esperance;
- \$6.9 million for the State Barrier Fence Esperance extension;
- \$4.78 million for the Esperance indoor sports stadium; and

- \$1.46 million to drive local jobs in the Goldfields and Esperance through the Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants program.

For more information, visit <https://www.ourstatebudget.wa.gov.au>

Comments attributed to Premier Mark McGowan:

"Goldfields-Esperance region households are big winners in the State Budget.

"Financial support and relief for Western Australians is important to help continue our recovery from the pandemic. That's why we've taken the unprecedented step of giving households across WA a \$600 credit on their electricity bill this year.

"We know that the pandemic has been extremely challenging for many in our community, and this assistance will make life a little easier for local families.

"I'm also pleased to announce that the local community will benefit from our major boost to police officers. This is the largest increase on record, placing more officers out on the beat and keeping the community safe.

"The State Budget fully delivers on the \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan, which includes major upgrades to infrastructure and services in the Goldfields-Esperance region, driving economic recovery and creating a pipeline of local jobs.

"Even though COVID-19 caused the largest global economic shock in nearly 100 years, WA's economic and financial position is better than first expected due to our world-leading response and border controls.

"By keeping WA safe and strong, Western Australia can recover from COVID-19, stronger than ever."

Comments attributed to Regional Development Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"The State Budget continues our record of investment in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

"The McGowan Government's ongoing guarantee to deliver Royalties for Regions ensures Western Australians have access to quality services, no matter where they live.

"For the past four years, we have been focused on creating local jobs, delivering our election commitments in the region, and ensuring we continue to improve local infrastructure and services like hospitals and schools."

Premier's office - 6552 5000

Regional Development Minister's office - 6552 6200

\$8.3 million to fund valuable airborne fire-mapping technology

Thursday, 8 October 2020

- Budget includes investment in multispectral line scanner and high-performance aircraft
- New line scanner and plane can provide highly valuable near real-time data for aerial fire mapping and flooding
- Enhanced mapping can play significant role in fighting fires and ensuring firefighter safety

A multimillion dollar investment in high-tech fire mapping capabilities will help Western Australian firefighters and communities better manage bushfires throughout the State.

The State Budget includes \$8.3 million for a new high-performance aircraft and multispectral line scanner that is capable of mapping a fire in just minutes.

The line scanner can also determine the range of temperatures within a fire and help firefighters map where the fire is travelling and how best to deploy resources.

The aircraft is capable of mapping multiple fires across the State in one journey, and providing near real-time data back to incident controllers and other support staff that will make a significant difference to fire management and community safety.

The line scanner technology can also be used to map large hazards such as floods and offshore oil spills.

The new line scanner and aircraft is expected to be in use for the coming bushfire season.

Comments attributed to Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan:

"Accurately mapping a fire and predicting where it will go can make a significant difference in getting it under control or contained as quickly as possible.

"That information helps determine how best to deploy firefighters and other assets as well as how best to keep them safe and other members of the community.

"The McGowan Government has committed \$8.3 million to ensure that our emergency services have access to highly valuable technology that can be quickly deployed and will provide near real-time data.

"Western Australia has used line scanners before with assistance from the Federal Government, but in recent years that support has not been readily forthcoming so the McGowan Government has stepped in to provide better certainty for our emergency services."

Minister's office - 6552 6300

Grant program to support connection to Country

Friday, 9 October 2020

- Connecting to Country grant program open now
- Grants up to \$25,000 available to Aboriginal people and organisations
- Funding to support for Country activities

A grant program opening soon will support Western Australian Aboriginal people and organisations to undertake trips to renew links between community, Country and culture.

Connecting to Country provides grants up to \$25,000 for a wide range of activities that foster the transfer of knowledge between generations, preservation of culture and strengthening of communities.

This may include activities that improve understanding of Country, ancestry and kinship; to activities that promote positive mental health, wellbeing and resilience through community-led cultural healing projects.

The funding may support costs such as travel, equipment hire, specialist services, documentation or other costs associated with the project.

Applications open on October 13, 2020 and close on November 10, 2020.

[Connecting to Country](#) is administered by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

Comments attributed to Culture and the Arts Minister David Templeman:

"Western Australia is home to diverse and varied Aboriginal communities, cultures and stories.

"Connecting to Country will support the sharing of cultural knowledge and skills between generations, such as through the preservation of language, stories and dance.

"It will support leadership development for young Aboriginal people, contribute to stronger community mental health and wellbeing, and promote traditional ways of maintaining cultural knowledge."

Comments attributed to Aboriginal Affairs Minister Ben Wyatt:

"Connecting to Country will deliver benefits for Aboriginal communities - particularly young Aboriginal people - across the State.

"The funded activities will strengthen the connections Aboriginal people have to their culture, language and Country - connections that are known to be a crucial component of Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing.

"Importantly, the program also supports Aboriginal people to have autonomy in leading initiatives that will strengthen their individual communities and culture."

Culture and the Arts Minister's office - 6552 5400

Aboriginal Affairs Minister's office - 6552 5900

Round Three of Digital Farm grants to boost connectivity

Monday, 12 October 2020

- Third round of the McGowan Government's highly successful Digital Farm Grants now open
- \$7 million available to boost broadband in priority areas across the central, south-east and Esperance grainbelt areas
- Digital Farm program already rolling out enterprise-grade broadband to more than 1,400 farms across WA

A \$7 million funding round is now open under the McGowan Government's highly successful Digital Farm Grants program to boost broadband for farms and residents across regional Western Australia.

Round Three of the program is offering funding for telecommunications providers who can deliver innovative solutions to enable high-capacity broadband connectivity.

The funding is available for three high priority areas across the central, south-east and Esperance parts of WA's grainbelt region.

In the first two rounds of the program, \$7 million was granted to six grant recipients, to assist them in rolling out broadband services to more than 1,400 farm businesses across 65,000 square kilometres - from the Kimberley to the Great Southern.

Applications close Friday November 20, 2020. For more information about the program or to submit an application - visit <http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/digitalfarm>

Comments attributed to Agriculture and Food Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"The Digital Farm Grants program has been a huge success, delivering high-speed broadband right across the grainbelt and helping our farmers to stay competitive in the 21st century.

"Access to high-speed broadband is essential for today's farmers and growers to access smart farming technologies and compete globally.

"Areas targeted under this third funding round face highly variable bandwidth, download limits and service quality: the failings of the NBN's Skymuster service is holding these regions back.

"This program has had great success in attracting commercial investment to deliver fast, reliable, affordable and scalable broadband to new areas.

"It has proven vital in helping bridge the 'digital divide' and provide regional people with comparable - and in many cases better - services than their city counterparts."

Minister's office - 6552 6200

Grants open for WA sport and recreation industry to support club development

Monday, 12 October 2020

- \$1.2 million to extend the Every Club grants scheme for two more years to support grassroots sport and recreation clubs
- Local governments and State Sporting Associations eligible for grant funding to improve the governance, planning and management practices of clubs
- Applications for the 2020-21 funding round open on October 12

The State Government has committed \$600,000 of funding per year for two years to support club development.

The application round for 2020-21 will open on October 12, 2020 and close on November 9, 2020.

The Every Club grant scheme provides funding that enables eligible State Sporting Associations (SSAs) and local governments to support sport and recreation clubs and their volunteers to build their organisational capacity and capability.

The grants are part of the broader Every Club program aimed at providing an accessible and sustainable model of club development to sport and recreation clubs across Western Australia.

The Every Club grants scheme is one of the four key initiatives of the McGowan Government's [Every Club program](#), which includes:

- Every Club Hub - access to online information and resources for clubs;
- Every Club Network - networking and professional development opportunities for club development professionals in local government authorities and State Sporting Associations;
- Every Club Education - learning and development opportunities for clubs and members of the sport and recreation workforce; and
- Every Club Grant Scheme - investment in local government authorities and State Sporting Associations to create and implement club development plans.

Application form and grant guidelines for the Every Club grant scheme can be found at <https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/funding/sport-and-recreation-funding/every-club-grant-scheme>

Comments attributed to Sport and Recreation Minister Mick Murray:

"The 5,500 sport and recreation clubs across Western Australia serve as the lifeblood of their communities, and the Every Club program ensures the invaluable volunteers that make the operation of those clubs possible have access to the information and resources they need, when they need them.

"The program funds local governments and State Sporting Associations to deliver programs to clubs that enable them to upskill and address common areas for improvement, ensuring they are in a strong position to continue delivering great sporting opportunities to grassroots participants across the State."

Minister's office - 6552 6400

New online register to boost opportunities for locals in Goldfields-Esperance

Monday, 12 October 2020

- New online business register to support local purchasing for Goldfields-Esperance businesses in the mining and mining services sector
- Initiative a result of McGowan Government and private sector collaboration

A new online business capability register will boost local opportunities for Goldfields-Esperance businesses by connecting them with the region's mining companies and major suppliers.

Premier Mark McGowan announced the launch of the G.E (Goldfields-Esperance) Business Register at Diggers and Dealers in Kalgoorlie-Boulder today.

The register, a joint initiative between the McGowan Government and local business and industry groups, will give mining companies, their major suppliers and State Government agencies more streamlined access to small to medium regional enterprises.

It will also showcase business capabilities and promote more business interaction and local procurement for products and services.

The register is a collaboration between Goldfields-Esperance mining companies, Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia, Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission, the WA Government's Regional Local Content Initiative and Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The Goldfields-Esperance region supports more than 30,000 jobs and has an annual economic output in excess of \$20 billion.

Comments attributed to Premier Mark McGowan:

"The G.E Business Register will create opportunities for local businesses and jobs for local workers.

"There are many high-quality and innovative service providers within our State and it is more important than ever to promote opportunities for these businesses, as we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This is a prime example of the Goldfields-Esperance mining and business community coming together with the State Government to support an initiative that will benefit many local regional small and medium businesses."

Comments attributed to Regional Development Minister Alannah MacTiernan:

"Discussions with the mining sector have found many mining companies are not fully aware of the number of small to medium enterprises in the region or their capabilities and how to connect with them.

"This register helps overcome this challenge and ensures our region's mining and mining services sector has easier access to local businesses and the breadth of products and services on offer."

Comments attributed to Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia CEO Paul Everingham:

"Small and medium-sized businesses are vital to regional communities like the Goldfields.

"This online portal will increase opportunities for those businesses to work with our members and mining operations in the region, and will also help them to better connect and collaborate with each other.

"Our members always look to spend locally and this initiative will provide more avenues to do so, helping them plan for future tenders and procurements."

Premier's office - 6552 5000

Regional Development Minister's office - 6552 6200

New bushfire and emergency services facilities for Esperance region

Monday, 12 October 2020

- \$364,464 co-located facility for Quarry Road Bush Fire Brigade and Esperance Emergency Support Unit
- \$366,599 Coomalbidgup Bush Fire Brigade shed
- \$148,332 Howick Bush Fire Brigade shed
- New facilities complement more than \$10 million invested in bushfire management for the region since the 2015 bushfires

Just under \$900,000 of Emergency Services Levy funding has been invested in volunteer emergency services facilities in the Shire of Esperance.

Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan and Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner Darren Klemm AFSM spent Sunday and Monday joining the official openings of the new facilities.

The Quarry Road Bushfire Brigade and Esperance Emergency Support Unit now have a new \$364,464 facility.

The new station has four appliance bays, a training room, modern amenities and a base radio.

Coomalbidgup Bushfire Brigade now has a \$366,599 purpose-built station for the first time with room for two appliances and a meeting area.

The brigade also plans to hold community events at the new station.

Howick Bushfire Brigade also has a new \$148,332 building that includes an appliance bay and modern amenities.

These new stations are part of a suite of initiatives that have seen over \$10 million invested in the Esperance region to reduce bushfire risks and strengthen response and recovery capabilities following the 2015 bushfires.

Other initiatives include the interagency South East Fire Working Group to identify and prioritise bushfire risk, vehicle trials to improve all-terrain capability of the firefighting fleet, installation of a standard radio repeater at Peak Charles, replacing 14 of the 28 fire appliances based in the region and having additional DFES personnel based in Esperance when the Fire Danger Rating is severe or above.

Comments attributed to Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan:

"This investment, funded by the Emergency Services Levy, ensures the region's emergency service volunteers have access to modern facilities in time for this bushfire season.

"These new emergency service facilities and bushfire sheds will help volunteers better prepare and respond to emergencies in their area.

"Since the devastating fires in 2015, the State Government has invested in a range of initiatives to strengthen Esperance's bushfire management capacity and to support local volunteer brigades.

"That has included new fire appliances, greater mitigation, funding support for the Shire of Esperance to identify its bushfire risks and improving communications in the area."

Minister's office - 6552 6300

Funding awarded for regional community partnerships

Tuesday, 13 October 2020

- Funding awarded to support vibrant communities and thriving regions across WA
- Horizon Power allocates \$699,500 through its Community Partnerships Program
- 73 community initiatives to benefit from funding of up to \$50,000

The State Government, through Horizon Power's Community Partnerships Program, has awarded funding to 73 community programs and initiatives throughout regional Western Australia.

The program is an investment in vibrant communities and thriving regions, focused on delivering positive outcomes through the arts, sport, health and education.

An investment of \$1.1 million was allocated in July 2020 and \$699,500 was awarded in this first round of funding, with up to \$50,000 available to each community program.

Successful applicants include Glass Jar Australia and the Clontarf Foundation where funding will support the empowerment of regional Aboriginal peoples through employment pathways and positive education outcomes.

In the Kimberley, Pilbara and Mid-West, Fair Game Australia will receive funding to support community health programs, while in the Gascoyne and Goldfields, funding allocated to the Stephen Michael Foundation will support a sustainable sports program to engage local young people.

Round 2 applications will open in February 2021. For more information, visit <http://www.horizonpower.com.au/community>

Comments attributed to Energy Minister Bill Johnston:

"The State Government is committed to making a positive contribution to the wellbeing of regional Western Australian communities.

"Supporting Aboriginal peoples' employment pathways and education outcomes is a key priority for the McGowan Labor Government.

"The Community Partnerships Program is another great example of Horizon Power working alongside the communities it serves, while also helping to support the development of prosperous regional economies."

Minister's office - 6552 6700

More police on the beat in regional WA as part of Budget boost

Wednesday, 14 October 2020

- 98 additional police officers expected in regional WA in 2020-21
- Part of \$314 million boost to police numbers funded in State Budget
- WA expected to have the highest number of police officers per person of all States
- Unprecedented boost to frontline policing to keep WA safe and strong

The McGowan Government is expected to deliver 98 additional police officers to regional Western Australia this year, as part of the \$314 million boost to police numbers announced in the State Budget.

Premier Mark McGowan and Police Minister Michelle Roberts last week announced an additional 800 police officers over the next four years, meaning WA will have the highest number of officers per person of all the States.

These officers will be split between the city and the regions.

As part of the unprecedented investment in police numbers, 98 additional police officers will be allocated to regional WA in 2020-21 alone. They will fill roles including, general duties, court security and custody, youth policing and intelligence officers.

Allocations in future years will be subject to the ongoing impact of COVID-19 and will be determined by the Police Commissioner.

Comments attributed to Premier Mark McGowan:

"Regional WA will be a big winner from this unprecedented investment in police numbers, with a significant portion allocated to regional communities.

"Nearly half of the new officers recruited this year will be deployed to regional WA, part of our commitment to keeping our State safe and strong.

"Regional communities will benefit from have a more visible police presence on the streets, in the areas they are needed most.

"My Government is proud of our commitment to keeping Western Australians safe, through the biggest single injection to police officer numbers in decades."

Comments attributed to Police Minister Michelle Roberts:

"It's important that we support regional communities.

"Despite misleading claims by the Liberals and Nationals, there are already 110 more police officers in regional WA, than when they were in Government.

"WA is the biggest Policing jurisdiction in the world and our Police do an amazing job protecting communities throughout our vast State.

"This commitment by the Government demonstrates our determination to support our hardworking Police and ensure that all of WA receives a swift and effective response from our Police Force."

Premier's office - 6552 5000

Police Minister's office - 6552 6900

Housing strategy details social and affordable homes plan 2020-2030

Wednesday, 14 October 2020

- WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030 will connect people to safe, stable and sustainable homes while improving choice and affordability
- Strategy includes a target to connect 150,000 households with a home by 2030

Housing Minister Peter Tinley has launched a new housing strategy for Western Australia that will deliver a new direction for housing in the State in the coming decade.

The WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030, launched at an event hosted by the Urban Development Institute of Australia and the Housing Industry Association, with representatives from the housing not-for-profit sector and private industry, will connect people to safe, stable and sustainable homes.

At the same time, it will improve housing choice and outcomes for households and communities and create an agile housing system responsive to social and economic changes.

The Strategy commits to:

- connecting 150,000 WA households to a home;
- building liveable, inclusive and connected communities that improve social and economic participation;
- creating jobs and contributing to the State's economy; and
- improving outcomes through a more integrated approach to housing and service assistance.

To reach the 150,000 households connected to a home target by 2030, the Strategy calls for a more diverse rental sector which will support 130,000 households to access a private rental home.

It also sets a target for a six per cent net increase in social housing - adding 2,600 homes to the 42,932 social homes in WA.

The WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030 is an example of best-practice policy development and was informed by a consultation process which involved more than 600 individuals and 200 organisations across the State, including stakeholders from the private and community sectors, government and people with lived experience.

The Department of Communities is developing three plans to support implementation of the Strategy. The Affordable Housing Implementation Plan, due for completion later this year, will set the agenda and articulate the roles and responsibilities in relation to affordable housing delivery.

The Social Housing Framework will consider how to create a more agile social housing system that can respond to changing housing needs. It is expected to be launched in mid-2021.

The Regional and Remote Housing Implementation Plan will assess the unique needs and characteristics of each region and is due to be rolled out in late 2021.

The new Strategy builds on the Affordable Housing Strategy 2010-2020 and the Affordable Housing Action Plan 2017-2020 which positioned WA as a leader in affordable housing and set a target of creating 35,000 housing opportunities.

The McGowan Government eclipsed the target, providing 36,662 housing opportunities over the 10-year period. For a copy of the Strategy, visit: <http://www.communities.wa.gov.au/wahousingstrategy>

Comments attributed to Housing Minister Peter Tinley:

"In July 2019, the McGowan Government started work on a new housing strategy for WA. Even then, before the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, we recognised the need for a more agile approach to housing.

"The WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030 is not just about building houses. It is about providing the right information, education and support to help people access and sustain a suitable and affordable home that meets their needs.

"In the past 20 years, WA's housing market has struggled more and more to meet the needs of people on low-to-moderate incomes and those with specific housing needs.

"The McGowan Government has responded with unprecedented investment in WA's social and affordable housing and has also provided much-needed support for our residential construction sector.

"In the past three years we have announced \$834.6 million across three programs; the Social and Affordable Housing and Jobs Package, the Housing and Homelessness Investment Package, and the Social Housing Economic Recovery Package.

"These programs combined are expected to support 4,300 jobs and potentially generate almost \$1.8 billion in economic activity.

"The WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030 is a call to action for all sectors to work together to improve housing choices and pathways.

"Through strong partnerships across government, industry and the community sector we can create safe, stable and sustainable homes for all Western Australians - especially the most vulnerable."

Minister's office - 6552 5300

Joint media statement - Coolgardie-Esperance Highway set for \$52 million upgrade

Monday, 19 October 2020

Road safety and regional jobs in south-central Western Australia will get a boost, with Highway Construction named as the preferred proponent to upgrade the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway. Upgrades will be delivered on the 25-kilometre section between the Goldfields Highway intersection and Widgiemooltha, known as Emu Rocks South, supporting approximately 90 jobs. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael McCormack said the Australian Government was funding shovel-ready regional projects to get money flowing into jobs and businesses as soon as possible.

"Our focus is on getting people back into work quickly, which is why we have committed \$1.5 billion to prioritise shovel-ready projects and targeted road safety works that can boost the economy and support jobs immediately," the Deputy Prime Minister said.

"We are investing in our post-pandemic future by delivering lasting infrastructure that will kick-start our economic recovery and benefit Australians for years to come.

"The Australian Government's \$110 billion 10-year infrastructure pipeline will support our economy and create jobs, particularly for those in the construction and manufacturing industries."

Western Australian Minister for Transport and Planning Rita Saffioti said the project formed part of the McGowan Government's \$80 million investment to upgrade road infrastructure and support local jobs in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

"Over 290,000 vehicles use this remote stretch of road every year, of which nearly 35 per cent are heavy vehicles," Minister Saffioti said.

"This critical upgrade will significantly improve safety for locals, tourists and freight operators alike.

"The \$52 million investment is part of our ongoing commitment to provide safer regional roads across Western Australia."

Federal Member for O'Connor Rick Wilson said works included constructing a northbound and southbound passing lane north of Widgiemooltha, upgrading intersections at Goldfields Highway and Kingswood Street, and widening and sealing road shoulders.

"The Coolgardie-Esperance Highway at Emu Rocks forms part of the Perth-Adelaide route on the National Land Transport Network," Mr Wilson said.

"By investing in this stretch of the highway, we are building a safer road network for the families and communities that live and work here.

"We are also supporting the productivity of regional industries on what is a major freight route through the Goldfields-Esperance region, with around two million tonnes transported each year."

Western Australian Member for Mining and Pastoral Region Kyle McGinn said the works would provide additional employment and training opportunities for the local community.

"Not only will these upgrades improve travel time and safety, but local employment opportunities will be increased," Mr McGinn said.

"This, combined with other job-creating opportunities across the region, highlights the McGowan Government's commitment to delivering for the Goldfields-Esperance region.

"Aside from these fantastic local jobs outcomes, these upgrades will also mean a safer drive to Widgie for their famous burger and a safer trip to Esperance for tourists and travellers."

The project will also include replacement and extension of culverts and installation of signage, line marking and audio tactile edge and centre lines.

Construction is due to start in December 2020 and completion is expected by April 2022.

The \$52 million project is jointly funded with the Australian Government committing \$41.6 million and the Western Australian Government \$10.4 million.

Transport and Planning Minister's office - 6552 5500

Architects appointed for \$10 million job-creating Kalgoorlie TAFE upgrades

Tuesday, 20 October 2020

- Architects appointed for upgrades to Central Regional TAFE's Kalgoorlie campus
- ZMH will design new \$8 million trades workshop and \$2 million in equipment upgrades
- Facilities will train locals to meet the job needs of local resources industry
- Project is part of largest TAFE capital works program in WA history, creating more than 1,000 jobs

Zuideveld Marchant Hur Architects (ZMH) has been appointed to design a new \$8 million trades workshop at Central Regional TAFE's Kalgoorlie campus.

The state-of-the-art workshop will expand training for plant mechanics and engineering trades, which will support the workforce needs of the resources industry across the Goldfields region.

The project includes an additional \$2 million for the installation of industry-standard training equipment for existing workshops on campus, bringing the total investment to \$10 million.

Construction of the new workshop and equipment upgrades will unlock local jobs, and the new workshop will increase student capacity on campus when completed.

The Kalgoorlie TAFE upgrades were announced in July as part of the WA Recovery Plan, which will see a record \$167.4 million invested to fund upgrades to essential infrastructure across Western Australia's five TAFE colleges which will also create jobs during construction.

Site analysis at the Cheetham Street campus is anticipated to get underway before the end of the year, with construction expected to start in August 2021.

This project is part of \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan to guide WA through COVID-19 recovery.

Comments attributed to Education and Training Minister Sue Ellery:

"This Government is delivering world-class learning opportunities and setting up young people and jobseekers for long-term employment.

"With ZMH on board as the lead project architect, Kalgoorlie is a step closer to a state-of-the-art trades training workshop that will be an enormous boost for the Goldfields."

Comments attributed to Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Kyle McGinn:

"I was very happy to have been with the Premier Mark McGowan on site to announce this upgrade in August, so it's fantastic to see the project progressing.

"This project is vital in providing the skills required to serve and enhance the resources industry in Western Australia, and I am thrilled to see it moving quickly.

"It is also critical to ensuring young people in the area have access to training pathways into meaningful work which will only benefit the Goldfields region in the future."

Minister's office - 6552 5700

Major investment in Western Australia's regional water infrastructure

Tuesday, 20 October 2020

- \$968 million committed over the next four years to hundreds of water infrastructure projects across regional Western Australia
- \$61.4 million boost over the next four years for regional water projects from the COVID-19 Recovery Plan

Water Minister Dave Kelly today welcomed the continued strong investment in regional water, wastewater and drainage services and infrastructure announced in the recent 2020-21 State Budget.

In this year's State Budget, the McGowan Government has allocated \$968 million over the next four years to spend on new regional water infrastructure projects as well as improvements and upgrades to existing facilities through the Asset Investment Programs run by Government's three water corporations.

Regional Western Australia will benefit from a range of water infrastructure projects demonstrating the McGowan Government's commitment to delivering quality water services in regional communities.

South-West

\$208.9 million has been allocated across the South-West region over the next four years. Key projects in 2020-21 will include the following:

- \$26 million for the drainage upgrade project in the City of Busselton to increase flood protection;
- \$7 million for the Greenbushes to Kirup pipeline to complete the Bridgetown Region Water Supply Scheme;
- \$4.2 million for upgrades to the Collie and Kemerton Wastewater Treatment Plants; and
- \$400,000 for upgrades at four water treatment/distribution plant sites in Busselton.

Goldfields and Agricultural

\$151.8 million has been allocated across the Goldfields and Agricultural region over the next four years. Key projects in 2020-21 will include the following:

- \$18.4m for new water storage tanks at Merredin and Dedari
- \$2.8m to replace ageing pipelines and reduce leaks across the Farmlands area
- \$2.1m to upgrade the York Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mid-West

\$94.6 million has been allocated across the Mid-West region over the next four years. Key projects in 2020-21 will include the following:

- \$11.2 million for improving water quality in the Murchison region;
- \$2 million for a new water storage tank in Nilgen; and
- \$4.2 million for water supply scheme improvements in Geraldton.

North-West

\$265.3 million has been allocated across the North-West region over the next four years. Key projects in 2020-21 will include the following:

- \$6.8 million for a new water storage tank in Karratha;
- \$7.3 million to upgrade Onslow's Cane River borefield and water treatment plant;

- \$6.2 million on improvements to the Yule borefield which supplies water for Port Hedland; and
- \$500,000 to upgrade Derby Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Great Southern

\$145.2 million has been allocated across the Great Southern region over the next four years. Key projects in 2020-21 will include the following:

- \$18.6 million to complete the Albany to Denmark pipeline;
- \$4.9 million to expand the Werillup borefield that makes up part of the Lower Great Southern Towns Water Supply Scheme, supplies drinking water to Albany and surrounding areas;
- \$2.9 million to renew water supply pipelines in the Lake Grace area; and
- \$2.3 million on expansion and improvements to Esperance's town water supply scheme.

A total of \$61.4 million has been allocated over the next four years on new infrastructure projects as part of the WA Recovery Plan. In 2020-21 the investment in regional WA includes:

- \$11.9 million towards the Bunbury Water Resource Recovery Scheme to provide recycled water for use on major infrastructure projects and irrigation of public open spaces - reducing the impact on groundwater sources;
- \$4.2 million to normalise water and wastewater services to remote and town based Aboriginal communities;
- \$500,000 to reinstate irrigation of public open space for the Shire of Broome; and
- \$200,000 to upgrade the Coral Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant to cater for growth.

Comments attributed to Water Minister Dave Kelly:

"The McGowan Government's investment in hundreds of regional projects, to be delivered by Aqwest, Busselton Water and the Water Corporation right across Western Australia, shows our commitment to providing safe and reliable water services no matter where you live.

"One of the biggest challenges we face in 2020-21, and forever into the future, is to manage the impacts that climate change is having on our precious water supply and water infrastructure.

"Climate change has resulted in a significant reduction in rainfall across the State's south west and we're also seeing more unpredictable weather patterns in the north of WA.

"The McGowan Government takes climate change seriously, and combined with a growing State, is committed to investing in water infrastructure that is efficient and resilient.

"We also need to keep doing more with wastewater, recycle what has previously been considered a waste product, as well as inspire more efficient and 'wiser' water use through education programs.

"By doing these three things in tandem - investing in water infrastructure, recycling wastewater and saving water - we will be much better placed to respond to the impacts of climate change on our water supply."

Minister's office - 6552 6100

State Government contributes \$85,000 to enrich country sport

Wednesday, 21 October 2020

- Six regional sport initiatives to receive \$85,000 through Country Sport Enrichment Scheme
- Funding will enable high-level events to be held in the Pilbara, Goldfields, Wheatbelt, Kimberley and Gascoyne regions

A hockey festival in the Wheatbelt, a community event featuring Commonwealth Games champions, and a wind surfing championship in Carnarvon are just three events that are due to go ahead thanks to the State Government's Country Sport Enrichment Scheme.

In all, six initiatives will share \$85,000 in funding, including:

- \$10,000 to the Broome Barracudas Swimming Club to conduct a WAIS swimming camp in the Kimberley in October 2020, which will include swim clinics for young athletes, coaching sessions for club coaches and community engagement;
- \$20,000 to the Commonwealth Games Australia (WA Division) to stage the Champions 2 Country in the Pilbara in November 2020. The initiative involves Games champions conducting school visits, coaching clinics and club/community skill clinics;
- \$15,000 to help stage the Carnarvon Windfest in January 2021, a windsurfing and kitesurfing event which will attract participants from around Western Australia;
- \$22,000 to the West Coast Fever netball club to enable it to play a pre-season event in Kalgoorlie in March 2021;
- \$10,000 for the WA Hockey Association to stage the Wheatbelt Festival of Hockey in Northam in May 2021, which will include a Premier League hockey match along with community initiatives to increase participation and capacity-building opportunities; and
- \$8,000 to Netball WA to hold a Netball League match in the Wheatbelt town of Pingelly in July 2021.

The [Country Sport Enrichment Scheme](#) is administered by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

The scheme provides support to organisations to deliver high-level events or competitions or provide access to sport development opportunities for regional Western Australia.

It also aims to conduct international, national or State sporting events or competitions in regional Western Australia, as well as utilising elite athletes to promote the benefits of sport and physical activity and deliver sport development opportunities in regional WA.

Comments attributed to Sport and Recreation Minister Mick Murray:

"I am very pleased that this scheme will enable athletes around Western Australia to either take part in elite events or to take their skills to the next level.

"Some of our greatest athletes and sports stars come from WA's regions, and this scheme will not only help them develop but it will help inspire other members of their communities to become more physically active."

Minister's office - 6552 6400

Energy technology a boon for regional WA homes

Friday, 23 October 2020

- 52 stand-alone power systems installed and operating in regions
- Largest single deployment by a network business in Australia

Energy Minister Bill Johnston has congratulated Western Power on the successful deployment of 52 stand-alone power systems (SPS) at properties throughout the Mid-West, Goldfields, eastern Wheatbelt and Great Southern regions.

The final SPS unit commissioned in this roll-out, in Wansbrough, is a trial unit that will supply two customers - another Australian first.

Stand-alone power systems are a more efficient option, than traditional poles and wires, to supplying electricity to households or businesses, and typically includes solar panels, a battery and back-up generator.

The 52 units will replace around 230 kilometres of overhead powerlines, at an average of 4.5 kilometres per property, all of which would have needed to be replaced at a significant cost. This also results in improved land amenity for farmers and reduced risks of collisions or bushfire.

A SPS is part of Western Power's service area but operates independently to the main network.

The 52 unit roll-out follows a successful pilot involving six stand-alone power systems in 2016; it exceeded expectations with customers avoiding over 200 hours of power interruptions over the three-year trial.

Deploying stand-alone power systems has generated direct benefits for the State economy through supporting WA small businesses, and creating new jobs and training opportunities. The deployment beyond the trial phase was made possible by the McGowan Government's Electricity Industry Amendment Bill 2019, which passed earlier this year.

Comments attributed to Energy Minister Bill Johnston:

"Stand-alone power systems are a cost-effective and innovative approach to providing power to WA's regional customers.

"Using SPS is part of the McGowan Government's commitment to providing reliable and safe power to our customers that are on the fringe of the grid.

"We have made significant headway in transitioning towards a low carbon future with the recent release of the Whole of System Plan, DER Roadmap, the big battery and commissioning of SPS technology."

Minister's office - 6552 6700

Goldfields breast cancer support increased

Thursday, 29 October 2020

- WA Country Health Service digitally enabled service expands to Kalgoorlie
- Goldfields breast cancer patients with lymphoedema to receive specialist support closer to home

The collaborative WA Country Health Service (WACHS) and Fiona Stanley Hospital (FSH) TeleLymphoedema service has expanded to Kalgoorlie Health Campus to further support local treatment for breast cancer-related lymphoedema.

Lymphoedema is a common and lifelong side effect of some cancer treatments causing swelling and pain in the limbs, requiring ongoing management.

Expansion of the trial service to Kalgoorlie Health Campus will enable Goldfields locals to receive local lymphoedema support from a WACHS physiotherapist or occupational therapist, with a FSH specialist providing supervision and education via telehealth.

The TeleLymphoedema service launched as a pilot in 2019 at Katanning and Esperance health campuses, and has been successful in reducing patients' need to travel for care.

Results of the new Kalgoorlie Health Campus service will be used to inform expansion to other WA Country Health Service hospitals.

Comments attributed to Health Minister Roger Cook:

"Around 20 per cent of patients treated for common cancers, such as breast cancer, will be impacted for life by lymphoedema, making expansion of the TeleLymphoedema service so beneficial for country communities.

"Cancer patients and their families have enough to manage without the extra burden of travel for lymphoedema treatment, which is why this Government is pleased the innovative service is being implemented in more regional locations.

"Patients receiving lymphoedema care via telehealth at Katanning and Esperance health campuses have had to travel less and have said they are very satisfied with the service.

"The McGowan Government expects the same result will be achieved at Kalgoorlie Health Campus and commends the WA Country Health Service for their ongoing work in harnessing technology for a more equitable health system."

Comments attributed to Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Kyle McGinn:

"Using telehealth to bring lymphoedema services to patients in Kalgoorlie is fantastic.

"Many cancer patients go on to develop lymphoedema - which results in uncomfortable and painful swelling in their arms and legs - so being able to access treatment locally to help reduce the swelling without having to go to Perth is a great outcome.

"Everyone involved in delivering this initiative to Kal deserves a pat on the back."

Minister's office - 6552 6500

Kalgoorlie and Mirrabooka domestic violence hub operators signed

Friday, 30 October 2020

- McGowan Government election commitment on track to be delivered this year
- Kalgoorlie and Mirrabooka 'one-stop hubs' to make it easier for victims of family and domestic violence to access services
- State Government appoints hub providers to deliver specialist family and domestic violence services
- Appointed operators expected to begin delivering services in December, ahead of anticipated festive season spike in family and domestic violence incidents

Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence Minister Simone McGurk has announced the operators of the McGowan Government's two new family and domestic violence hubs.

The awarding of contracts for delivery of services at the two locations - Kalgoorlie and Mirrabooka - is a major step for the establishment of Western Australia's first family and domestic violence one-stop hubs.

The State Government will contract the City of Stirling to provide services at the Mirrabooka hub, and Hope Community Services Ltd to deliver the Kalgoorlie hub.

Both service providers have strong track records in delivering a variety of supports for women and children.

Under the relevant service delivery contracts, these organisations will provide integrated and place-based specialist support services to make it easier for victims of family and domestic violence to get the help they need sooner and in one location.

Both service providers have partnered with other organisations to bring together specialist family and domestic violence services and other supports, including mental health, legal, housing and financial counselling.

The development and delivery of culturally responsive practices for the hubs will be led by Aboriginal people, through partnerships with Aboriginal organisations. The City of Stirling has also partnered with culturally and linguistically diverse services to tailor service delivery for victims from these communities.

The two new hubs will meet a critical need for victims by providing wrap-around specialist supports in one location, and reducing the trauma associated with having to re-tell their story on multiple occasions to various service providers.

Together with their delivery partners, the City of Stirling and Hope Community Services Ltd will co-ordinate access to services to support improved safety and decision-making based on a holistic picture of a victim's situation.

The hub services are on track to be rolled out from December this year.

The appointment of the City of Stirling and Hope Community Services Ltd as the service providers comes after strong community involvement in the development of the hubs through an extensive co-design process.

The initial 'hub' model emerged from extensive research and stakeholder consultation conducted by Curtin University. The place-based service delivery models for Kalgoorlie and Mirrabooka were subsequently co-designed by The University of Western Australia's Centre for Social Impact, people with lived experience of family and domestic violence, Aboriginal elders, community members, peak bodies, community service providers and government agencies.

Comments attributed to Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence Minister Simone McGurk:

"These one-stop hubs will provide a specialist service for women and families experiencing family and domestic violence.

"Once in operation, the hubs will bring support services together and wrap them around those who need them using a 'one-stop' approach.

"This model, which is new to WA, will make it easier for women and children impacted by family and domestic violence to get help sooner in a safe space within their own community.

"Sadly, police observe an increase in the number of family and domestic violence incidents over the Christmas-New Year period, so it's very positive to have the hubs coming online to provide an extra layer of support ahead of the festive season."

Comments attributed to Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Kyle McGinn:

"The new regional hub will provide additional options for people experiencing family and domestic violence in Kalgoorlie-Boulder and surrounding communities to seek help.

"Having a multitude of services under one roof will not only improve access to services, but make it easier for victims to navigate the systems that are in place to support them.

"Family and domestic violence is a complex issue that can affect anyone, regardless of where we live and who we are.

"We know that any amount of domestic abuse is not acceptable, so I'm proud to be part of the McGowan Government that has delivered a valuable resource to give victims and survivors other options for seeking help."

Comments attributed to Mirrabooka MLA Janine Freeman:

"I'm proud to be part of a McGowan Government that is committed to reducing family and domestic violence in the community.

"This innovative one-stop hub model, which simplifies access to services, will no doubt provide invaluable support to people experiencing family and domestic violence in Mirrabooka and surrounding areas.

"The City of Stirling is a well-regarded partner in our efforts to family and domestic violence in our community, and I look forward to their continuing contribution to improving the safety of women and children."

Minister's office - 6552 6600

Lead contractor appointed for solar schools program

Thursday, 5 November 2020

- Mechanical Project Services appointed lead contractor for installation of rooftop solar
- Solar Schools Program to benefit 30 regional public schools and create 12 jobs
- Horizon Power's program to reduce schools' energy costs and carbon emissions

Horizon Power has engaged local company, Mechanical Project Services (MPS) to install rooftop solar systems on around 30 regional public schools.

The State Government's \$5 million Solar Schools program will give rooftop solar systems, ranging from five to 200 kilowatts, to schools across the Kimberley, Pilbara, Gascoyne and the Goldfields-Esperance regions.

The Solar Schools program will collectively save the schools \$1.7 million a year in electricity costs.

Plans are underway for the first rooftop solar system to be installed by the end of the year.

MPS will create 12 ongoing jobs across regional Western Australia during the 12-18 month construction period, including two recently appointed Aboriginal electrical apprentices.

Horizon Power is delivering the Solar Schools program in partnership with the Department of Education.

