

SHIRE OF
WESTONIA
A vibrant community lifestyle

Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

Held in Council Chambers, Wolfram Street Westonia

Thursday 19th December 2019

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

These minutes were confirmed by the Council on 20th February 2020 as a true and accurate record of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 19th December 2019.

.....
Cr Karin Day
Shire President

All attachment items referred to in these minutes are available for public perusal at the Shire Office



Disclaimer

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Westonia for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council meetings.

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The Shire of Westonia warns that anyone who has any application lodged with the Shire of Westonia must obtain and should only rely on **WRITTEN CONFIRMATION** of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Westonia in respect of the application.

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8. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Financial** interest were made at the Council meeting held on **19th December 2019**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	

In accordance with Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Closely Association Person And Impartiality** interest were made at the Council meeting held on **19th December 2019**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	



In accordance with Section 5.60B and 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Proximity** interest were made at the Council meeting held on **19th December 2019**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	

9. MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION

9.1. GOVERNANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

9.1.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Responsible Officer:	Jamie Criddle, CEO
Author:	Jasmine Geier, Manager of Corporate Services
File Reference:	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Statements
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 9.1.1 List of Accounts
Signature:	Officer  CEO 

Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

Background

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. A Local Government is to develop procedures for the authorisation of, and payment of, accounts to ensure that there is effective security for, which money or other benefits may be obtained.

Comment

Attached is a copy of Accounts for Payment for the month of November 2019. The credit card statements currently show: -

CEO **November 2019 \$2,488.42** associated with the purchase of Activ8inet Housing & Office, Fuel, Email Exchange Platform, L/C Licence, Sublime, Uniforms, LG Pro Meals, Kay Retirement Present, Part Road Sweeper & Purchase Interest.

Works Supervisor **November 2019 \$2,759.41** associated with the purchase Prado Licence, Fuel, Western Power, WhipperSnipper & PVC Pipe, Synthetic Turf, Phone charger, Plate Change & Alcolizer Tech.

Statutory Environment

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulations 12 & 13 requires the list of accounts to be presented to Council. Payments are made by staff under delegated authority from the CEO and Council.

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in relation to payment of accounts.



Strategic Implications

Accounts for payment are presented to Council in the interests of accountability and provide information on Council expenditure.

Financial Implications

Expenditure in accordance with the 2019/2020 Annual Budget.

9.1.2 MONTHLY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY – NOVEMBER 2019

Responsible Officer:	Jamie Criddle, CEO		
Author:	Jasmine Geier, Manager of Corporate Services		
File Reference:	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Statements		
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil		
Attachments:	Attachment 9.1.2 Monthly Statement of Financial Activity		
Signature:	Officer		CEO
			

Purpose of the Report

- Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

Background

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

Comment

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending 30 November 2019 is attached for Councillor information, and consists of:

1. Summary of Bank Balances
2. Summary of Outstanding Debtors
3. Balance Sheet
4. Budget v Actuals Schedules

Statutory Environment

General Financial Management of Council
Council 2019/2020 Budget
Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 34 1996
Local Government Act 1995 section 6.4

Policy Implications

Council is required annually to adopt a policy on what it considers to be material as far as variances that require to be reported for Council. Council policy is that the material variation be set at \$10,000 and 15%.

Strategic Implications

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is a record of Council's activities and financial performance during the reporting period.

Financial Implications


There is no direct financial implication in relation to this matter.

Voting Requirements

- Simple Majority Absolute Majority

9.1.4 BELINDA MCMURDO

Responsible Officer:	Jamie Criddle, CEO	
Author:	Jamie Criddle, CEO	
File Reference:	Staff Personnel File	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Nil	
Signature:	Officer	CEO



Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

Background

As Councillors may be aware, Council's Gardener, Belinda McMurdo recently suffered a stroke back in May 2018 and after an extended period in hospital, she has been released and has moved back to Westonia to the Council owned house she resides in. Council have completed extensive renovations to the house to enable Belinda to navigate the house with limited obstructions, such as installing rails in the toilet and shower and an access ramp at the entrance to the house. Council have also arranged to have the Ramelius 'exercise physiologist' visit Belinda several times a week.

Comment

Council resolved at the June 2018 Ordinary meeting to offer the following assistance to Ms McMurdo:

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Geier Seconded: Cr Della Bosca
14/06-18

That Council endorses the actions of the Chief Executive Officer and President in approving the following assistance to employee, Belinda McMurdo during her period of illness:

- Council are committed to ensure that your position as Town Gardener with the Shire of Westonia is secure for at least the next six (6) months, where it will be reviewed. Once your entitlements expire, you will be placed on leave without pay;
- Council has agreed to waive any rental fees owed to Council for at least the next six (6) months, where it will also be reviewed.
- Staff will arrange for a copy of your last payslip which outline your current entitlements;
- Council staff will also provide assistance where they can to ensure that you receive any additional entitlements via superannuation or other means

CARRIED 5/0

The six month period from June to December 2019 resulted in Council subsidising the rental of Ms McMurdo to the value of \$1,040.00

Council now need to determine if they wish to continue to current offer to Ms. McMurdo or look at alternative arrangements. Ms McMurdo's family have indicated that she is looking to move back to New Zealand during the summer of 2020 (November 2020)

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

Nil



Strategic Implications

Nil



Financial Implications

No rent will be budgeted for in the 2019/20 financial year at a cost to Council of \$2,080.00. \$1,040.00 per six months



Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council renew its existing commitment Belinda McMurdo and commit to the following:

- The position as Town Gardener with the Shire of Westonia is secure for at least the next six (6) months, where it will be reviewed (June 2020).
- Agreed to waive any rental fees owed to Council for at least the next six (6) months, where it will also be reviewed (June 2020).

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Geier

Seconded: Cr Corsini


06/12-19 That Council:

- Offer secretarial assistance to Ms McMurdo to assist in obtaining rental assistance via Centrelink or other agencies;
- Agreed to waive any rental fees owed to Council for at least the next six (6) months (30 June 2020), where full rental would be charged.
- Request formal notification, prior to June 30 as to an end date of tenancy.

CARRIED 4/2

9.1.5 CEACA COMMITMENT

Responsible Officer:	Jamie Criddle, CEO	
Author:	Jamie Criddle, CEO	
File Reference:		
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Nil	
Signature:	Officer	CEO



Purpose of the Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Background

During a Wheatbelt forum Aged Care was discussed and as a result eleven (11) Local Governments, Wheatbelt Development Commission and Regional Development Australia agreed to form an alliance with the view to provide a needs study and solutions to the issues surrounding Aged Care within the Central Wheatbelt with each Council contributing \$5,000 to undertake this work.

Out of this alliance a report was compiled to identify solutions for the gaps and issues pertaining to the region being the Central East Aged Care Regional Solutions as listed below;

CENTRAL EAST AGED CARE REGIONAL SOLUTION/S (CEACRS)

Developed by Wheatbelt Development Commission

Aged Care was identified as a regional priority for Local Governments in a series of Wheatbelt forums for the development of the Towards a Wheatbelt Infrastructure Plan (2010/11/12). As a result of the regional forums, the Wheatbelt Development Commission (WDC) has been working closely with Regional Development Australia: Wheatbelt (RDAW), and 11 Wheatbelt Local Governments who committed to working towards improving aged care services, infrastructure and governance structures in their respective areas.

The 11 LGAs, the WDC and RDAW formed an alliance in February 2012 known as the Central East Aged Care Alliance, to address the issues affecting Aged Care in the Central Eastern Wheatbelt. Recognising the importance of undertaking this planning from a community perspective, each LGA invested \$5,000 towards the project. This was supplemented by cash and in kind support from WDC and in kind support from RDAW.

In March 2012 RDAW advertised a tender to employ a consultant to undertake the Central East Aged Care Regional Solution/s (CEACRS) project. Melbourne based consulting firm Verso was awarded the tender and commenced work on the project in April 2012.

WHO'S INVOLVED IN THE CENTRAL EAST AGED CARE ALLIANCE (CEACA)?