Comments attributed to Energy Minister Bill Johnston:

"I'm very pleased to see the Solar Schools program progress with the appointment of this key contractor.

"MPS has considerable experience delivering quality renewable energy systems in remote locations throughout WA.

"The Solar Schools program will deliver significant benefits to our regional public schools, providing energy at a lower cost.

"This program is another important piece of the McGowan Government's transition towards a low carbon future and its commitment for a renewable energy future."

Minister's office - 6552 6700

Response to State Coroner highlights bushfire management reform

Thursday, 5 November 2020

- State Government responds to 2015 Esperance bushfires coronial inquest
- Response details bushfire management reform for Esperance and WA
- Majority of Coroner's recommendations supported

Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan, on behalf of the State Government, has responded to the Western Australian Coroner's recommendations from the inquest into the deaths of four people during the Esperance bushfires in 2015.

Overseas farm workers Tom Butcher, Julia Kohrs-Lichte and Anna Winther, and Scaddan farmer and firefighter Kym (Freddy) Curnow tragically died on November 17, 2015 during the fires.

The State Government has supported the majority, bar two, of the Coroner's recommendations, many of which have been implemented since the McGowan Government was elected in 2017.

They include increased mitigation, greater bushfire management support for Esperance and surrounds, long-term bushfire risk mitigation funding, and enhanced radio communications for the Esperance area.

The recommendation for a career fire station in Esperance has already been addressed with a departmental resource-to-risk analysis showing there is already sufficient town-based emergency services resources.

Since the McGowan Government was elected, there has also been significant reform across bushfire management and record investment to identify and treat bushfire risks, which has benefited Esperance and the surrounding regions.

The Shire of Esperance is currently being supported by State Government funding to complete a Bushfire Risk Management (BRM) Plan, which is 95 per cent complete, and has identified nearly 2,100 assets.

That support included the assistance of a Bushfire Risk Planning Coordinator from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) to help develop the Shire's BRM Plan.

Once the plan is complete and endorsed, the Shire of Esperance will be eligible to apply for further funding under the State Government's Mitigation Activity Fund to treat those bushfire risks.

More than 63 local governments have accessed more than \$20 million in State Government funding support to identify and reduce their bushfire risks since the two funding programs were introduced.

In addition, DFES has been transformed from solely a response agency to one that focuses on prevention, preparedness, response and recovery functions.

DFES is now leading extra mitigation, on top of the Parks and Wildlife's annual mitigation program, and has formed a South East Fire Working Group to identify and prioritise bushfire mitigation across the Shires of Esperance, Jerramungup and Ravensthorpe.

The working group comprises representatives from DFES, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), local government and volunteers, including the Chief Bushfire Control Officers.

Since 2017/18 nearly \$890,000 has been spent on bushfire mitigation activities in the Esperance area.

Further initiatives in Esperance include an additional command repeater that was installed at Peak Charles in June 2020 to improve radio communications in the area in partnership with DBCA.

The State Government has also invested \$120 million in locally made, new generation fire appliances, which include vehicle types specifically requested by Esperance firefighters to meet their local conditions.

Esperance volunteer firefighters have also been part of a Bushfire Fleet Mobility Working Group to further enhance the mobility of the firefighting fleet in the area. Key initiatives of the group include central tyre inflation systems and super single tyres.

DFES has also reduced the size of the Great Southern Region by creating the Upper Great Southern Region in Narrogin to increase the focus on the Lower Great Southern Region.

DFES has also significantly enhanced its working relationship with the Shire of Esperance by basing the Esperance Community Emergency Services Manager in the DFES Esperance office.

An administration officer is also now employed in the office and a District Officer Natural Hazards is now permanently based in the Esperance office.

In the last few years, ahead of bad fire weather, DFES has pre-positioned extra support personnel and aerial support appliances. Earthmoving machinery has also been strategically pre-positioned.

Several bushfire brigades in the area have received new fire appliances and will be receiving new model Tatra trucks in the near future.

There have also been new purpose-built facilities for the first time for the Howick and Coomalbidup Bush Fire Brigades.

Scaddan Bushfire Brigade has a new fire shed, and the Quarry Road Bushfire Brigade and the Esperance Emergency Support Unit also have a new co-located facility.

The State Government's response to the Coroner's recommendations is attached.

Comments attributed to Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan:

"Shortly after the McGowan Government was elected in 2017, I travelled to Esperance to meet with those who were involved in the 2015 bush fires.

"They described extraordinary conditions on the day that the fire tragically took the lives of Kym Curnow, Tom Butcher, Julia Kohrs-Lichte and Anna Winther.

"Since that first meeting, a significant amount of work has gone into strengthening relationships with volunteers and DFES, using resources strategically and effectively and helping locals with mitigation efforts.

"The concerns and ideas from the local volunteers have also been taken on board and this is reflected in the working groups that have been established, the new vehicles that have been delivered and the record levels of mitigation support.

"DFES has significantly increased its presence in the area to support the local government to manage bushfires and mitigate bushfire risks.

"The State Government supports the majority of the Coroner's recommendations, which in many cases were either put in place before the inquest was held or have been done since the inquest concluded.

"I have also seen firsthand how successful the pre-positioning of assets and the enhanced DFES presence in the area has been in managing emergency-warning level bushfires in co-ordination with the local government."

ATTACHMENT 1: RECOMMENDATIONS AND STATE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Recommendation 1:

I recommend the DFES immediately take steps to create and fill the additional positions of a District Officer, Area Officer (Rural Competencies) and Bushfire Risk Management Officer to supplement the current Area Officer in Esperance. If these changes require additional funding, I recommend that the Honourable Minister for Emergency Services give priority to considering how funding can be allocated for these additional positions and then arranging for that funding to be made available.

Supported In Principle

The State Government accepts that emergency management staffing needs are continually evolving in regional WA. The State Government accepts that additional emergency management staffing may be required including in the Esperance region.

DFES has employed a Community Emergency Services Manager for the Shire of Esperance, and as an interim measure, seconded a Natural Hazards District Officer from the Kalgoorlie office to the Esperance office.

DFES is developing a risk to capability model which, when applied across the State will assist in prioritising resources to optimise operational service delivery. If required, DFES may then seek to secure additional permanent regional staff to support emergency management in the Esperance region.

Recommendation 2:

I recommend that DFES commence planning and fund allocation for a Career Fire and Rescue Service Station to service the Esperance – Ravensthorpe Community all year round, and to respond quickly to provide support to the local volunteer Bush Fire Brigades in the event of a bushfire. If that change requires additional funding, I recommend that the Honourable Minister for Emergency Services give priority to considering how funding can be allocated for the creation and staffing of such a station and then arranging for that funding to be made available.

Not Supported

The State Government does not support a Career Fire and Rescue Service Station to service the Esperance-Ravensthorpe community.

The State Government has instead prioritised bushfire prevention and allocated significant funding to bushfire risk mitigation in the region, to help mitigate against the threat of catastrophic bushfire.

DFES' Resource to Risk modelling does not support the establishment of a Career Fire and Rescue Station in the Esperance region. New Career Fire and Rescue Stations are recommended according to comprehensive risk modelling and finite resources available. The Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner has the statutory authority and appropriate operational expertise to recommend new fires stations based on need. Any departure from current practice will compromise the operational needs of the Department and deliver suboptimal outcomes to the wider community by redirecting funding from higher operational priorities.

Recommendation 3:

DFES adopt a policy by which: (i) any authorisation under s13 which is initiated verbally be made in writing (as required by the Act) as soon as practicable; (ii) a copy of the written authorisation be given to the local government or DPaW as soon as practicable; and (iii) the fact of any authorisation, once completed, be (where possible) communicated to those in the ICV and on the fireground as soon as practicable.

Supported

DFES has updated Incident Controller procedures to ensure local governments are notified in writing of Section 13 authorisations and/or handovers between DFES, DBCA (previously DPaW) and the respective local governments.

DFES has developed training materials to improve understanding of legislative authorisations and handover processes. Updated resources, such as guides, checklists and templates are currently being rolled out to in preparation for the 2020/2021 southern fire season.

An Incident Control Vehicle Reference Group is being established to define and improve standards of incident communications, resource management and information management during operations.

Recommendation 4:

The State Government give consideration to giving a higher drafting priority to the Consolidated Emergency Services Act.

Supported

Cabinet has approved the drafting of an Exposure Draft Bill. Parliamentary Counsel's Office will draft the legislation in accordance with Government priorities.

The proposed legislation will amalgamate and modernise current emergency services legislation, and clarify responsibilities for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

The State Government will review a higher drafting priority to the new amalgamated emergency services legislation in the second term of the McGowan State Government.

Recommendation 5:

DFES fund an additional two light tanker appliances and one heavy duty appliance to be used by the Esperance Volunteer Bushfire Brigades, at their discretion. The appliances should be provided on a permanent basis, as the Brigades need to be able to learn how to use the appliances and train on them, and the fire seasons are becoming extended and unpredictable.

Supported in Principle

The State Government supports the availability of additional firefighting resources in regional WA, including the Esperance region.

DFES is committed to undertaking a review and potential expansion of the summer season firefighting fleet allocation across the south west land division (SWLD) based on a risk to capability assessment.

Recommendation 6:

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions allocate funding to the Esperance District Regional Office to purchase an item of earth moving equipment suitable for fire mitigation works, as well as for use during a fire, together with 1.0 FTE position for an operator of the machinery, on a permanent basis. If there is insufficient funding within the Department, I recommend the Honourable Minister for Environment support an increase of funding for the Department to allow this recommendation to be fulfilled.

Not Supported

DBCA has adequate access to heavy plant machinery and operators available from within its existing resource base across the south west and from local contractors. These resources assist DBCA to meet its obligations for bushfire mitigation and response on lands for which it has legislated management responsibility, and to meet its bushfire mitigation responsibilities on unallocated Crown land (UCL) and unmanaged reserves (UMR) outside town sites as required by a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH).

Local government and DFES are responsible for developing and implementing rapid, effective, and complementary fire response arrangements for UCL and UMR. DBCA's existing arrangements to utilise contract machinery for bushfire response on lands for which it has legislated management responsibility for provides a more flexible response capacity than acquiring one additional item of earthmoving equipment.

Recommendation 7:

The South-East Fire Working Group's final plan for a long-term fire mitigation strategy be fully supported and funded by DFES and the State Government. I suggest that at a minimum, the funding should cover a period of ten years to allow for the creation of firebreaks and strategic fire exit tracks on the vast area of UCL in the Esperance region, with a view to then formalising ongoing funding for maintenance after that time on a long-term basis.

Supported

The State Government supports long-term bushfire risk mitigation planning.

The State Government supports the South-East Fire Working Group to facilitate the sharing of resources amongst stakeholders.

More than \$1 million in grants and funding allocation for bushfire risk mitigation has been invested in Esperance in the last three years, with a further \$355,000 allocated for 2020/2021.

DFES manages Emergency Service Levy funding for bushfire risk assessments, prescribed burning, firebreaks and other works in cooperation with local governments, DPLH and DBCA.

Recommendation 8:

Consideration be given to reviewing the Memorandum of Understanding between DPaW and the Shire and, as part of that process, the MOU should include a more streamlined procedure to ensure that the best balance can be met between ensuring that cognisance is taken of rare flora and fauna and areas of cultural significance on the interface with farms and UCL, but which permits farmers to undertake mitigation works expeditiously to ensure fire risk is reduced on the borders.

Supported

The State Government supports the development of an appropriate agreement between DPLH and managers of land next to UCL to facilitate and expedite bushfire risk mitigation works. DFES manages mitigation funding for government land, including on UCL.

DBCA is developing administrative processes that reflect the State's responsibility to adequately protect rare flora and fauna and areas of cultural significance as outlined in the relevant legislation. The intent is for these provisions to align with agency processes and ensure a balanced solution for bushfire risk mitigation on UCL and for the protection of biodiversity conservation values.

Recommendation 9:

The WA Government, via DFES or whatever is the relevant agency, undertake an assessment of established airstrips in the north-western quadrant of the Esperance Shire, with a view to identifying airstrips that can be enhanced to permit operation by water bombers. Once a suitable site has been identified, priority should then be given to funding the necessary upgrades to make the airstrip(s) suitable for that purpose.

Supported in Principle

The State Government supports an assessment of airstrips in the Shire of Esperance.

DBCA has the operational capacity to assist DFES and local government with the identification and assessment of existing airstrips to determine suitability for aerial suppression operations.

DBCA manages the fixed wing fire-bombing operations and, as such is the relevant agency to conduct an assessment of airstrips for their suitability for water bombing operations. DFES will provide assistance to DBCA are required.

Recommendation 10:

The Honourable Minister for Emergency Services and/or the Honourable Minister for Environment, depending upon whose portfolio water bombers actually falls, give priority to funding (at an estimated cost of approximately \$800,000) a Wheatbelt based aerial fire suppression response for the full fire season commencing in the Wheatbelt and concluding in Esperance.

Supported in Principle

The State Government supports in principle availability of additional fire suppression aircraft for the Wheatbelt to Esperance area.

Fixed wing aerial suppression assets are managed by DBCA with funding provided by DFES for maintenance support. These assets are routinely deployed to stand by at regional Forward Operating Bases on assessed risk.

DBCA and DFES support undertaking a risk to capability assessment that would assist in identifying the appropriate level of aerial suppression resource allocation to address the predicted bushfire risk on any given day.

Recommendation 11:

DFES consider updating the official bushfire season in the Esperance region to reflect the reality of the impact of climate change and other factors that have altered the start and duration of the fire season.

Supported

The State Government recognises the lengthening of 'bushfire seasons' across the State.

The State Government will seek to undertake a review of the impacts of seasonal changes, including the drying climate focusing on fire regimes within the SWLD. DFES Operations will liaise with the Shire of Esperance to extend the Restricted and Prohibited burning times based on risk and forecast weather conditions.

In the interim, Fire Service procedures allow for the high threat period to be altered (as required) based on weekly risk assessments.

Recommendation 12:

The State Government fund the installation of at least one new repeater tower in the north-western sector of the Esperance region to enhance communications during an emergency.

Supported

The State Government has supported the expansion of radio communications capability in the Esperance region through the installation of new radio repeaters at Peak Charles.

The new tower and repeaters are located approximately 130 kilometres north-north west of Esperance and services an area of approximately 15,000 square kilometres. This facility was partly funded through DPLH's Mitigation Activity Fund. An additional (linked) repeater location with an adjoining footprint is being investigated to further improve radio communications in the north-west sector of Esperance.

The State Government recognises that current technology is limited in its capacity to service growing demand and will seek to undertake a review of communications capabilities in the Esperance region and investigate flexible and mobile solutions that provide digital radio communications and enhanced Wi-Fi and phone coverage.

Locals set to make a splash at Kambalda's new \$3 million aquatic centre

Saturday, 7 November 2020

- Kambalda's redeveloped \$3 million aquatic facility officially opened
- State Government \$700,000 CSRFF funding contribution enabled project to go ahead
- New facilities and upgrades replace run-down, original 50-year-old aquatic centre

Sport and Recreation Minister Mick Murray today officially opened the Shire of Coolgardie's new \$3 million Kambalda Aquatic Facility.

The State Government provided \$700,000 to the project through its Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF), with the Western Australian Treasury Corporation providing a \$1.95 million loan to the Shire.

The newly upgraded facility, in Barnes Drive, Kambalda West, will replace the town's original swimming pool which was built 50 years ago and closed last year as it required urgent repairs and no longer met the needs of the community.

The project involved:

- upgrading the 50-metre pool and plant;
- refurbishing the change rooms;
- relocating the administration office;
- upgrading the first aid room; and
- developing a new universal access pool to replace the existing learn to swim pool.

The facility's main pool is the only outdoor 50-metre pool in the Coolgardie-Kambalda area.

Additional funding was contributed to the project by the Commonwealth Government (\$287,823); and the Gold Fields Australia Foundation (\$200,000).

Comments attributed to Sport and Recreation Minister Mick Murray:

"I'm very pleased that Kambalda has its new 'watering hole' - and that State Government funding ensured this important project could go ahead.

"Since 1970, this aquatic centre has been the recreational and social hub for the area.

"The upgraded facilities will be great for people of all ages - including kids learning water safety and for rehabilitation for older members of the community.

"This was a wonderful community-driven project that will make a big difference to the quality of life for Kambalda people particularly during the searing, hot summer months."

Comments attributed to Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Kyle McGinn:

"This project has been in the works for a long time, and due to strong advocacy from the Shire, and a very receptive Minister, we were able to make it happen. I am really glad to see the pool finally officially opened.

"This area is a huge asset to the community and no doubt there will be many memories made here with Kambalda families to fondly look back on and remember their summers in the Goldfields."

Sport and Recreation Minister's office - 6552 6400

**Advocacy
Collaboration
Representation**

We lead the sustainable strategic growth of Western Australia's regional capitals, with a focus on excellence and opportunity creation.



**Regional
Capitals
Alliance**

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**PORT
PRODUCTION
\$71 BILLION**

74% of WA's total exports



**GROSS REGIONAL
PRODUCT
\$33 BILLION**

13% of WA's GSP



“Western Australia's ten regional capitals are home to over 250,000 people; that is half the population of regional Western Australia and the engine room of the nation.”



**\$365K AVERAGE
HOUSE PRICE**

Significantly below the national average house price of \$571k

EMPLOYMENT

11% of WA's employment



**TOURISM
\$2+ BILLION**

18% of WA's economy



**\$4 BILLION
AGRICULTURE**

14% of WA's economy



Investment Framework

To seek a bipartisan commitment from State and/or Federal Governments, over a ten year period, beyond election cycles, so as to leverage the \$3.6b forward capital works programs of Alliance members.

This commitment could be accessed by Alliance members, based on demonstrating a clear alignment with State and Federal Policy, Priorities, and Benefits to surrounding Local Government communities and providing a cogent business case.

Regional Capital Investment Framework Principles

- Deliver outcomes for WA and Australia
- Planned & strategic economic development
- Outcomes focused across People, Place, Business and Economy
- Provide regional leadership
- Collaborative approach
- Use our connections with industry and government
- Opportunities are business driven
- Active use of non-financial levers

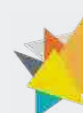
Why now?

The current global economic headwinds of COVID-19 pandemic, potential trade wars and the uncertainty of China's position in the world requires a Western Australian paradigm shift.

Many layers of government and private enterprise, since COVID-19, have presented the requirement for Australia to quickly move from a 'harvest' mindset to an economy that is more reliant on secondary processing of our abundant natural resources.

It is the time to facilitate and fast track economic development opportunities through faster pre-feasibility studies, opportunity approvals and development beyond the current WA Government Recovery Plan.

Those actions need to clear a path for investment and create an appropriate regulatory environment for public and private capital to navigate the complexities and challenges of approvals, which will then give comfort to investors.





RCAWA Proposed Approach

Facilitate, coordinate and connect with businesses of all sizes and community groups to identify key projects for the Regional Capital and region.

Identify all relevant stakeholders for each project.

Workshop 'best-path' options with other Regional Capitals to use experience of RCAWA.

Consult locally with community, regional local governments, business and relevant State and Federal Government authorities to develop project rationale and 'why'.

Develop clear Regional Capitals economic development and social plan linked to the region.

Ensure projects are attractive for all funding options available from State Government, Federal Government, business and investment groups.

Identify non-financial levers that will accelerate achievement of the vision and projects.

Support and/or prepare strategic comprehensive and coherent business cases for each project with stakeholders.



Regional Capitals Project Opportunities



880 TOTAL REGIONAL CAPITALS PROJECTS
Including ~10 aggregated projects



\$3.6B TOTAL VALUE
\$4M AV. VALUE OF PROJECTS



36 AGGREGATED PROJECTS PER REGIONAL CAPITAL

Megaprojects and Large Projects

\$50M+
PROJECT VALUE

15
PROJECTS

\$5M+
PROJECT VALUE

88
PROJECTS

Economic & Fundamental Infrastructure Projects



● **TRANSPORT**
\$1.25B



● **TECHNOLOGY**
\$150M

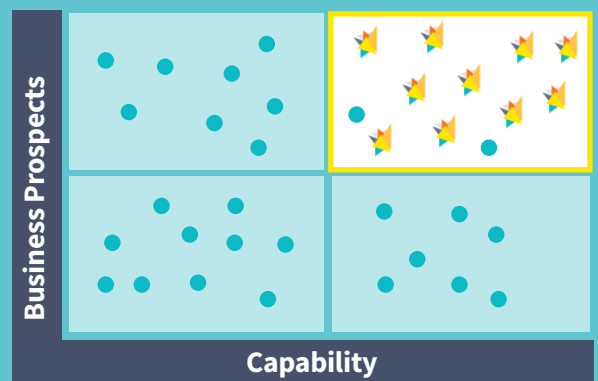


● **ENERGY**
\$25M



● **HEALTH**
\$125M

A DELIVERY MODEL FOR INVESTMENT CAPABILITY / BUSINESS PROSPECTS MATRIX



○ Other Regional LG's



RCAWA Alliance Members



We lead the sustainable strategic growth of Western Australia's regional capitals, with a focus on excellence and opportunity creation.



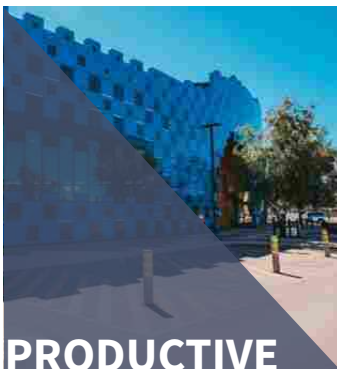
- **Established communities with well developed infrastructure, services and lifestyle opportunities.**

WA's regional capitals are well established centres and are now home to over 250,000 people; that is half the population of regional WA.



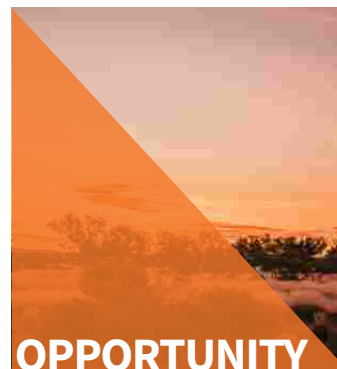
- **Although each regional capital has a unique local context they share much in common.**

WA's regional capitals are connected by global supply chains and are interacting with emerging global economies, each with capacity and prospects to grow.



- **Together regional capitals continue to contribute significantly to the national economy.**

WA's regional capitals have high concentrations of employment with a number experiencing significant growth over the past five years.



- **Each regional capital has a high capability to grow its population base and economic diversity.**

WA's regional capitals collaborate to deliver transformative projects positioning them as ideal locations to focus Government and industry investment.

▲ Agenda for Growth

Regional Capitals in the National Interest

RED TAPE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reform Local Government for better regional decision making. 2. Streamline land tenure and native title processes. 3. Integrate project approvals. A single integrated land, planning, environment and development system.
EMPLOYMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support skilled migration into regional capitals to match skill-based needs. 2. Reform FBT in remote regional Australia to incentivise work and living regionally. 3. Develop a National settlement Strategy that focuses on regional capitals.
TOURISM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide more support to promote iconic attractions in regional capitals. 2. Reduce cost of regional airfares. 3. Build better collaboration between regional capitals and Tourism Australia. 4. Build tourism related infrastructure and facilities.
INFRASTRUCTURE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fast track regional capitals funding deals. 2. Adopt the Regional Investment Framework approach. 3. Include regional capitals in National Energy Policy discussions. 4. Establish arts and cultural facilities funding program.



PO Box 484, Albany, WA, 6331
(08) 9186 8545 or 0419 930 467
admin@waregionalcapitals.com.au

The full report can be downloaded from:
waregionalcapitals.com.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting the Environment Right"

Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Unendorsed Minutes

**4.00pm Wednesday
28 October 2020
WALGA
Online**

CONTENTS

1	PROCEDURAL MATTERS.....	4
1.1	MWAC Minutes tabled at WALGA State Council.....	4
2	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.....	4
2.1	Confirmation of the Previous MWAC Minutes.....	4
2.2	Business Arising from the Previous MWAC Minutes.....	4
3	DECISION ITEMS	5
3.1	WARR Levy and Economic Impact of COVID-19***	5
3.2	Second Wave Planning***	6
3.3	Office of the Auditor General Report Response***	6
3.4	Industry Training Reference Group***	7
4	DISCUSSION ITEMS	8
4.1	Strategic Planning and Non-Metropolitan Waste Management	8
4.2	Local Government role in collection of material***	8
5	INFORMATION ITEMS	9
5.1	Inquiry into the Recycling and Waste Reduction Bills 2020	9
5.2	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program Update	9
5.3	Review of the Product Stewardship for Oil Act	10
5.4	No (more) Time to Waste – Status of Recommendations***	10
5.5	Draft Composting Guideline	10
5.6	Container Deposit Scheme	10
5.7	Banning Helium Balloon Release.....	11
5.8	Waste Derived Material Framework	11
5.9	Waste Summit and CDS at Events***	11
5.10	WALGA Staffing	11
5.11	Waste and Carbon	12
5.12	E-waste funding	12
6	REPORTS.....	12
6.1	Working Groups/Committee Reports	12
7	OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS.....	13
7.1	WARR Act Review	13
8	NEXT MEETING	14

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Chair clarified that Cr Butterfield was the WALGA State Council representative on MWAC and apologised for any confusion. The MWAC Executive Officer apologised for the late circulation of the MWAC Agenda and undertook to ensure it was circulated at least a week before the meeting to ensure members had sufficient time to read and consider the content.

ATTENDANCE

Cr Doug Thompson (Fremantle)	Southern Metropolitan Regional Council	<i>Chair</i>
Cr Les Price (Cue)	WALGA State Council	
Mayor Logan Howlett (Cockburn)	WALGA State Council	
Cr Ruth Butterfield (Armadale)	WALGA State Council	
Cr Peter Abetz	City of Gosnells	
Cr Giorgia Johnson (City of Bayswater)	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	<i>OAG Chair</i>
Cr Bob Hall	City of Greater Geraldton	
Cr David Boothman (Stirling)	Mindarie Regional Council	
Cr Stephanie Stroud (Subiaco)	Western Metropolitan Regional Council	
Cr Tresslyn Smith (Bunbury)	Bunbury Harvey Regional Council	
Mr Tim Youé	Southern Metropolitan Regional Council	
Mr Tony Battersby	Bunbury Harvey Regional Council	
Mr Marcus Geisler	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	
Ms Jessica Felix	City of Greater Geraldton	
Mr Gunther Hoppe	Mindarie Regional Council	
Mr John McNally	Rivers Regional Council	<i>Observer</i>
Ms Libby Eustance	Western Metropolitan Regional Council	
Mr Chris Hoskisson (Joondalup)	Metropolitan Local Government	
Mr James Trail (Coolgardie)	Non-Metropolitan Local Government	
Ms Rebecca Brown	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Tazra Hawkins	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Sarah Cambetis	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Mr Mark Batty	WA Local Government Association	
Mr Brian Robartson	City of Greater Geraldton	

APOLOGIES

Mr Stefan Frodsham	Western Metropolitan Regional Council
Ms Ruth March (Albany)	Non-Metropolitan Local Government
Mr Steve Fitzpatrick	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council
Mr Mark Newman	City of Mandurah

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 MWAC Minutes tabled at WALGA State Council

A summary of the Minutes of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council meeting held Wednesday, 26 August and Wednesday, 28 October will be noted at the WA Local Government Association State Council meeting on Wednesday 2 December 2020.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Confirmation of the Previous MWAC Minutes

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council held on Wednesday, 26 August 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

2.2 Business Arising from the Previous MWAC Minutes

A	Issue	August 2018 MWAC Item 3.4 Community and Industry Engagement Grant - Feedback		
	Action	That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse: 1. Providing feedback to the Waste Authority on the CIE Projects 2. Undertaking the following Projects as staffing capacity allows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Reuse Shop Awards○ Non-Metropolitan Waste Summit○ Container Deposit Scheme – events		
	Timeframe		Status	1. Complete – response yet to be received 2. See item 5.9
B	Issue	December 2018 MWAC Item 7.1 State / Local Government Partnership Agreement		
	Action	That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council investigate the development of a State / Local Government Partnership Agreement on Waste Management and Resource Recovery.		
	Timeframe		Status	Withdraw item – no longer being progressed.
C	Issue	December 2018 MWAC Item 7.2 TV and Computer Product Stewardship Scheme		
	Action	That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council: 1. Write to the Environment Minister and Waste Authority requesting funding to assist Local Governments impacted by the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme. 2. Continue to advocate for State based Targets for the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme.		
	Timeframe		Status	1. Will write when the Product Stewardship Act is tabled 2. Ongoing
D	Issue	August 2020 MWAC Item – Office of the Auditor General		
	Action	The Chair requested that, for the next MWAC meeting, a chart be developed which highlights the areas MWAC influences. This would include membership of committees, campaigns and reach of the Council.		
	Timeframe		Status	In progress

3 DECISION ITEMS

3.1 *WARR Levy and Economic Impact of COVID-19****

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse correspondence to the Environment Minister seeking information on the future direction to the WARR Levy and identifying the economic impact of COVID-19 on Local Government and their communities.

In Brief

- Local Government needs certainty regarding the Levy in order to ensure the Waste Plans are well informed and economically considered.
- COVID-19 is likely to have a significant impact on the WA economy and on Local Governments and their communities, this impact will vary across WA and the metropolitan area.
- Government needs to reinvest the Levy to facilitate waste avoidance and resource recovery.

Background

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation progressed a review of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Levy, as part of the waste reform package. The outcomes of this review are expected to inform the future direction of the Levy. In the State Budget released on 8 October there was not a clear indication of the future direction of the Levy, with only this year's Levy income identified. Local Governments are currently developing Waste Plans – due 31 March 2021 – which need to be informed by future economic considerations such as the Levy (price and scope). Parallel to these considerations are concerns about the future impact of COVID-19 on the WA economy. Although WA may be unlikely to experience a full recession (due to export income) an economic downturn is extremely likely, as is that the economic impact will vary across WA and the Metropolitan area. This will have an impact on individual Local Governments ability to undertake activity. By way of illustrating this issue, part of the economic analysis WALGA undertook looking a variety of ways the community is being impacted for each Regional Council area is **attached pg 1**.

Comment

The WARR Levy is a powerful economic lever to change how waste is managed, however as Local Government has identified on numerous occasions, if it is not reinvested into options to facilitate waste avoidance and better waste management it is effectively a tax. The State Government has given strong direction in relation to waste avoidance and resource recovery targets which the sector is currently working to meet. Draft correspondence to the Minister is **attached pg 2**.

WALGA met with CEO's from the Rivers Regional Council, the Cities of Kwinana and Rockingham and Shire of Murray regarding their current Waste to Energy contractual commitments on 8 October. Extreme concern was expressed regarding a transition to FOGO services – which for them was likely to be at a greater cost to their communities. They also expressed concern regarding what the plan was for FOGO processing and market developed. To address these concerns WALGA requested that the work of the FOGO Reference Group be presented to this group (this was agreed to at the FOGO Reference Group meeting) and has identified the Waste Sorted Grant submitted which would facilitate access to the EMRC Cost/Benefit analysis. WALGA is undertaking analysis to determine what the impact of achieving WARR Strategy Targets will be on the revenue generated from the Levy and some potential scenarios regarding the consequent price and scope of the Levy. Local Governments are developing Waste Plans for the next 5 years without the benefit of understanding what the Levy price and scope will be, this reduces their ability to plan for investment in waste avoidance and resource recovery.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Chair indicated that at the Waste Reform Advisory Group (WRAG) meeting the Department had identified it was unlikely that decision would be made on the Levy prior to the election. However, Local Government needs that certainty for Waste Plans and to inform Budgets for 2021/22. The Levy Schedule is identified in Regulation and has as of 1 July 2019 that the Levy will be \$70/tonne for putrescible waste and \$105/cubic metre for inert waste. It was highlighted that the Government has not increased the Levy and is currently working to address issues with non-payment of the Levy on waste generated in the metropolitan area. The March 2021 election was discussed, including the likely outcome and implications for Local Government. It was agreed there was a need for a strong focus on strategic political relationships.

3.2 Second Wave Planning***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council:

- **Endorse the Second wave planning document**
- **Send correspondence highlighting the work to the Environment Minister and Director General of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.**

In Brief

- WALGA, working with Local Governments and WALGA Preferred Suppliers, has developed a staged approach to how waste management would be dealt with in relation to Second Wave of COVID-19.

Background

Local Government and the waste industry were well organised and quickly responded to the first wave of COVID-19, putting in place comprehensive business continuity and contingency plans. There is the potential – as happened in Victoria – for a second wave. Therefore WALGA, working with Local Governments and Preferred Suppliers, has developed the attached Second Wave Planning document which identifies the various waste management activities which would change based on the levels of restriction that are imposed in response to a second wave. WALGA also sought advice from the Industrial Relations Team within WALGA regarding worker safety issues.

In providing input to this document, Local Governments identified that there needs to be an agreed consistent approach to applying the restrictions at the various stages, because if one site is open while others are shut it would be over utilised.

Comment

The aim of developing and then circulating this document (**attached pg 3**) is to ensure that the State Government understands that Local Government is prepared for future events, the scope of waste management activities the sector undertakes and the need for State Government support to ensure a consistent approach.

To communicate this information to State Government there are a range of entry points – including the suggested correspondence to the Minister and Director General, Environment Minister, a presentation to the Waste Reform Advisory Group (WRAG) and through the State Health Incident Coordination Centre (SHICC).

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Council supported the approach and the Chair noted that there were some very good examples of cooperation between Local Governments and industry during the first wave and contingency arrangements put in place.

3.3 Office of the Auditor General Report Response***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council:

- **Endorse the response to Office of Auditor General report on Waste Management Service Delivery**
- **Send correspondence to the Local Government Minister highlighting the response to the Report.**

In Brief

- A short response has been drafted to the recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General Report into Waste Management Service delivery.
- The response highlights the collective approach that Local Government is taking.

Background

The Office of the Auditor General usually only audits State Government entities, however with the expansion of the role of the Office, Local Government is now also auditable. When it is a State Government entity the entity responds to the Office, however in this instance there is an opportunity for a collective Local Government response developed through MWAC. A draft response has been developed and is **attached pg 10**.

Comment

WALGA had the opportunity to comment on the audit, prior to release. This is the first time the Association has had this opportunity – as usually it is only the organisations audited who have an opportunity to respond. The Draft response has been provided to Local Governments who were part of the Audit for comment and feedback has been incorporated.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Council were supportive of the approach recommended.

3.4 <i>Industry Training Reference Group***</i>

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse:

- **The formation of an Industry Training Reference Group**
- **Terms of Reference for the Group.**

In Brief

- That an Industry Training Reference Group be formed to provide relevant input into the development of Waste Management Certificate III.

Background

The need for waste management specific qualifications has been raised by the sector on numerous occasions. To address this WALGA partnered with another Registered Training Organisation (RTO) to deliver the Waste Management Certificate III training package. The training package has now changed and WALGA is working to bring the Cert III onto WALGA's scope to deliver as WALGA is also a RTO.

Comment

To ensure the training package is fit for purpose and has good engagement with the sector it is proposed that an Industry Reference Group be formed, with representatives from Local Government, LGIS and the waste industry. The Group would be selected through an Expression of Interest process, seeking interested individuals with skills and expertise in waste education/behaviour change, waste management operations or other relevant skill sets. The Terms of Reference for the Group are **attached pg 13**.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The question was asked why an expression of interest process was required when the Officers Advisory Group already existed and had a skill set which could be utilised. The Executive Officer clarified that the membership of

the OAG was frequently at a high level – CEO or Senior Manager – and the skills set required for providing input into development of training material was at a more operational level. Other members expressed support for the Program, as currently there are no Registered Training Organisations in place to deliver this qualification.

4 DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 *Strategic Planning for Non-Metropolitan Waste Management*

In Brief

- The Office of the Auditor General identify that strategic planning for waste infrastructure had not been undertaken. Feedback from Local Governments in the non-metropolitan area has identified this is a particular issue for them.

For Discussion

- What strategic solutions can MWAC progress for the non-metropolitan area regarding data collection, infrastructure and collective options?

Background

The challenges for the non-metropolitan area in relation to strategic planning for waste management are frequently significant as there are disperse population and waste generation. Also Local Government is frequently the service provider of last resort, as there is limited commercial interest in providing services in the non-metropolitan area. That means that whereas commercial waste management is a discretionary activity in the metropolitan area it becomes a responsibility for some non-metropolitan Local Governments.

Discussion at the Officers Advisory Group identified that there is a significant need for better regional waste management planning. Some Local Governments are dealing with waste from neighbouring Local Government but this isn't included in the Waste Plans. In developing solutions there needs to be a more holistic approach to waste management solutions for the non-metropolitan area, including Local Government and commercial waste. Officers suggested that correspondence should be sent to the Waste Authority highlighting the need to fast track regional waste planning – across all waste streams.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Chair indicated at the Waste Reform Advisory Group meeting the Department had confirmed the consultants have been appointed to undertake the infrastructure scoping and plan development identified in the WARR Strategy Action Plan. It was agreed that MWAC should write to the Waste Authority identifying the need to fast track regional waste planning across all waste streams.

Tony Battersby spoke about the Bunbury Outer Ring Road (BORR) project which is being delivered via an alliance model which could be replicated in other areas.

Cr Price identified an issue with the Officer of the Auditor General's approach to auditing Local Governments which has identified contingent liability in relation to non-metropolitan landfill sites. The Executive Officer undertook to follow up on this issue.

4.2 *Local Governments role in collection of materials****

In Brief

- WALGA has received correspondence from Nespresso requesting promotion of the Nespresso take back scheme.

- There are a range of voluntary product stewardship like programs in place which Local Governments may participate in, with varying degrees of effectiveness.

For Discussion

- What are the key principles for whether Local Government would be involved in a voluntary Product Stewardship Scheme, for example:
 - Long term commitment from companies to the Program
 - Take back all types/brands not just single brand
 - Cover all the costs associated with the Program
 - No other option available (e.g. a necessary product which can be avoided).

Background

WALGA has received correspondence from Nespresso (**attached pg 14**) regarding WALGA promoting the Nespresso's take back options. The correspondence raises a broader issue regarding Local Governments role in collection of materials and under what circumstance the sector should become involved in take back programs. Particularly if they are led by one brand and do not take back other brands. Feedback from a number of Local Governments indicates that some are collecting coffee pods.

In responding to Nespresso some of the consideration include the company's commitment to the Program, suggesting that the Container Deposit Scheme Refund points could be expanded to also take Nespresso and other products – on a fee for service basis.

Prior to the Coregulatory TV and Computer Product Stewardship Scheme, WALGA facilitated the hosting of e-waste collection events funded by Apple, as part of their corporate sustainability program. However, Apple was not promoted particularly in the events and all brands of e-waste were accepted.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

MWAC were supportive of the need for long term commitment to Extended Producer Responsibility and ensuring all costs associated with any program are covered by producers.