The CEACA is a partnership between the 11 LGAs which consist of the Shires of Bruce Rock, Kellerberrin, Koorda, Merredin, Mount Marshall, Mukinbudin, Nungarin, Yilgarn, Trayning, Westonia, Wyalkatchem, the WDC and RDAW.

After the scope of the project had been finalised by the CEACA, it was agreed that several other key stakeholders should be invited to attend future meetings as observers. These included:

Southern Inland Health Initiative - Tim Shackleton – Community Engagement Officer

Medicare Local - Michelle McClure – Wheatbelt Area Manager

Western Australia Country Health Services Wheatbelt - Caroline Langston – Regional Director.

THE PROCESS

The Wheatbelt Central East Aged Care Regional Solution/s (CEACRS) has been a proactive process that aimed to:

1. Identify aged care service, accommodation and governance models for a highly dispersed regional/rural population setting;
2. Build on the assets that exist in communities;

3. Provide solutions that guide sound investment in SIHI, especially Stream 2b Primary Health Care Program, Stream 3 – Primary Health Demonstration Site Program, and Stream 6 – Residential Aged and Dementia Investment Program
4. Identify services that enable locals to age ‘in place’ as outlined in the new National Aged Care Package Reform.

The Alliance adopted eight guiding principles for the CEACRS:

- Principal 1- The Importance of Place
- Principal 2- Community Life
- Principal 3- Community sense of ownership
- Principal 4- Focus on the Person
- Principal 5- Choice
- Principal 6- Equitable access
- Principal 7- Practicality
- Principal 8- Viability

These principals were a key focus while developing the CEACRS and undertaking the following elements of the project:

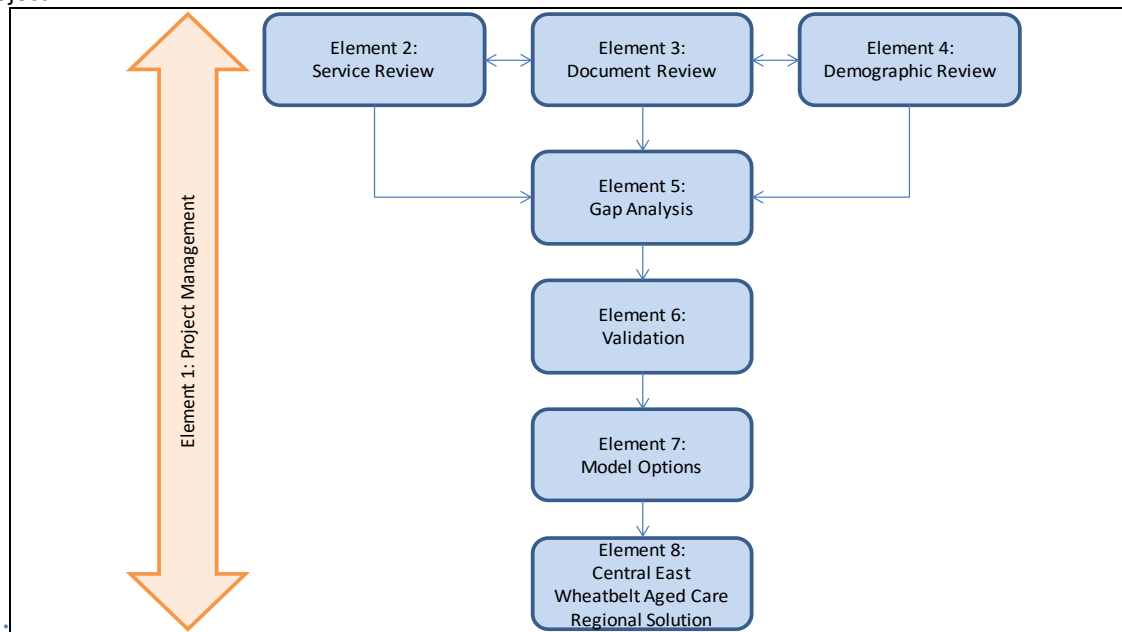


Figure 1:

The planning process has heavily involved each community with sharing of existing local publications and documentation as well as clarification of desktop analysis compared to actual service delivery. A total of 14 community consultations were conducted across the 11 LGA’s involved in the CEACA, involving nearly 200 participants.

Forming part of the gap analysis and validation elements of the project, the community consultations provided the opportunity to validate Verso’s statistical findings at a ground level. Members of the community, health and aged care providers as well as Shire representatives were invited to attend the sessions.

With the completion of elements 2-6 each LGA has been provided with a Needs Study report specific to their individual Shire as well as a Central East Needs Study for the sub region. The Needs Studies include demographic characteristics of the CEACA LGAs, the emerging policy context, the findings from community forums and consultations, aged care services levels, planning & analysis of aged care levels and aged care solutions from literature collected.

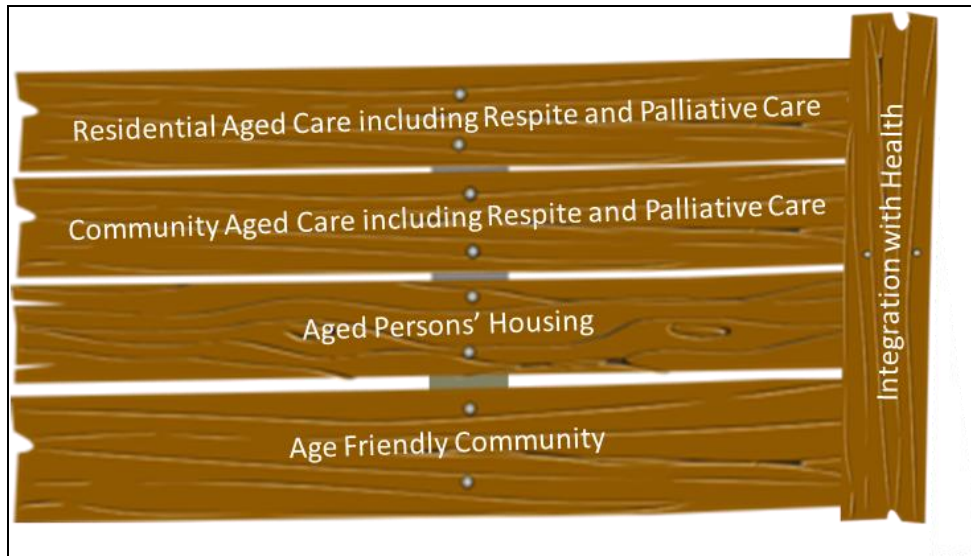
The final element, element 8, saw the development of the Central East Aged Care Regional Solution/s Report which outlines the context of the project, the findings and implications, the recommendations and action plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Central East Aged Care Regional Solution provides a clear direction to develop and implement infrastructure and service level solutions to address the urgent need for aged care accommodation, services and facilities in the Central Eastern Wheatbelt.

The Model (Figure 2) consists of the following elements required to deliver an integrated solution:

Figure 2



Age Friendly Community is the main responsibility of LGAs in auditing and ensuring their community has addressed all the elements required to achieve an Age Friendly Community. This includes making sure structures and services are accessible to and inclusive of older people with varying needs and capabilities such as;

- Walking and Cycling Routes
- Streets
- Local Destinations
- Open Space
- Public and Other Transport
- Supporting Infrastructure
- Fostering Community Spirit
- Strategy