5 INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 *Inquiry into the Recycling and Waste Reduction Bills 2020*

- There was a Senate inquiry into the various Federal Legislation which will provide the head powers for the Export Bans on various recyclable products. WALGA was unable to comment on the legislation within the timeframe provided (9 September – 14 September), therefore relied on ALGA to make a Submission.
- ALGA made a short submission in relation to fees charged to exporters (which will be including in subsequent Regulations) and the trigger for a voluntary scheme Product Stewardship Scheme to transition to a mandatory Scheme where industry does not adequately address the Bill's aims.

5.2 *Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program Update*

- Temporary Collection Days (TCDs) - 9 TCDs since August (Fremantle, Pinjarra, Wagin, Williams, Vincent, Capel and last weekend Merredin, York and Bruce Rock). All of these were postponed from last financial year due to COVID – with funding from previous financial year funding being able to be used this year. Amount collected from the last 6 TCDs = 40.5 tonnes of HHW. Servicing 1,567 attendees. Surveys taken at each event indicated:
 - 10min drive average across all events and 4km drive.

- Marketing – via unaddressed mail delivered by Australia Post, most effective and (79% on average from all recent events) also Facebook (13% on average) advertising in Metro or larger Non metro areas.
- Upcoming TCDs – Esperance on 21 November. Then Joondalup, Swan and Augusta Margaret River (final postponed event due to COVID) next calendar year.
- General HHW Program
 - Quarter 1 2020/21 expenditure \$522,113 (\$164,005 on TCDs) – approximately 25% of the Budget for this financial year
 - Undertaking a trial with Kleenheat and Cleanaway regarding gas cylinders. Kleenheat are taking back their gas cylinders for reuse, this is potential 67% of LPG cylinders accepted through Program.
 - 9 Sites are Paintback collection sites – WALGA is working with Paintback to ensure the remaining 4 sites are included in the Scheme.

5.3 Review of Product Stewardship for Oil Act

- The Product Stewardship for Oil Act is being reviewed currently. WALGA was consulted by Deloitte, the consultants undertaking the review.
- The Product Stewardship for Oil Act puts a levy on every litre of oil sold and the funds are directed to recyclers to provide a financial incentive to recycle oil back into oil. The Scheme has been relatively successful, with a number of oil to oil recycling plants being developed, including one in Bunbury by Wren Oil.
- In the consultation, WALGA highlighted the need to increase funding for the Scheme, as recycling still comes at a cost to Local Government, for additional funding for new used oil recycling infrastructure and a scheme for used oil containers (as the voluntary approach was discontinued some years ago).

5.4 No (more) Time to Waste – Status of Recommendations***

- The feedback received from the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation on the implementation of the recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General is **attached pg 16**.

5.5 Draft Composting Guideline

- Due to other competing priorities a Submission has yet to be developed on the Draft Guideline for Composting facilities. It is planned that the draft Submission will be developed and circulated to the OAG and MWAC in the coming weeks. The deadline for Submissions is 25 November 2020.

5.6 Container Deposit Scheme

- The WA Container Deposit Scheme commenced on 1 October. WALGA are keeping track of issues arising. One already raised, which was anticipated, is of people taking containers from other households recycling bins.
- An email has been sent to all Local Governments seeking feedback on the Scheme.
- Bunbury Harvey Regional Council indicated initial returns were less than was anticipated (based on the information from QLD operators). It would be useful to understand if this was across the board. There was also some confusion from customers about what containers were covered by the Scheme. WALGA will organise a meeting of Local Government refund point operators in a few weeks to gather feedback on issues. The return rate target is 65% in the first year. There needs to be significantly more work to increase the engagement with the Scheme and ensure refund points in high foot traffic areas.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Executive Officer identified that there were some refund points (16 or the 205) not meeting the minimum opening hours and the need to raise this matter with the Minister. It was agreed that correspondence should be sent to the Environment Minister to ensure that refund points are meeting minimum access requirements.

Another issue raised was how the Scheme was working outside of the refund point network. It was observed that schools, sports group etc were using services for their containers which did not pay the full 10c per container, but included collection of the containers. This is not a formal part of the Scheme but it is important to consider. Other members identified that this was the market forces in action and if containers were being collected it was reasonable that there was a charge associated. The Executive Officer undertook to raise this with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.

Feedback from members indicated the Scheme was operating well. At the Bunbury Harvey Regional Council refund point there have been instances of significant amounts of obviously littered containers being brought in with some people making up to \$140/day from their litter collection.

5.7 Banning Helium Balloon Release

- WALGA has been contacted by the City of Armadale regarding correspondence they have received from an NGO seeking support for a ban on the use of helium and other lighter than air gasses for non-scientific and environmentally detrimental commercial purposes – particularly in relation to helium balloon release.
- WALGA's existing [Discussion Paper](#) on this matter has been provided to the City. Balloons were considered as part of the State Governments Consultation on Single Use Plastics and WALGA supported a state-wide ban.

5.8 Waste Derived Material Framework

- The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation have released a Discussion Paper on the proposed [Waste Derived Material Framework](#). Submissions close 18 December. A draft Submission will be provided to the November/December OAG/MWAC meetings.

5.9 Waste Summit and CDS at Events***

- The Waste Summit is being held on 5-6 November in the Pilbara Region. The Summit will be preceded by a Tour of the local landfill, CDS refund point and national park. To register visit the [WALGA Website](#).
- WALGA has now concluded its CDS at Events Program, with 38 events held over 18 months collecting nearly 100,000 containers. A Report on the CDS at Events Program is **attached pg 22**.

5.10 WALGA Staffing

- Heather Squire, Waste Management Specialist, has tendered her resignation, effective 30 October and will be taking up a position with the Department of Health. Heather has been on working with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation over the past 9 months on emergency waste management.
- Candy Wong will continue in the A/Waste Management Specialist role and Sarah Cambetis will continue as Waste Management Support Officer until 19 February 2021.
- Mark Batty, Executive Manager Strategy, Policy and Planning, is also leaving WALGA after 13 years, his last day will be Friday 6 November.

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/CR PRICE)

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council moved a vote of thanks to Heather Squire and Mark Batty for their significant contribution to the Group, over many years of service, and passed on best wishes for their future endeavours.

5.11 Waste and Carbon

- WALGA has developed a Draft Paper outlining the various waste impacts relating to greenhouse gas emissions which was discussed at the October Officers Advisory Group.
- Waste contributes in two ways to greenhouse gas emissions – point source emissions from end of pipe waste management and from the embodied energy in the waste generated. The Draft Paper goes through these issues and identifies potential focus area for waste to impact on GHG generation.
- The Officers Advisory Group discussed carbon credits, including the current price for carbon. There could be the potential for FOGO to also generate carbon credits. Additions to the Draft Paper suggested were:
 - Include where emissions are generated throughout the waste management system - generation, collection, transport and processing
 - The importance of managing waste close to source and waste avoidance
 - The benefits of landfill gas capture.
- The Draft Paper is being updated following the discussion and will presented at the December MWAC meeting.

5.12 E-waste Funding

- The Environment Minister and the Minister for Innovation and ICT have [announced](#) a new grants program to support job creation in the e-waste recycling industry. This grant is funded from the New Industries Fund and administered by DWER.
- WALGA are investigating the opportunities that may be available for Local Governments, such as e-waste drop off days, working with WALGA Preferred Supplier Total Green Recycling.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Executive Officer outlined the proposed approach to access funding from the Grant which would include a series of e-waste temporary collection events across the metropolitan and non-metropolitan area.

6 Reports

6.1 Working Groups/Committee Reports

1. Metropolitan Regional Council Working Group

Delegates/Nominees: Mr Tim Youé, Working Group Chair

The Group met on 22 September to discuss the Local Government Review Panel recommendations, potential changes to the Local Government Act and FOGO / Waste to Energy.

2. Reducing Illegal Dumping Working Group

Delegates/Nominees: n/a

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC Meeting.

3. Vergeside Collection Working Group

Delegates/Nominees: n/a

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC Meeting.

4. State Government Container Deposit Scheme Advisory Group

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer / Mr Tim Youé

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC Meeting.

5. Container Deposit Scheme Policy Forum

Representative: MWAC Chair

The Policy Forum has now been dismantled, with the commencement of the Scheme, and will be removed from future Agendas.

6. Waste Reform Advisory Group

Representative: MWAC Chair, MWAC Executive Officer and CEO of SMRC

The Group met on Tuesday 27 October, the Chair and Executive Officer identified the following issues which were raised at the meeting:

- Infinity Awards 2020, the ceremony was cancelled due to COVID, however winners may still be announced. For 2021 the Awards will be renamed the WasteSorted Awards and nomination forms will be available soon, with the Awards ceremony intended for May 2021.
- The Verge Collection and Drop off Better Practice Guidelines the Department were developing have stalled but work is planned to recommence in December with the documents completed in the 2020/21 financial year.

7. State / Local Government Waste Partnership Agreement Working Group

Representative: MWAC Chair, OAG Chair, Stefan Frodsham (WMRC)

This activity is not being progressed and will be removed from future meeting Agendas.

8. Consistent Communications Collective

This Group met on 20 October to discuss upcoming promotion campaigns, such as National Recycling Week and the Container Deposit Scheme.

7 OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 WARR Act Review – Discussion Item

NOTE: This item is last on the Agenda because Tim Youé has declared a potential conflict of interest due to his position on the Waste Authority. Mr Youé declared an interest in the WARR Act Review and that he will excuse himself from any discussion on the Review that is brought to MWAC, the Officers Advisory Group or the Regional Council CEO Working Group. For the OAG and Working Group Mr Youé will hand over chairing duties to the Deputy Chair or MWAC Executive Officer. Mr Youé left the meeting at 4.50pm.

In Brief

- The WARR Act Review has been released with an opportunity for Local Government to have input into the future direction for the Waste Authority, how waste services operated in relation to the Container Deposit Scheme.

For Discussion

- Focus for the Submission
 - Should the sector again call for an independent waste agency?
 - What advice should be provided regarding Local Government operations?

Background

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation have released a [Discussion Paper on the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act](#), as part of the required 5 year review process. The key areas that the Department has identified in the Paper include:

- Role, responsibility and resourcing of the Waste Authority
- Waste Authority / Department interaction
- Clarification regarding how the WARR Act is administered
- Increase capacity in the WARR Act to “improve waste services”
- Modifications in relation to the Container Deposit Scheme

WALGA has an existing Waste Legislation Policy Statement, which identifies the key elements that have been agreed in the past as elements of effective legislation. One of the key issues relates to the operation of the Waste Authority – the WALGA Policy Statement recommends an independent Waste Authority (as in South Australia with Green Industries SA).

The other key area of concern is regarding the ability of State Government to include further powers in the Act that could potentially direct Local Government operations in relation to waste management activities.

Local Government provided considerable feedback into the first review of the Act in 2014, however no changes were made as a result of that review. Given the ongoing pressures and interest in relation to waste management it is likely that there is more political will to change some elements of the Act. However, the capacity of the sector to influence change is yet to be determined.

Feedback from the Officers Advisory Group included:

- The statutory timeframe for review of the Act has not been met
- There was very little focus on the C&D and C&I Sectors in the Review (and the Act)
- It was important to take an approach which is tailored to Local Governments, for example the approach used in the metropolitan area will not necessarily work in regional areas. There was also concern about the State Government telling Local Government how to undertake services, rather than just identifying the outcome.
- Market development and industry development were identified as a weakness of the current approach to waste management, this was considered to be because the Waste Authority is serviced by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER), which is a more regulatory based organization. It was considered that a ‘supply driven’ approach was needed for market development
- The Submission should identify the options for the future of the Waste Authority:
 - Fully independent organisation, similar to Green Industries SA, which focuses on driving improved waste management and circular economy
 - Status quo
 - Waste Authority is removed and functions allocated to the DWER/Environment Minister.
- In commenting on the review it was suggested the [WALGA Policy Statement on Waste Legislation](#) and the [Vision for Waste Management in the Metropolitan area](#) be revisited.

The proposed approach and timeline for finalizing the MWAC Submission:

- Draft Submission circulated to MWAC and Local Government for feedback – Friday 30 October
- Feedback received and incorporated – Friday 20 November
- Final Submission considered by MWAC via a Flying Minute – Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 November
- Submission date – Wednesday 25 November

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Members supported an independent Waste Authority, in a similar form to Green Industries SA, which could then progress the development of a circular economy in WA.

The meeting **closed at 5pm.**

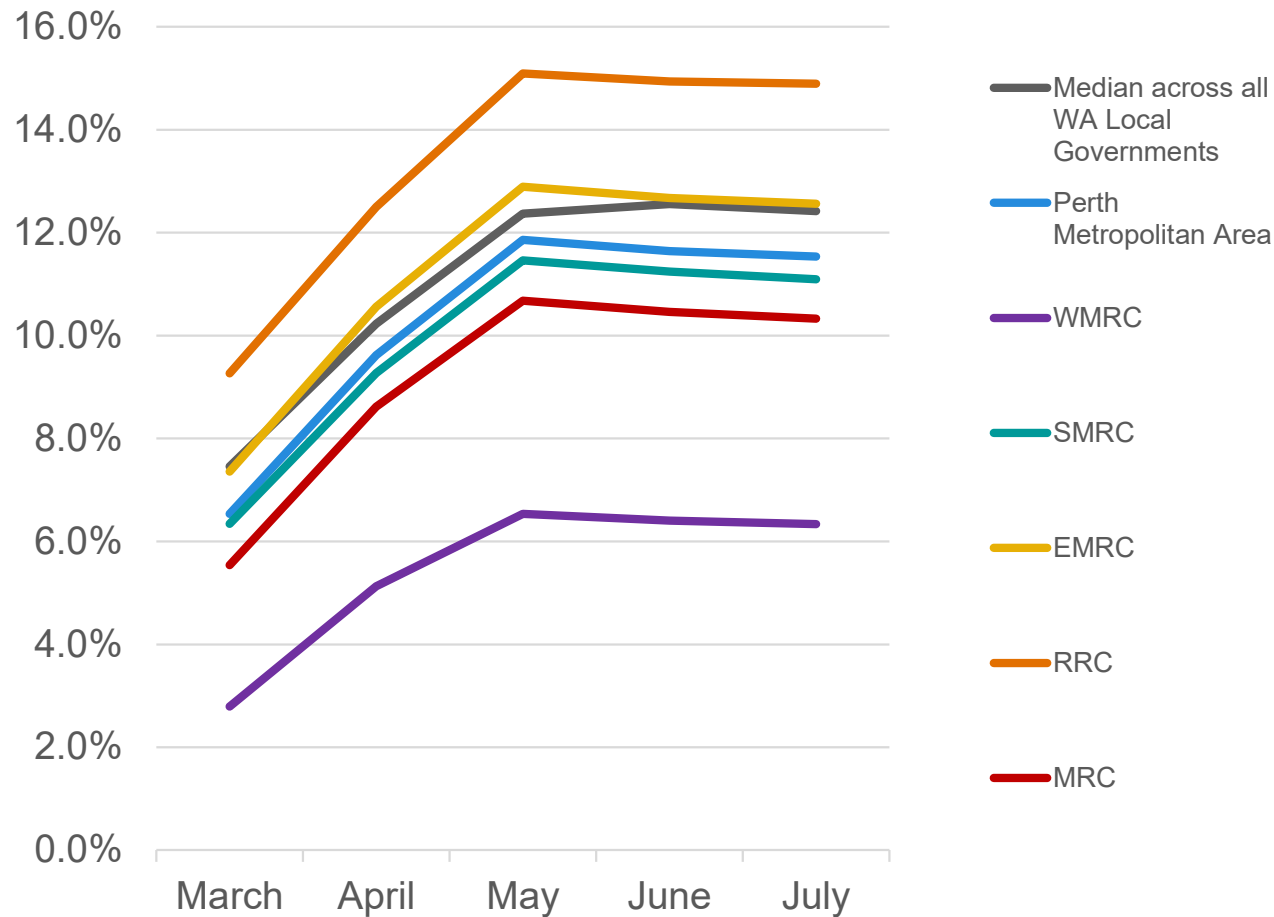
8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council will be held online at **4:00pm on Wednesday, 9 December 2020.**

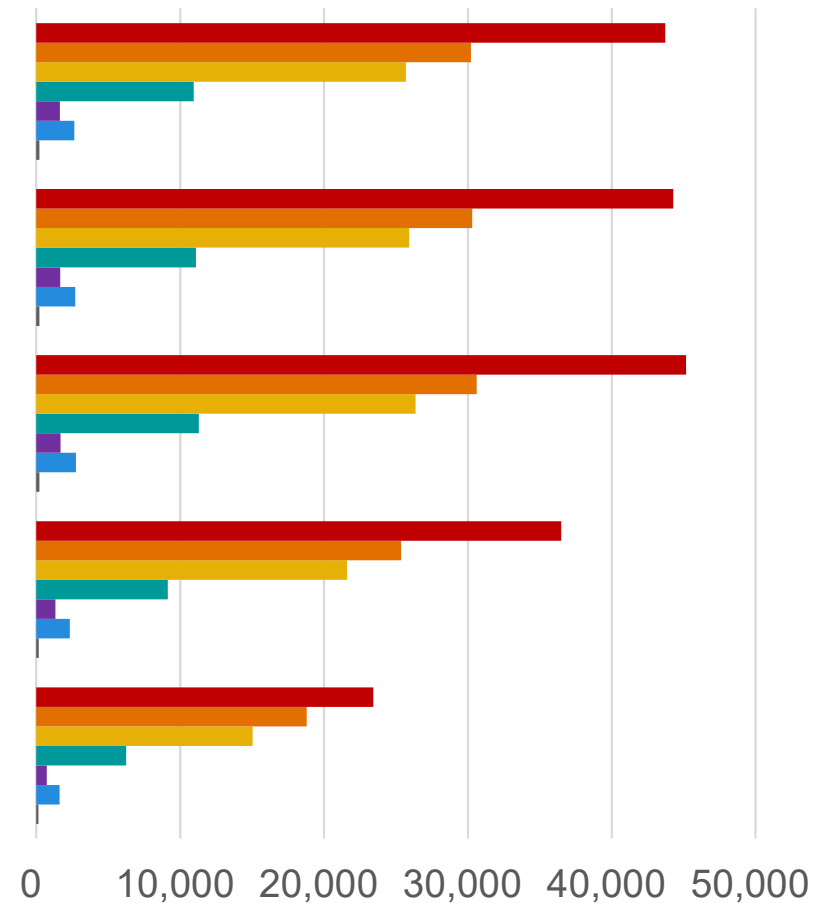


People claiming welfare payments in Perth Metropolitan Area

Estimated JobSeeker & youth allowance recipients as a % of the labour force, by location



Estimated number of people claiming JobSeeker & youth allowance by location, July





29 October 2020

Our Ref:01-006-02-0003DT:RNB

Hon. Stephen Dawson MLC
Minister for Environment; Disability Services; Electoral Affairs
12th Floor, Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Minister Dawson

Waste Levy Future Directions

I am writing to request some certainty for Local Government regarding the future direction of Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Levy to ensure Local Governments are developing informed and economically considered Waste Plans. I would also like to highlight the economic impact of COVID-19 on communities across WA and the potential for some areas to be disproportionately impacted.

Local Governments in Perth/Peel and the major regional centre are developing Waste Plans – due 31 March 2021 – which need to be informed by future economic considerations such as the WARR Levy (price and scope). MWAC provided comment to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation review of the WARR Levy.

Parallel to these considerations are concerns about the future impact of COVID-19 on the WA economy. Although WA may be unlikely to experience a full recession (due to export income) an economic downturn is extremely likely. The economic impact will vary across WA and the Metropolitan area and this will have an impact on individual Local Governments' ability to undertake activity.

Local Governments are developing Waste Plans for the next 5 years without the benefit of understanding what the Levy price and scope will be, this reduces their ability to plan for investment in waste avoidance and resource recovery. With the significant financial pressure on Local Government and the community, the reinvestment of the Levy into evidence based waste avoidance approaches and the continued political will to implement Product Stewardship is essential.

For further information, please contact Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste and Recycling on 9213 2063 or email rbrown@walga.asn.au.

Yours sincerely

Cr Doug Thompson
MWAC Chair

ONE70
LV1, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville, WA 6007
PO Box 1544, West Perth, WA 6872
T: (08) 9213 2000 F: (08) 9213 2077 info@walga.asn.au
www.walga.asn.au



COVID-19 Second Wave Planning – Taking a Phased Approach

October 2020

Status of this Submission

This Submission has been prepared through the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) for the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA). MWAC is a standing committee of WALGA, with delegated authority to represent the Association in all matters relating to solid waste management. MWAC's membership includes the major Regional Councils (waste management) as well as a number of Local Government representatives. This makes MWAC a unique forum through which all the major Local Government waste management organisations cooperate.

This Submission therefore represents the consolidated view of Western Australian Local Government. However, individual Local Governments and Regional Councils may have views that differ from the positions taken here.

This document was endorsed by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council at its meeting on Wednesday 28 October 2020.

Background

The intent of this document is to outline the key actions that would be needed for Local Government Waste Services in the event of a second wave of COVID-19 in Western Australia (or future event). The phases that are identified in this document are broadly aligned to those that occurred in the WA context, however a complete lock down is also contemplated. It is also worth noting that due to the size of the State, if intra-state movement were limited then different areas could be effected differently. Appendix 1 includes a summary of information previously documented by WALGA.

In developing the document, considerations include the need to ensure that the community can dispose of waste generated in an effective and efficient way which minimises the risk of COVID-19 transmission and facilitates adherence to Government Direction. Waste is an essential service, however the specific elements of the waste services which are required at all times needs further discussion. If this consistent approach is to work there will need to be widespread adoption – or a Government requirement – because if one site is open when others are closed it is likely to be overwhelmed.

Planning for Local Government Services during an Emergency Event

Stage of Emergency	Local Government Waste Services
<p>Complete Lock Down</p> <p>Characteristics: Significant community transmission and multiple outbreaks across wider geographic area.</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited movement of people between geographic areas (within and outside metropolitan area, including regional travel restrictions) Severely restricted community movement – shopping, exercise, emergency only 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal, unless concerns about ability of service provider to collect.</p> <p>Drop off Reuse shops closed Public drop off – closed Household Hazardous Waste drop off – closed</p> <p>Note</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although closed, there is the potential for it to be open by appointment, for urgent waste disposal. For some Local Governments drop off is the only waste disposal option for residents (or a portion of residents), for these Local Governments they would need to continue

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing / masks for anyone outside • Work from home, unless absolutely essential • Non-essential businesses close • Take away only from restaurants /café 	<p>providing a drop off option, with increased precaution for workers (if present at the site).</p> <p>Container Deposit Scheme Bag drop, in certain shops (e.g. charity shops) are likely to be impacted.</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations Waste management services workers need to have permits to cross borders / boundaries. Workers will need to have social distancing and wear masks, ensure that exposure risks are minimised – for example no congregating of workers, same people working together, split shifts etc. to make sure if one section of the workforce falls sick or are required to self-isolate, there are sufficient workers to cover those shifts. PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Have labour hire company or casual workforce on standby to provide labour if insufficient workers due to sickness and self-isolation requirements. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system. Workers should be encouraged to self-isolate and get tested if they are feeling unwell. Identify workers who are at high risk of serious illness/death if they contract COVID-19. Seek advice on alternative work arrangements.</p>
<p>Phase 1 Characteristics: Community transmission, across a range of geographic areas.</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited movement of people between geographic areas (within and outside metropolitan area, including regional travel restrictions) • Social distancing in public spaces • Limited number of people gathering • Work from home if you can • Non-essential businesses close • Take away only from restaurants /cafés 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal, unless concerns about ability of service provider.</p> <p>Drop off Reuse shops closed Public drop off – open Household Hazardous Waste drop off – open</p> <p>Container Deposit Scheme Bag drop, in certain shops (e.g. charity shops) are likely to be impacted.</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations Waste management services workers need to have permits to cross borders / boundaries. Workers will need to have social distancing and wear masks, ensure that exposure risks are minimised – for example no congregating of workers, same people working together, split shifts etc. to make sure if one section of the workforce falls sick or are required to self-isolate, there are sufficient workers to cover those shifts. PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Have labour hire company or casual workforce on standby to provide labour if insufficient workers due to sickness and self-isolation requirements.</p>

	<p>Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system. Workers should be encouraged to self-isolate and get tested if they are feeling unwell. Identify workers who are at high risk of serious illness/death if they contract COVID-19. Seek advice on alternative work arrangements.</p>
<p>Phase 2 Characteristics: Limited community transmission</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 square metre social distancing • Travel restrictions relaxed across majority of WA • Gatherings allowed – 20 people limit • Café & restaurants open – for food only • COVID Safety plans for businesses 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal, unless concerns about ability of service provider.</p> <p>Drop off <i>Reuse shops closed</i> Public drop off – open Household Hazardous Waste drop off – open</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations Workers will need to have social distancing and wear masks, ensure that exposure risks are minimised – for example no congregating of workers, same people working together, split shifts etc. to make sure if one section of the workforce falls sick or are required to self-isolate, there are sufficient workers to cover those shifts. PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Have labour hire company or casual workforce on standby to provide labour if insufficient workers due to sickness and self-isolation requirements. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system. Workers should be encouraged to self-isolate and get tested if they are feeling unwell.</p>
<p>Phase 3 Characteristics Very limited community transmission</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 square metre social distancing • The number of people at non-work gatherings increased, and additional businesses reopened • Café & restaurants open for dine in, with restrictions • COVID Safety plans for businesses 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Drop off Reuse shops – open Public drop off – open Household Hazardous Waste drop off – open</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations Workers will need to have social distancing, ensure that exposure risks are minimised – for example no congregating of workers, same people working together, split shifts etc. to make sure if one section of the workforce falls sick or are required to self-isolate, there are sufficient workers to cover those shifts. PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system. Workers should be encouraged to self-isolate and get tested if they are feeling unwell.</p>

<p>Phase 4 Characteristics No reported community transmission</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gatherings allowed based on the 2 square metre social distancing rule only Major venues – 50% capacity 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Drop off Reuse shops – open Public drop off – open Household Hazardous Waste drop off – open</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system Workers should take personal leave if unwell and not attend work.</p>
<p>Phase 5 Characteristics No community transmission in WA</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of 2 square meter rule Limits on venue capacity removed 	<p>Kerbside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside – Continue as normal</p> <p>Drop off Reuse shops – open Public drop off – open Household Hazardous Waste drop off – open</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system Workers should take personal leave if unwell and not attend work.</p>
<p>Phase 6 Characteristics: Low/no community transmission in Australia Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of WA hard boarder and travel restrictions in place for remote Aboriginal communities. 	<p>Kerbside Continue as normal</p> <p>Vergeside Continue as normal</p> <p>Drop off Continue as normal</p> <p>Communications – community facing Wash hands after you take the bin in /out Reduction of waste messaging Do not put tissues in the recycling bin</p> <p>Worker considerations PPE and hand sanitiser must be provided to workers. Increase hygiene requirements – frequency of hand washing if not wearing PPE. Cashless system Workers should take personal leave if unwell and not attend work.</p>

Risk of transmission relating to Waste Services

Services	Risk	Likelihood of occurrence	Mitigation
Kerbside	Transmission of virus from bin to bin, if workers are touching multiple bins during the collection process	Low – feedback from Dept of Health indicated that bin to bin transmission was relatively low likelihood of occurring and straightforward to mitigate	Community messaging – wash hands after taking the bin out.
	People with the virus at home placing items which have the virus on them (e.g. tissues etc) in the waste, recycling, GO or FOGO bin	High – material is likely to be placed in the bin that does carry the virus, however there are a range of mitigation options and current procedures which reduce the risk.	Community messaging – don't put tissues in your recycling bin. Double bag your waste. Operational – No one is touching the material in the bin. Recycling, GO or FOGO sorting workers already wearing full PPE, as nasty stuff frequently in the waste.
Vergeside	People going through the piles of waste on the verge, which may have the virus on them	Medium/low – feedback from Dept of Health indicated that transmission was relatively low likelihood of occurring and straightforward to mitigate	Community messaging / enforcement – do not go through the bulk verge collection material.
Drop off	Virus infected waste being in contact with workers – directly or indirectly	Medium – waste could be infected with the virus.	Community messaging – if you have the virus double bag your waste. Operational – PPE for those working closely with waste. Ensure that the filters on vehicles sufficient. Limit the number of cars allowed on site at any one time to allow social distancing – ensure additional staff to undertake traffic control.
All	Worker concern regarding the potential impact of COVID. If an employee contracts COVID at work, the employer could be at risk of receiving a workers' compensation claim.	High – workers are rightly concerned about any potential impact of COVID through exposure in their workplace.	Ensure that workers have the most contemporary health advice from the Department of Health. Ensure workers have relevant PPE and training in how to use the PPE. Check in regularly with workers to understand any concerns or facilitate improvements to how work is being undertaken.

Outbreak planning

Usually want to divert as much waste as possible from landfill however, in outbreak in tower block for example, not an option. Therefore a system needs to be in place to ensure the waste is handled appropriately:

- Instruct residents, double bag waste, collected daily from front door – by person with full PPE and placed in waste bin
- For domestic waste, engage with Local Government who is, or contracts, the service provider to provide additional waste bins or more frequent services

- Minimise any waste collection driver contact with the Bins or waste (e.g. side lift truck, or ensure workers have face mask / hand sanitiser if they are touching the bins.)

Appendix 1: Summary Information

Waste Collection – Kerbside

Contamination of household bins – advice from the Department of Health PHEOC as follows:

It is possible that someone with COVID-19 may contaminate the surface of a bin and this could lead to transmission onto the next person to touch the bin. The bin is acting as a fomite- i.e. an inanimate object which can spread a pathogen on when touched. The risk of this occurring is no higher than any other object that people may touch throughout the course of their day. Thus, the risk mitigation strategy for this occurrence is to ensure that all staff handling bins wear gloves and wash their hands effectively after handling bins and regularly throughout the course of the day. It may also be an idea for Local Governments to remind consumers to wash their hands regularly throughout the day, including when handling bins.

Collection Vehicles – a large proportion of waste collection vehicles, for kerbside collections, are side arm trucks. This means that a person does not physically touch the bin, instead the side arm of the truck collects the bin. The content of the bin are tipped into the sealed body of the truck. This system is set up to minimise any contact between the driver and the bin or its contents, thereby minimising risk.

For those organisations using rear lift trucks, where workers are required to manoeuvre bins to be picked up by the trucks, it is recommended that the workers follow the Department of Health advice regarding hygiene. The Local Government may also want to encourage residents to wash their hands after handling bins. For workers sharing vehicles – it is suggested that waste collection vehicles are thoroughly sanitised between shifts.

Collection / Processing Contracts - Local Governments who have outsourced collection may need to consider some flexibility in their contracts, should the workforce undertaking collections be severely impacted. For example, the collection time (earlier or later) and the destination of the material. In regard to destination it may be quicker for a vehicle to go to another landfill / transfer station than the one contracted. The main message is, consider this as an option and Local Government discuss this with your contractors.

Waste Facilities

Sharing vehicles

As for collection workers, it is suggested that vehicles are thoroughly sanitised between shifts/users. This can include forklifts, front end loaders and compactors.

Material Recovery Facilities

The workers at these facilities wear full PPE – masks, glasses and gloves – as the nature and condition of the material received at these facilities is also quite variable and Material Recovery Facilities do have issues with the type of material they receive at times (for example nappies and sharps).

Composting facilities

At composting facilities, for example processing FOGO, workers would wear full PPE, practice good hygiene and utilise litter pick grabs to remove all contamination. That means tissues can continue to be disposed of in the FOGO bin.

Transfer Stations / Drop off centres / Landfills

The current approach used by these facilities is to minimise staff contact with the community who are dropping off recyclables or waste. This includes social distancing processes and additional PPE where appropriate. Most sites have closed Reuse Shops (aka Tip Shops) during this time to minimise any staff contact with the community. Currently, these sites are still open and taking 'self haul' material. Disposing of waste is necessary and people may be taking the opportunity, while self

isolating, to have a good clear out. While transfer stations/drop off centres and landfills can remain open to allow people to dispose of self haul material – while minimising staff exposure – it is encouraged that this occur, rather than the material remaining in people's homes or being illegally disposed of. However, if Government was to put in place more stringent recommendations regarding people not leaving their homes – except to get essentials – then it is suggested that transfer stations/drop off centres / landfills close their self haul facilities. In this case the community would be encouraged to store material at home until such time as the restrictions were lifted.

Where the community has a clear pathway to dispose of the waste that they are usually generating (through kerbside / verge collection) then the restriction on self haul should not prove too onerous. If these services are not in place in a Local Government – or are only in place for a proportion of the population – there is a rationale for self haul to remain in operation, as it is the only waste disposal option for the community. Depending on the size of the community being serviced, arrangements could be put in place for pre-booking of waste drop off and electronic transactions.

Cash handling

It is suggested that sites minimise cash handling from an Occupational Health and Safety point of view. If your Local Government has not yet instituted a 'no cash' policy then it is suggested that this be referred to those responsible for dealing with COVID-19 issues within your Local Government and a whole of organisation policy be put in place.

Staffing

Considering options to reduce risks, there could be the option for multiple shifts, with smaller numbers of staff, as way of social distancing and reducing risk.



Response to the Office of the Auditor General Audit of Local Government waste management service delivery

October 2020

Status of this Submission

This Submission has been prepared through the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) for the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA). MWAC is a standing committee of WALGA, with delegated authority to represent the Association in all matters relating to solid waste management. MWAC's membership includes the major Regional Councils (waste management) as well as a number of Local Government representatives. This makes MWAC a unique forum through which all the major Local Government waste management organisations cooperate.

This Submission therefore represents the consolidated view of Western Australian Local Government. However, individual Local Governments and Regional Councils may have views that differ from the positions taken here.

This Submission was endorsed by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council on Wednesday 28 October 2020.

Introduction

The Association thanks the Office of the Auditor General for the rigorous assessment of Local Government waste management service delivery and the comprehensive consultation process which accompanied this audit. This Submission from the Association outlines the various activities that the Local Government sector is undertaking and key commitments regarding the recommendations in the Report.

The Key Findings in the Auditor General Report were:

- Local Government entities deliver essential waste collection and drop-off services but few are likely to meet State and community expectations to avoid and recover waste
- State and local waste planning and data capture is inadequate
- Wider uptake of existing better practice waste management methods could be key to improving waste recovery
- The State Government has made good progress since 2016, but LG entities need more support to address local challenges.

Response to Recommendations

The Auditor General's Report split the recommendations up into areas that different entities should progress either individually or together - Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER), Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Waste Authority and Local Government sector. The Association considers there are some areas, where the Local Government sector, working with WALGA, can lead the implementation of particular recommendations. Table 1 – 3 identify the recommendations and provide specific comment.

Table 1: Waste Authority and DWER should work together on these recommendations

Recommendation	WALGA comment
1. provide support to LG entities by: a. preparing a State waste infrastructure plan to ensure alignment with the State planning framework b. identifying local Perth, Peel and regional reprocessing facility requirements and markets	1 a and b – fully support the recommendation. As identified in the WALGA Submission to Infrastructure WA, some types of infrastructure planning are best undertaken at the State or Regional level and it is entirely appropriate that the State should undertake this work.

<p>for recyclable materials, particularly for organic materials</p> <p>c. continuing to develop better practice guidance for LG entities to manage key waste streams and problematic wastes</p> <p>d. engaging with individual Perth, Peel and regional LG entities to help understand, identify and address their local challenges, risks and waste management requirements</p>	<p>c. The Association would note that the Guidelines need to be developed collaboratively with Local Governments to ensure they are fit for purpose and will easily be understood and implemented by Local Governments.</p> <p>d. The Association can facilitate engagement with Local Governments to assist the Waste Authority and DWER in relation to this recommendation.</p>
<p>2. support LG entities to improve the accuracy of their waste and recycling data in line with the Waste Data Strategy by:</p> <p>a. providing additional training and guidance for LG entities on data collection, reporting and quality control requirements</p> <p>b. developing and implementing appropriate controls to minimise the risk of inaccurate data supplied by contractors</p>	<p>Support the recommendation, however noting that the new compulsory reporting requirements will assist in ensuring accurate data provision.</p>
<p>3. provide LG entities with materials that explain the cost and environmental benefits of adopting a 3-bin FOGO system</p>	<p>As the exact system / contractual arrangements in place will differ for each Local Government an overall cost/benefit for implementing FOGO will vary. The EMRC has developed a business case approach, which it has used with its member Local Governments, to assess the viability of FOGO. The Association has applied for a WasteSorted Grant to allow this process to be implemented with Local Governments.</p>
<p>4. engage with LG entities to develop consistent and regular statewide messages, education and behaviour change programs for all LG entities and contractors that align with Waste Strategy 2030 targets.</p>	<p>Through the Consistent Communication Collective the process of consistent and collaborative education and behaviour change is well in place. The Association will be seeking formal commitment, through a Memorandum of Understanding, from Local Governments and Preferred Suppliers to embed the consistent approach.</p>

Table 2: DLGSC, Waste Authority and DWER should work together on these recommendations

Recommendation	WALGA comment
<p>5. provide guidance for LG entities to collect and publicly report consistent waste and recovery financial and performance data.</p>	<p>Support recommendation. Regarding financial performance, Local Governments vary in how they charge for waste management services, so there are likely to be some inconsistencies. For example including the waste services charge in the overall rate, or charging it separately as a service fee. Feedback from Local Government also noted that some information relating to the financial considerations could be commercial in confidence.</p>

Table 3: Local Governments should

Recommendation	WALGA comment
6. provide regular community updates on efforts to recover waste and meet Waste Strategy 2030 targets and seek community feedback where appropriate	Recommendation supported. Promoting the achievements of the community in relation to waste avoidance and recovery will ensure the community understands that their efforts do make a difference.
7. consider preparing waste plans, which demonstrate how the LG will contribute to relevant Waste Strategy 2030 headline strategies. These plans should be publicly available	Local Governments in Perth/Peel and Regional Centres have been required to develop waste plans. If there is a requirement for other Local Governments to develop plans they need to be simplified versions of what has been released to date, which are specific to the size of the Local Government and align with the compulsory data reporting requirements.
8. include performance measures in contracts with service providers to recover more waste without adding significant costs	WALGA is currently working on a Guideline for Better Practice Procurement of Waste Services. This will assist in ensuring, at a sector wide level, measures such as this can be included.
9. consider providing incentives for the community to minimise waste production.	Many Local Governments provide incentives for waste minimisation, such as Plastic Free July. What is needed in this area is an evidence based approach which provides Local Governments with the impact of these approaches. This would give Local Governments a business case for waste avoidance, based on costs of intervention and potential savings as a result. For example, Plastic Free July quantified the waste avoidance as 27 kg per person.

Industry Training Reference Group

Terms of Reference

Objective

This Group has been established to inform the development of Waste Management Certificate III which WALGA is aiming to deliver in 2021.

The methods of achieving this objective will be:

- Monthly meetings (1 – 2hrs) to discuss and inform the training material being developed
- Reviewing information outside of meetings when required and providing feedback.