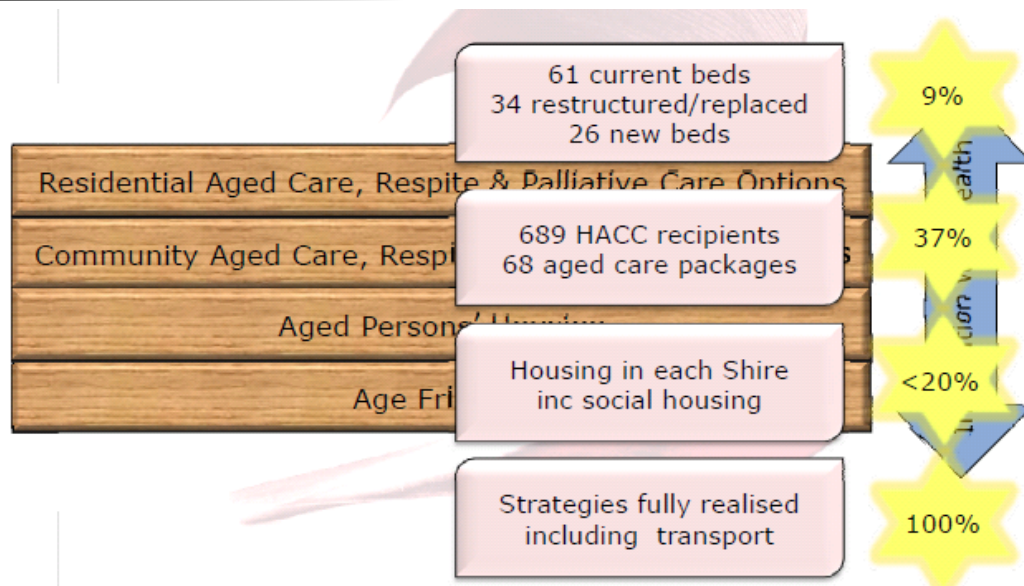
Aged Persons' Housing is seen as a coordinated responsibility of the CEACA, LGAs and potential housing providers to see how current stock meets requirements, the development of a coordinated approach to common development, ownership, design and integration. However land and capital needs are seen as a primary concern for LGAs, with the possible assistance of funding from peak bodies.

Community Aged Care including Respite and Palliative Care has been identified as the responsibility of health care funders and providers such as Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA), WA Country Health Service (WACHS), HACC and other Aged Care providers. Community Aged Care is a relatively new concept to communities in the Central East but is one that will become more prominent in the future with policy changes around the sector. This element is seen as a longer term project and not something that will be addressed in the short term; however it will require a strong advocacy role from the CEACA and LGAs.

Residential Aged Care including Respite and Palliative Care has also been considered as a longer term strategy, with the main responsibility residing with DoHA, WACHS and other Aged Care providers. Again, this element will require a strong advocacy role from the CEACA and LGAs.

Figure 2 presents a clear picture of the strategies and the importance they will play in communities in relation to the rate older community members will be impacted, if the CEACRS is implemented correctly.

The pale boxes identify current and future needs, and the yellow stars indicate the percentage of population over 75 years impacted by this element of the model.



WHERE TO FROM HERE?

- Step 1: It has been recommended that the Central East Aged Care Alliance continue to operate to ensure the successful implementation of the Central East Aged Care Regional Solution/s.
- Step 2: All Shire Councils of the Central East Aged Care Alliance to formally adopt the CEACRS and Needs Studies relating to the sub region and their individual Shires.
- Step 3: The boards of WDC and RDAW formally accept the reports.
- Step 4: The CEACA sends the reports to the following stakeholders and requests a formal response. DoHA, WACHS, HACC, Department of Housing
- Step 5: WDC and RDAW coordinate responses from the above key stakeholders on behalf of the CEACA.
- Step 6: The CEACRS is publicly released with a launch, political presentations to all parties and awareness of the report recommendations through such things as presentations at conferences.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

That the six steps for adoption and implementation of the two CEACA Reports be endorsed; and specifically:
That Council adopt the CEAC Needs Study and Central East Wheatbelt Aged Support and Care Regional Solution/s Reports.
Each of the CEACA Councils make provision of up to \$5000 in their 2013/14 budgets to fund ongoing advocacy and research in order to implement the recommendations of the CEACRS Report.
That endorsement of the Report is sought from the respective ROC’s with a view to seeking funding to implement the recommendations of the CEACS Report on a regional basis.

Comment

The CEACA Councils adopted the recommendations listed above and worked together to progress the Aged Persons Housing platform as this was seen the easiest platform that Local Government had the capacity to influence.