Membership

Chair: WALGA

Members:

- 5 representatives from Local Government and/or the waste industry, selected through an Expression of Interest process, with skills and expertise in waste education/behaviour change, waste management operations or other relevant skill sets.
- LGIS member

First Group meeting will be held on Wednesday 25 November (1 – 2pm). Meetings can be attended in person or via teleconferencing or video conferencing, as required.

Quorum and voting

The Group will act in an advisory capacity, providing input to the Municipal Waste Advisory Council as the decision making body, as delegated by the WALGA State Council. The Group will operate by consensus.

Executive Support

The Association, through the Strategy, Policy and Planning Team unit, will provide executive support to capture the decisions and outcomes of the meeting/s and present items for consideration to the Group.

Timeline

The Group will commence in November 2020 and aim to finish all work by June 2021.

13th October 2020

Sent by email to: nsloan@walga.asn.au

Dear Mr. Nick Sloan,

Nespresso Recycling Available to Local Government

I am writing to provide an overview of **Nespresso's** Australia-wide recycling scheme given your responsibility as CEO of the WA Local Government Association, and to request a meeting to discuss the scheme in more detail and how WALGA could become involved.

Background on the Scheme

Nespresso capsules are made from aluminium, which is an infinitely recyclable material, however, like many other small products Australian Materials Recycling Facilities (MRFs) are unable to process them. This means they can't be recycled through domestic recycling bins.

Because of these infrastructure limitations, we have invested in pioneering, establishing and scaling our own dedicated recycling system for used capsules – the first of its kind in Australia. Initially launched in 2010, our ongoing investment into this system ensures our customers can conveniently recycle their used **Nespresso** capsules, regardless of where they are or how remotely they live. We take great care in product stewardship, ensuring that our scheme sees all recycled capsules, smelted, refined and turned into new aluminium products. Coffee grounds also enjoy second life as an effective fertiliser for local composting facilities.

There are now four ways customers across our in-home and professional systems can choose to recycle their used capsules. These include participating in a bulk recycling collection initiative, where businesses and community locations can choose to become a collection point, returning used aluminium capsules to a **Nespresso** boutique, dropping them off at a participating florist collection point, or posting used capsules back to **Nespresso** using a special Australia Post satchel.

Recycling is a critical part of **Nespresso's** broader sustainability commitments which include sourcing over 94% of coffee sourced through its AAA Sustainable Quality™ program and committing to be carbon neutral by 2022.

Benefit for Councils and Local Government

Local councils are set to benefit as the scheme enables more Australian's to divert a costly daily waste stream from certain landfill, as recycling infrastructure in Australia is currently unable to process small light items. The scheme also benefits councils by supporting local communities to be proactive in waste responsibility and sustainable resource management, offering second life to the infinitely recyclable aluminium used in **Nespresso** pods.

Councils can get involved with our bulk recycling program by ordering a complimentary **Nespresso** recycling kit, which includes three large recycling boxes capable of holding up to 1,500 used **Nespresso** aluminium capsules. Once filled, organise a pickup to **Nespresso's** recycling facility at no cost. At this time collection can only occur from attended buildings.

We welcome your support in spreading awareness for the scheme as we believe that the purpose built scheme can help divert a valuable resource from landfill and encourage improved environmental stewardship.

I am keen to discuss this and how it can support your sustainability efforts. Do let me know a suitable time for a video conference.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Ebert

No (More) Time To Waste

The Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee indicated in their October 2018 Report that only 5 of 16 recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General had been met. Therefore they made the following recommendations to address this. Feedback has been received from DWER regarding the status of the various recommendations (Table 1).

Table 1: No (More) Time to Waste Recommendations and current status

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
That the Waste Authority include in its Annual Report comprehensive information explain any departure from the current schedule for finalising its service level agreement and governance framework with the DWER.	<p>Waste Authority 2018/19 Annual Report (published October 2019) – complete – the service level agreement finally signed off 10 May 2019.</p> <p><i>“The agreement sets out the parties’ mutual understanding of their respective statutory and other legal functions and obligations through a statement of expectations and performance deliverables for provision of services for the period 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2020.”</i></p> <p>COMPLETE – although unclear about ongoing services level agreement.</p>	<p>Recommendation 1. Complete</p> <p>The Waste Authority 2018-19 Annual Report (published October 2019) noted the Service Level Agreement (SLA) was approved 10 May 2019.</p> <p>The SLA is reviewed and updated annually and is approved by the Waste Authority and the DWER Director General, prior to the finalisation of the annual Business Plan.</p>
The DWER ensure that the impending review of the <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007</i> (WA) removes all remaining ambiguity between the Department and the Waste Authority regarding their	The WARR Act has yet to be reviewed – anticipated in the coming months.	<p>Recommendation 2. Underway.</p> <p>It is anticipated the 12-week consultation period will be undertaken September – November 2020.</p>

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
<p>respective roles and responsibilities around the implementation of the Waste Strategy and expenditure from the WARR Account.</p>		<p>The statutory review of the <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007</i> (WARR Act) on behalf of the Minister for Environment has commenced. The review has a focus on addressing the roles and responsibilities of the Minister, CEO, and Waste Authority, noting previous findings that these were overlapping and unclear. The resolution of any remaining ambiguity requires legislative amendments, which will be subject to Government and Parliamentary consideration.</p> <p>Note that a governance agreement between DWER and the Waste Authority is in place and outlines the roles and responsibilities of each.</p>
<p>The Minister for Environment and the Waste Authority negotiate further to determine the appropriate number of staff that should work exclusively on helping the Waste Authority perform its functions and deliver its services.</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Recommendation 3: Complete.</p> <p>In accordance with the Public Sector Commission's <i>Good Governance Guide for Western Australian Boards and Committees</i>, the Minister for Environment has provided the Waste Authority with a statement of expectations to provide greater clarity about his understanding of the role of the Waste Authority and to guide its use of WARR Account funded resources.</p> <p>The application of WARR Account resources to Waste Authority functions is consistent with the Minister's statement of expectations. Arrangements regarding the form in which services</p>

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
		from the DWER are provided (i.e. exclusive or shared) is determined by the Director General in consultation with the Minister.
The Minister for Environment confirm if and when the DWER will be required to prepare business cases when proposing to use money from the WARR Account to fund internal projects linked to the Waste Strategy.	-	<p>Recommendation 4: Complete.</p> <p>This was confirmed by the Minister in his response to the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee on 11 January 2019.</p> <p>Specifically – the Minister advised:</p> <p><i>“Resources applied by DWER to administering and implementing the WARR Act and associated regulations, are approved by the Minister, quantified in the SLA, overseen by the Program Risk and Performance Committee, and reported on a quarterly basis to the Waste Authority. Separate business cases are not considered necessary for managing these ongoing functions. Ancillary or administrative services provided by DWER to the Waste Authority, including financial, human resources, ministerial, and communications, are approved by the Minister, quantified in the SLA, overseen by the Program Risk and Performance Committee, and reported on quarterly basis to the Waste Authority. It is not considered necessary to prepare separate business cases for these ongoing activities.”</i></p>

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
		<p>Business cases have been developed for all new programs and projects included in annual business plans since 2016-17. DWER also provides comprehensive quarterly financial and activity reports to the Waste Authority for all services provided under the SLA. Expenditure is detailed in the SLA as an allocation of FTE, consistent with approvals provided by the Minister for the WARR Account.</p>
<p>The Minister for Environment to explain the rationale for any decision to exempt the DWER from the requirement to prepare business cases for such spending.</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Recommendation 5: Complete.</p> <p>This was confirmed by the Minister in his response to the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee on 11 January 2019.</p> <p>Following consultation with the Minister, the Waste Authority has established a Program Risk and Performance Committee, which includes the CEO as a member, to improve oversight of the WARR Account and related program efficacy.</p> <p>To provide appropriate levels of oversight regarding expenditure, ongoing statutory responsibilities that are not discretionary (as distinct from proposed initiatives and projects), funded through the WARR Account, such as levy collection, compliance and enforcement, and waste local law processing, regular reporting to the Waste Authority and Minister is undertaken.</p> <p>Resources applied by DWER to administering and implementing the WARR Act and associated regulations, are approved by the Minister, quantified in the SLA, overseen by the Program Risk and</p>

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
		<p>Performance Committee, and reported on a quarterly basis to the Waste Authority. Separate business cases are not required for managing these ongoing functions.</p> <p>Ancillary or administrative services provided by DWER to the Waste Authority, including financial, human resources, ministerial, and communications, are approved by the Minister, quantified in the SLA, overseen by the Program Risk and Performance Committee, and reported on quarterly basis to the Waste Authority. It is not considered necessary to prepare separate business cases for these ongoing activities.</p>
<p>The Waste Authority, in its next Annual Report, clearly explain any changes it has made around how it defines its four landfill diversion categories and the impact these changes have had on the targets and rates for each category.</p>	<p>Waste Authority 2018/19 Annual Report (published October 2019)</p>	<p>Recommendation 6: Complete.</p> <p>Consistent with this recommendation, the Waste Authority's 2017-18 Annual Report included information about waste data estimation issues and changes for the most recently published data for the 2015-16 financial year. This information is included in the <i>"Significant issues impacting the Waste Authority"</i> section of the report.</p> <p>Key issues noted in the 2017-18 Annual Report included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • corrections to the 2015-16 data; • the adoption of a new method to estimate landfill disposal in the non-metropolitan region (given that non-metropolitan landfills are not required to report data); • data gaps associated with stockpiling; and

Recommendation (from October 2018 PAC Report)	WALGA's Comments 7 August 2020	DWER's August 2020 Status Update
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparation of a waste data strategy to assist with data issues.
The DWER formally advise the Minister for Environment whenever it decides not to support recommendations for Waste Strategy related initiatives put forward by the Waste Authority.	-	<p>Recommendation 7: Complete</p> <p>As a public sector agency, DWER's views are expressed in the form of advice to the Minister. DWER provides advice to the Minister when requested by the Minister, or when considered necessary.</p>



Container Deposit Scheme at Events **Report**

1.0 Container Deposit Scheme at Events

1.1 CDS Results

In January 2019, WALGA received funding from the State Government to promote the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) at Local Government events across Western Australia. At the program's conclusion, on 1 October, WALGA staff had attended 38 events total and worked with Local Government to collect approximately 100,000 containers (Figure 1).

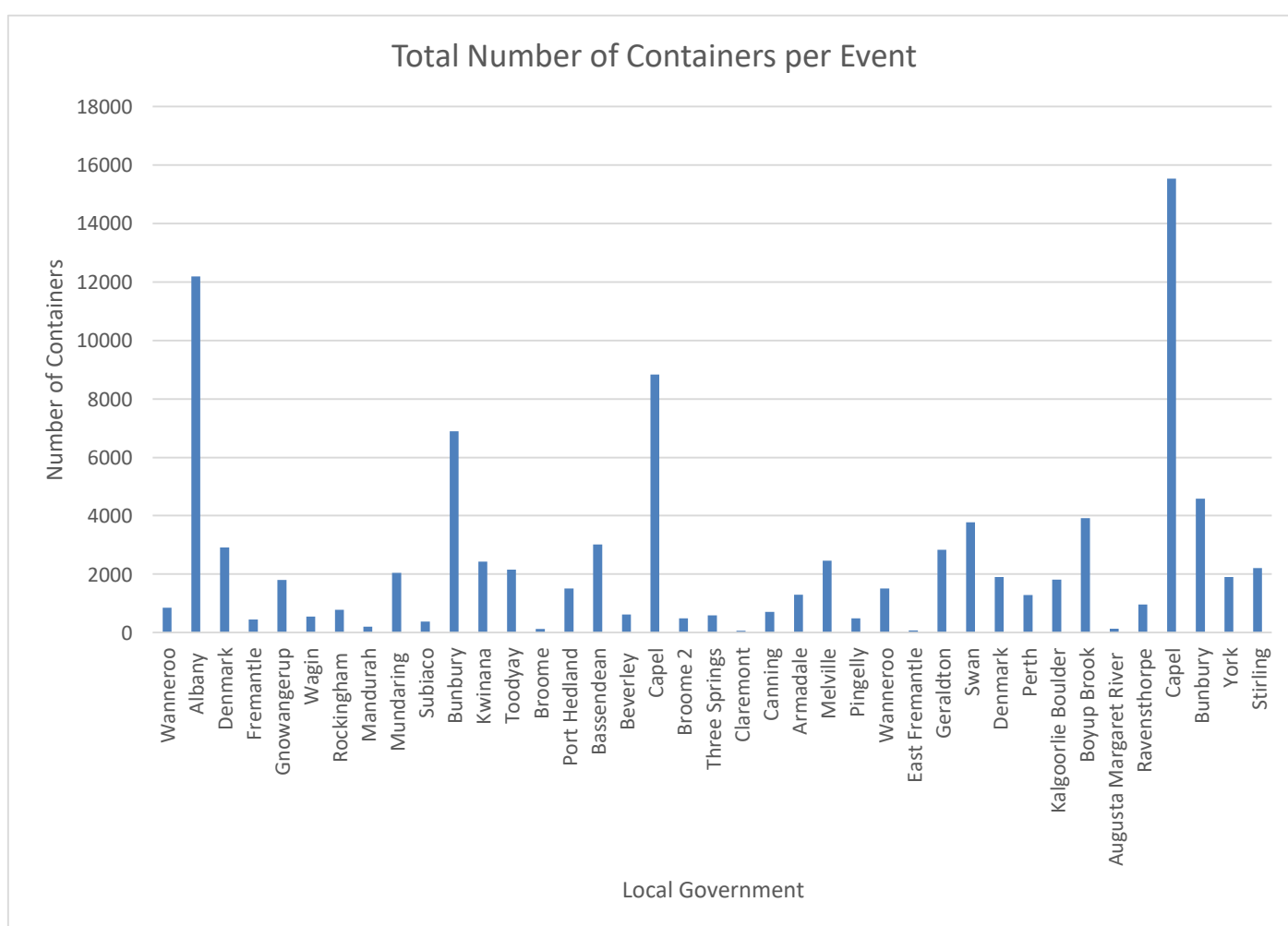


Figure 1. Total number of containers collected per Local Government event

WALGA staff also noted at each event the amount of people that handed in containers and also the people that staff spoke to about the Scheme. Figure 2 show the amount of people that interacted with the stall compared to the number of containers collected.

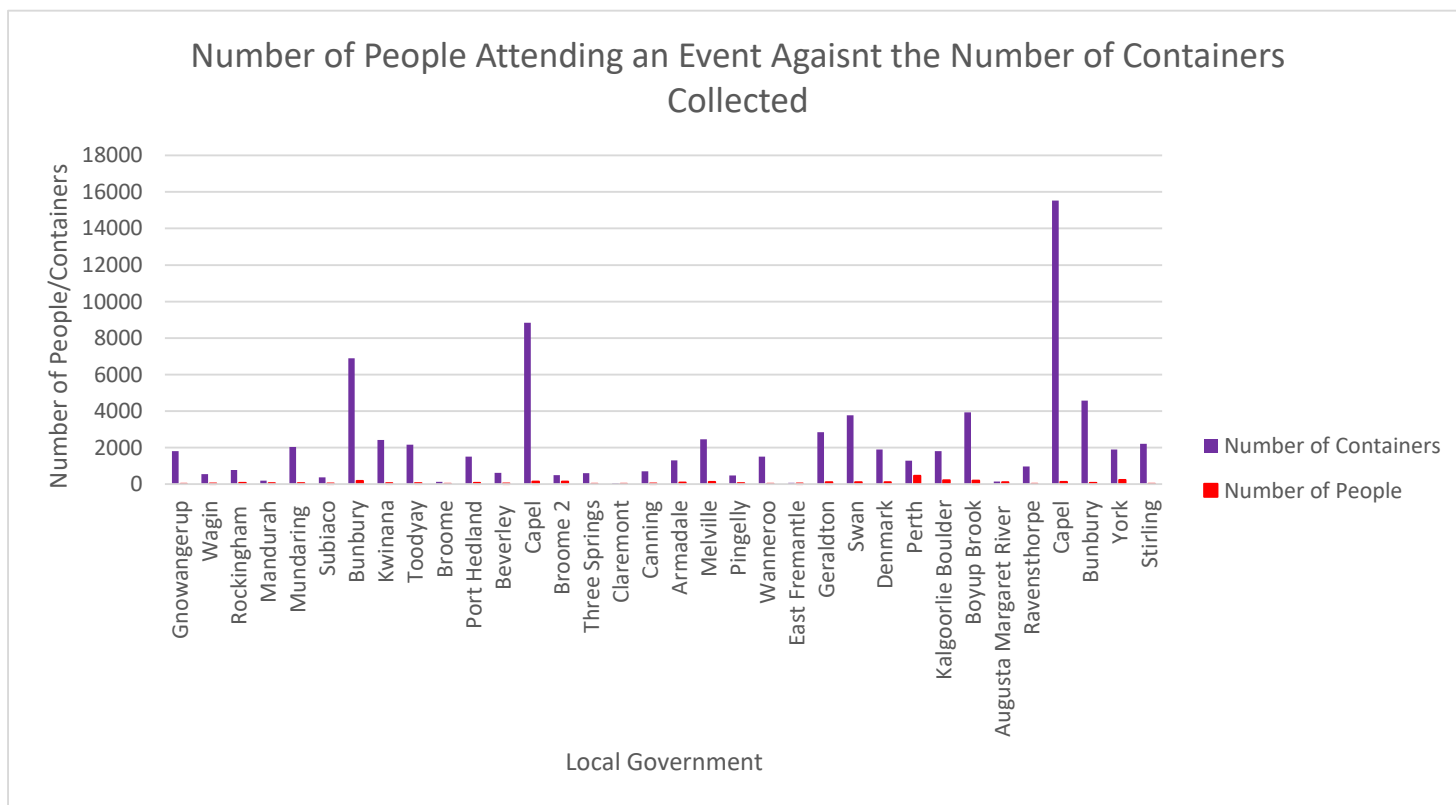


Figure 2. Amount of people at each event compared to the number of containers collected.

Of the 38 events, 16 of them took place within the Perth Metropolitan and Peel region and 22 took place in the Non-Metropolitan area. Out of the total number of containers collected across all events, 76% of containers were collected at Non-Metropolitan Local Government events (Figure 3).

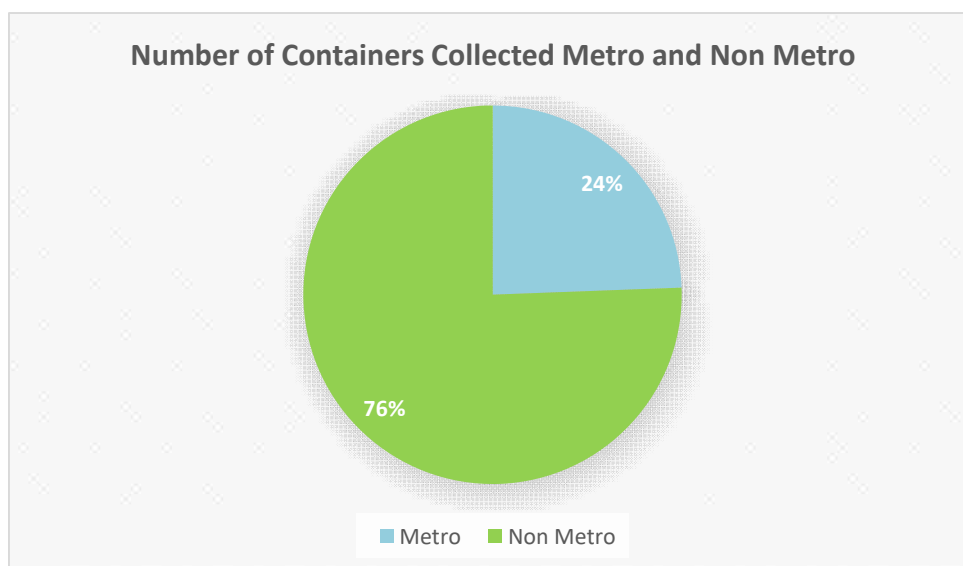


Figure 3. The percentage of containers collected in Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan regions of WA.

1.2 Photos of the Events

The first event WALGA staff attended was The City of Albany (figure 4) at the Middleton Beach Festival on 25 January 2019. This was one of the more successful events as residents brought along 12,194 containers.



Figure 4. City of Albany residents handing over their containers

The most successful metro event was at the City of Swan's Ellenbrook Christmas Pageant (Figure 5) on 14 December 2019. WALGA staff spoke to approximately 110 people about the scheme and collected 3,768 containers.



Figure 5. City of Swan's Ellenbrook Christmas Pageant.

The final promotional CDS event took place at the City of Stirling's Waste Activation Events on 19 September 2020 (Figure 6). With another successful event, WALGA staff spoke to over 30 people and collected 2,203 containers.



Figure 6. Final CDS promotional event at the City of Stirling.

Figures 7 to 11 below were taken by the WALGA Waste Team at the various promotional events for the Container Deposit Scheme.



Figure 7. From top left: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and City of Bunbury. From bottom left: Shire of Gnowangerup, City of Armadale and City of Wanneroo.



Figure 8. From top left: Shire of Augusta Margaret River, City of Melville and City of Subiaco. From bottom left: City of Kwinana and Town of Port Hedland



Figure 9. From top left: Shire of Pingelly and Town of Port Hedland From bottom left: Shire of Wagin, City of Wanneroo and City of Mandurah



Figure 10. From top left: Shire of Capel and Shire of Mundaring. From bottom left: City of Perth, Shire of Denmark and Town of Bassendean.



Figure 11. From top left: Shire of York and Shire of Denmark. From bottom left: Shire of Ravensthorpe, Shire of Broome and Shire of Boyup Brook.



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: wa-government@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon Mark McGowan BA LLB MLA, Premier of Western Australia

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Minister.Templeman@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister Templeman,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Minister.MacTiernan@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister MacTiernan

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Minister.Wyatt@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister Wyatt,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Minister.Saffioti@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister Saffioti,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: MiningPastoral.McGinn@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Kyle McGinn MLC,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Kyran.ODonnell@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Kyran O'Donnell MLA,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: darren.west.mp@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Darren West MLC,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is please to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: northwest@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Vincent Catania MLA,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Mia.Davies@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Mia Davies MLA,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: *Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC*



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: liza.harvey@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Liza Harvey MLA,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: mining-pastoral@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Robin Howard Chapple MLC,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Robin.Scott@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Hon. Robin Scott MLC,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: peter.rundle@mp.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Peter Rundle MLA,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: rick.wilson.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Mr Rick Wilson MP,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: michael.mccormack.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Hon Michael McCormack MP,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Duncan.Ord@dlqsc.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Duncan Ord,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Ralph.Addis@dpird.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Ralph Addis,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: Kris.Starcevich@gedc.wa.gov.au

Dear Kris,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: NSloan@walga.asn.au

Dear Mr Nick Sloan,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com
M: 0403 447 303
A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

19 October 2020

By email: rowena.olsen@nationalswa.com

Dear Rowena Olsen,

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (GVROC)
ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

The GVROC is pleased to enclose the attached GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region (Plan), which it developed and endorsed in September 2020 to position, assist and drive economic growth for the Goldfields Esperance region.

The GVROC present this plan to you for your consideration with a united regional voice from each of its nine local government authorities' members of what they would like to see delivered by the current and future State and Federal Governments.

It considers a number of key government policy settings, regulations and funding programs at a Federal and State level, that if reformed or addressed would enable the nine GVROC Local Government Authorities to grow their communities in a sustainable way on par with the major capital cities, which will provide significant social and economic benefits to not only the region, but also for the State and Nation.

The plan also takes into consideration the current effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the future economic stimulus measures that the GVROC would like to see funded and implemented by State and Federal Governments in conjunction with the GVROC members to stimulate and grow these regional cities, towns and communities into thriving and strong economic communities.

The GVROC would be happy to meet and discuss this plan with you in more detail or alternatively if you have any questions regarding the plan, please contact the GVROC Executive Officer, Andrew Mann via email at mannadvisory@bigpond.com or on 0403447303 to discuss.

The GVROC look forward to seeing progression on the policy initiatives in this plan as soon as possible and to continue working with current and future State and Federal Governments to drive the economic growth of the Goldfields Esperance region.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair

Cc: Andrew Mann –Executive Officer, GVROC



Parliamentary National Party of Australia (WA)

Our ref: 201020/TM

Cr Malcolm Cullen
GVROC Chair
459 Albany Highway
VICTORIA PARK WA 6100

via email: mannadvisory@bigpond.com

Dear Cr Cullen

**GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
(GVROC) ECONOMIC POLICY PLAN FOR THE REGION**

Thank you for taking the time to provide the GVROC Economic Policy Plan for the Region for Mia's consideration. I will ensure it is brought to her attention.

I have taken the liberty of sharing the plan with our Members of Parliament who have constituents within the GVROC region. I'm sure they will be in touch if they'd like to take up your offer to discuss the plan or have any questions.

Thank you again for writing to Mia.

Yours sincerely

Josh Nyman
CHIEF OF STAFF
Office of Hon Mia Davies MLA
Leader of The Nationals WA

20 OCT 2020

GVROC incoming email correspondence for 13 November 2020 meeting

Email received 20 October 2020 from Office of Liza Harvey MLA, Liberal Party Leader and Member for Scarborough regarding GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region

Good morning

Thank you for your recent correspondence, the contents of which have been noted by the Office of Hon Liza Harvey MLA, Leader of the Opposition.

Your correspondence has been forwarded to Hon Steve Thomas MLC, Shadow Minister for Finance; Agriculture & Food; Regional Development; Royalties for Regions for his information.

We appreciate the time you have taken to provide the Leader with the update.

With best regards

Office of Hon Liza Harvey MLA
Leader of the Opposition
T: 9222 7351 E: admin.harvey@loop.wa.gov.au



Email received 20 October 2020 from WALGA CEO, Nick Sloan regarding GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region

Hi Andrew

Thanks for this – fantastic initiative.

I'd appreciate the opportunity to meet and discuss how we can support GVROC with your advocacy.

Neb's will liaise on a convenient time for us all to meet.

Thanks, Nick Sloan

Email received 26 October 2020 from Director General, Ralph Addis regarding GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region

Thanks Andrew, I've had a quick read of GVROC's Plan and also forwarded it to Niegel Grazia (DDG Industry & Economic Development) and Kris Starcevich (CEO GEDC).

Let me know if there's anything particular you'd like to discuss.

Best regards

Ralph Addis

Email received 26 October 2020 from Office of Kyran O'Donnell MLA, Member for Kalgoorlie regarding GVROC Economic Policy Paper for the Region

Hi Mal & Andrew

Thank you for sending this through, Kyran is reviewing what you have sent, there are some very good points, issues raised and initiatives and proposals in there.

The Hon. Liza Harvey, Leader of the Opposition will be here on the 30th of November and I was wondering if you would like to meet with her and discuss this plan with both her and Kyran at the same time?

Regards

Nardia TURNER | Electorate Officer
Office of Kyran O'Donnell, MLA
Member for Kalgoorlie | Shadow Minister for Seniors and Ageing; Volunteering



Like our Facebook page to see what is happening in the Kalgoorlie Electorate!

227 Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie WA 6430

T: (08) 9021 6766 | F: (08) 9021 6724

E: nardia.turner@mp.wa.gov.au | kyran.odonnell@mp.wa.gov.au



This electronic transmission is intended only for those to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is confidential, privileged or exempt from disclosure by law. Any claim to privilege is not waived or lost by reason of mistaken transmission of this information. If you are not the intended recipient you must not distribute or copy this transmission and should please immediately notify the sender.

Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils

Financial Statement period ending 30-09-20

		Adopted Budget 2020/2021	Estimated Actual YTD to 30-06-2020	Estimated Actual YTD to 30-09-2020
Number				
Governance Income				
0501	Member Subscriptions	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 88,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
0502	Member Subscriptions - Goldfields District			
0521	Reimbursements		\$ 12,792.00	
0575.01	Interest Income GVROC	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,823.87	\$ 31.46
Total Governance Income		101,500.00	102,615.87	22,031.46
Governance Expenses				
1512	Executive Officer - Phone, Internet and Fax	\$ 800.00		
1513	Executive Officer - Professional Services	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 69,740.00	\$ 44,000.00
1514	Executive Officer - Travel & Accommodation	\$ 14,000.00		
1515	Executive Officer - Other	\$ 1,000.00		
1546	Council Expenses - Meeting Room Hire	\$ 1,500.00		
1549	Council Expenses - Teleconference	\$ 2,000.00		
1555	Council Expenses - Meeting Food and Beverage	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 1,275.00	
1556	Council Expenses - Financial Management	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,278.00	
1557	Council Expenses - Travel & Accommodation	\$ 6,000.00		
1558	Council Expenses - Other	\$ 500.00		
1559	Council Expenses - Audit	\$ 3,000.00		
	BAS Tax Payment		\$ 3,533.00	
	Payment Shire Coolgardie		\$ 40,520.97	
	Advertising Executive Officer		\$ 2,604.51	
	Strata Fees		\$ 2,855.77	

Total Governance Expenses	\$ 160,300.00	\$ 123,807.25	\$ 44,000.00
Total Net Governance	-\$ 58,800.00	-\$ 21,191.38	-\$ 21,968.54

Project Income

0512 Transfer from Cash Reserves
Contribution RDA

Total Project Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
-----------------------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

Project Expenses

1846 Projects General - ROSI Project
1846 Projects General
1849 Maintenance GVROC Regional Equipment Pool
Equity Payment Records Facility

Total Project Expenses	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 47,300.00	\$ -
Total Net Projects	-\$ 30,000.00	-\$ 47,300.00	\$ -

Cash Distribution to each LG		\$ 150,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
-------------------------------------	--	----------------------	---------------------

Opening Cash Balance 1 July GVROC \$ 285,099.93

Estimated Closing June 2020	\$ 196,299.93	-\$ 218,491.38	-\$ 71,968.54
------------------------------------	----------------------	-----------------------	----------------------

	Estimated to 30 June 2021	Estimated to 30 June 2020	Estimated to 30 September 2020
Telenet Saver Account	\$150,263.34	\$250,284.20	\$250,315.66
Business Transaction Account	\$46,036.59		\$67,122.28
Total Cash	<u>\$ 196,299.93</u>	<u>\$ 250,284.20</u>	<u>\$ 317,437.94</u>

10 November 2020

**AMD Chartered Accountants
PO Box 1306
BUNBURY WA 6230**

Dear Sirs/Madam

REPRESENTATION LETTER

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial report of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils for the year ended 30 June 2020, for the purpose of you expressing an opinion as to whether the financial report gives a true and fair view in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as outlined within Note 1.

We confirm that (to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such enquires as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves):

Financial Report

- We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement dated 30 July 2019, for the preparation of the financial report in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as outlined within Note 1; in particular the financial report gives a true and fair view in accordance therewith.
- Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed.
- All events subsequent to the date of the financial report have been adjusted or disclosed.
- There are no material uncorrected misstatements.
- The selection and application of accounting policies are appropriate.

Information Provided

- We have provided you with:
 - Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial report such as records, documentation and other matters;
 - Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
 - Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial report.
- We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial report may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

- We have disclosed to you all information in relation to fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects the entity and involves:
 - Management;
 - Employees who have significant roles in internal audit control; and
 - Others where fraud could have a material effect on the financial report.
- We have disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity's financial report communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.
- We have disclosed to you known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial report.
- We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial report.
- We have disclosed to you the identity of the entity's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.
- We have provided you with all requested information, explanations and assistance for the purposes of the audit.

Other

- We acknowledge our responsibility for the design and implementation of internal control to prevent and detect error. We have established and maintained adequate internal control to facilitate the preparation of a reliable financial report, and adequate financial records have been maintained. There are no material transactions that have not been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial report.
- There are no violations or possible violations of laws or regulations whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial report or as a basis for recording an expense.
- The entity has satisfactory title to all assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- The entity has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial report in the event of non-compliance.
- There are no liabilities, both actual and contingent, that have arisen which we have not disclosed to you.
- There were no material commitments for construction or acquisition of property, plant and equipment or to acquire other non-current assets, such as investments or intangibles, other than as disclosed in the financial report.
- The organisation is considered to be a non-reporting entity because it is likely that all users of the financial statements are able to obtain financial information by access to the Council

We understand that your examination was made in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and was, therefore, designed primarily for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial report of the entity taken as a whole, and that your tests of the financial records and other auditing procedures were limited to those which you considered necessary for that purpose.

Yours faithfully



Malcolm Cullen
Chairman
Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of
Councils



Andrew Mann
Executive Officer
Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of
Councils

6 November 2020

Mr M Cullen
Chairperson
Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils
PO Box 6456
EAST PERTH WA 6892

Dear Malcolm

30 JUNE 2020 MANAGEMENT REPORT

Following completion of our 30 June 2020 audit, we provide our Management Report and audit recommendations.

1.0 Our Audit Approach

The Australian Auditing Standards are the professional Standards applicable to all audit engagements. Accordingly, our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, with testing designed solely to enable the expression of an opinion on the financial report of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils. This involved us making an assessment of the risk of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and then using our professional judgement, applying audit procedures to mitigate that risk.

To assist those responsible for governance in understanding our role as external auditor, we have previously detailed our audit responsibilities and scope of work to be performed to meet those responsibilities in our audit engagement letter.

Australian Auditing Standards require us to document and evaluate Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils' system of internal control to establish the level of reliance on the internal control system in determining the nature, timing and extent of other auditing procedures necessary to enable us to complete our audit. This work is not primarily directed towards the discovery of weaknesses or the detection of fraud or other irregularities and should not, therefore, be taken to assume that no other weaknesses exist. Accordingly the comments within this letter refer only to those matters that have come to our attention during the course of our normal audit work and may not identify all possible improvements that an internal controls review may detect.

Our audit approach is based on a risk analysis methodology which relies upon our understanding of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils' operations, strategies and risks. We performed a review of applicable accounting systems and tested those during our audit. The level of testing performed by us is determined by the degree of reliance we place on the internal control systems in place which has a resulting impact on the amount of substantive testing required during our audit procedures. The level of testing performed is also aligned with what is required to form an overall opinion on the financial statements which may not coincide with what Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils perceives should be tested.

Our audit also included evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and judgements, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report. There were no areas of disagreement either in the accounting estimates or judgements or in the presentation and disclosures made in the financial report.

Inevitably in the environment of an organisation with a limited number of employees or contractors available to undertake accounting and administration roles, it is impracticable to have good division of duties and internal checks in place in relation to invoicing and receipting, processing and preparation of payments and recording of transactions. As a result, there is inherently an increased risk that errors or omissions may go undetected.

2.0 Assessment of Fraud and Error

The primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud is that of the Council and management. As a result, it is important that management with the oversight of the Council place a strong emphasis on fraud prevention, which may reduce opportunities for fraud to take place and fraud deterrence, which could persuade individuals not to commit fraud because of the likelihood of detection and resulting consequences.

In accordance with Australian Auditing Standards we are required to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial report taken as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. While our procedures are designed to identify material weaknesses and misstatements from fraud and error, there is an unavoidable risk that even some material misstatements may remain undiscovered. This unavoidable risk is due to the test nature and other inherent limitations of an audit, together with the inherent limitations of any accounting and internal control system.

We have confirmed that nothing has come to management's attention that may constitute an incident of fraud. In addition our audit procedures did not identify any instances of suspected or actual fraud. We take this opportunity to remind you that our audit is not designed to detect fraud and therefore our audit procedures are not designed for that purpose.

3.0 Other Matters

Please refer to Appendix 1 for one specific recommendation arising from our audit procedures.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank James for the assistance provided to us during our audit.

Should you have any questions concerning the above or would like to discuss any other aspect of our audit, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

AMD Chartered Accountants

Maria Cavallo FCA
Director

APPENDIX 1
Audit Recommendations for the year ended 30 June 2020

GUIDANCE TO FINDINGS RATING / IMPLICATION

Findings identified during the final audit have been weighted in accordance with the following scale:

Significant: *Those findings where there is potentially a significant risk to the entity should the finding not be addressed promptly.*

Moderate: *Those findings which are of sufficient concern to warrant action being taken by the entity as soon as possible.*

Minor: *Those findings that are not of primary concern however still warrant action being taken.*

AUDIT FINDINGS

1. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Finding Rating: Moderate

Minutes of Council meetings held during the year ended 30 June 2020 were not signed by chairperson

Implication

Lack of documentation in respect to Council discussions and resolutions.

Recommendation

We recommend that minutes all minutes are signed. It is good governance practice for the minutes to be signed by the Chairperson as it acts as a confirmation that the minutes are a true and fair record of actions and resolutions which have taken place in the meeting.

Management Comment

The GVROC Note the recommendation, and while all minutes are reviewed and endorsed by the GVROC at its subsequent meetings, we will ensure that they are also signed by the Chairperson and dated as an official true and fair record in future.



GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL
ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020



GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Cash Receipts		
Contribution Towards Battery Minerals Infrastructure Strategy	-	18,182
DLGC Asset Management GERCG Project	-	5,572
GST Clearing	5,968	1,763
Interest Income - GVROC	1,824	5,551
Loan Proceeds - Shire of Coolgardie	-	37,957
Member Subscriptions	80,000	89,000
Reimbursements	-	978
Total Receipts	87,792	159,003
Cash Payments		
Council Expenses - Audit	2,380	2,380
Council Expenses - Financial Management	600	2,699
Council Expenses - Meeting Food and Beverage	559	9,243
Council Expenses - Other	600	-
Council Expenses - Teleconference / Meeting Room Hire	3,396	13
DLGC Asset Management GERCG Project	-	757
Executive Officer - Other	2,368	3,078
Executive Officer - Phone, Internet and Fax	-	53
Executive Officer - Professional Fees	63,400	5,388
Executive Officer - Travel and Accommodation	-	1,172
Expenses - Goldfields Record Storage Facility Resolution	152,856	7,691
Loan Repayments - Shire of Coolgardie	37,125	-
Projects General - Digital Action Plan	20,000	-
Projects General - Member Councils	23,000	24,050
Reimbursements	-	23,300
Total Payments	306,284	79,824
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(218,492)	79,179

GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
STATEMENT OF CASH BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Opening Funds at 1 July	607,898	528,719
Add: Surplus/(Deficit) for the year <i>(refer previous page)</i>	(218,492)	79,179
Closing Funds at 30 June	389,406	607,898
Represented by:		
Bankwest Zero	139,122	80,105
Bankwest Saver	250,284	527,793
Total Funds at 30 June	389,406	607,898

Index

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH PAYMENTS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

NOTE 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Member Councils. The Council has determined that it is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Member Councils and on the cash basis of accounting whereby revenue is recorded when it is received, expenses are recorded when they are paid and no assets or liabilities, other than cash and bank balances are recorded.

Accounting Standards or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board are not applicable.

GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

The Council have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The Council have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, whereby revenue is recorded when cash receipts are received, expenses are recorded when they are paid, and no assets or liabilities, other than cash and bank balances, are recorded.

In the opinion of the Council the attached financial report presents fairly the cash receipts and payments of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils for the year ended 30 June 2020 and its cash and bank balances as at that date.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Council and is signed for and on behalf of the Council by:



Malcolm Cullen
Chairman
Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of
Councils



Andrew Mann
Executive Officer
Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of
Councils

Dated this 10th day of November 2020

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS**

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils, being a special purpose financial report, which comprises the statement of cash receipts and cash payments for the year ended 30 June 2020, notes to the financial statements and the declaration by those charged with governance.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the receipts and payments of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils for the year ended 30 June 2020, and of its cash and bank balances as at that date, in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter- Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils to meet the requirements of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Member Councils. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and for such internal control as management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management are responsible for assessing the organisations ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intend to liquidate Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organisation's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

AMD Chartered Accountants

MARIA CAVALLO
Director

28-30 Wellington Street, Bunbury, Western Australia

Dated this day of November 2020

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
TO THE MEMBERS OF GOLDFIELDS VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS**

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2020, there have been no contraventions of:

- i) The auditor independence requirements as set out in the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants in relation to the audit; and
- ii) Any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

AMD Chartered Accountants

**Maria Cavallo FCA
Director**

Bunbury, WA

Dated this 6th day of November 2020



Goldfields-Esperance Camel Industry Working Group Terms of Reference

PURPOSE

To progress the development of camel related industry components in consultation with key stakeholders, including State and Local government, agencies, Pastoralists and private enterprise.

INTENT

To realise the commercial and economic benefits associated with harvesting and utilising camels in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

FOCUS

Identifying and developing opportunities for commercialisation of camel products and value add commodities.

GOALS

- Progress the industry development recommendations outlined in the *Goldfields-Esperance Camel Industry Analysis* to support emerging and existing business ventures to utilise camels as a commercially viable commodity.
- Establish the Goldfields-Esperance region as a leader in camel commercial business operations and best industry practice.

DESIRABLE OUTCOMES

1. Support Pastoralists to develop the required infrastructure to capitalise on camel related commercial opportunities.
2. Engagement and involvement of Aboriginal lease holders, ranger programs and Native Title holders to realise employment and economic development outcomes.
3. Provide advice to assist stakeholders in scoping and developing new industry projects across the Goldfields-Esperance region.
4. Provide assistance to potential proponents to access grants opportunities and funding sources.
5. Advocate for industry development

ACCOUNTABILITY

The Goldfields-Esperance Camel Industry Working Group will be supported by the partner organisation, being the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC), Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission (GEDC) and Goldfields Nullarbor Rangelands Biosecurity Association (GNRBA).

The Working Group will report on activities and progress to the partner organisations and to the Minister for Regional Development as required, or on request from the Minister.

MEMBERSHIP

The partner organisations are responsible for appointing and maintaining the membership. Members may consist of individuals or representatives from all levels of government, industry organisations, Pastoralists, private businesses or other interested stakeholders who have knowledge and expertise to assist the working group achieve its goals and desired outcomes.

The Working Group membership will endorse the Chair position. In the event that the Chair is absent for a meeting, a member will be nominated to Chair by the group.

MEETING FREQUENCY

It is expected that the Working Group will meet on an as needs basis. Due to the far reaching geographic locations of the membership, meetings will be planned giving consideration to both in-person and virtual meeting attendance. Under special circumstances a meeting may be cancelled or re-scheduled.

QUORUM AND VOTING

The Working group will operate with 50% of the membership participating. Decisions of the Working Group are made by consensus and a limit of one (1) vote is allowed per organisation.

Decisions can be made via email circular outside of scheduled meetings, provided a quorum is achieved.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

Administrative and in-kind support will be provided by the Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission.

To whom it may concern,

This letter addresses the business case of the project utilising camel GPS collars for the benefit of local shires in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

From the Goldfields-Esperance Region Camel Industry Analysis: “Estimated total impacts (costs) attributed to camels, at the LGA level, in the Goldfields-Esperance in 2019/20 was over **\$764,000.**”

GVROC will be a key beneficiary of the proposed project, as the data generated will prove extremely useful to local councils, who will be forewarned of camel movements to more effectively manage camel herds before they damage infrastructure.

After reviewing our proposal that was presented to GVROC last meeting at Kalgoorlie on September 11 we have prepared a detailed business case for WA feral camel tracking and management while utilising GPS collars and technology.

CSA has identified six shires that would greatly benefit from the project, totalling 60 collars. These shires are:

- Wiluna
- Laverton
- Leonora
- Kalgoorlie - Boulder
- Dundas
- Ngaanyatjaraku

Camel Solutions Australia (CSA) will provide 30% of the cost while seeking 35% from the Western Australian State government and 35% from GVROC.

The total cost to each of GVROC and the State Government to roll out 60 collars across these areas will be **\$545,246** for a minimum three-year project. The first year of funding will be \$256,886, followed by \$144,180 for years two and three. Dividing the project funding between the six shires amounts to \$90,875 a shire, which means \$42,815 for the first year following by \$24,030 for years two and three.

Given the minimum guaranteed battery life is four years, we therefore feel it is a wasted resource to not utilise this data and the Geo-fence feature during the fourth year. This provides the potential for us to extend the project further, and should GVROC decide to go ahead with the fourth year of the project, a price will be negotiated appropriately.

Please feel free to contact us if you require any further information.

Regards,

Nathaniel James and Gilad Berman.

Gilad Berman
Director / CEO
Camel Solutions Australia
2 The Esplanade, Exchange Tower Level 15, Perth
ABN: 72642088720
ACN: 642088720

Camel Solutions Australia

WA Feral Camel Tracking and Management

Business Case

Nathaniel James
p. 0418 478 853
e. n.james@csaustralia.net

Gilad Berman
p. 0424 477 785
e. g.berman@csaustralia.net

ACN 642 088 720
PO Box 502 Kalamunda WA 6076
WWW.CSAUSTRALIA.NET

Contents

Business Plan Summary	3
The Business	3
The Future	4
Vision statement	4
Goals/objectives.....	5
The Finances(1)	6
Project Budget	6
Project Funding Plan	7
The Management	7
Experiance	7
Funding Management.....	8
Requierd Staff.....	8
Forums/Training Programs.....	8
Services	9
Innovations	9
Legal Considerations.....	10
The Operations	10
Project Plan	10
Community impact & engagement	11
Risk Mitigation Response	11
Risk Management.....	12
Constraints.....	13
The Finances(2)	14
Expected Cash Flow 2021	14
Expected Cash Flow 2022	15
Expected Cash Flow 2023	16

Business Plan Summary

Australia's feral camel population is a very significant problem and a major concern across regional Western Australia. Due to a recurring natural increase in the camel population in 2009 the Australian Federal Government invested A\$19 million into the Australian Feral Camel Management Project that culled 160,000 camels from Central Australia. However, the AFCMP project ended in 2013 and with the camel population doubling every 8 to 10 years it is safe to say that Australia's camel population is probably back to what it was before the AFCMP culling started. The AFCMP project estimated it would take about \$4 million per year to maintain the current population, however, there is no recurring funding from Government to reduce Australia's camel population.

Camel Solutions Australia proposes an approach using off-the-shelf technology to provide up to date GPS data sourced using tracking collars, and with the support of Murdoch University, introduce a multi-disciplinary approach to camel ecology. The use of tracking collars is one of the most effective methods for monitoring wild animals spread across vast areas and provide mission critical data to help reduce the camel population. CSA aims to use the "Judas Camel" method that was proven successful by Murdoch University and apply it on a State-wide basis to address a State-wide problem. For the first time, using GPS tracking data, CSA will accurately know the location and movement of feral camels across the interior of WA, their dispersal patterns, and likely future movements during drought & floods to enable proactive management of the feral camel population before they become a problem to communities, pastoralists and Government. A geo-fencing feature will be used to alert stakeholders well in advance before problems arise and when to capitalise on pending harvest opportunities.

Data will be collected and used to protect critical assets such as areas of cultural significance, regional and remote communities, infrastructure, road networks, pastoral infrastructure and environmentally sensitive areas. Local communities and pastoralists will be alerted before camels get to critical assets or areas of significance; pastoralists will be readied to prepare mustering yards near watering points to harvest camels for sale rather than shoot, drop and cull.

Outcomes of this project will include: Mitigation of the negative impacts currently caused by the over abundance of feral camels will become possible. Removal of camels using mobile mustering and permanent self-trapping yards will become a highly targeted operation. Remote and inaccessible regions can be targeted to remove pest populations. Remote Aboriginal communities can be resourced in advance to remove approaching camels. Goals can be actioned to confidently reduce the camel population by an amount greater than natural growth.

The project has the potential to save millions of dollars annually in damage to the environment, communities and infrastructure. The project has potential to provide the basis for land managers, owners and pastoralists to gain a reliable supply of camels for dairy, meat, pet food, meat meal, fertiliser and value adding opportunities – which in turn will stimulate investment resulting in new ventures, jobs, exports and industry.

GVROC will be a key beneficiary of this project as the data generated will prove extremely useful to local councils who will be forewarned of camel movements to more effectively manage herds before they damage infrastructure (e.g. over \$760,000 damage was inflicted to local government areas' infrastructure during spring-summer 2019).

The Business

Business name: Camel Solutions Australia

Business structure: Company

ABN: 72642088720

ACN: 642088720

GST: We are registered for the purposes of GST

Domain names: csaustralia.net

Business location: 2 The Esplanade, Exchange Tower Level 15, Perth

Business owners: Nathaniel James and Gilad Berman

The Future

Vision statement:

The use of tracking collars is one of the most effective methods for monitoring wild animals spread across vast areas and provide missioncritical data to help reduce the camel population. Camel Solutions Australia, with the support of Murdoch University, plan to introduce a multidisciplinary approach to camel ecology.

Camel Solutions Australia proposes to gather information through the use of GPS collars fitted to approximately 60 feral camels spread across the interior of WA, extending from the far eastern Pilbara to the WA/SA border to Esperance to the eastern goldfields (e.g. Kalgoorlie, Laverton & Wiluna).

The GPS collars will provide insight to monitor feral camel movement patterns across the desert regions of Western Australia. We will gain two 'tracked' locations from each collar each day, shown visually on Google Earth as a 'dot' with a corresponding time and date of the geo-referenced position. Over time, CSA will develop the capacity to track movement patterns on Google Earth and provide future scenarios.

CSA aims to use the "Judas Camel" method that was proven successful by Murdoch University and apply it on a State-wide basis to address a State-wide problem. For the first time, using GPS tracking data, CSA will accurately know the location and movement of feral

camels across the interior of WA, their dispersal patterns, and likely future movements during drought & floods to enable proactive management of the feral camel population before they become a problem to communities, pastoralists and the Government.

A geo-fencing feature will be used to alert stakeholders well in advance before problems arise and when to capitalise on pending harvest opportunities.

Goals/objectives

Camel Solutions Australia can track and monitor the feral camels movement by using GPS collars that will provide us with:

- Each collar will provide two location updates a day for three years.
- A VHF transmitter for on field locating, allowing us to retract collars from deceased camels.
- Temperatures and time of day.
- Camel locations that can instantly looked at Google Earth.
- A Geo fence feature.

Having this information we can then:

- Provide better quality information to the public,
- Over time develop more reliable estimates of camel herd populations,
- Reduce response times for aerial mustering, culling & surveying (i.e. helping reduce costs),
- Locate capture yards around highly visited water points (i.e. more effective harvesting),
- Help to better protect areas of cultural significance,
- Help protect aboriginal community infrastructure with Geo-fencing (i.e. advanced warnings), and
- in collaboration with Murdoch University gain invaluable data for population control & harvesting.

The Project will be undertaken from Perth and Kalgoorlie. The project's fieldwork within WA's desert regions will be undertaken during the cooler months (e.g. April to October). Monitoring of GPS data will be a continuous process and reported weekly / monthly or when required to alert stakeholders. Mustering yards to trap and remove camels will be an ongoing process in collaboration with pastoralists, traditional owners, remote communities and regional stakeholders.

The Finances

Project Budget

Expenditure item	Description	3 Years Project Funding	GVROC %35	DPIRD %35	CSA %30	Total Budget
60 Collars inclusive of Three years data	G5 Iridium GPS Tracking Collar	\$212,700	\$74,445	\$74,445	\$63,810	\$212,700
6 Replacment Collars inclusive of Three years data	G5 Iridium GPS Tracking Collar	\$21,270	\$7,444	\$7,444	\$6,382	\$21,270
6 VHF Recievers	VHF Tracking reciever R410	\$8,368	\$2,928	\$2,928	\$2,512	\$8,368
6 Antennas for the Recivers	3-Element folding Yagi directional antenna	\$1,768	\$618	\$618	\$532	\$1,768
Tranquilliser rifle		\$4,950	\$1,732	\$1,732	\$1,486	\$4,950
Rifle License		\$450	\$157	\$157	\$136	\$450
Darts and medication	Darts and required medication	\$10,000	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,000	\$10,000
Tranquilliser rifle starter kit	Training Darts and CO ₂ cartridges	\$1,950	\$682	\$682	\$586	\$1,950
Veterinary Service	Cost of Vet	\$71,400	\$24,990	\$24,990	\$21,420	\$71,400
Helicopter Hire	Helicopter Hire R 44	\$147,000	\$51,450	\$51,450	\$44,100	\$147,000
Plant and Equipment	Vehicles, Trailers, Modifications	\$160,000	\$56,000	\$56,000	\$48,000	\$160,000
IT Equipment	Laptops Software Sat Phone Boosters	\$10,000	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,000	\$10,000
Fuel	Diesel	\$30,000	\$10,500	\$10,500	\$9,000	\$30,000
Admin	Comm's, Accommm, Ins, Subs, Courier.	\$38,000	\$13,300	\$13,300	\$11,400	\$38,000
Employment costs	Salary Superannuation Ranger Training	\$800,000	\$280,000	\$280,000	\$240,000	\$800,000
Operating expenses vehicles	Tyres, servicing, insurance, rego, repairs	\$40,000	\$14,000	\$14,000	\$12,000	\$40,000
Total		\$1,557,856	\$545,246	\$545,246	\$467,365	\$1,557,856

Project Funding Plan

Project Funding Plan	GVROC %35	DPIRD %35	CSA %30	Total Budget
Funding Year One	\$256,886.00	\$256,886.00	\$220,188.00	\$733,960.00
Funding Year Two	\$144,180.00	\$144,180.00	\$123,588.00	\$411,948.00
Funding Year Three	\$144,180.00	\$144,180.00	\$123,588.00	\$411,948.00
Total	\$545,246.00	\$545,246.00	\$467,364.00	\$1,557,856.00

Management

Experience:

Camel Solutions Australia's two directors (Gilad Berman & Nat James) both have vast yet different experience in managing projects similar to the proposed project.

Gilad coordinated the successful creation of the first automated camel dairy in Australia by bringing in feral camels from the desert, quarantining and domesticating them, before homing and milking them within a commercial dairy, demonstrating the ability to address the many challenges that come from turning a concept into a commercial venture. Gilad was pivotal in gathering a group of like-minded people and utilising their strengths to establish a new industry in WA and the driving force behind the research and development that contributed to the success of the camel dairy project. Gilad's expert analysis of camel markets, knowledge of safe practices for domesticating feral camels, and innovative milking methods that substantially improved yields, were inspired by Gilad's research and ingenuity. Gilad has a deep understanding of camels along with highly effective project and people management skills, providing him with the capacity to lead this significant project alongside Nat James.

Nat has extensive experience working with a range of communities and stakeholders, serving as a city councillor in Kalgoorlie, and as president of the local football club. Nat has hands-on involvement with three pastoral stations which he successfully operates, exporting beef to China and other countries, all the while maintaining full traceability throughout the supply chain. This has given Nat exceptional skills in commercial and project management, ensuring results are delivered effectively and on time, and reinforced the importance of adhering to standards through rigour and dedication. Nat has significant experience working with remote Aboriginal communities, collaborating on a range of initiatives, further supporting Nat's ability to lead the proposed project together with Gilad. Nat's commercial experience also provides capacity to effectively monitor and report progress of the proposed project.

Funding management

CSA is a commercial, private enterprise striving to achieve best practice. Adherence to laws, compliance and safe practices is central to our daily operations and continuity. Our ability to manage and acquit funding responsibly and effectively will be supported by "Moore Australia" professional services with our accounting systems, performance monitoring practices, internal reporting procedures, and health and safety systems. If awarded funding, CSA will establish a project plan with a schedule programmed to report milestones, provide interim updates, track progress and achievements, manage resources, and account for funding. CSA's directors will co-manage and co-authorise receipts and expenditures to ensure funds are acquitted responsibly and effectively. Key personnel.

Required staff

Job Title	Quantity	Expected staff turnover	Skills necessary	Date required
Project Manager	1	3 Years	Qualified Project Manager	TBA
Operatives Manager	1	3 Years	Qualified Operations Manager	TBA

Forums/Training programs

CSA will conduct an annual open forum to all GVROC shires, Camel industry Stakeholders and indigenous rangers. where we will provide Camel training and ethical husbandry information sessions along with presenting an annual report compiled from data received from the collars and Murdoch University genetic study progress.

services

Product/Service	Description
GEO fence	Establish a GEO fence around area of significance.
Alert system	Provide an electronic alert to the nominated person.
Data collection	Provide and collate all data through our web site.
Annual report	Presented at our annual open forums.
Industry stakeholder support and training	Camel training and ethical husbandry information sessions
Camel industry consulting	Consulting available on transporting camels, infrastructure and new business opportunity.
Access camel industry representatives	Champion the camel industry by providing up to data and access to industry representatives

Innovation

The innovation of the project lies in using GPS collars to understand the whereabouts of camels, track and predict the movements of camels, develop estimates of camel herd populations, and better understand the health and commercial value of feral camels. The project will be innovative in providing insightful data to help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of existing, ongoing programs involved in culling, trapping and aerial mustering (i.e. population control and reduction). Rather than relying on conventional practices to locate camels (e.g. helicopter patrols, ground-based reconnaissance, landowner sightings, anecdotes, etc) the project will offer geo-referenced data on camel movement patterns, camel numbers and pending risks to critical assets. Summer temperatures in remote desert regions make it extremely difficult to monitor, trap, harvest or reduce camel populations using conventional methods, however, GPS collars will work year-round irrespective of the season, drought, floods or natural events. The project will be using GPS technology to monitor extremely vast areas that would otherwise require several million dollars using less-reliable, conventional approaches, at significantly greater risk to stakeholders.

Gilad and Nat have a working relationship with Murdoch University (veterinary science dept) and have secured their support to coordinate many of the research and development aspects of the project. Murdoch University will be involved in the data collection, analysis and reporting, for example, identifying insights and implications from the signals received from the GPS collars as well as evaluating the health and genetics of the broader population of feral camels.

Legal considerations

CSA will liaise with traditional owners and stakeholders to meet all entry permit requirements. CSA will comply with OHS and ethical treatment of animal requirements.

Operations

Project Plan

Deliverable	How will the deliverable be achieved?	Timeframe
- Purchasing 200 G5 Iridium GPS Tracking Collars With 5 VHF receivers and antennas.	- Order From ATS Australia.	- Dec 2020 – Jan 2021
- Purchase IT equipment.	- Locally source Two Laptops.	- Dec 2020
- Get sample-collecting kit.	- Murdoch University.	- Dec 2020
- Put out a request for rifle licence.	- Application through Fire Arms branch (WAPOL).	- Dec 2020
- Purchasing a tranquiliser rifle with darts and medications.	- Murdoch Vet Hospital.	- Dec 2020
- Lease 4WD	- Toyota Dealership.	- Dec 2020
- Determine flying zones for capturing camels and deploying the collars.	- Using government feral camel density maps and consulting local stakeholders.	- Dec 2020
- Hire Helicopter.	- Circle H.	- Dec 2020
- Employ a certified Vet.	- Dr. Avi Bechar.	- Dec 2020
- Fit 60 collars.	- Vets will tranquilise camels along with air and ground support.	- Mar – June 2021
- Collect tissue samples for the camel genetic study.	- From each camel we capture using vials with preservative and labels.	- Mar – June 2021
- Uploading collar data.	- Through Camel Solutions Australia free to access web site.	- Jul 2021 – Jul 2024
- Engage with local stakeholders.	- Support development of camel industry initiatives and enterprises and encourage dialogue between landowners and industry stakeholders. Apply local and expert knowledge to engage with potential Stakeholders and encourage participation in industry discussion.	- Jul 2021 – Jul 2024
- Stakeholders to provide locations of areas of significance.	- Establish the Geo Fence feature.	- July 2021 – July 2024
- Analyse the genetic samples.	- Through Murdoch University.	- Apr 2021 – Apr 2024
- Publish findings from Murdoch University.	- Through Camel Solutions Australia free to access web site.	- Jan 2022 – Apr 2024

Community impact & engagement

The establishment of a publicly-available monitoring system will provide the basis for pastoralists and Aboriginal communities to undertake harvesting, locate trap yards, organise trucking operations, establish temporary holding and feeding facilities, and utilise water points to attract camels to areas less prone to damage. Commercial operators will be able to more effectively plan and organise routine operations with better quality data on camel numbers, herd movements, herd quality, herd breeding & feeding regimes, etc. Under the current system, there is no certainty of knowing where the camels are located, what size are the herds, what direction they are moving, what seasonal patterns they are following, or how many can be realistically harvested for economic gain. This project is an opportunity to provide new forms of data to enable better decisions for stakeholders spread across vast, remote areas within WA's desert regions.

CSA is mindful that 'tyranny of distance' and limited communication could potentially affect community engagement and their understanding of the potential benefits of the project. CSA plans to adopt outreach methods by travelling to various communities, engaging with them face to face, and where appropriate seek support from elders and local indigenous ranger programs. CSA will offer training on how to fit and retrieve collars, use the project data, and instil camel handling practices for when a camel penetrates their local area. Camel Solutions Australia is in a formidable position to implement and successfully coordinate the management of this project, which will deliver significant research and development outcomes, and greatly improve the effectiveness of remote and rural communities in managing the feral camel population.

Risk Mitigation Response

1. Natural events impede access to remote areas. **Response:** Use a mix of 4WD, helicopter & local communities.
2. Collars fail to endure; data is less than expected. **Response:** Use of Quality products with a proven track record for over 50 years of experience. Replacement collars will be held on-standby.
3. Occupational health and safety dealing with feral animals in remote areas. **Response:** Use of appropriately qualified Vet along with experienced cameleers. Implementation of effective Policies and procedures.
4. Animal welfare. **Response:** Use of suitably qualified Vet. Maintain a high level of ethical standards around animal handling.
5. Camels are difficult to locate & fit collars. **Response:** Fit collars within paddocks & release camels widely.
6. Satellite services breakdown; data is not available. **Response:** Switch service providers; introduce new transmitters. The collar would just continue to operate and look for the next scheduled opportunity.
7. Poor longitudinal data on camel ecology. **Response:** Collect data during harvesting (rather than fitting collars).

Risk management

Risks	Risk rating before treatment	Treatments	Risk rating after treatment
Lack of Stakeholder interest to participate in proposed engagement activities.	Medium	<p>Development of communication plan to ensure there is significant promotional media surrounding the project.</p> <p>Support development of camel industry initiatives and enterprises and encourage dialogue between landowners and industry stakeholders.</p> <p>Apply local and expert knowledge to engage with potential stakeholders and encourage participation in industry discussion.</p>	Low
Helicopter Incident	Low	<p>Fly only in favourable weather conditions.</p> <p>Use only qualified and experienced operators.</p> <p>Use only certified and appropriate aircraft.</p>	Low
Natural events impede access to remote areas.	Medium	<p>Use a mix of 4WD, helicopter & local communities.</p>	Low
Occupational health and safety dealing with feral animals in remote areas.	Medium	<p>Use of appropriately qualified Vet along with experienced cameleers.</p> <p>Implementation of effective policies and procedures including best practice guidelines for camel handling, transport and humane treatment.</p>	Low
Animal Welfare	Medium	<p>Use of a suitably qualified and experienced Vet.</p> <p>Maintain a high level of ethical standards around animal handling.</p> <p>Comply with appropriate standards and guidelines.</p>	Low

Risks	Risk rating before treatment	Treatments	Risk rating after treatment
Collared Animal not finding a herd	Low	Murdoch 2015 research finding states "Judas" Animals will wonder around and find other Camels.	Low
Camels are difficult to locate & fit collars.	Medium	Fit collars within paddocks & within existing trap yards and then organise to release camels widely across vast areas.	Low
Satellite services breakdown; data is not available.	Low	Use of quality products with a proven track record. Breakdown of satellite reception / transmission is a temporary phenomenon whilst collars would continue to operate and look for the next scheduled opportunity to transmit data.	Low
Poor longitudinal data on camel ecology.	Medium	<p>Collect data during harvesting (rather than whilst fitting collars).</p> <p>Work with Aboriginal Rangers to supplement data collection if required.</p> <p>Work with pastoralists to access camels during regional visits to supplement data collection, if required.</p>	Low

Constraints

A likely challenge is a camel dying whilst wearing a GPS collar. Specific plans are in place and the response will depend on the camels proximity to a nearby town or community, or dedicated access route (track). For example, if access is relatively easy then CSA will despatch a staff member or assign a ranger from a nearby community to retrieve the collar; alternatively, if the deceased camel is too isolated and distant, a collar will be fitted to a replacement (new) camel and released into the same area.

The Finances

Expected Cash Flow

Cash Flow for Camel Solutions Australia in 2021

CASH FLOW	January	Februar	March	April	May	June	July	August	Septemb	October	Novemb	Decemb
OPENING BALANCE		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contingency Fund	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
Total incoming	\$733,960	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cash outgoing												
Purchases (Collars)	\$208,125											
Purchases (Collar Equipment and Data)	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Purchases (Vet Equipment)	\$17,350											
Purchases (IT Equipment)		\$4,000										
Helicopter Hire			\$49,000	\$49,000	\$49,000							
Plant and Equipment	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440
Accountant fees	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Telephone	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Lease/loan payments	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500
Motor vehicle expenses	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100
Fuel	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830
Stationery & printing	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Licensing	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125
Insurance	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Superannuation	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$1,125
Wages (including PAYG)	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500
Total outgoing	\$252,395	\$30,920	\$75,920	\$75,920	\$75,920	\$26,920	\$26,920	\$26,920	\$26,920	\$26,920	\$26,920	\$26,920
Monthly cash balance	\$481,565	\$450,645	\$374,725	\$298,805	\$222,885	\$195,965	\$169,045	\$142,125	\$115,205	\$88,285	\$61,365	\$34,445

Cash Flow for Camel Solutions Australia in 2022

CASH FLOW	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Septemb	October	Novembe	Decembe
OPENING BALANCE		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contingency Fund	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Total incoming	\$411,948	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cash outgoing												
Purchases (Collars)												
Purchases (Collar Equipment and Data)	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Purchases (Vet Equipment)												
Purchases (IT Equipment)		\$4,000										
Helicopter Hire												
Plant and Equipment	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440
Accountant fees	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Telephone	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Lease/loan payments	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500
Motor vehicle expenses	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100
Fuel	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830
Stationery & printing	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Licensing	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125
Insurance	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Superannuation	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575
Wages (including PAYG)	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500
Total outgoing	\$32,370	\$36,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370
Monthly cash balance	\$379,578	\$343,208	\$310,838	\$278,468	\$246,098	\$213,728	\$181,358	\$148,988	\$116,618	\$84,248	\$51,878	\$19,508

Cash Flow for Camel Solutions Australia in 2023

CASH FLOW	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Septemb	October	Novembe	Decembe
OPENING BALANCE		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contingency Fund	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Total incoming	\$411,948	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cash outgoing												
Purchases (Collars)												
Purchases (Collar Equipment and Data)	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Purchases (Vet Equipment)												
Purchases (IT Equipment)		\$4,000										
Helicopter Hire												
Plant and Equipment	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440
Accountant fees	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Telephone	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Lease/loan payments	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500
Motor vehicle expenses	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100
Fuel	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830
Stationery & printing	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Licensing	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125
Insurance	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Superannuation	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575
Wages (including PAYG)	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500
Total outgoing	\$32,370	\$36,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370	\$32,370
Monthly cash balance	\$379,578	\$343,208	\$310,838	\$278,468	\$246,098	\$213,728	\$181,358	\$148,988	\$116,618	\$84,248	\$51,878	\$19,508



Local Government Financial Ratios Working Group

Meeting information

Date: Thursday 22 October 2020
Time: 10am
Location: WALGA Boardroom B, L1, ONE70 Railway Parade, West Leederville
Via GoTo Meeting <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/141914269>
Access Code: **141-914-269**

Convener: Tony Brown

Attendees	City of Armadale	Jason Lyon
	Shire of Coolgardie	James Trail
	Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup	Paul Breman
	Town of East Fremantle	Peter Kocian
	City of Joondalup	Alan Ellingham
		Ryan Ferts
	City of Kalamunda	Alida Ferreira
	City of Mandurah	Casey Mihovilovich
	Shire of Mingenew	Jeremy Clapham
	Shire of Northampton	Grant Middleton
	City of Rockingham	Khushant Kumar
	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	Alan Carmichael
	Office of the Auditor General	Patrick Arulsingham
	Western Australian Treasury Corporation	Richard John
	RJ Back & Associates	Ron Back
	WALGA	Tony Brown
		James McGovern
		Felicity Morris

Apologies

Agenda items

1.0 Financial Ratios

Background

At the Working Group meeting on Thursday 17 September, the following ratio subjects and formulae were proposed. The purpose of this meeting is to review the proposed ratios and develop final recommendations for consideration by the Financial Ratios Sector Reference Group.

This will include consideration of definitions of terminology and recommended indicators/thresholds in relation to each proposed ratio.

Attachment 1: Local Government Financial Ratios Working Group Defining Terms – Document prepared by Ron Back

1.1 Operating Surplus Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Underlying Operating Surplus (Underlying operating revenue* LESS Underlying operating expenses*)}}{\text{Underlying operating revenue*}}$$

- * Adjusted for advances and subsequent adjustments in the Federal Assistance Grant.
- * Excludes Profit/Loss of Assets
- * Includes Capital Contributions

1.2 Debt Service Coverage Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Underlying operating revenue* LESS Underlying operating expenses* (excl depreciation and interest)}}{\text{Debt Service Costs (principal and interest)}}$$

- *Adjusted for advances and subsequent adjustments in the Federal Assistance Grant.

1.3 Asset Sustainability Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Capital Renewal* and Replacement}}{\text{Depreciation Expense}}$$

- * Capital renewal equals actual costs plus net transfer to asset renewal reserves

Attachment 2: Asset Sustainability Ratio – Comments from Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia

1.4 Current Ratio

(Current Assets LESS Restricted Assets LESS FAGs Advances)
(Current Liabilities LESS Borrowings LESS Liabilities associated with Restricted Assets)

1.5 Net Financial Liability Ratio

Net Financial Liabilities
Underlying Operating Revenue*

*Adjusted for advances and subsequent adjustments in the Federal Assistance Grant and other adjustments in accordance with the operating surplus ratio

For Discussion

2.0 Other indicators

Background

At the Working Group meeting on Thursday 17 September, the group resolved to review indicators from the Victorian Department of Local Government, and any others that the group considers useful.

The [Know Your Council website](#) allows comparisons of Victorian Local Government performance indicators in a number of service areas.

Attachment 3 An extract from the Local Government Victoria *Local Government Better Practice Guide: Performance Reporting Indicator Workbook 2019-20* relating to the Financial Performance Indicators is attached. Full version available [online](#).

For Discussion

3.0 Next steps and Conclusion

Local Government Financial Ratios Working Group

Defining Terms

The group need to define the exact meaning of each term and how this can be extracted from OR included in the Financial report. These need to be clear, demonstratable and free from interpretation.

The devil is in the detail

DEFINING TERMS

		Note	Year2 Actual	Year2 Budget	Year1 Actual
Revenue					
Underlying Revenue OR ?????	Rates	26(a)	8,165,843	8,074,469	7,633,920
	Specified Area Rates	26(b)	0	0	0
	Service Charges	26(c)	200	200	200
	Operating Grants/Contributions	2(a)	6,987,595	5,548,348	5,609,425
	Reimbursements etc	2(a)	0	0	0
	Fees and Charges	2(a)	4,999,717	4,253,486	4,165,652
	Interest Earnings	2(a)	498,964	385,100	413,708
	Other revenue		55,000	27,104	30,235
			20,707,319	18,288,707	17,853,140
Expenses					
Underlying Expenses OR ?????	Employee Costs		(8,896,802)	(8,772,958)	(7,826,475)
	Material & contractors		(4,120,422)	(3,926,230)	(3,064,784)
	Depreciation	11(b)	(6,907,407)	(7,100,000)	(7,435,789)
	Insurance		(336,390)	(333,163)	(326,578)
	Utilities		(443,972)	(435,600)	(404,245)
	Interest Expense	2(b)	(96,257)	(399,441)	(37,753)
	Other expenditure		(564,333)	(828,951)	(512,377)
			(21,365,583)	(21,796,343)	(19,608,001)
Underlying Surplus OR ?????			(658,264)	(3,507,636)	(1,754,861)
Other					
Anything else????	Non-operating grants/subsidies/contributions	2(a)	3,494,037	5,856,328	4,933,510
	Developer Contribution Plans: Cash	2(a)	312,246	776,290	927,065
	Developer Contribution Plans: In Kind	2(a)	2,581,044	5,868,000	2,636,417
	Non-Operating Gifted Assets: Other	2(a)	15,271,274	12,750,000	11,455,722
	Profit Disposal of assets	11(a)	44,048	2,333,736	96,518
	Loss Disposal of assets	11(a)	(98,325)	(49,155)	(43,985)
	Land ceded to the Crown	2(b)	(2,045,809)	(504,890)	(1,979,004)
	Contributions to assets of the Crown	2(b)	(2,500,000)	(2,500,000)	(5,000,000)
	Underground Power Schemes		0	0	0
	Profit/(Loss) On Investments	21	555,704	0	0
What other items	Unrealised Gain/(Loss) from Regional Council	24	0	0	0
	Dividend from Regional Council	2(a)	1,953,644	0	0
	Unrealised Gain Investment In WALGA Hou	5	2,304	0	16,403
	Increase(decrease) from impaired assets/Fair Value		0	0	0
	Decrease from impaired assets/Fair Value	10	(50,000)	0	0
What other items	Abnormal Operating Revenue		0	0	0
Regional Airports ????	Abnormal Operating Expenditure		0	0	0
			19,520,167	24,530,309	13,042,646
			18,861,903	21,022,673	11,287,785
Other Comprehensive Income					
	Revaluation of assets	13	(750,500)	0	0
	Other Comprehensive Income		(750,500)	0	0
	Total Comprehensive Income		18,111,403	21,022,673	11,287,785

TERMS FOR RATIOS

1.1 Operating Surplus Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Underlying Operating Surplus (Underlying operating revenue* LESS Underlying operating expenses*)}}{\text{Underlying operating revenue*}}$$

Underlying operating revenue	See model
Underlying operating expenses	See model
Underlying Operating Surplus	See model

Advances and subsequent adjustments in the Federal Assistance Grant Include in Note 2(a)

Profit/Loss on disposal of Assets See model

xxx Capital Contributions

What falls into this category - Renewal OR all???

1.2 Debt Service Coverage Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Underlying operating revenue* LESS Underlying operating expenses* (excl depreciation and interest)}}{\text{Debt Service Costs (principal and interest)}}$$

Underlying operating revenue see operating surplus ratio

Underlying operating expenses see operating surplus ratio

depreciation and interest see Statement of Comprehensive Income (model)

Debt Service Costs (principal and interest) see Statement of Comprehensive Income (model) and Statement of Cash Flow

xxx How do we treat refinancing or rollover of debt????

1.3 Asset Sustainability Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Capital Renewal* and Replacement}}{\text{Depreciation Expense}}$$

Capital Renewal* and Replacement

Depreciation Expense see Statement of Comprehensive Income (model)

xxx net transfer to asset renewal reserves

How do we define??? - Many reserves include components of new and renewal

1.4 Current Ratio

$$\frac{(\text{Current Assets LESS Restricted Assets LESS FAGs Advances})}{(\text{Current Liabilities LESS Borrowings LESS Liabilities associated with Restricted Assets})}$$

Restricted assets Define

Advances of the Federal Assistance Grant see operating surplus ratio

Liabilities associated with Restricted Assets Define

Borrowings see Statement of Financial Position

xxx Guidance for contract liabilities held in Reserves

1.5 Net Financial Liability Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Net Financial Liabilities}}{\text{Underlying Operating Revenue*}}$$

Financial Liabilities Define

Financial Assets Define

Underlying operating revenue see operating surplus ratio

GRANTS

Aged Friendly Communities Grant
Building Better Regions
Coastal Management Plan Assistance Program
Coastwest
Community Contributions
Community Crime Prevention Fund
Community Grants Scheme
Community Living and Participation Grants (CLPG) Program
Community Road Safety Grants Program
Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund
Community Water Supply Program
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Department of Culture and the Arts
Department of Education WA
Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Department of Housing
Department of Local Government and Communities
Department of Sport and Recreation
Department of Transport
Department of Water
Dept of Infrastructure, Regional Development & Cities
Grants Commission Infrastructure
Heritage Grants Program
Home and Community Care
Lotteries West
Main Roads - Blackspot Program
Main Roads - Grain Freight Route
Main Roads Department
Metropolitan Regional Road Group
National Stronger Regions Fund
Northlink
Perth Bike Network
Public Transport Authority
Recreational Boating Facilities Scheme (RBFS) grants
Regional Airports Development Scheme
Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program
Regional Community Services Fund
Regional Development Commssion
Regional Events Scheme
Regional Growth Fund
Regional Health Scheme
Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Fund
Regional Road Group
Regional Venues Improvement Fund
Riverbank Grants Scheme
Roads to Recovery
Safer Communities Fund
State Graffiti Fund
Tourism Industry Regional Development Funds
Veteran & Community Grants
WA Natural Disaster Relief

NOTES

Asset Sustainability Ratio

It is an important discussion and one we feel strongly about. In fact, we'd go as far to say the Asset Sustainability Ratio (ASR) has been poorly understood and applied by several State Local Government Departments and WA is no exception.

There are clear definitions of the ASR in the AIFMM (Section 2.6, Table 2.6.1.2, p.2 | 11) and IIFMM (Section 2.4.2 and Table 2.4.2.2, p.2 | 16).

The WA LG Departments own guidelines (IP&R Asset Management Guidelines, September 2016) specifies a target band between 90% and 110% which is flawed and simply wrong!