CEACA is now in a position wherein it has completed the construction of seventy one (71) units within the eleven (11) Councils being located at;

Locality	Local Government	Number of Units
Bruce Rock	Bruce Rock	8
Kellerberrin	Kellerberrin	13
Koorda	Koorda	4
Merredin	Merredin	27
Bencubbin	Mount Marshall	1
Beacon	Mount Marshall	2
Nungarin	Nungarin	2
Mukinbudin	Mukinbudin	4
Kununoppin	Traying	2
Westonia	Westonia	2

Wyalkatchem	Wyalkatchem	4
Yilgarn	Yilgarn	2
TOTAL	TOTAL	71

In the construction of new Independent Living Units and retaining/attracting aged members to our communities there are additional requirements on the community to ensure these members are cared for appropriately. This may include Community Care Packages, access to transport, hospital, doctor and ambulance services and possibly Residential Care all of which are platforms of the VERSO report that haven't been researched nor explored for improvement by CEACA.

It has been requested by CEACA that each individual Council as a member review the VERSO report to familiarise themselves with the recommendations.

From the report and the abovementioned information consider Councils appetite to progress researching/actioning the platforms of the report through the CEACA or if Council want to progress this individually through their own communities and Councils.

It is always viewed by both State and Federal Governments that a Regional solution is always seen in a positive light rather than individual piecemeal approaches, however this is a decision of each Council.



Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995 (as amended)

6.2. Local government to prepare annual budget

- (1) During the period from 1 June in a financial year to 31 August in the next financial year, or such extended time as the Minister allows, each local government is to prepare and adopt*, in the form and manner prescribed, a budget for its municipal fund for the financial year ending on the 30 June next following that 31 August.

** Absolute majority required.*

- (2) In the preparation of the annual budget the local government is to have regard to the contents of the plan for the future of the district made in accordance with section 5.56 and to prepare a detailed estimate for the current year of —
 - (a) the expenditure by the local government;
 - (b) the revenue and income, independent of general rates, of the local government; and
 - (c) the amount required to make up the deficiency, if any, shown by comparing the estimated expenditure with the estimated revenue and income.
- (3) For the purposes of subsections (2)(a) and (b) all expenditure, revenue and income of the local government is to be taken into account unless otherwise prescribed.
- (4) The annual budget is to incorporate —
 - (a) particulars of the estimated expenditure proposed to be incurred by the local government;
 - (b) detailed information relating to the rates and service charges which will apply to land within the district including —
 - (i) the amount it is estimated will be yielded by the general rate; and
 - (ii) the rate of interest (if any) to be charged by the local government on unpaid rates and service charges;
 - (c) the fees and charges proposed to be imposed by the local government;
 - (d) the particulars of borrowings and other financial accommodation proposed to be entered into by the local government;
 - (e) details of the amounts to be set aside in, or used from, reserve accounts and of the purpose for which they are to be set aside or used;

- (f) particulars of proposed land transactions and trading undertakings (as those terms are defined in and for the purpose of section 3.59) of the local government; and
 - (g) such other matters as are prescribed.
- (5) Regulations may provide for —
- (a) the form of the annual budget;
 - (b) the contents of the annual budget; and
 - (c) the information to be contained in or to accompany the annual budget.

[Section 6.2 amended by No. 49 of 2004 s. 42(8) and 56.]



Policy Implications

Nil



Strategic Implications

Nil



Financial Implications

Should Council's wish to progress with the continuation of CEACA researching and progressing the other platforms and solutions through the VERSO report it is suggested in the first year to leave the current \$20,000 levy as is.

This is to ensure funds are available to undertake work and progress forward, however should the funds exceed the requirements going forward the opportunity is then to review this and possible reduce the fee going forward.

Should member Councils not wish to progress the VERSO report there is no figure provided as an Annual Fee for being a member of CEACA at this point in time. This discussion will take place after Council have reviewed this item and made a definite position on where they see themselves progressing.



Consultation

CEACA
CEACA Delegates
Chief Executive Officer.



Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:

- A) Commits to CEACA's progression of the VERSO report to review;**
- I. Community Care Packages**
 - II. Transport**
 - III. Residential Aged Care**

OR

B) That Council declines the opportunity to progress the VERSO report however remains a member of CEACA.