Table 2 Asset sustainability ratio

Data and Calculation	Information	Measurement and Target
Capital expenditure on replacement and renewal of assets divided by the depreciation expense. Expressed as a percentage or factor of 1. Eg Capital renewal expenditure = \$7.9m Depreciation expense = \$8.8m Asset Sustainability Ratio = 90%	This is the measure of the extent to which assets managed by the local government are being replaced as they reach the end of their useful lives. Depreciation expense measures the extent to which the assets have been consumed during that period. Capital expenditure on renewals (replacing assets that the local government already has) is an indicator of the extent to which the assets are being replaced.	Between 90% -110% Note A ratio greater than 110% indicates that the local government may be over investing in renewal and replacement of its asset base. A ratio of less than 90% indicates that the local government may be under investing in renewal and replacement of its asset base.

The Asset Sustainability Ratio is a present and historical-looking indicator measuring whether local government has been replacing or renewing its stock of infrastructure assets at the rate they are wearing out. It measures asset replacement expenditure relative to depreciation for a period over time.

It is a reasonable indicator for groups of assets that have relatively short lives, e.g. parks, unsealed roads, and sealed road surface treatments and the like.

It is less suitable for assets with long-lives, e.g. sealed road pavements, bridges, and pipelines as optimal renewal expenditure for such asset classes is likely to be lumpier between periods.

Notwithstanding its limitations the application of this indicator is worth cautious consideration in the absence of a reasonably reliable asset management plan.

Note:

If the ratio is 100% on average over time, local government is ensuring the value of its assets is maintained.

As a collective, when assets are young, the ratio can be 50% or less. When assets are old, the ratio may be more than 100%.

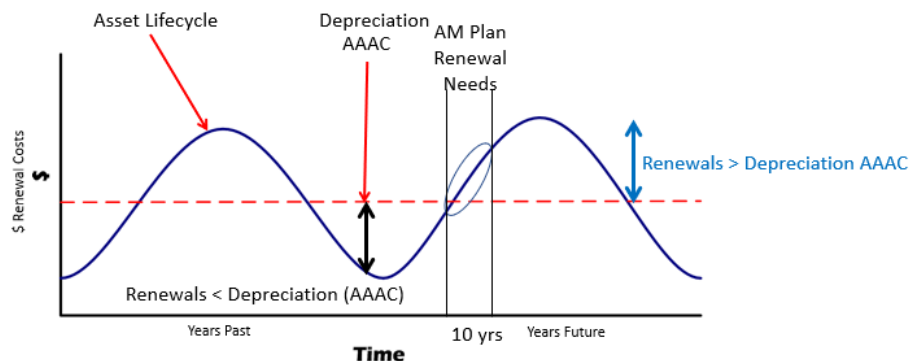
A downward trend indicates that funding levels for assets are decreasing suggesting local government may have a relatively young or new assets.

A steady trend indicates funding levels for assets may be maintained at a satisfactory level.

An upward trend indicates that funding levels for assets are increasing suggesting local government may be replacing an ageing network.

An example of this is if I am in a high growth area with a relatively new asset stock, my renewal spend will be low. I wouldn't be surprised in areas such as Mandurah, local government is likely capitalising (or adjusting the books for) most works so they can get the ratio up! The current target causes bad accounting behaviour and a strategy the Department is likely (whether they know it or not) is promoting given the current rules.

Renewal Costs are Independent of Depreciation



The indicator should be tested against the Asset Consumption Ratio (DRC/RC) that gives us an indication of life remaining, suggesting where the assets (overall) are in their lifecycle and how they should be performing. When we have confidence in these numbers, we can then connect to the messaging in the AM Plan.

If we have low confidence in these ratios, we need to use the forward looking **Asset Renewal Funding Ratio (ARFR)** which compares the **10-year Renewal Budget with the 10-year Renewal Forecast in the AM Plan**.

The ARFR indicates if we need more, or less, funding for renewals.

Where the ARFR resides outside the 90% to 110% band and is supported by credible and reliable data and information we would expect to see significant service, costs, and/or risk implications being communicated in the AM Plan.

It is less popular with the accountants as they don't trust/control the AM Planning process, hence the need for audit and follow up of long-term financial plan so that it accounts for the service, cost and risk trade-offs reported in the Asset Management Plan.

Solution is to:

- increase the level of understanding around these ratios
- lobby LG Department's to measure the correct indicators within sensible targets
- use IPWEA training to assist and to improve the reliability of AM Plans

If any of the group would like to discuss we'd be happy to present what we "preach" via a webinar.

Allen Mapstone
Director Strategic Asset Management
IPWEA Australasia | NAMS Canada

Steve Verity
Principal Advisor Asset Management
IPWEA Australasia

Local Government Better Practice Guide

Performance Reporting
Indicator Workbook 2019-20



Author

Local Government Victoria in the Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning
2 Lonsdale Street Melbourne 3000

Photo credit

Title: "Western Pygmy Possum"

Author: "Thomas Hunt"

"Western Pygmy Possum" is licenced under CC by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

© The State of Victoria Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning 2019



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence. You are free to re-use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit the State of Victoria as author. The licence does not apply to any images, photographs or branding, including the Victorian Coat of Arms, the Victorian Government logo and the

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) logo. To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

ISBN 978-1-74146-563-1 (pdf/online)

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

Accessibility

If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format, please telephone the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136186, email local.government@delwp.vic.gov.au, or via the National Relay Service on 133 677 www.relayservice.com.au. This document is also available on the internet at www.delwp.vic.gov.au.

Measures whether a council is using resources efficiently.

E1 – Average residential rate per residential property assessment (retired see E4)

As of July 1 2019, E1 has been replaced by **E4**. Councils are no longer required to report to this indicator.

E2 – Expenses per property assessment (Audited)

Definition

Total expenses per property assessment.

Calculation

Numerator

Total expenses

Denominator

Number of property assessments

Key terms

Number of property assessments

Is the number of rateable properties as at 1 July.

Classification

Output indicator – Expenditure level

Data source

Numerator

Current council financial statements and financial statements in Strategic Resource Plan

Denominator

Annual budget and forecast number of property assessments based on the number in the annual budget and underlying the financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Expenditure from the financial statements
Number of property assessments from the rates ledger

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether resources are being used efficiently to deliver services.

Suitability for target setting

Good

Data is stable, and council has some influence over the outcome.

Related to

E4 – Average rate per property assessment

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 5 (Page 62)

Notes or Case Studies

None

E3 – Resignations and terminations compared to average staff (retired see C7)

As of July 1 2020, **E3** has been moved to the Sustainable capacity subset (**C7**).

E4 – Average rate per property assessment (Audited)

Definition

The average rate revenue per property assessment.

Calculation

Numerator

Total rate revenue

Denominator

Number of property assessments

Key terms

Total rate revenue

Is total revenue leviable from general rates and municipal charges on rateable properties as at 1 July. This excludes service rates and service charges.

Number of property assessments

Is the number of rateable properties as at 1 July.

Classification

Input indicator – Revenue level

Data source

Numerator

Council financial statements and forecast total rate revenue based on the amount raised in the annual budget and underlying the financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Denominator

Annual budget and forecast number of property assessments based on the number in the

annual budget and underlying the financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Total rate revenue per the general ledger, which should be reconciled to the rates ledger
Total number of property assessments from the rates ledger

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether resources are being used efficiently to deliver services.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

E2 – Expenses per property assessment

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 5 (Page 62)

Notes or Case Studies

None

Measures whether a council is using resources efficiently.

L1 – Current assets compared to current liabilities (Audited)

Definition

Current assets as a percentage of current liabilities.

Calculation

Numerator

Current assets

Denominator

Current liabilities

The result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Current assets

Are assets that the council expects to recover or realise within the following financial year.

Current liabilities

An obligation or liability that is due to be settled, or paid, within one year.

Classification

Input indicator – working capital

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of council's financial position.
Higher assets relative to liabilities suggests councils are in a strong position.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

L2 – Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 2 (Page 60)

Notes or Case Studies

None

L2 – Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities (Audited)

Definition

Unrestricted cash as a percentage of current liabilities.

Calculation

Numerator

Unrestricted cash

Denominator

Current liabilities

The result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Unrestricted cash

Is all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash.

Restricted cash

Is cash and cash equivalents and financial assets within the meaning of the AAS that are not available for use other than for the purpose for which it is restricted and includes cash that will be used to fund carry forward capital works from the previous financial year.

Items which are considered to be restricted under the definition are:

- trust funds and deposits
- statutory or non-discretionary reserves
- cash held to fund carry forward capital works
- conditional grants unspent

Term deposits with an original maturity of greater than 90 days (i.e. other financial assets) are also considered to be restricted under this definition.

Current liabilities

An obligation or liability that is due to be settled, or paid, within one year.

Classification

Input indicator – Unrestricted cash

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Calculation of restricted cash at 30 June, including cash committed to funding carry forward capital works (this information should also be required for disclosure of commitments in the audited financial report)

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of council's abilities to pay bills on time. Higher unrestricted cash relative to liabilities suggests councils are able to pay bills in a timely manner.

Suitability for target setting

Good

Data fluctuates between years, but council has some influence over the outcome.

Related to

L1 – Current assets compared to current liabilities

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 2 (Page 60)

Notes or Case Studies

None

Measures whether the level of debt and other long term obligations is appropriate to the size and nature of the council's activities.

O1 – Asset renewal compared to depreciation (retired see O5)

As of July 1 2019, O1 has been replaced by **O5**. Councils are no longer required to report to this indicator.

O2 – Loans and borrowings compared to rates (Audited)

Definition

Interest bearing loans and borrowings as a percentage of rate revenue.

Calculation

Numerator

Interest bearing loans and borrowings

Denominator

Rate revenue

The result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Interest bearing loans and borrowings

Is a loan or borrowing in which the debt is expressed as a principal amount and interest is calculated, charged, and collected on unpaid balances.

Rate revenue

Is revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges (e.g. garbage, recycling and organic charges) levied on rateable properties

Classification

Input indicator – Loans and Borrowings

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council's level of interest-bearing loans and borrowings are appropriate to the size and nature of council's activities. Demonstration of council managing its borrowing strategy in relation to the revenue it raises.

Suitability for target setting

Good

Data fluctuates between years, but council has some influence over the outcome.

Related to

O3 – Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 3 (Page 61)

Notes or Case Studies

None

O3 – Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates (Audited)

Definition

Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings as a percentage of rate revenue.

Calculation

Numerator

Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings

Denominator

Rate revenue

The result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Interest and principal repayments

Is repayments made on principal amounts and/or interest from interest bearing loans or borrowings, where the debt is expressed as a principal amount and interest is calculated, charged, and collected on unpaid balances.

Rate revenue

Is revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges (e.g. garbage, recycling and organic charges) levied on rateable properties.

Classification

Input indicator – Loans and Borrowings

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council's level of repayments on interest-bearing loans and

borrowings are appropriate to the size and nature of council's activities. Demonstration of council managing its borrowing strategy in relation to the revenue it raises.

Suitability for target setting

Good

Data is stable and council has some influence over the outcome.

Related to

O2 – Loans and borrowings compared to rates

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 3 (Page 61)

Notes or Case Studies

None

O4 – Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue (Audited)

Definition

Non-current liabilities as a percentage of own source revenue.

Calculation

Numerator

Non-current liabilities

Denominator

Own source revenue

The result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Non-current liabilities

Financial liabilities that provide financing on a long-term basis and are not due for settlement within twelve months after the reporting period.

Own-source revenue

Is adjusted underlying revenue excluding revenue which is not under the control of council (including government grants).

Rate revenue

Is revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges (e.g. garbage, recycling and organic charges) levied on rateable properties.

Classification

Input indicator – Indebtedness

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Other advice

Documented calculation of own-source revenue, with explanation of excluded revenue items

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council long term liabilities are appropriate to the size and nature of council activities. Lower proportion of non-current liabilities suggests greater capacity to meet long-term obligations.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

None

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 3 (Page 61)

Notes or Case Studies

None

O5 – Asset renewal and upgrade expense compared to depreciation (Audited)

Definition

Asset renewal and upgrade expense compared to depreciation assesses whether council spending on assets is focused on purchasing new assets or renewing and upgrading existing ones.

Calculation

Numerator

Asset renewal and asset upgrade expenditure

Denominator

Asset Depreciation

This result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Asset renewal expenditure

Expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability.

Asset upgrade expenditure

Means expenditure that enhances an existing asset to provide a higher level of service or increases the life of the asset beyond its original life.

Asset Depreciation

A council's use of its physical assets through a systematic reduction in their value over time, usually to reflect wear and tear. Refers to total depreciation of all assets, not just the depreciation on renewed or upgraded assets.

Classification

Input indicator – Asset renewal and upgrade

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements (including the Statement of Capital Works)

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council assets are being renewed or upgraded as planned. It compares the rate of spending on existing assets through renewing, restoring, replacing or upgrading existing assets with depreciation. Ratios higher than 1.0 indicate there is a lesser risk of insufficient spending on Council's asset base.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

VAGO Renewal gap (ratio)

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 3 (Page 61)

Notes or Case Studies

If result is less than 0.5

Spending on existing assets has not kept pace with the consumption of these assets. This highlights a need to prioritise asset maintenance.

If result is between 0.5 and 1.0

May indicate insufficient spending on renewal or upgrading. This may highlight a need for better asset maintenance planning.

If result is more than 1.0

Demonstrates council's commitment to investing in the renewal and upgrading of its community infrastructure and assets.

Actions

Based on their results, councils can develop strategies to ensure they are appropriately renewing and upgrading assets to provide services and facilities that meet community needs.

Measures whether a council is able to generate an adjusted underlying surplus.

OP1 – Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) (Audited)

Definition

The underlying surplus (or deficit) as a percentage of adjusted underlying revenue.

Calculation

Numerator

Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)

Denominator

Adjusted underlying revenue

This result is multiplied by 100

Key terms

Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)

Is adjusted underlying revenue less total expenditure.

Adjusted underlying revenue

Is total income other than:

- non-recurrent capital grants used to fund capital expenditure
- non-monetary asset contributions
- contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above

Non-recurrent grant

Is operating or capital grants obtained on the condition that they be expended in a specified manner and not expected to be received again during the period covered by the Strategic Resource Plan.

Classification

Output indicator – Adjusted underlying result

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Other advice

Documented assessment of why excluded grants to fund capital expenditure are non-recurrent

Demonstrable link from other excluded contributions to fund capital expenditure, to the relevant capital expenditure

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council can generate a surplus. A significant surplus (or deficit) achieved in a particular financial year does not necessarily indicate good or bad financial performance in that year.

Suitability for target setting

Good

Data fluctuates between years, but council has some influence over the outcome.

Related to

None

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 1 (Page 60)

Notes or Case Studies

None

Measures whether a council is able to generate revenue from a range of sources.

S1 – Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue (Audited)

Definition

Rate revenue as a percentage of adjusted underlying revenue.

Calculation

Numerator

Rate revenue

Denominator

Adjusted underlying revenue

This result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Rate revenue

Is revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges (e.g. garbage, recycling and organic charges) levied on rateable properties.

Adjusted underlying revenue

Is total income other than:

- non-recurrent capital grants to fund capital expenditure
- non-monetary asset contributions
- contributions to fund capital expenditure from other sources other than those referred to above

Classification

Input indicator – Rates concentration

Data source

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether council can generate revenue from a range of sources to fund services and activities. Lower proportion of rate to underlying revenue suggests greater stability.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

None

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 4 (Page 61)

Notes or Case Studies

None

S2 – Rates compared to property values (Audited)

Definition

Rate revenue as a percentage of the capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality.

Calculation

Numerator

Rate revenue

Denominator

Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality

This result is multiplied by 100.

Key terms

Rate revenue

Is revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges (e.g. garbage, recycling and organic charges) levied on rateable properties.

Capital Improved Value

Is the market value of a property and is measured at the end of the year and includes all valuation adjustments (e.g. supplementary valuations).

Classification

Input indicator – Rates effort

Data source

Numerator

Financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Denominator

Annual budget and forecast capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality based on the value in the annual budget and underlying the financial statements (Strategic Resource Plan)

Audit

Evidence

Financial statements

Capital Improved Value from rates ledger (e.g. Pathways).

Other advice

The source of the property values should be the same as used to determine the rates budget and/or strike the rate for the following financial year

Data use / Community outcome

Assessment of whether councils set rates at an appropriate level. Lower proportion of rate revenue suggests a reduced rate burden on the community.

Suitability for target setting

High

Data is stable, and council has direct influence over the outcome.

Related to

None

Further information

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 – Schedule 3 Part 3 Indicator 4 (Page 62)

Notes or Case Studies

None



mainroads
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

FINAL DRAFT

*We're working for
Western Australia.*

DRAFT GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA for the Identification of Significant Local Government Roads

August 2020



Contents

Background	3
Strategy Principles.....	3
Roads Maintenance.....	3
Routine Maintenance	4
Periodic Maintenance.....	4
Reconstruction	4
Roads Forming Routes.....	4
Significant Local Roads Amendments.....	4
Criteria	5
1. NETWORK / SIGNIFICANT	5
2. ROAD FUNCTION/FREIGHT.....	5
3. TRAFFIC VOLUME	6
4. TOURISM.....	6
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS	6
DEFINITIONS.....	6
USEFUL LINKS	7
PCU CONVERSION	7
ONGOING REVIEW AND UPDATE PROCESS.....	8
SUBMISSION FORM	9

Background

The *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads* short title *Significant Local Government Roads* are a documented list of regionally significant Local Government roads for each Regional Road Group (RRG) and the development strategies for them.

The first editions, Roads 2020 Regional Road Development Strategies, were released during 1997 and 1998 and were an initiative of the 1992 Memorandum of Understanding between the State Government and the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA), then known as the Western Australian Municipal Association (WAMA). This document will inform the compilation of the latest version, which will supersede Roads 2030 published in 2013.

Local Governments (via RRGs) work collaboratively to review and update the current list of Significant Local Roads to produce the latest strategy. This provides an agreed, strategic approach to the allocation of limited funding across the extensive road network within the state of Western Australia. Only projects on local roads included in the *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads* will be eligible for *Road Project Grant* funding under the latest *State Roads Funds to Local Government Agreement*. These Guidelines will be included in the annexure of each document.

The *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads* for each RRG are available on the [WALGA website](#).

Note - A separate Main Roads process is required to amend any Road Hierarchy classification. Should you wish to discuss these or other road classification process, contact the Road Classification Manager at enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au

Strategy Principles

The *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads* are an investment-planning tool to assist with allocating funding in a systematic fashion to achieve long-term significant planning goals for the Region and State through improvement of road infrastructure. Inclusion of a road in the Regional Strategies does not influence the amount of funding provided to a Regional Road Group.

Roads Maintenance

Funds to implement the *Significant Local Government Roads* improvement strategy are sourced from the Road Project Grants (Category 1) of the State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement (SRFLGA). State funding to assist with general maintenance needs of the local road network are typically allocated as Direct Grants.

The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) defines maintenance¹ under two main types:

Reactive maintenance includes sealing cracks and fixing potholes, cleaning up verges, road markings and signs. It is short term and needs to be done on a day-to-day basis to keep roads safe and serviceable,

Planned maintenance is more costly but has long-term benefits. It includes:

- Resurfacing of roads in response to aging, traffic wear and to prevent water damage, bridge repairs and replacing road markings;

¹ Maintaining the State Road Network report (page 10),
Document No: D20#818389

- *Rebuilding to restore the structure of roads and bridges. That may include strengthening the roads and bridges, correcting the shape of the road or minor changes in road width.*

Routine Maintenance

Reactive maintenance is often referred to as Routine Maintenance. Routine maintenance work is not to be included in strategies for individual roads within *Significant Local Government Roads* as it is assumed such activities will always be undertaken on roads and thus do not need to be referred to in improvement strategies. Furthermore, by its nature, routine maintenance does not improve the road.

Periodic Maintenance

Planned maintenance is more often referred to as Periodic Maintenance.

The need for major periodic maintenance works can be included in strategies for individual roads in *Significant Local Government Roads*. This includes works such as reseals and re-sheeting, rehabilitation, shoulder reconditioning and other heavy maintenance type works.

The potential need for inclusion of any periodic heavy maintenance work on a road must be documented as part of the overall strategy for the road.

Reconstruction

Reconstruction of roads is not maintenance as it replaces the existing asset with a new one, typically with a design life of 40 years. Where appropriate, the need to undertake reconstruction of all or part of a road is to be included in strategies for individual roads within *Significant Local Government Roads*.

Roads Forming Routes

The term “road” is used throughout this document. In some instances, a number of roads may be combined to create a route that is given an appropriate name for the purposes of identification. In the context of this document, “road” includes routes which have more than one individual road and an identifying route name.

Significant Local Roads Amendments

Should a RRG agree to seek an amendment to the endorsed *Significant Local Government Roads* this must be documented on the attached *Road Justification and Development Strategy Submission Form*. After approval by the RRG, it must be sent to the Road Classification Manager² at Main Roads to confirm the road/route meets the criteria. The Road Classification Manager will then submit the application to the *State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee* (SAC) for endorsement. If endorsed, the Road Classification Manager shall update the RRG Roads List.

If an affected road crosses into an adjoining Region, then agreement should be reached with the adjoining RRG on the proposed change and both RRGs must apply for the amendments submitting copies of the approved forms from the adjoining RRG with the application.

Copies of these additional roads will be kept by the Road Classification Manager at Main Roads, who will update the *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads*.

Roads forming part of a larger Route should be shown as forming part of the Route and should be listed under the Route details on the *Road Justification and Development Strategy Submission Form*.

² enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au Attention: Road Classification Manager

Criteria

The Criteria below identifies separate consideration for NETWORK/SIGNIFICANT, ROAD FUNCTION/FREIGHT, TRAFFIC and TOURISM criteria.

For a road to be considered for inclusion in the *Regional Strategies for Significant Local Government Roads* it shall meet **two (2)** of these criteria (with at least one criteria being met from two of the four sections). A road connecting to what is deemed a significant tourist attraction/area only needs to meet the Tourism requirement.

CRITERIA FOR SIGNIFICANT LOCAL ROADS

1. NETWORK / SIGNIFICANT

- Roads connecting areas of significant population (>500) [Census quick stats data 2016 - Link Here](#) - use quick search to check ABS Census population of town (UCL). See also link below in Useful Links.
- A road that is a **Regional** or **Inter Regional Route** providing the main connection between this region and other regions, in the State and interstate. Note – “region” does not refer specifically to Main Roads or RRG Regions in this instance refers to a generic region of significance i.e. tourist region, mining region, major town or centre etc.
- A road that connects **major transport terminals** or connects a **major transport terminal** to a major route. (see definition below)
- A road that serves a **major resource or industrial site.** (see definition below)
- A road providing access to **regional institutions or regional community service centres.** (see definition below)
- A road that provides access to a remote indigenous community with a population of more than 250. (see definition below) OR a road that is the only land access between a remote indigenous community (population more than 50) and at least one town centre. (see definition below)
- **URBAN ROADS** – A road which is the main connector to a significant industrial area, port facility, airport, major shopping centre or similar.

2. ROAD FUNCTION/FREIGHT

- **RURAL ROADS ONLY** - A **Major Route** that performs a Regional Distributor function as shown in the Road Hierarchy.
- **URBAN ROADS ONLY** – A road that is a Local Distributor or higher category in the Road Hierarchy.
- **RURAL ROADS ONLY** - A road that forms part of the **Restricted Access Vehicle notice** network 2 or above.
- **URBAN ROADS ONLY** A road that forms part of the **Restricted Access Vehicle notice** network 4 or above.
- A road used for hauling grain from an off road rail bin to a railhead OR is included in a network such as the [Secondary Road Freight Network Map](#). (Follow link and see page 24).

3. TRAFFIC VOLUME

- Has a PCU adjusted traffic AADT count (see the attached table) of over 200 AADT. (PCU = Passenger Car Unit. AADT = Annual Average Daily Traffic)
- URBAN ROADS ONLY- has a PCU adjusted traffic count (see the attached table) of over 10% of the town or cities current population OR a minimum 200 PCU, whichever is the greater. If under the required PCU traffic count, the road has a minimum of 200 AADT heavy vehicle count.

4. TOURISM

- Roads that provide access to tourist attractions or recreation areas of State or regional significance as per the Tourism WA website link below, OR Roads that form part of a State tourist drive or way.
[Tourist Spot Map WA](#) (Click on “MAP” button).

Note 1 – To ensure the traffic figures represent seasonal demand, traffic counts should show the high demand during the peak tourist season. This should be taken over 6 to 8 weeks during the peak activity period.

Note 2 – In the absence of sufficient traffic count evidence, a road may be accepted as passing the criteria with scoring **only** from the TOURISM category if it is felt the road connects to a strong regional tourist attracter.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The development of parallel routes to roads already providing the network function should be avoided.

DEFINITIONS

Regional Route – Shall be defined as a road that provides a connection between inter – regional routes (State Roads) or between inter – regional routes (State Roads) and areas of significant population. [ABS population data by region](#). Must show more than 5000 within the relevant UCL.

Inter Regional Route – Shall be defined as a road that provides the main connection between this region and other regions, in the State and interstate. Should be listed as a Regional Distributor in the Western Australian Road Hierarchy. Note region does not refer specifically to Main Roads or RRG Regions in this instance refers to a generic region of significance i.e. tourist region, mining region, major town or centre etc.

Major Route – A road that provides both regional and inter-regional access and is a Regional Distributor in the Western Australian Road Hierarchy.

Major Transport Terminal – Container, Rail or Air that generate at least 500 freight vehicle movements per day.

Major Resource or Industrial Site – This should be based on operating mine sites etc. and significant Industrial Areas (having at least 20 businesses or fewer businesses employing more than 200 people in total). [Dept. Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety Mineral and Petroleum deposits](#).

Regional Institution or Community Services Centre – Such as regional hospitals.

Remote Indigenous Community – Refer to DPLH website [Aboriginal Community Maps](#)

Regional Heavy Haulage Route – Over 100 RAV vehicles per day of RAV 2 NETWORK and above with anecdotal evidence supporting regional movement.

Parallel Route performing the network role – If another local government road within the local government area (or close by within the region) is seen to be performing the Significant function then the road being considered should not be listed in the list of Local Government Roads of Significant Importance.

Urban Road – A road mainly located within a built up area of a town or city.

USEFUL LINKS

Town and City populations WA <https://www.citypopulation.de/php/australia-westernaustralia.php>

[ABS population data by region](#)

[Aboriginal Community Maps](#)

[Dept. Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety Mineral and Petroleum deposits.](#)

[Tourist Spot Map WA](#)

[Census quick stats data 2016 - Link Here](#)

[Secondary Road Freight Network Map](#)

[MRWA Traffic Map](#)

PCU CONVERSION

The table below adjusts the AADT count to show approximate equivalent volumes of Passenger Car Units on the roads within Western Australia.

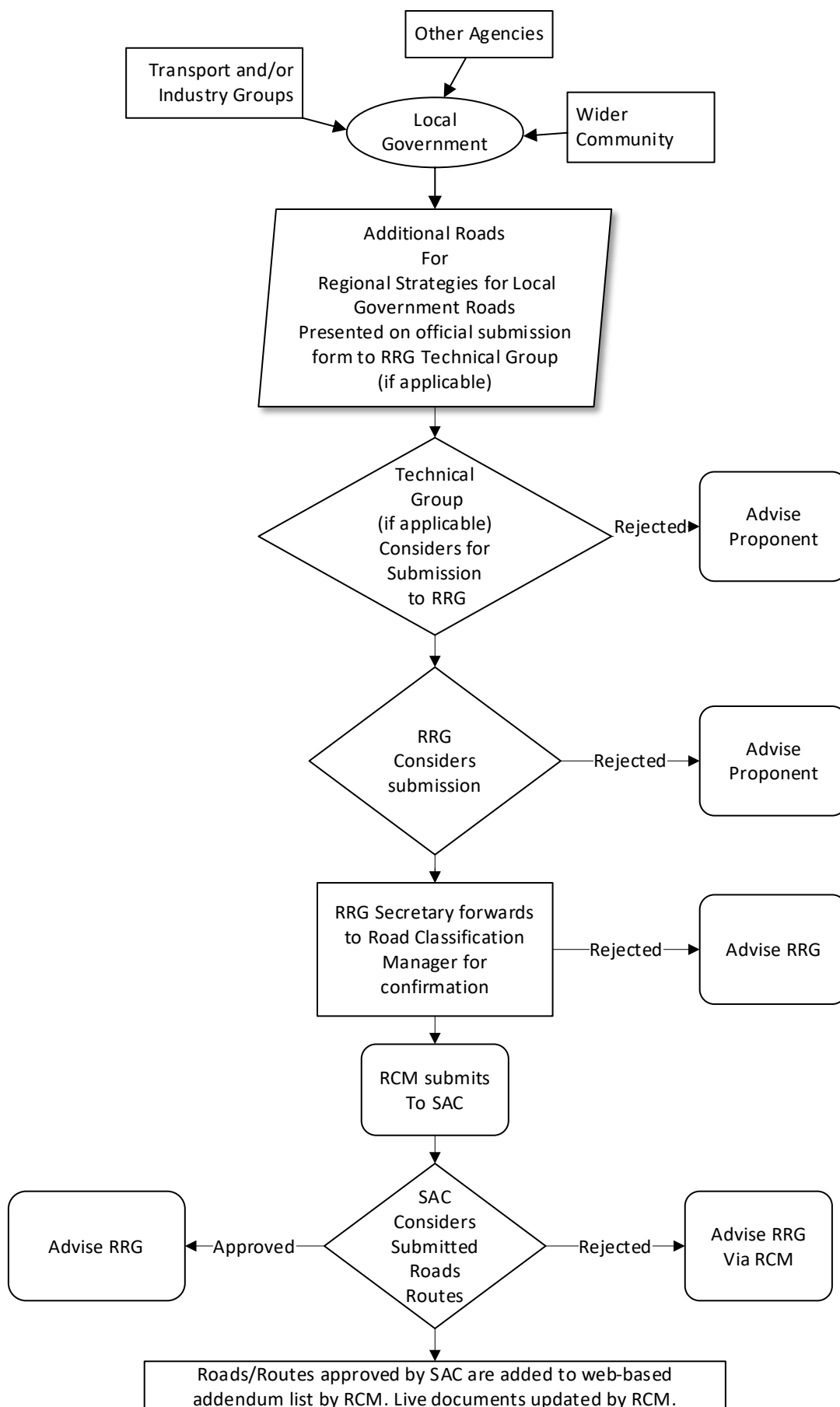
Austroads Class	Max Length in WA.	Passenger Car Unit
1 (1:1)	12.0m	1
2 to 5	14.5m	2.0
6 to 9	20.0m	3.0
10	27.5m	4.0
11	36.5m	6.0
12	53.5m	8.0
Motor cycle	-	0.4
Pedal cycle	-	0.2

Note – this conversion table is for traffic counts of mixed class vehicle types to approximate the counts to equivalent Passenger Car Units and may not be applicable to road design applications

ONGOING REVIEW AND UPDATE PROCESS

REGIONAL STRATEGIES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROADS

ONGOING REVIEW AND UPDATE PROCESS



SUBMISSION FORM

Significant Local Roads – Route/Road Justification and Development Strategy

Submission/Assessment Form..... Regional Road Group

RRG Determination

Office Use Only

Accepted ☐

Rejected ☐

Local Government:

MRWA Road Classification Manager – does the route meet the criteria

Yes ☐

No ☐

Endorsed by SAC. Date.....

Yes ☐

No ☐

Road Description and Location

Road / Route Name:

Road Name	Road Number	Start SLK	Finish SLK	Length (km)	Un sealed (km)	Sealed (km)

If Route Name nominated provide details of all roads forming the route otherwise enter details of above road on the first line below

Note – **Location map MUST be attached**

Road Justification

Road Function

Include road hierarchy category, RAV Network No (if applicable) and a comment on how the road makes a positive contribution to the economic and/or social wellbeing of the region and WA as a whole

Road Development Need

Provide details of the road's future use

Road Development Strategy

Provide a brief high level summary for the future development of the road including proposed funding sources (i.e. Road Project Grant, Black Spot)

Criteria Met

List the Criteria items consider to be met against the *CRITERIA FOR SIGNIFICANT LOCAL ROADS*

**LOCAL ROADS PROGRAM
LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT**

Prepared by Geoff Eves – Local Roads Program Manager

for the

STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

for release to

**METROPOLITAN REGIONAL ROAD GROUP
Local Government's**

DATE: 05 AUGUST 2020

CONTENTS

1. Executive Summary
2. Local Roads Program 2019-20 Review
 - 2.1 Improvement Program
 - 2.2 Rehabilitation Program
 - 2.3 State Black Spot Program
 - 2.4 Australian Government Black Spot Program
- 3 Actions Undertaken in 2019-20
 - 3.1 Review of Rehabilitation Program Penalty Process
 - 3.2 Accruals
 - 3.3 RRG Presentation – MRRG Lessons Learnt & Improvement Opportunities
 - 3.4 Recommendations from Previous years.
- 4 Improvement Opportunities
 - 4.1 Focus Areas – Project Planning, and Acquittal and Governance
 - 4.2 State Black Spot Program Review – Funding Check Point
 - 4.3 Line Marking Process
- 5 Recommendations
- 6 Attachments

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report reviews the acquittal of projects delivered by Local Governments in the Metropolitan Region funded through the State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement and the Australian Government Black Spot Program and provides commentary on the overall program performance.

There has been minor improvement in the completion and acquittal of Improvement and Rehabilitation programs in 2019/20, with the completion of several projects carried forward from previous years resulting in a reduction in the number of legacy projects.

A Summary of 2019/20 financial performance of each of the key Programs delivered by Local Governments (Rehabilitation, Improvement, State Black Spot and Australian Government Black Spot) is listed below:

Program	No of Projects	Total Value	Acquitted	Carried Forward
Improvement	30	\$20,062,345	\$14,634,456 (73%)	\$5,427,889 (27%)
Rehabilitation	172	\$19,096,510	\$16,351,098 (86%)	\$2,745,412 (14%)
State Black Spot	91	\$8,064,594	\$4,086,254 (51%)	\$3,978,340 (49%)
Aust. Govt. Black Spot	34	\$4,883,802	\$3,803,780 (78%)	\$1,080,022 (22%)

*As at 30 June 2020

Relative to the size of the programs, the Black Spot programs show the highest amounts carried forward. The Improvement program has the largest financial impacts.

The underlying fundamental issue with each of the programs is the need for LGs to consider all the known risk factors in planning and scheduling for delivery of the projects prior to 30 June each year.

Covid-19 did not have an impact on the program of works, with many LGs reporting that less traffic on the roads during the last half of the financial year assisted in the delivery of the works.

The final acquittal and governance process issues continue to be a challenge in the State Black Spot and Australian Government Black Spot programs for most Local Governments (LGs).

Based on the findings, it is recommended that in 2020/21 the Local Roads Program Manager:

1. Develop and deliver a presentation for Local Government officers on Project Planning for an Advanced Design Program.
2. Document effective acquittal processes that can be adapted and adopted by Local Governments.
3. With the MRRG Technical Officers Group, investigate the merits of introducing a check point to ensure that design, community consultation, land acquisition and third-party approvals are in place before advancing the second tranche of funding.
4. Undertake analysis of trends in program performance over the past 4 years, including further analysis of major issues influencing program performance, with a focus on providing detailed assessment of the issues that have the greatest impact on funds carried forward.

2 LOCAL ROADS PROGRAM 2019-20 REVIEW

The following is a brief overview of the performance of the various MRRG Local Road Programs and Black Spot Projects over the course of the 2019-20 year, the issues tackled and the challenges for the 2020-21 financial year.

2.1 Improvement Program

The 2019-20 Improvement program comprised 31 Projects (2 Reserve projects and 2 Advanced funded projects), with most projects staged over two or more years from 2016-17. The annual budget for staged projects is included as a full project in the year allocated. A review of the program in the table below reveals that while significant progress was made in the delivery of more recent improvement projects there are several projects from previous years affecting the overall program performance. These are listed in attachment A.

Again, apart from the withdrawal of projects from previous year approvals, one project was the prime reason for under performance of the program.

2019 - 20 Improvement Program - \$20,062,345									
Year Approved	No Projects	Complete	Staged funding fully acquitted	W'drawn	C/Fwd	Reserve	Advanced	\$ Recoup	\$ C/Fwd
2019-20	7	1	3		3	1	1	\$14,634,456 (73%)	\$5,427,889 (27%)
2018-19	11	1	4	1	5	1	1		
2017-18	11	4		3	4				
2016-17	2	1			1				
Total	31	7	7	4	13	2	2		

*As at 30 June 2020

- a) Seven projects completed
- b) Seven staged projects fully acquitted in 2019/20
- c) Four projects were withdrawn which resulted in \$2,522,912 being returned to the pool
- d) Ten projects final 20% allocations pushed out to 2020/21 to the value of \$3,892,080
- e) Two projects were awarded reserve funding to the value of \$2,609,000
- f) Two projects were awarded advanced 2020/21 funding to the value of \$2,100,267
- g) Thirteen projects were carried forward, of which three projects were accrued to the value of \$463,368 and two projects are expected to be completed under budget to a savings of \$65,239.

2.2 Rehabilitation Program

The 2019-20 Rehabilitation program comprised 172 Projects (102 new projects + 9 Reserve) with 1/3 of these projects carried forward from 2017-18 & 2018-19. A review of the program indicates that all but six of these past projects have been acquitted and completed.

2019 - 20 Rehabilitation Program - \$19,096,510							
Year Approved	No Projects	Complete	W'drawn	C/Fwd	Reserve	\$ Recoup	\$ C/Fwd
2019-20	102	29	2	71	9	\$16,351,098 (86%)	\$2,745,412 (14%)
2018-19	64	56	2	6			
2017-18	6	5	1				
Total	172	90	5	77			

- a) Ninety projects completed.
- b) Five projects were withdrawn which resulted in \$377,431 being returned to the pool (\$211, 467 budget transfers pending).
- c) Seventy-seven projects were carried forward, of which sixty-one projects were accrued to the value of \$1,980,922 and six have been approved for time extensions.
- d) Nine Reserve projects totalling \$1,389,732 were funded during the year and three have been completed.

2.3 State Black Spot Program

The 2019-20 State Black Spot program comprised 91 Projects and 39 projects were carried forward primarily due to a late start with construction.

2019 - 20 State Black Spot Program - \$8,064,594								
Year Approved	No Projects	Complete	Staged fully acquitted	W'drawn	C/Fwd	Reserve	\$ Recoup	\$ C/Fwd
2019-20	43	9	3	5	26	7	\$4,086,254 (51%)	\$3,978,340 (49%)
2018-19	33	22		3	8			
2017-18	13	7		1	5			
2016-17	1	1						
2014-15	1	1						
Total	91	40	3	9	39	7		

- a) Forty projects were fully recouped
- b) Three staged projects fully acquitted in 2019/20
- c) Nine projects were withdrawn, which resulted in \$1,300,579 being returned to the pool (\$24,333 budget transfer pending). Refer to attachment B
- d) Seven projects were awarded reserve funding to the value of \$558,101
- e) Thirty-nine projects were carried forward, of which eight projects were accrued to the value of \$558,551 and two projects are expected to be completed under budget to a savings of \$68,875.

Despite constant reminders either by Main Roads or follow-up by the Local Roads Program Manager many LGs leave the design and approvals until the construction year, and in many instances the design is not straight forward and issues with third-party approvals delay a start to the program.

2.4 Australian Government Black Spot Program

The 2019-20 Australian Government Black Spot program comprised 34 Projects, and 20 projects were carried forward primarily due to a late start with construction.

2019 - 20 National Black Spot Program - \$4,883,802						
Year Approved	No Projects	Complete	W'drawn	C/Fwd	\$ Recoup 68%	\$ C/Fwd
2019-20	14		1	13	\$3,803,780 (78%)	\$1,080,022 (22%)
2018-19	15	10		5		
2017-18	4	3		1		
2015-16	1			1		
Total	34	13	1	20		

- a) Thirteen projects were completed
- b) One project was withdrawn which resulted in \$100,000 being returned to the pool
- c) Twenty projects were carried forward, of which seven projects were accrued to the value of \$505,211 and two projects have been approved for time extensions.

3. Actions Undertaken in 2019-20

The MRRG team, comprising the Technical Officers Group, Main Roads representatives, WALGA representatives and with assistance of the Local Roads Program Manager, have been pro-active in assisting LGs to maximise their potential opportunities throughout the 2019-20 FY with the following initiatives:

3.1 Review of Rehabilitation Program Penalty Process

The 2019-20 financial year is the second year that penalties will be applied to future funding based on prior year's performance for the Rehabilitation Program.

The penalty effectively reduces the Road Rehabilitation allocation in the second subsequently funded year if more than 10% of a LGs total Rehabilitation funds remain unclaimed by 30 June.

Last year seven LGs were penalised of between 13% to 58% of the eligible Road Rehabilitation grant allocation for the 2020-21 financial year. A review indicates that six LGs completed the outstanding projects within 2019/20.

Local Government	% unclaimed subject to penalty 2018/19	Number of Projects Penalised	Status as at 30 June 2020
Armadale	26%	2	2 - Final claim outstanding
Belmont	24%	1	Fully claimed April 2020
Cambridge	15%	2	Fully claimed June 2020
Claremont	20%	7	Fully claimed August 2019
Kalamunda	58%	4	Fully claimed 1 - January 2020 3 - March 2020
Serpentine Jarrahdale	13%	2	Fully claimed September 2019
Victoria Park	13%	3	Fully claimed 2 – November 2019 1 - May 2020

There are three LGs however that have failed to complete their 2019/20 Rehabilitation program and have not taken the opportunity to withdraw or request scope changes or an extension of time despite constant reminders throughout the year. Based on their 2019/20 performance of the Rehabilitation program these LGs have been assessed to incur penalties between 3% to 15% for 2021/22.

Local Government	% unclaimed subject to penalty 2018/19	Number of Projects Penalised	Status as at 30 June 2020
Armadale	3%	2	Final claim outstanding (same projects penalised in 18/19)
Nedlands	6%	2	Final claim outstanding
Subiaco	15%	1	Second 40% claim outstanding

3.2 Accruals

Main Roads is aware of concerns raised by LGs regarding the financial finalisation of projects being delayed by the processing of payments for line marking, with the impact being mostly to the Rehabilitation program.

To monitor this impact Main Roads has been tracking the outstanding status of MRRG LGs grant funded line marking projects requests from LGs for line marking, contractor work orders, line marking completion, and contractor and LGs invoicing, and final grant claim close-out.

In line with last year's practice, Main Roads accrued the final 20% payments for projects where line marking was completed but yet to be invoiced or if the line marking works request order had been sent to the contractor before a nominated deadline. In this way LGs would not be penalised for late claims due to this delay.

In addition, as per the action agreed at the December SAC meeting, LGs were requested to advise of any other MRRG project accruals for civil and electrical works for 2019/20. LGs were required to provide photo evidence of works completion to verify the accrual.

In total the following accruals were undertaken in 2019/20 to maximise legitimate grant expenditure –

Program	2019/20 Accrual
Improvement	\$463,368
Rehabilitation	\$1,980,922
Black Spot	\$1,063,762

3.3 RRG Presentation – MRRG Lessons Learnt & Improvement Opportunities

At the request of SAC, a PowerPoint presentation of major findings and improvements along with supporting documentation was prepared for a roadshow of Regional Road Groups however following Covid-19 restrictions this was converted into a Skype Presentation, and combined with the annual Blackspot Presentation.

Five presentations sessions were given to the following seven RRG's:

Region	Date of Presentation	Region	Date of Presentation
Great Southern	21.04.20	Wheatbelt South	21.05.20
Mid-West	18.05.20	Gascoyne	02.06.20
Pilbara	12.05.20	Kimberley	02.06.20
Wheatbelt North	21.05.20	South-West	2018

The focus of the presentation was on the following key points:

Major Findings	Improvements
Planning	Legacy projects
Scheduling	Road Improvement project staging
Estimating	Road rehabilitation penalty
Project management	Accountability RAG report
Carry forward	Project submission guideline
Third-party	Grant claims
Stakeholder engagement	

The presentations were generally well received with feedback and questions on how stakeholder management was carried out, how penalties were received, and the due diligence process regarding the RAG report and grant claims. A copy of the presentation and supporting documentation can be made available on request.

3.4 Recommendations from Previous years.

The 2018-19 LRP Annual Report outlined several improvement opportunities and the following is a status report on each recommendation.

- 3.3.1 Stakeholder Management – to work one-on-one with LGs that have a history of late start SBS projects. Meetings have been held with several LGs and while there was an improvement for some this was not uniform across all LGs and timelines slipped in the last few months.
- 3.3.2 Process Mapping – this is a work-in-progress and more is required in this space.
- 3.3.3 Quarterly Reporting – to improve the accuracy and relevance of quarterly report comments has been successful with a majority providing a frank assessment rather than an optimistic forecast.
- 3.3.4 Compliance – to improve timely advice about scope or budget variations has improved for some however a few LGs are missing the opportunity.
- 3.3.5 Third-party delays – despite constant reminders and follow-up a few LGs have failed to provide a realistic risk assessment of third-party delays on projects. This will be included as a focus for improvement during 2020-21.

4 Improvement Opportunities

Consideration has been given to areas where LGs appear to require assistance and where the program can be improved by reviewing process issues.

4.1 Focus Areas – Project Planning, and Acquittal and Governance

The advantages of an advanced design programme, advocated over the past four years, appears beyond the comprehension of many. While the message has been on better planning, scheduling, estimating and project management feedback suggests a bureaucratic inertia or lack of experience or insight into how to bring about change within existing resource. Where change has been seriously contemplated it is often only thought possible through additional resource and/or budget. As a result, the tendency has been to do nothing because of organisational constraints over FTE numbers. The first thing however is to look at process to remove duplication, rework, and waste to gain efficiencies.

It is perhaps time to tackle this issue differently and conduct workshops on the focus areas of project planning for an advanced design program, and the requirements of the final acquittal and governance process. This has worked well at LGs where all staff, from managers to supervisors and support staff, have been involved in the review process workshop.

It is recommended that two workshops formats be developed. One on project planning for an advanced design program, and the second on the final acquittal and governance process. The latter process should have immediate effect; however, the former process may take a few years to influence program performance.

4.2 State Black Spot Program Review – Funding Check Point

The time taken to achieve third-party approvals has been highlighted as an issue. There is evidence of cases that suggests that this can drag on late into the financial year and often into the second funding year. This is primarily a LGs responsibility to prioritise and follow-up where a delay goes beyond a few weeks. The draft program of works is known 7-8 months before the year of approval however few LGs plan to commence a design until well into the funding year. Experience suggest that this is often due to design and construction being separate functions with little or no performance measurement or accountability between one and the other. This delay is compounded if services and works by public utilities (e.g. street lighting) are not sought until the design is complete and can add another 3-6 months to the process.

An option to improve performance maybe through a funding check point.

The funding check point would apply to satisfactory performance, and with respect to Black Spot projects, would be when design and third-party approvals are obtained before funding is given for deliverability, and then only if construction can be completed within the remaining time.

It is recommended that the Technical Group consider whether this can be implemented and still meeting the constraints of the SBS funding allocations.

4.3 Line Marking Process

In response to an action item from the MRRG Elected Members meeting on 28 May 2020 Main Roads has been proactive in investigating an alternative process for line marking that reduces the impact on the financial finalisation of projects.

The proposed change will see the cost of line marking separated out from the project budget. This will enable Local Governments to submit their final 20% claim once all costs (excluding the line marking invoice) are received and a line marking request has been accepted by Traffic Services.

Based on data gathered in 2020 this process potentially will provide LGs with the opportunity to acquit Road Rehabilitation Project grants months earlier.

SAC has endorsed this new process to be run as a trial for the 2020/21 Rehabilitation program. Note that it is not envisaged that this change to process will apply across all programs.

5 Recommendations

5.1 Focus Areas – the Local Roads Program Manager develop presentations for LGs on:

- a) Project Planning for an Advanced Design Program; and,
- b) Final Acquittal and Governance Process.

5.2 State Black Spot Program Review – that the MRRG Technical Officers Group investigate the merits of introducing a funding check point to ensure satisfactory achievement of design and third-party approvals before advancing the second tranche of funding.

5.3 Local Roads Program Manager undertake analysis of trends in program performance over the past 4 years.

5.4 Local Roads Program Manager undertake further analysis of major issues influencing program performance, with a focus on providing detailed assessment of the top few issues.

5.5 This report be approved for release to the 30 Metropolitan LGs.

6 Attachments

Attachment A – Improvement Project Outstanding Expenditure Project Delay

Local Authority	Grant \$ unclaimed	Reason for delay
Armadale		
Powell Cres	Withdrawn July 2019	Development control land acquisition issues \$172,828 returned to the pool.
Forrest Rd	Withdrawn Feb 2020	Development control land acquisition issues. \$1,007,319 returned to the pool.
Canning		
Sevenoaks St	Withdrawn Oct 2019	Design Works – Uncertainty regarding impact of MetroNet on scope \$522,388 returned to the pool.
Cockburn		
Jandakot Rd	2,533,333	Land acquisition delays and tendering.
Gosnells		
Spencer Rd	66,667	Design Works - Final 20% claim outstanding.
Burslem Dve	192,000	Design Works - Final 20% claim outstanding. Advanced 2020/21 funding approved February 2020
Garden St	Withdrawn July 2019	Environmental permit not approved \$820,377 returned to the pool.
Joondalup		
Burns Beach Rd	384,000	Scope impacted by Main Roads project – EOT until June 2021.
Nedlands		
Aberdare Rd	15,000	Design Works - EOT Variation until June 2021 under review
Serpentine Jarrahdale		
Abernethy-Kargotich	112,000	Reserve Project - Final 20% claim outstanding.
Abernethy Rd	297,837	Scope impacted by DoT Railway Works - EOT until June 2021.

Attachment B – Black Spot Projects Withdrawn

Local Authority	Grant \$	Reason for delay
Armadale		
Chevin Road	Withdrawn Aug 2019	Revised design estimate does not meet BCR requirements \$48,913 returned to the pool
Cockburn		
Jandakot Road	Withdrawn Mar 2020	Land acquisition issues \$166,000 returned to the pool
Kalamunda		
Canning Road	Withdrawn Jun 2020	Constructed treatment does not meet program requirements \$24,333 returned to the pool (transfer pending)
Nedlands		
Broadway	Withdrawn Nov 2019	Not supported by Community \$60,000 returned to the pool
Perth		
Aberdeen St	Withdrawn Feb 2020	Intended scope does not meet swept path analysis \$48,333 returned to the pool
Subiaco		
Townsend Rd	Withdrawn Sept 2019	Revised design no longer feasible \$30,000 returned to the pool
Onslow Rd	Withdrawn Apr 2020	Revised design estimate does not meet BCR requirements \$14,000 returned to the pool
Stirling		
Walcott St	Withdrawn Nov 2019	Australian Government Black Spot - Not supported by Community \$100,000 returned
Swan		
Mayo Rd	Withdrawn Mar 2020	Land acquisition issues \$160,000 returned to the pool
Victoria Park		
Shepperton Rd	Withdrawn Dec 2019	Extension of time not approved \$749,000 returned to the pool

Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group

Reference information for Elected Members on a Regional Road Group

November 2019

This reference information is designed to inform Elected Members of a Regional Road Group of matters pertinent to the business of that Group.

Specifically, the contents will inform Elected Members of:

- State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement
- Role of the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee
- Terms of Reference for a Regional Road Group
- Roads 2030
- Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) network
- Accredited Mass Management Scheme (AMMS)
- Funding sources for road projects
- Key Performance Indicators for a Regional Road Group
- WALGA RoadWise

Contact:

Ian Duncan

Executive Manager, Infrastructure Unit

WALGA

ONE70, LV 1, 170 Railway Parade West Leederville

Phone: (08) 9213 2031

Fax: (08) 9213 2077

Mobile: 0439 947 716

Email: iduncan@walga.asn.au

Website: www.walga.asn.au

Document Information

Author:	Western Australian Local Government Association
Title:	Reference information for Elected Members on a Regional Road Group
Version:	1.2
Version date:	November 2019
Review date:	As required

Table of Contents

1.0	Regional Road Groups	4
2.0	Regional Road Sub-Groups.....	4
3.0	State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement.....	5
4.0	State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee	6
	Membership	6
	Scope	6
5.0	Goldfields-Esperance Road Funding Distribution	6
6.0	Roads 2030	7
7.0	Key Performance Indicators for Regional Road Groups	7
	Expenditure performance.....	7
	Asset management	8
	Road safety.....	8
	Local road inventory data.....	8
8.0	Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) Network.....	8
	Framework for adding a Local Government road to the Restricted Access Vehicle network	9
	Framework for downgrading a Local Government road on the Restricted Access Vehicle network	9
	Model policy for “Assessing applications to operate Restricted Access Vehicles on Local Government roads”	9
	As of right vehicles.....	9
9.0	Accredited Mass Management Scheme (AMMS)	10
10.0	Informing Own Councils	10
11.0	WALGA RoadWise.....	10
12.0	Main Roads WA Contact	11
13.0	WALGA Contacts	11
14.0	ANNEXURE 1 – Terms of Reference for Regional Road Groups	12
15.0	ANNEXURE 2 - Road Funding Sources	18
16.0	ANNEXURE 3 – Timetable for funding submissions.....	20
17.0	ANNEXURE 4 – Key Performance Indicators.....	22
18.0	ANNEXURE 5 – Profile of Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group.....	26

1.0 Regional Road Groups

The State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement mandates the existence and operation of Regional Road Groups, which the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee oversees.

The State Roads to Local Government management structure identified the following Regional Road Groups:

- Gascoyne
- Goldfields-Esperance
- Great Southern
- Kimberley
- Metropolitan
- Mid-West
- Pilbara
- South West
- Wheatbelt North
- Wheatbelt South

The Chairperson of a Regional Road Group shall be an Elected Member.

The role of a Regional Road Group is to:

- Recommend Local Government road funding priorities to the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.
- Monitor the implementation of the Local Government Road Program in their region.

Main Roads Western Australia provides technical and administrative support to Regional Road Groups.

See Annexure 1 for Terms of Reference for Regional Road Groups; and Annexure 5 for the profile of the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group.

2.0 Regional Road Sub-Groups

A Regional Road Group may establish Sub Groups to:

- Assist to identify road funding priorities
- Consider local road issues to inform decision making by the Regional Road Group
- Provide advice to the Regional Road Group

A Regional Road Group may establish a Technical Group(s) to:

- Assist with management and consideration of local road issues
- Provide technical advice to the Regional Road Group

Elected Members can be members of Regional Road Sub-Groups or Technical Groups. Ordinarily, Local Government technical staff comprise a Technical Group.

A Regional Road Group will determine and approve the Terms of Reference for Regional Road Sub-Groups or Technical Group(s). The Terms of Reference will include:

- Roles and responsibilities of the Sub-Groups or Technical Groups(s)
- Process to elect a Chairperson

- Membership of the Sub-Groups or Technical Group(s)

3.0 State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement

The State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement (the Agreement) is a formal agreement between State and Local Government in Western Australia.

The Agreement is *intended to ensure that the funds available from State Government sources for local roads are allocated across the State of Western Australia, focusing on areas of strategic importance and areas that will provide maximum benefit. The needs of all road users and the Western Australian community will be considered during the distribution process.* (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement, Guiding Principles, page 2)

The current Agreement expires in 2022/2023 and is based on the equivalent of 20% of motor vehicle licence fee collections.

The Agreement recognises and determines the membership of:

- State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee
- Regional Road Groups; and Regional Road Sub Groups (if considered necessary)

Under the Agreement the available funding is split into two categories:

1. Local Government Managed Programs (Category 1)
2. Main Roads Western Australia Managed Programs (Category 2)

The Agreement is projected to produce annual allocations from State road funds to Local Government roads for the years 2018/19 to 2022/23 as per the following schedule:

2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
\$182.3 million	\$188.9 million	\$193.4 million	\$198.4 million	\$203.4 million

The revenue is to be distributed to Local Government roads on the basis of¹:

Local Government Managed Programs (Category 1): 66%

Direct Grants
Road Project Grants
State Black Spot
Strategic and Technical Support

Main Roads Western Australian Managed Programs (Category 2): 34%

State Initiative on Local Roads
Traffic Management, Signs and Pavement Markings
Bridgeworks and Inspections
Remote Aboriginal Access Roads
Regional Road Group Support

¹ See Annexure 2: Road Funding Sources, and Annexure 3: Timetable for Funding Submissions.

The allocation to the categories and sub categories will move in line with the total Agreement pool or as otherwise approved by the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee. (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement, page 4)

4.0 State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee

The Agreement stipulates the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee (SAC) will oversee, monitor and recommend to the Minister for Transport the distribution of State funds to Local Government roads.

The SAC sets and is responsible for the procedures covering the administration and functioning of the Agreement.

Membership

The SAC consists of:

- Managing Director of Main Roads Western Australia
- Chief Executive Officer of the Western Australian Local Government Association (or their nominee)
- Four elected State Councillors as nominated by the Western Australian Local Government Association
- Four Main Roads Western Australia senior officers nominated by the Managing Director of Main Roads.

The Committee is chaired by the Managing Director of Main Roads Western Australia.

Scope

The SAC is accountable for the:

- Assessment of Local Government road funding needs
- Annual distribution of State Funds to Local Government roads
- Monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of the application of State Funds to Local Government roads in the State of Western Australia

The SAC recommends to the Minister for Transport the annual Local Government Roads Program and other relevant issues.

The SAC meets four times each year and its meeting agendas and minutes are published on the WALGA website at:

<http://walga.asn.au/Policy-Advice-and-Advocacy/Infrastructure/Funding.aspx>

5.0 Goldfields-Esperance Road Funding Distribution

The Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group has a document titled “Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group Road Funding Distribution”. The document provides information on:

- Road Funding Distribution, which includes information on (1) Distribution of funds between preservation and improvement/expansion projects; and (2) Project proposal submissions

- Project Prioritisation Guidelines, which contains information on (1) Process; (2) Project Evaluation; (3) Application; (4) Road improvement/expansion criteria; and (5) Road preservation projects criteria

The manual can be accessed [here](#).

6.0 Roads 2030

Roads 2030 documents a strategic view of regionally significant Local Government roads and the development strategies for those roads.

Each Regional Road Group has a *Roads 2030* strategy document.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the State Government and WALGA requires that Regional Road Groups review their road development strategies at five yearly intervals to assess the effects of changing circumstances and demand on the local road network.

Local Governments (via Regional Road Groups) worked collaboratively to review their local road network to produce *Roads 2030* thus providing an agreed strategic approach to allocate limited funding across the extensive local road network in WA.

It is important to note that only projects on local roads included in *Roads 2030* are eligible for Road Project Grant funding under the current State Roads Funds to Local Government Agreement.

See Annexure 2 for a breakdown of State Government and Federal Government funding sources for Local Government roads.

Should a Regional Road Group agree to seek to amend their *Roads 2030* strategy document, this amendment must be endorsed by the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee. If the road for which the proposed amendment is sought crosses into an adjoining region, agreement should be reached with that Regional Road Group.

Roads 2030 for each Regional Road Group can be accessed on the WALGA website at:

<http://walga.asn.au/Policy-Advice-and-Advocacy/Infrastructure/Roads/Roads-2030-Regional-Road-Development-Strategies.aspx>

7.0 Key Performance Indicators for Regional Road Groups

Part 7 of the Agreement relates to Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Regional Road Groups. Part 7 states, *Key Performance Indicators will focus on Expenditure Performance, asset management and road safety. KPIs have been established for monitoring purposes and no financial incentives or penalties will apply on the basis of performance against KPIs. Main Roads Western Australia and WALGA will prepare an annual KPI report for SAC. The report will be provided to the Regional Road Groups.*

Expenditure performance

- 1.1 Number of Regional Road Group meetings held. Minimum 2 meetings per year.
- 1.2 Percentage of State Government and Australian Government Black Spot Programs funding expended. Target 90%.

- 1.3 Percentage of road project grants expended (includes commodity route funds). Target 90%.
- 1.4 Road project grant applications submitted to SAC (via Main Roads WA) by November each year.

Asset management

- 2.1 Percentage of sealed road length subject to a documented visual condition survey in the previous 5 years within the region. Target is 50%.

Road safety

- 3.1 Metropolitan Regional Road Group only - Percentage of road project grant funded road improvements subject to road safety audits/inspections. Target is 100%
- 3.2 Other Regional Road Groups - Percentage of Road Project Grant funded projects that include Safe System improvements to roads and roadsides. Target is 50%.

Local road inventory data

- 4.1 Number of Local Governments by RRG that have uploaded road inventory data into the Main Roads WA IRIS database in the last three financial years. Target is 100%.

Reporting on the KPIs commenced in 2012-2013. The KPI report for 2018/2019 is attached as Annexure 4, which includes a comparison of the reporting years of 2013/2014, 2014/2015 and 2015/2016.

8.0 Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) Network

The Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) Network consists of ten levels of road network (i.e. RAV Network 1 to RAV Network 10) on which an approved category of restricted access (heavy) vehicle can be driven (i.e. category 1 restricted access vehicle to category 10 restricted access vehicle). Main Roads WA maintains an electronic list of all roads in the RAV Network.

A restricted access vehicle cannot travel on any road not listed in the RAV network - to do so is contrary to the law.

A higher category restricted access vehicle (e.g. a category 10 restricted access vehicle) cannot be driven on a lower RAV rated road (e.g. a RAV network 5 road); however a lower category restricted access vehicle (e.g. a category 4 restricted access vehicle) can be driven on a higher RAV rated road (e.g. a RAV network 7 road).

Main Roads WA maintains the *Standard Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) Route Assessment Guidelines* to assist Local Government, Main Roads' staff, transport operators or consultants assess the suitability of routes for inclusion on the RAV network. Restricted access vehicle categories are grouped into four (4) assessment levels:

- Level 1 - RAV Categories 2, 3 and 4 (e.g. pocket road train, B-double, and other restricted access vehicles with a maximum length of either 25m or 27.5m).
- Level 2 - RAV Categories 5 and 6 (e.g. restricted access vehicles with a maximum length of 36.5m and a maximum mass of 87.5t).
- Level 3 - RAV Categories 7 and 8 (e.g. restricted access vehicles with a maximum length of 36.5m and a maximum mass of 107.5t).
- Level 4 - RAV Categories 9 and 10 (e.g. restricted access vehicles with a maximum length of 53.5m).

The guidelines are available on the Main Roads website:

<https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/UsingRoads/HVS/roadaccess/Pages/default.aspx>

Framework for adding a Local Government road to the Restricted Access Vehicle network

To assist Local Governments, Main Roads WA has developed a framework to approve the inclusion of a local road on the RAV network.

The framework is available on the Main Roads website:

<https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/UsingRoads/HVS/roadaccess/Pages/default.aspx>

Framework for downgrading a Local Government road on the Restricted Access Vehicle network

To assist Local Governments, Main Roads WA has developed a framework on the process of downgrading a local road on the RAV network.

The framework is available on the Main Roads website:

<https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/UsingRoads/HVS/roadaccess/Pages/default.aspx>

Model policy for “Assessing applications to operate Restricted Access Vehicles on Local Government roads”

Restricted Access Vehicles can only operate on a road (RAV route) approved by Main Roads WA. Vehicle operators may apply to Main Roads WA to add or amend a RAV route and it is the policy of Main Roads WA to refer applications to Local Governments for preliminary assessment.

The (model) “Policy for Assessing Applications to Operate Restricted Access Vehicles on Local Government Roads” is designed to assist Local Government in the process to assess an application to add or amend a road on the RAV network.

The model policy is found at the WALGA website: *Local Government > Policy Advice and Advocacy > Infrastructure > Roads*

As of right vehicles

An *as of right vehicle* is any vehicle not a restricted access vehicle, for example, rigid trucks and semi-trailers. These vehicles may operate state-wide provided they are:

- Not a road train or b-double;
- Within regulation axle mass limits;
- Less than nineteen (19) metres in combination length or less than 12.5 metres in length for rigid vehicles;
- Less than 42.5 tonnes in total combination mass;
- Less than 2.5 metres wide (excluding mirrors and lights); and
- Less than 4.3 metres high.

9.0 Accredited Mass Management Scheme (AMMS)

The Accredited Mass Management Scheme (AMMS) is a scheme allowing heavy vehicles to carry additional payload on an identified and limited part of the road network assessed as suitable by Main Roads WA.

AMMS allows for three concessional mass levels and allows for any product and use of any proven loading control method. Vehicles accredited under the AMMS can only carry additional mass

Local Governments retain control over heavy vehicles using local roads. A transport operator applies to have local roads assessed for inclusion in the AMMS network. Main Roads WA seek the support of Local Government before assessing the suitability of a local road for inclusion in the AMMS network. At that time, Local Governments can seek to have relevant conditions applied to the use of a particular local road.

Once a road is approved for access, it is included on the AMMS network list of roads published on the AMMS page of the Main Roads WA website.

Similar to the RAV network, transport operators must comply with the particular conditions of the AMMS network on which they are operating.

Information about the AMMS is available on the Main Roads WA website:
<https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/UsingRoads/HVS/Permits/Permits/Pages/AMMS.aspx>

10.0 Informing Own Councils

Each Regional Road Group approves and recommends to the SAC a substantial amount of road funding on behalf of member Local Governments. It is useful that delegates to each Regional Road Group or Sub-Group keep their own Councils informed of the business and decisions made by the Regional Road Group of which they are a member.

11.0 WALGA RoadWise

WALGA RoadWise aims to engage Local Governments and communities in actions that support and contribute to the implementation of *Towards Zero*, which is the road safety strategy for Western Australia (2008-2020).

WALGA RoadWise supports Local Governments, community groups, local businesses and individuals to become involved in the community road safety network across Western Australia.

A team of regional and metropolitan based RoadWise Road Safety Advisors assist members of the statewide community road safety network (that includes Local Governments) by:

- promoting participation and community ownership
- facilitating opportunities for leadership in local road safety
- supporting local road safety committees
- providing access to resources and training
- sharing information

These actions contribute to building the capacity of the network to make an effective contribution to preventing or reducing death or serious injury on the public road network in Western Australia.

The WALGA RoadWise Road Safety Advisor position for the Goldfields-Esperance Region is currently vacant.

For any information or assistance regarding the WALGA RoadWise Program or road safety, please email: roadwise@walga.asn.au or telephone any of the WALGA contacts listed below.

12.0 Main Roads WA Contact

Contact details for Main Roads WA Goldfields-Esperance Region are:

83 Piesse Street
Boulder WA 6432

or

PO Box 99
Kalgoorlie WA 6433

Telephone 9080 1428

13.0 WALGA Contacts

For further information, please contact the people listed below.

Ian Duncan, Executive Manager, Infrastructure
Telephone: 9213 2031
Email: iduncan@walga.asn.au

Mark Bondietti, Manager, Transport and Roads
Telephone: 9213 2040
Email: mbondietti@walga.asn.au

Sebastian Davies-Slate, Policy Officer Transport and Roads
Telephone: 9213 2050
Email: sdavies-slate@walga.asn.au

Mal Shervill, Policy Officer Road Safety
Telephone: 9213 2068
Email: mshervill@walga.asn.au

14.0 ANNEXURE 1 – Terms of Reference for Regional Road Groups

Excerpt from *State Road Funds to Local Government Procedures*
(Issue 6.0 – 6 May 2013 – document number 6200/04/02, Main Roads Western Australia)

6. Terms of Reference for Regional Road Groups

6.1 Introduction

Regional Road Groups will operate under the delegated authority of the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.

These Terms of Reference shall apply to the role and activities of the Regional Road Groups.

6.2 Management and Administration

6.2.1 Region

Each Local Government in Western Australia shall be included in an appropriate region as defined by the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee. Local Governments may apply to the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee for a transfer from one region to another. Such applications should be accompanied with supporting documentation to justify the reasons for such a change. As a general principle, it is intended that the regions be as similar as possible to those used by Main Roads Western Australia. This principle will be taken into consideration by the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee when considering Local Governments' applications for transfer.

Where approval is granted for a Local Government to transfer to another Regional Road Group, funding allocations will be amended to reflect this change.

6.2.2 Sub Groups

The Regional Road Group may establish a structure of Regional Sub Groups in consultation with Local Governments in order to assist with management and consideration of local road issues.

6.2.3 Membership

Local Governments may apply to the Regional Road Group for a transfer to another Sub Group.

Each Local Government within a region shall be offered representation on either:

- the Regional Road Group for that region, if no Sub Groups have been established; or
- a Sub Group within the region.

Each Local Government seeking representation on the Regional Road Group/Sub Group shall nominate a Councillor to be its member of the Regional Road Group/Sub Group.

Each Regional Road Group may determine the appropriate representation of Sub Groups on the Regional Road Group, provided that all Sub Groups are offered equal representation.

6.2.4 Chairperson

The Chairperson of the Regional Road Group shall be an elected Local Government person and be elected by the Regional Road Group annually.

6.2.5 Secretariat

Technical and administrative support to the Regional Road Group will be provided by Main Roads Western Australia. Main Road Western Australia's Regional Managers will provide the primary contact for Regional Road Group. (See Attachment 5 for a Guide)

6.2.6 Observers

Members of the Regional Road Group/Sub Group may invite to meetings of the Regional Road Group/Sub Group, support staff and other personnel who they consider would assist.

6.2.7 Decision Making

As far as practicable, decisions should be arrived at by consensus. However, where voting is necessary, only elected Local Government members will be the voting representatives with:

- one vote for each Local Government represented at Sub Group meetings;
- one vote for each Local Government represented at Regional Road Group meetings, for Regional Road Groups with no Sub Groups; and
- one vote for each Sub Group represented at Regional Road Group meetings, for Regional Road Groups with Sub Groups.

Subject to approval by the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee, variations to voting procedures may be agreed to as long as an equitable balance is maintained.

6.2.8 Meetings

The Chairperson of the Regional Road Group, through the Secretariat, will develop an annual meeting timetable relating to the timetable of the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.

The annual meeting timetable shall be determined at the first meeting after the meeting timetable of the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee has been advised to the Regional Road Group.

6.2.9 Delegated Representatives

Each member may delegate authority to an elected Local Government representative to attend and otherwise represent the Regional Road Group member.

6.2.10 Reporting Structure

The Regional Road Group shall record minutes of its meetings and forward a copy to each member and the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.

The Regional Road Group shall make its recommendations to the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.

6.2.11 Correspondence

All correspondence is to be addressed to the:

Chairperson
Regional Road Group
C/- Regional Manager
Main Roads Western Australia

6.3 Regional Road Group Responsibilities

6.3.1 Scope

Within policies and guidelines established by the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee, the Regional Road Group shall be responsible for the assessment of road funding needs, the annual distribution of State funds to Local Government roads, monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of the application of the State funds for Local Government roads in its region.

In so far as Local Government roads are concerned, the Regional Road Group shall ensure that funds made available by the State are applied to the road network to:

- maximise capacity and resources through joint purchasing and resource sharing;
- maximise benefits to the community;
- preserve, improve and extend the road system; and
- comply with the obligations of the Managing Director of Main Roads under legislation.

6.3.2 Responsibilities

The Regional Road Group shall arrange for sufficient information for it to comply with these Terms of Reference and other tasks including the following:

- determining the relative road funding need in its region, both present and future;
- establishing a five year plan for distribution of State road funds in the region;
- developing methods for annual distribution of road funds to Local Government roads within the region;
- providing funding information to Local Governments to facilitate expenditure of road funds;
- making recommendations to the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee for improved procedures and guidelines;
- assisting the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee with Local Government priorities at the regional level;
- monitoring the implementation of the program in their region;

- providing the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee with a summary of the annual Direct Grant expenditure (refer to clause 8.4); and
- applying criteria developed for Roads 2030 or the Functional Road Hierarchy to determine a network of roads that are eligible for Road Project Grants.

6.3.3 Delegated Responsibilities

The Regional Road Group may delegate certain functions and tasks to Regional Sub Groups, provided that all Regional Sub Groups shall have the same delegated responsibilities.

6.4 Improvements to Terms of Reference and Procedures

The Regional Road Group shall made recommendations to the State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee for improvements to these Terms of Reference and Procedures.

Attachment 5 – State Road Funds to Local Government Administrative Procedures

(To be used as a guide)

Executive Support

Main Roads Western Australia's Regional Office will provide the executive support and all other administrative, technical support to the Regional Road Groups. (Where there are Sub Groups to the Regional Road Group, support is to be provided by Local Government.) The following is an outline of the support to be provided:

- Provide information to Regional Road Groups and Local Governments on annual and programs of works, indicative funding and other financial matters.
- Provide the necessary support to assist Local Governments in programming and prioritising projects.
- Provide minute takers for meetings, distribute the minutes to the Regional Road Group members and State Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee.
- Provide the necessary administrative duties involved in the follow up of meeting action.

Records

The following will be maintained by Main Roads Western Australia to support Regional Road Groups:

- Correspondence File (which provides background information required to support action of the Regional Road Group).
- Meeting and Agenda files (to ensure that ready access is available and records of Minutes maintained).
- Annual and Five Year Program of Works including amendments.
- Summary of Payments of Local Road Funds to Local Governments.
- Certificates of Completion for Local Roads Projects and Direct Grants.
- An up to date Procedures and Road Projects Evaluation Guidelines Manual.
- An up to date list of Regional Road Group and Sub Group membership.

Meetings

Timing and Venue

An annual timetable will be established and meeting should be conducted on a regular basis. The date and venue of meetings to be determined by the Regional Road Group. Consideration to meetings being held at locations that are equitable for all participants should be given.

Meeting Agenda

Main Roads Western Australia staff to prepare the Agenda in consultation with Chairperson of the Regional Road Group.

Agenda Format

- Chairperson to open meeting, welcome members and observers and call for apologies.
- Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting.
- Business arising from previous minutes.
- Presentation of Advisory Committee Minutes since last Regional Road Group meeting.
- Inwards and Outwards Correspondence.
- Reports:
 - Chairperson
 - Western Australian Local Government Association Representative
 - Submissions from Local Governments
 - Recommendations to State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee
 - Summary of payments made to Local Governments (Recoups, Audit Forms)
 - Amendments to Program of Works
 - Black Spot and Road Safety Progress Reports
- General Business.
- Future meeting dates.
- Meeting close.

The Agenda provided to each Regional Road Group member is to include the following:

- Minutes of the previous meeting.
- Summary of financial status and completion of projects.
- Copies of Inward and Outward correspondence.
- Any other papers, maps, etc. that are relevant and will assist the Group.

Correspondence

In general, correspondence is to be dealt with in the following manner:

- Regional Road Group correspondence is addressed to the Chairperson or the Regional Manager.

- All correspondence dealing with Local Roads Funding and Regional Road Group involvement is treated as inwards correspondence at the Regional Road Group meetings.
- Urgent matters are referred by email/facsimile direct to the Chairperson, or otherwise presented at the Regional Road Group meeting.

15.0 ANNEXURE 2 - Road Funding Sources

The following funding sources are available to Local Governments for roads.

Direct Grants (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

Provided annually for routine maintenance of local roads at the discretion of Local Governments.

Road Project Grants (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

Provided annually for specific road improvements; provision of new roads; and major preservation works such as resealing to maintain the road asset.

Commodity Routes (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

Provided annually for routes where there is a significant high priority transport task associated with the transport of a commodity such as grain, timber, agricultural lime, iron ore, etc.

Road and Bridge Condition Data Collection Fund (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

Provided annually for the condition assessment of regionally significant Local Government bituminous sealed roads as defined in the Roads 2030 (or later) strategy; and to assist Local Governments perform Level 1 bridge inspections on local roads.

Remote Aboriginal Community Access Roads (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

A combination of State Government and Australian Government funding provided annually for access roads serving Aboriginal communities.

State Initiatives on Local Roads (State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement)

Provided annually for works that are generally larger in nature and fall outside the criteria of other funding groups, however are still of strategic importance to the State.

State Black Spot Program (State Government)

The Program targets improving the safety of roads with a proven crash history or high-risk location with the likelihood of crashes occurring identified by a road safety audit/inspection.

Projects on local roads are funded by a joint contribution of two dollars from the State Government and a one dollar contribution from the Local Government where the project resides.

Australian Government Black Spot Program (Australian Government)

The Program aims to reduce the social and economic costs of road trauma by treating locations with a record of casualty crashes or with the likelihood of crashes occurring identified by a road safety audit/inspection.

The Australian Government fully funds projects on local roads under this program.

Roads to Recovery (Australian Government)

Funded by the Australian Government, the Roads to Recovery Program commenced in 2001 to address the significant amount of Local Government road infrastructure reaching the end of its economic life and its replacement was beyond the capacity of Local Governments.

Roads to Recovery funds are paid directly to Local Governments for priority road projects chosen by Local Governments.

See Annexure 3 – Timetable for funding submissions

16.0 ANNEXURE 3 – Timetable for funding submissions

Below is the indicative timetable for funding applications with proposed meetings of the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT BLACK SPOT PROGRAM

Process step	Month
Call for submissions	April
Submissions close	July
Submissions assessed	September/October
Prepare recommended program	October/November
Proposed Goldfields-Esperance RRG meeting	November
State Panel meets and assesses recommended program	December
Submit recommended program to State Government for approval	December
Approved program announced	May

STATE GOVERNMENT BLACK SPOT PROGRAM

Process step	Month
Call for submissions	April
Submissions close	July/August
Submissions assessed	September/October
Proposed Goldfields-Esperance RRG meeting	November
Prepare recommended program	November
State Panel meets and assesses recommended program	December
Submit recommended program to State Government for approval	December
Approved program announced	May

ROAD PROJECT GRANTS

Process step	Month
Local Governments apply to the RRG for project funds with supporting justification	September (for next financial year)
Proposed Goldfields-Esperance RRG meeting	November
RRG's provide project recommendations to SAC	November (for next financial year)
SAC makes project recommendations to the Managing Director, Main Roads WA	December (for next financial year)
Local Governments advised of approved projects	June (for next financial year)
RRG to advise SAC of likely under expenditure of allocated funds (if applicable)	Before end of June (for current financial year)

COMMODITY ROUTE SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING

Process step	Month
Call for submissions	June
Submissions close	September
RRG assesses projects and makes recommendations to Technical Review Group (consists of representatives from WALGA and Main Roads WA, Perth)	September/October
Technical Review Group assesses projects and makes recommendations to SAC	October/November
Proposed Goldfields-Esperance RRG meeting	November
SAC approval	December
To State Government for approval	January
Approved program announced	January

17.0 ANNEXURE 4 – Key Performance Indicators

Regional Road Group Key Performance Indicators Annual Report 2018/2019

Regional Road Group Statistics

1.1 Number of Regional Road Group meetings held. (Minimum 2 meetings per year)

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Great Southern	2	2	2	2	2
South West	4	4	4	4	4
Gascoyne	3	3	3	3	3
Mid-West	2	2	2	2	2
Goldfields-Esperance	1	1	2	2	2
Kimberley	2	2	2	2	2
Wheatbelt South	2	2	2	2	2
Wheatbelt North	2	2	2	2	2
Pilbara	1	2	2	1	1
Metropolitan	2	2	2	2	2

Regional Road Groups met at least twice during the reporting year except for the Pilbara Regional Road Group.

1.2 Percentage of Black Spot Programs funding expended. (Target is 90%) (Note: Includes State Government and Australian Government Black Spot Programs)

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
	%	%	%	%	%
Great Southern	65	90	83	87	61
South West	93	87	86	90	91
Gascoyne	100	100	0*	0*	96
Mid-West	74	36	87	49	4*
Goldfields-Esperance	95	48	100	50	66
Kimberley	100	91	49	39	85
Wheatbelt South	82	53	78	75	74
Wheatbelt North	84	64	55	52	83
Pilbara	18	93	125	100	0**
Metropolitan	57	72	52	63	66
Total	77	73	70	60	62

The South West and Gascoyne Regional Road Groups achieved the 90% target.

*The Mid-West Regional Road Group suffered delays due to design, land issues and inclement weather.

**The Pilbara Regional Road Group had a small number of projects with resourcing issues.

1.3 Percentage of road project grants expended. (Target is 90%)
(Note: Includes Commodity Route Supplementary Fund projects)

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
	%	%	%	%	%
Great Southern	88	93	82	86	69
South West	89	91	90	89	83
Gascoyne	100	100	100	97	98
Mid-West	96	97	100	94	100
Goldfields-Esperance	98	92	78	89	96
Kimberley	99	79	87	89	84
Wheatbelt South	81	89	91	99	94
Wheatbelt North	98	96	97	91	85
Pilbara	69	100	100	63	55
Metropolitan	77	95	79	79	78
Total	90	93	86	88	84

Four Regional Road Groups met the 90% target.

Metropolitan Region by Sub Group

Sub Group	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
	%	%	%	%	%
North West	98	100	100	89	61
West	63	62	83	86	78
Central	64	100	61	78	93
East	100	100	79	97	91
South East	85	100	58	76	79
South West	71	100	92	92	95
Total	80	95	79	86*	79

Three of the six metropolitan sub-groups achieved the 90% target.

Member Local Governments of Metropolitan Subgroups

North West	Joondalup, Stirling & Wanneroo
West	Cambridge, Claremont, Cottesloe, Mosman Park, Nedlands & Peppermint Grove
Central	Perth, Subiaco & Vincent
East	Bassendean, Bayswater, Kalamunda, Mundaring & Swan
South East	Armadale, Belmont, Canning, Gosnells, Serpentine-Jarrahdale, South Perth & Victoria Park
South West	Cockburn, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Kwinana, Melville & Rockingham

1.4 Road project grant applications submitted to the State Advisory Committee (via Main Roads WA) by November each year.

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Great Southern	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
South West	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gascoyne	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mid-West	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Goldfields-Esperance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kimberley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wheatbelt South	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wheatbelt North	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pilbara	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Metropolitan	✓	X	✓	✓	✓

2.1 Percentage of sealed road length subject to a documented visual condition survey within the region in the previous 5 years. (Target is 50%)

Region	% of sealed road length surveyed in the past 5 years				
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016/2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Great Southern	72	71	71	73	54
South West	82	74	71	68	74
Gascoyne	44	46	46	36	89
Mid-West	70	67	62	37	68
Goldfields-Esperance	38	35	40	69	44
Kimberley	75	75	74	53	76
Wheatbelt South	59	66	62	62	90
Wheatbelt North	62	86	83	80	83
Pilbara	94	92	100	100	100
Metropolitan	81	84	72	78	74
Total for WA	71	75	70	65	77

The data excludes 11 Local Governments that do not use RAMM to manage road condition data.

3.1 Metropolitan Regional Road Group only - Percentage of Road Project Grant funded road improvements subject to road safety audits. (Target is 100%)

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
	%	%	%	%	%
Metropolitan	100	100	100	100	100

3.2 Other Regional Road Groups - Percentage of Road Project Grant funded projects that include Safe System improvements to roads and roadsides. (Target is 50%)

Region	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
	%	%	%	%	%
Great Southern	68	69	51	51	56
South West	67	75	66	68	58
Gascoyne	50	70	57	100	100
Mid-West	91	66	62	100	100
Goldfields-Esperance	52	50	51	60	50
Kimberley	83	86	92	75	84
Wheatbelt South	50	96	40	70	66
Wheatbelt North	50	84	34	59	63
Pilbara	90	80	79	100	80

All the non-metropolitan Regional Road Groups achieved the target.

4.1 Number of Local Governments by RRG that have uploaded road inventory data into the Main Roads WA IRIS database in the last three financial years (2015/2016, 2016/2017 and 2017/2018). (Target is 100%)

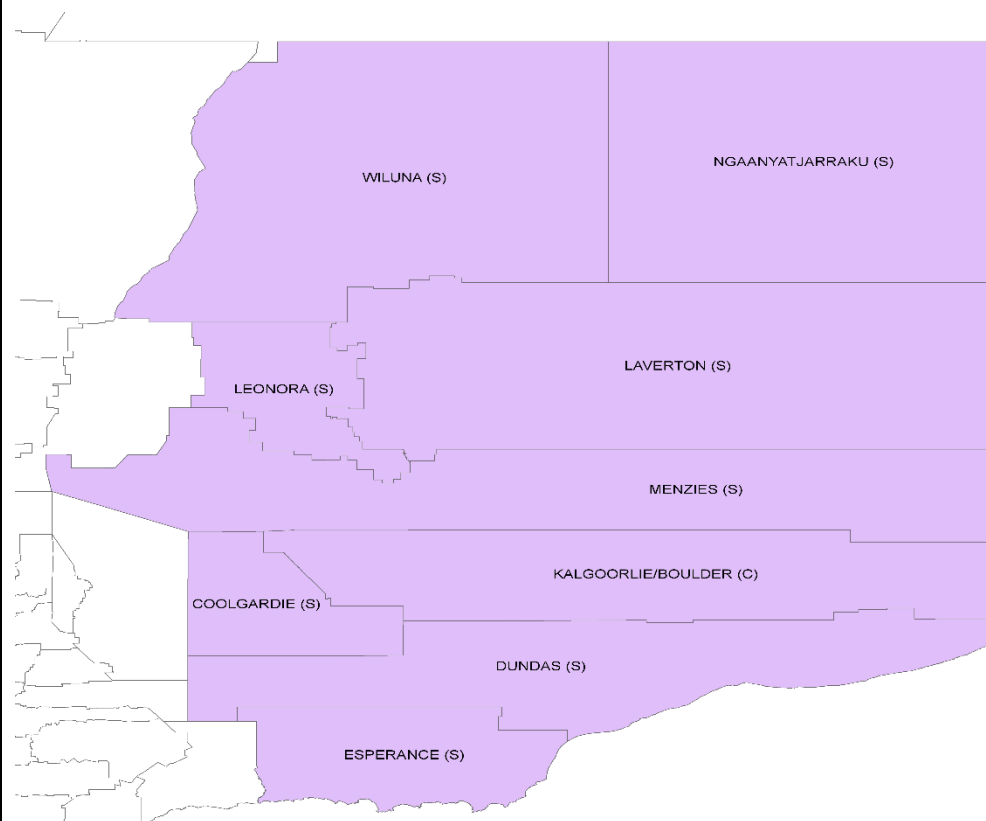
Region	Number of Local Governments in RRG	2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-2017	2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18
Great Southern	12	7	5
South West	16	10	10
Gascoyne	4	2	3
Mid-West	16	7	8
Goldfields-Esperance	9	2	3
Kimberley	4	1	3
Wheatbelt South	18	14	12
Wheatbelt North	24	13	13
Pilbara	4	3	3
Metropolitan	30	16	21
Total	137	75	81

59% of Local Governments have uploaded road inventory data into the Main Roads WA IRIS database in the last three financial years.

18.0 ANNEXURE 5 – Profile of Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group

(Source: Report of Local Government Road Assets & Expenditure Report 2017/18, Appendix 6, page 65)

Local Governments (9)	Coolgardie, Dundas, Esperance, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Laverton, Leonora, Menzies, Ngaanyatjaraku, Wiluna	
Length of Roads in Region (km)	Sealed:	1,576
	Gravel:	7,343
	Formed:	3,830
	Unformed:	5,100
	Total:	17,849
Shire of Coolgardie	Total road km*	847
Shire of Dundas	Total road km*	633
Shire of Esperance	Total road km*	4,259
City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder	Total road km*	1,371
Shire of Laverton	Total road km*	4,209
Shire of Leonora	Total road km*	1,226
Shire of Menzies	Total road km*	2,066
Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku	Total road km*	1,329
Shire of Wiluna	Total road km*	1,908



* Includes sealed, gravel, formed and unformed roads

STATE ROAD FUNDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

(Meeting 02/2020)

Held at Main Roads on
Thursday, 13th August 2020 9:00am

Committee Members Present:

Mr D Snook	MRWA	(Chair)
Cr K Chappel	WALGA	
Cr J Brown	WALGA	
Cr C Pavlovich	WALGA	
Cr M Rich	WALGA	
Mr N Sloan	WALGA	
Mr D Morgan	MRWA	
Mr M Cammack	MRWA	
Mr J Erceg	MRWA	

Others in Attendance:

Mr I Duncan	WALGA	
Mr K Pethick	MRWA	
Mr S Purdy	IPWEA	
Mr G Eves	MRWA / WALGA	
Mr M Hoare	MRWA	(Secretariat)

Apologies:

Mr P Woronzow	MRWA
---------------	------

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed the Committee members noting the apology from Peter Woronzow. The Chairman welcomed the new WALGA delegates and congratulated Karen Chappel on her appointment as Deputy President WALGA.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

Four items of correspondence were noted.

- 1) WALGA letter – Local Government delegates to SAC advised
- 2) Minister signed memo – Approval of the 2020-21 Local Roads Program
- 3) DSWO letter – Response to concerns with condition of SWH and Donnybrook Boyup-Brook Road
- 4) Four letters were sent out to former RRG Chairpersons thanking them for their service

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (01/2020)

As SAC Meeting 01/2020 was not held in April 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions, the meeting proceeded as an 'out of session' process. A pack of Agenda papers with expanded commentary was distributed to delegates that included 4 motions put forward for consideration by SAC, these being:

Item 5.1 Indicative Local Government Roads Program 2020/21

The indicative Local Government Roads Program 2020/21 be endorsed and Main Roads WA proceed to request approval from the Minister for Transport.

Item 6.2 State BlackSpot Program 2020/21

The 2020/21 State BlackSpot Program be endorsed and Main Roads WA proceed to request approval from the Minister for Transport.

Item 11.3

That the addition of Old Coast Road and Jameson - Wanarn Road to ROADS 2030 Goldfields Esperance Region be endorsed.

Item 11.3

That the addition of Leopold Downs Road and Russ Road to ROADS 2030 Kimberley Region be endorsed.

Advice was received from both the Local Government and Main Roads delegates to SAC supporting each of the four motions.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 Summary of Outstanding Actions

Reference Item No/Officer	Action Required / Taken
Flushing / Bleeding SWH & DBB Rd 01/2020-1 MH	13/08/2020 Complete - DSWO Rob Barnsley has responded by letter to the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup regarding the reseals issue. This matter has been included on the Agenda for the next SWRRG meeting. 08/04/2020 The issue of flushing/bleeding on the South Western Highway and the Donnybrook-Boyup Brook Road raised by members in the South West Zone will be forwarded to Main Roads South West Region.
Cross roads on a Regional Distributor 01/2020-2 DS	13/08/2020 Complete - Refer response Item 11 Heavy Vehicle issues. 08/04/2020 The concern raised regarding situations where the cross roads on a Regional Distributor are more than 1 kilometre apart will be forwarded to Main Roads Heavy Vehicle Services.
Letter of Thanks to retiring RRG Chairs 01/2020-3 MC / ID	13/08/20 Complete - 4 letters posted out to individual recipients (refer Item 2.1) 08/04/2020 Send a formal thank you letter to the retiring RRG Chairs acknowledging their service jointly signed by the SAC Chairperson and WALGA CEO.
RRG Technical / Members Meeting 03/2019-3 GE	13/08/20 Complete – Geoff Eves has delivered presentations via Skype meetings to regions (refer Item 5.5) 08/04/2020 Email offer for Geoff Eves to visit sent out to rural RRG March 2020. Now on hold due to COVID-19 13/11/2019 Geoff Eves will be available to visit Regional Road Group Technical and / or Members meetings over the next 12 months to discuss ideas on improving delivery performance

Continued next page

Reference Item No/Officer	Action Required / Taken
Orphan Roads 01/2019 – 4 MC	<p>13/08/20 DPC has reviewed revised Guidelines and provided comments. Kevin Pethick has addressed DPC comments. DPC to arrange a meeting with MRWA to finalise the document.</p> <p>08/04/2020 Working Group meeting held 02Dec19 and a draft document was circulated to all Working Group members MRWA (3), External (4), DPC (1) and Communities (3). LG was not involved in this Working Group meeting. This meeting was to seek alignment on a way forward with no resolution at this time.</p> <p>13/11/19 (Ongoing) Initial draft Guidelines are underway. A group to meet for further discussions.</p> <p>Peter Woronzow advised that the Minister for Transport has written to the Commonwealth seeking a \$12 million per annum funding (80%) contribution using the \$3 million per annum (20%) from SRFLGA as the State's contribution towards normalising road access to remote Aboriginal Communities.</p> <p>A copy of the letter to Minister McCormack regarding funding for remote Aboriginal community access roads (orphan roads) to be included with the minutes.</p> <p>04/09/2019 In progress. Commitment to developing Guidelines that have LGA input.</p> <p>11/04/19 State Service Guidelines are being developed for unallocated remote roads (Orphan Roads).</p>

Continued next page

Reference Item No/Officer	Action Required / Taken
Operational Responsibility 02/2016-6 DS	<p>13/08/20 Complete - All Sub Groups confirmed their support of the draft Operational Boundaries and Asset Responsibilities document at the MRRG Technical Group meeting. The document was tabled at the Elected Members meeting (28/5/20) and subsequently passed (Refer Item 11.2).</p> <p>08/04/2020 Working Group meeting held 11Dec19 and document was reviewed and changes confirmed. The latest version of the document was then distributed for presentation in the agenda for upcoming Sub Group meetings. Feedback has been positive to date.</p> <p>13/11/19 Working group to review operational Responsibilities established with first meeting on Thursday, 21 November 2019.</p> <p>04/09/2019 Main Roads and WALGA have agreed to progress the proposal.</p> <p>11/04/19 Resolve offline the issue of chairing the Operational Responsibility for Public Roads in WA Working Group.</p> <p>17/08/18 Des Snook to provide WALGA with comments on the Draft Terms of Reference for Operational Responsibilities between Local Government and Main Roads.</p> <p>06/04/18 Draft Terms of Reference for a working group to define what would be required in non legal binding agreement with Government (MRWA).</p> <p>Ian Duncan advised that that the Metropolitan Regional Road Group resolved to write to SAC on this matter. Geoff Eves agreed to contact both Main Roads and Local Government to understand the background to this issue, what specific issues local government have and report back.</p> <p>Jeff Anderson to consult further and advise SAC of the proposed document development time line at the next meeting (ensuring this matter is addressed before new ISA contracts are in place). Des Snook to follow up with Jeff Anderson regarding the number of road intersections involved.</p> <p>15/08/2017 Des Snook to refocus on confirming what the actual issue is and what is a practical and best practice solution once the actual issue is agreed.</p> <p>Jeff Anderson and Des met with Mark Bondietti and Ian Duncan. Legal information to be followed up and the number of intersections that are involved.</p> <p>John Erceg to review progress on the Operational Responsibilities in Road Reserves document and the inclusion of regional areas. Mark Bondietti to discuss with the Technical Group for each Regional Road Group. Geoff Eves to include in discussions with Metropolitan Regional Road Group members.</p>

Maurice Cammack spoke to the business arising and elaborated on the following items:

Orphan Roads

- A \$3 million per year allocation, under the SRFLGA, has been nominally allocated to normalise roads that service remote aboriginal communities and that are currently not under the maintenance and control of any Local Government. The idea is that, through incentives and agreement, a Local Government would take on responsibility of the care and maintenance of these roads.
- The process for this initiative is being worked through by DPC (Aboriginal Engagement) not Main Roads.
- DPC has arranged a meeting with Main Roads to fine-tune draft guidelines
- Following this meeting, conversation with Local Government through WALGA can take place. Local Government consultation is a requirement as some aboriginal community populations are transient in the remote areas and the Local Government will work with such local communities and DPC to target and prioritise appropriate locations.

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROADS PROGRAM

5.1 Expenditure Profile - State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement program

The Committee noted the report on the Summary of State Funding on Local Roads for the period ending 30th June 2020.

2019/20 Budget	\$213.420 M (including \$17.5m funds carried forward from 2018/19)
2019/20 Expenditure	\$184.775 M
Overall result	\$ 28.645 M (under expenditure)

The 2019/20 \$28.65 under expenditure represents around 13.4% of the total budget comprised of \$22 million Local Government underspend and Main Roads underspend of \$6.6 million. This compared to \$17.5 million underspend for 2018/19 or around 9.4% of the total budget comprised of \$22 million Local Government underspend and Main Roads overspend of \$4.5 million.

Areas of significant under expenditure have not changed from previous years. Road Project Grants were under spent across the State by \$15.3 Million compared to \$15.7 million last year. The 3 largest contributors being Metropolitan (\$8.6m), South West (\$2.3m) and Great Southern (\$1.1m) where Metropolitan were able to spend around 78.3% of their program, South West were able to spend around 84.9% of their program and Great Southern had spent around 86.1% of their program.

The other major area of significant under expenditure was the State Black Spot Program in which 57.4% of the program funding was acquitted compared to 61.9% last year.

State initiatives on Local Roads recorded a \$9.6 million under expenditure. Rottnest Island resurfacing works were delayed by the use of the island as a Covid-19 quarantine facility resulting in a \$4 million under expenditure.

There was a discussion centred on the areas of significant under expenditure and the approaches taken to address this issue such as the development of a 3-year works program included in the Procedures (S12.7) as a potential source of reserve projects. The adoption of Advanced Programming for 2020-21 Road Project Grants to allow for funds being brought forward if the Local Government has the capacity to deliver a project.

Nick Sloan commented that one of the challenges that will present itself over the next 12 to 18 months is the significant pressure on the sector to bring forward capital and maintenance programs to try and stimulate local economies and local communities and in this regard capacity will be stretched in terms of project management and, engineering skills. There needs to be some caution and not be overly ambitious as to the overall value of the program that could actually be delivered this year regarding budget implications of bringing projects forward.

John Erceg commented on expenditure forecasting for projects and in regards to Local Government, they are part of our regional budgets and are shown in our regional forecasts. Main Roads officers work closely with Local Government and the experience is that early on there is a reasonable expectation of project delivery and later in the year there is under expenditure. The challenge for Regional Managers and their staff in engaging with Local Governments is at some point we have to enter realistic forecasts which, if known early enough will enable the flexibility to move funding around to mitigate anticipated under expenditure.

Karen Chappel indicated that the end of September / early October deadlines for estimate discussions would be ambitious as Local Government budgets are not generally adopted until mid-August so there will be no project expenditure until this time. Local Government budget reviews do not start to take place until December / January and that is when Local Government will be in a better position to work out that they are not going to have the capacity to deliver.

It was noted that it is important that we still discuss these issues at Regional Road Groups and other forums to identify and try out solutions e.g. advanced programming, actions around line marking in the metropolitan area, improve the claiming of the final 20% and asking for more robust estimates earlier in the process.

5.2 Expenditure Profile YTD 2020/21 - State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement program

The Committee noted that the report on the Summary of State Funding on Local Roads for the end of July 2020 period.

The report reflected the 2020/21 allocation of \$200.955 million approved by the Minister and \$28.645 million carried over for a total budget of \$229.600 million. The carry over process is being finalised and August expenditure will be confirmed later in September.

5.3 MINDER (Financial Report)

The Committee noted the report included in the agenda.

Ian Duncan expanded on the Road Safety Management System for Local Government project progress. Tools and resources developed by Road Safety Branch Main Roads are being piloted in the South West Region. WALGA and Main Roads SW Region staff are exploring changes to the MCA, which underpins funding allocations that would more strongly support safety outcomes from road projects.

Noted that the *Environmental Protection Amendment Bill 2020* is currently being considered by Parliament. If the Bill and associated regulation amendments (*Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*) are passed this may streamline the State approval process for clearing vegetation in road reserves. The limited native vegetation outside of the road reserve in Agricultural areas means that approval to clear in these regions remains a challenge.

5.4 2018/19 Report on Local Government Road Assets and Expenditures

The Committee noted the report included in the agenda.

Highlighted points from the report included:

Total expenditure by Local Governments on the local road network fell by \$10 million in 2018/19 compared to the previous year largely driven by reduced flood restoration work.

Federal Government funding has continued to decline. Local Governments continue to invest increasing proportions of funding on preservation and maintenance but the gap between actual maintenance / renewal expenditure and that required to maintain the road network at the current condition level is still growing.

The 2018/19 Report introduced a summary of the access for Restricted Access Vehicles (RAV) across the network. It was noted that currently 70,000 km of the 127,000 km network is open to RAV4 vehicles and 31,000 km is open to RAV7 vehicles.

5.5 Local Roads Program Manager (LRPM) 2019/20 Annual Report

The Committee endorsed the report included in the agenda.

Geoff Eves spoke to the report and commented from a Metropolitan Region perspective that the Improvement Program has the largest financial impact. Attachment A (of the Metropolitan Local Roads Program 2019-20 Annual Report) provides reasons for delayed or non-delivery of projects. Four legacy projects were withdrawn (two because of land acquisition issues, one impacted by MetroNet and one failed to receive environmental approval) and funds were reallocated where they could. There is one legacy project now remaining, that being Abernethy Road, Byford, where an extension of time has been given to address PTA issues at a level crossing.

It was noted that regarding land and environmental issues there has been a lot of optimism that they will be resolved in a reasonable timeframe where in some cases it can take over 2 years. The working group will be reviewing projects in the next couple of months and if a staging gap of 1 or 2 years is needed then that is what will be recommended. Similarly, if construction is occurring in the third or fourth quarters then the reality is that last 20% claim is unlikely to occur within the financial year and will be budgeted in the following year.

Rehabilitation program projects are generally the easiest to deliver but the longest to acquit and do the governance to close out the last 20%. Line marking was identified as a significant issue and a trial improvement process will be put in place for 2020-21. Final claims for completed 2019/20 projects waiting on line marking invoices had those funds accrued at the end of the financial year. With the introduction of penalties and reminders there are quite a few Local Governments delivering their resurfacing programs before Christmas by starting earlier.

The State Black Spot program is a difficult area. Projects have been delayed by third party works and approvals that are required for design. Resourcing needs to be re-organised to deliver projects i.e. get approvals in place, look at third parties and public utilities.

Local Governments over the last four years are being encouraged and supported to plan better. There is incremental improvement, and long-term legacy projects are reducing each year with the objective of not having any funds from the previous year carried forward.

The recommendations below as set out in Section 5 of the Report were considered and endorsed by the committee:

The Local Roads Program Manager develop presentations for LGs on:

- a) Project Planning for an Advanced Design Program; and,
- b) Final Acquittal and Governance Process.

State Black Spot Program Review – that the MRRG Technical Officers Group investigate the merits of introducing a funding checkpoint to ensure satisfactory achievement of design and third-party approvals before advancing the second tranche of funding.

Local Roads Program Manager undertake analysis of trends in program performance over the past 4 years.

Local Roads Program Manager undertake further analysis of major issues influencing program performance, with a focus on providing detailed assessment of the top few issues.

This report be approved for release to the 30 Metropolitan Local Governments.

6. STATE BLACK SPOT PROGRAM

6.1 Summary and Financial Reports

The Committee noted the Summary and Financial Reports for the period – 2019/20 (as at 30/06/20).

Overall

- Final expenditure was \$18.554M (55.3% of the full year budget that included a \$12.28M carryover)

State

- Final expenditure was \$9.12M (53.3% of budget)

Local

- Final year expenditure was \$9.43M (57.4% of budget)

The 2019/20 State Black Spot Program (State Roads) delivery was impacted by similar delivery performance issues as mentioned previously and can only be addressed by the same measures i.e. need to start gaining approvals early and getting planning/scheduling in place.

The 2019/20 State Black Spot Program (Local Roads) acquitted 63.9% of budget in rural regions and 50.7% in the Metropolitan Region.

Main Roads noted that in 2019/20 responsibility for project development was shared amongst a number of different groups within Main Roads, but following organisation changes there is now a single point of accountability. This is intended to make project development more effective.

Chris Pavlovich questioned whether there is sufficient flexibility to apply for project funding over a number of years to match project development times. Delegates noted that project staging over two to four years is encouraged and built into the State Black Spot Guidelines as projects have become more complex, and take longer to deliver. Works should be programmed to meet delivery realities.

State Black Spot Program 2020/21

The 2020/21 projects recommended for approved are with the Minister for Transport awaiting formal approval. Projects to the value of \$5.711M are in the Metropolitan Region and projects to the value of \$5.711M are in the regional areas.

7. AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT BLACK SPOT PROGRAM

7.1 Summary and Financial Reports

The Committee noted the Summary and Financial Reports for the period - 2019/20 (as at 30/06/20).

Overall

- Final expenditure was \$10.73 million (64%) of the 2019/20 year budget which included a \$11.90 million carryover

National & State

- Final expenditure was \$2.24 million (5%) of the 2019/20 budget which included \$0.92 million carryover)

Local

- Total expenditure was \$8.49 million (71%) of the full year budget which included \$1.87 million carryover

From a Local Roads project perspective progress for the year at 71% is slightly down on last year and for the overall program over half of the \$16.85 million budget has been expended. Compared with 76% of the \$10.58 budget for 2018/19

In terms of the overall program non-metropolitan regions acquitted 64.9% of budget expenditure and Metropolitan acquitted 77.9% of budget.

Ian Duncan informed the Committee that next week Cr Karen Chappel and WALGA staff will be giving evidence to the Joint Select Committee on Road Safety. Australian Government Black Spot program may form part of that conversation as the submission provided to the Committee encouraged evolution of the program to enable network scale treatments, such as measures to reduce travel speeds at urban intersections and shoulder sealing and line marking treatments on rural roads, to be considered for funding.

Australian Government Black Spot Program 2020/21

Maurice Cammack presented the project funding approval instruments for the 2020/21 year advising it is a \$15.4 million program (33 projects).

The Committee noted the 2020/21 program included in the agenda.

8. REGIONAL ROAD GROUP ATTENDANCE

The Committee noted the report attached to the Agenda.

Regional Road Groups did not meet in person during April and May but the program was not hindered too much. Mechanisms such as video conferencing, and email resolutions kept the process going.

Regional Road Group Chairs have a tentative meeting date for 18 September.

9. ROAD CLASSIFICATION REVIEW

9.1 Classifications & Proclamations

The Committee noted the attached table of classifications and proclamation actions.

Ocean Reef / Gngarra, Road (Marmion Av to Tonkin Hwy) and Curtin Avenue are the first roads gazetted for reclassification to State roads this year but these have been put on hold. Agreement has been reached with Local Governments about road asset handovers effective from 1 July 2020. The actual classification / proclamation will happen next year.

9.2 Future State Roads Project

The Urban / Metropolitan roads process is finished with 26 roads identified for transfer to State Roads with Government processes to inform the timing.

The rural section of the Future Roads project is going through an assessment phase to identify potential roads that will produce a short list that will be considered through a detailed assessment.

The process is proceeding well with good engagement with Local Government and the regions.

The preliminary assessment is planned for completion at the end of this quarter (September) and then the detailed assessment of the roads will commence.

9.3 Local Government Roads of Strategic Importance

This work underpins the RRG Roads List (Roads 2040) in relation to the SRFLGA and Road Project Grants. This is done RRG by RRG by reviewing the current significant roads list documents, road hierarchy and strategic view of the local roads network.

10 STATE ROAD FUNDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT

10.1 Actions Contained In The Agreement

Maurice Cammack provided an update on active items from the Agreement.

- 1) Local Government Road Safety Project
WALGA and Main Roads are working towards the establishment of a Road Safety Management System to suit the needs of Local Government (refer Item 5.3 Minder). Work is continuing with a draft road safety management plan document to be piloted in the South West and a review of the multi criteria analysis in terms of safety is ongoing.
- 2) Road and Bridge Data Collection
A contract for a visual road condition survey in the Mid-West was awarded in 2019-20 but no field work was undertaken due to COVID-19 restrictions. This work has now started on the ground in the Mid-West.
- 3) Review of the Agreement within 2 years
A review has been completed and a presentation provided to the Minister for Transport in February. The Minister indicated that this matter would be considered by Government as part of the State Budget process, now in October.
- 4) Level 1 Bridge Inspection Framework
MRWA and WALGA have completed the framework document for Local Governments and training has been provided by ARRB. There is now an operational process cycle in place where the requirement for Local Government to undertake annual Level 1 visual bridge inspections is informed directly. The inspection results are then reported back to Main Roads for entering into the Bridge Management System and then feedback to Local Governments and the Regional Road Group concerning any gaps in the Level 1 inspection data.

Doug Morgan explained the 3 tiers of bridge inspections:

- Level 1 – There has always been a requirement for an annual visual inspection by the asset owner to check for obvious deterioration in the structure. There is a particular exposure for bridges in poor condition when this is not done and recorded, as was the case when a bridge collapsed in Albany. With the development of this framework, the asset owners are made aware of bridge condition by actively looking at their assets. This in turn becomes a lead indicator for action.

- Level 2 – Bridge inspections are undertaken by trained Main Roads people on all structures on public roads. These are completed at least every 7 years for steel and concrete bridges and at least every 5 years for timber bridges.
- Level 3 – Where serious structural issues are found, structural engineers are engaged to do a detailed inspection and develop remediation works.

- **ACTION 02/2020-1:** Regional Road Groups encouraged to add Level 1 bridge inspection reports on as a standing agenda item for meetings.

5) SRFLGA Procedures (refer Item 10.2).

Review Road Funding Distribution Methodology

The Committee noted the report included in the agenda

Ian Duncan spoke to the report tabled in the agenda papers. One of the items noted in the Agreement (Page 4 Road Project Grants) was that during the course of this Agreement, no time was specified; a review of the percentage split to the Metropolitan (MRRG) and Rural Regional Road Groups (RRG) would be undertaken.

A discussion took place on what actual information would form part of this review.

It was agreed that this review has to take place with the scope of that review to be developed and confirmed by SAC.

- **ACTION 02/2020-2:** Maurice Cammack and Ian Duncan to develop a potential scope of work for a review of the current Road Project Grant funding split between Metropolitan and Rural RRGs

10.2 SRFLGA Procedures

The Committee endorsed the Procedures document included in the agenda developed by MRWA and WALGA in consultation with Regional Road Group feedback subject to the following amendments being approved out of session.

3.Scope

Figure 1: State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement categories
20% of Motor Vehicle License Fee Collections (MVLFC)

Amended to:

Funding Available under the Agreement)

12.2.2 Commodity Route Funding

A commodity route is defined as a route where there is a significant high priority transport task associated with the transport of a commodity such as grain, timber, agricultural lime, iron ore, etc.

Amended to:

A commodity route is defined as a route where there is a significant high priority transport task associated with the transport of a commodity such as grain, timber, agricultural lime, iron ore and/or other commodities.

12.9.3 Payment

A further 40% will be paid to the Local Government on submission of a further Progress Payment Certificate (Attachment 4a) signed by the Chief Executive Officer, certifying that actual expenditure on the project has exceeded 40% of the project funding approved (Attachment 4a)

Amended to:

A further 40% will be paid to the Local Government on submission of a further Progress Payment Certificate (Attachment 4a) signed by the Chief Executive Officer, certifying that incurred expenditure on the project has exceeded 40% of the project funding approved (Attachment 4a)

ATTACHMENT 1 – TIMETABLE

Road Project Grants (Category 1)

7	SAC reallocate where appropriate	Before end of March
---	----------------------------------	---------------------

Amended to:

7	RRG advise SAC of underspend	January
8	SAC reallocate funding	February

- **ACTION 02/2020-3:** Mike Hoare to send an out of session email to SAC delegates with amended SRFLGA Procedures for endorsement

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 Over Size, Over Mass Unit, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator and Harvest Management Scheme

The Committee noted the report included in the agenda

Heavy Vehicle Services (HVS) Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) has 30 outstanding RAV assessments within the Wheatbelt Region as at June 2020 dropping from 123 in July 2019. There are now only 13 outstanding roads awaiting review within the Wheatbelt region.

CA07 - Main Roads is collating feedback and working on an alternative approach to this issue. Currently this new arrangement is being researched and drafted (about three quarters complete) and when finished will be discussed with stakeholders.

Pilots for movement of agricultural machinery – the requirement for a Licenced Pilot to be in the convoy when travelling more than 1km on a Regional Distributor (orange road) was identified by Local Governments as being a significant constraint where the local cross roads (green roads) are more than 1km apart (outstanding action from Item 4.1 deferred to 11.1).

Main Roads advised members that a risk-based approach was taken. For longer travel distances on Regional Distributor roads there is a greater chance that passing and on-coming traffic will need to be managed.

It was noted that a Licenced Pilot is permitted to be operating any of the vehicles in the convoy and can supervise the two agricultural pilots required by two-way radio.

There are no changes to the Harvest Mass Management Scheme and it will come back into operation at the next harvest.

11.2 Operational Responsibility for Public Roads in WA

Action from Item 4.1 deferred to Item 11.2

Kevin Pethick advised that the Main Roads Operational Responsibility procedure where Main Roads intersect with Local Government roads has been drafted and will be ready once an opening paragraph / preamble about going forward and not being retrospective is added.

This document is not meant to solve every single situation but there are some drawn examples to help clarify, as there are a myriad of different scenarios.

Kevin Pethick will talk to Ian Duncan and Mark Bondietti about what funding arrangements will be put in place.

Essentially this will now be implemented as a trial for 2020/21 and rolled out in conjunction with the resurfacing program.

The Committee noted the report presented.

11.3 Roundtable (other business)

Geoff Eves Contract Extension

Geoff Eves, Local Roads Program Manager (Metropolitan) current contract expires in August 2020; he has been engaged in that role for the past four years. There have been a number of good outcomes over this time, operating as an independent voice, improving processes as demonstrated by the reduction in legacy projects.

Through the conversations that have taken place it was agreed to redefine and refocus the role to provide guidance and analysis as set out in the recommendations at the end of the Local Roads Program Manager 2019-20 Annual Report included with the agenda (refer 5.5).

Following discussion, SAC endorsed the proposed 6 month contract extension for Geoff Eves.

12 NEXT MEETING

To be held at WALGA at 10am on Tuesday, 1 December 2020.

13 MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11:25am.

APPENDIX A

Action List

Reference Item No/Officer	Action Required / Taken
Level 1 bridge inspection reports 02/2020-1 MH	13/08/2020 Regional Road Groups to put Level 1 bridge inspection reports on as a standing agenda item for meetings
Review Road Funding Distribution Methodology 02/2020-2 MC / ID	13/08/2020 Maurice Cammack and Ian Duncan to develop a potential scope of work for a review of the current Road Project Grant funding split between Metropolitan and Rural RRGs
SRFLGA Procedures 01/2020-3 MH	13/08/20 Mike Hoare to send an out of session email to SAC delegates with amended SRFLGA Procedures for endorsement
Orphan Roads 01/2019 – 4 MC	<p>13/08/20 DPC has reviewed revised Guidelines and provided comments. Kevin Pethick has addressed DPC comments. DPC to arrange a meeting with MRWA to finalise the document.</p> <p>08/04/2020 Working Group meeting held 02Dec19 and a draft document was circulated to all Working Group members MRWA (3), External (4), DPC (1) and Communities (3). LG was not involved in this Working Group meeting. This meeting was to seek alignment on a way forward with no resolution at this time.</p> <p>13/11/19 (Ongoing) Initial draft Guidelines are underway. A group to meet for further discussions.</p> <p>Peter Woronzow advised that the Minister for Transport has written to the Commonwealth seeking a \$12 million per annum funding (80%) contribution using the \$3 million per annum (20%) from SRFLGA as the State's contribution towards normalising road access to remote Aboriginal Communities.</p> <p>A copy of the letter to Minister McCormack regarding funding for remote Aboriginal community access roads (orphan roads) to be included with the minutes.</p> <p>04/09/2019 In progress. Commitment to developing Guidelines that have LGA input.</p> <p>11/04/19 State Service Guidelines are being developed for unallocated remote roads (Orphan Roads).</p>



Mann Advisory
E: mannadvisory@bigpond.com

M: 0403 447 303

A: 459 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA, 6100

30 October 2020

C/- Laura Dwyer
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Wiluna
PO Box 38, Wiluna WA 6646

To Whom it May Concern,

Re: Support for Shire of Wiluna to be formally recognised as part of the RDA Goldfields Esperance Boundary

I am pleased to provide a letter of in principle support on behalf of the Goldfields Voluntary Organisation of Regional Councils (GVROC) for the Shire of Wiluna in its bid to have its RDA boundary changed from the Midwest to the Goldfields Esperance region, through the Australian Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development.

Given the Shire of Wiluna is already a valued member of the GVROC and that the WA State Government is supportive and in the process of amending legislation to move the Shire of Wiluna from the Midwest Development Commission to the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission regional boundary under the *WA Regional Development Commissions Act 1993*, it is also a logical step to have its Australian Government RDA boundary changed to reflect this position.

The GVROC Council is supportive of the Shire of Wiluna's case to change its RDA boundary, especially given the strong relationships that the Shire of Wiluna has created with its GVROC Local Government Authority partners in the Goldfields Esperance region.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this letter further.

Yours sincerely

Mal Cullen
GVROC Chair and Shire of Coolgardie President