OR

C) That Council declines the opportunity to progress the VERSO report and wishes to withdraw from CEACA.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Corsini

Seconded: Cr Jefferys


07/12-19 That Council:

- A) Commits to CEACA's progression of the VERSO report to review;
 - I. Community Care Packages
 - II. Transport
 - III. Residential Aged Care

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.6 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Responsible Officer:	Jamie Criddle, CEO	
Author:	Jamie Criddle, CEO	
File Reference:	CA1.3.2.	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Nil	
Signature:	Officer	CEO



Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision Legislative Requirement

Background

Council adoption of the Annual Report for the 2018/19 financial year is required as per recommendation from the Audit Committee.

The Shire of Westonia auditors have completed the Annual Audit for the financial year ending 30th June 2019 as per the Local Government Act 1995 as amended and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

The auditors attended Council's offices on the 14th to 16th October 2019 to complete their final audit.

Comment

All councilors will be presented with a copy of the Annual Report for the 2018/19 Financial year prior to the meeting. The Audit Report & Management Letter will be finalised on Monday and will be emailed when received. Members of the Audit Committee were also requested to attend the exit meeting with Auditors, Butler Settineri and the Auditor General on Thursday 12th December 2019.

In accordance with section 6.4 of the Local Government Act 1995 a local government is required to prepare an annual financial report for the preceding financial year and submit it to its auditor before 30th September each year.

Following acceptance of the Annual Report by Council, Council is required to hold a general meeting of electors within 56 days. At least 14 days local public notice must be given of an electors meeting. The Annual Electors Meeting must be held prior to Thursday 13th February 2020, noting that the February Council meeting is not until the following week (20th February 2020).

Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995 (As Amended)

5.27. Electors' general meetings

A general meeting of the electors of a district is to be held once every financial year.

- (1) A general meeting is to be held on a day selected by the local government but not more than 56 days after the local government accepts the annual report for the previous financial year.
- (2) The matters to be discussed at general electors' meetings are to be those prescribed.

5.54. Acceptance of annual reports

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), the annual report for a financial year is to be accepted* by the local government no later than 31 December after that financial year.

* Absolute majority required.

- (2) If the auditor's report is not available in time for the annual report for a financial year to be accepted by 31 December after that financial year, the annual report is to be accepted by the local government no later than 2 months after the auditor's report becomes available.

[Section 5.54 amended by No. 49 of 2004 s. 49.]

5.55. Notice of annual reports

The CEO is to give local public notice of the availability of the annual report as soon as practicable after the report has been accepted by the local government.

Division 4 — General

7.12A. Duties of local government with respect to audits

- (1) A local government is to do everything in its power to —

- (a) assist the auditor of the local government to conduct an audit and carry out his or her other duties under this Act in respect of the local government; and
- (b) ensure that audits are conducted successfully and expeditiously.

- (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), a local government is to meet with the auditor of the local government at least once in every year.

- (3) A local government is to examine the report of the auditor prepared under section 7.9(1), and any report prepared under section 7.9(3) forwarded to it, and is to —

- (a) determine if any matters raised by the report, or reports, require action to be taken by the local government; and
- (b) ensure that appropriate action is taken in respect of those matters.

- (4) A local government is to —

- (a) prepare a report on any actions under subsection (3) in respect of an audit conducted in respect of a financial year; and
- (b) forward a copy of that report to the Minister,

by the end of the next financial year, or 6 months after the last report prepared under section 7.9 is received by the local government, whichever is the latest in time.

[Section 7.12A inserted by No. 49 of 2004 s. 8.]

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

51. Completion of financial report

- (1) After the annual financial report has been audited in accordance with the Act the CEO is to sign and append to the report a declaration in the form of Form 1.
- (2) A copy of the annual financial report of a local government is to be submitted to the Departmental CEO within 30 days of the receipt by the local government's CEO of the auditor's report on that financial report.

[Regulation 51 amended in Gazette 18 Jun 1999 p. 2639; 20 Jun 2008 p. 2726.]

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in relation to this matter.

Strategic Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil



Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council accepts the recommendation from the Audit Committee, therefore:

1. Adopts the Annual Financial Report for the Financial Year 2018/19;
2. Adopts the Audit Report for 2018/19 Financial Year;
3. Adopts the Management Report for the 2018/19 Financial Year;
4. Adopts the Annual Report for the 2018/19 Financial Year inclusive of the above as presented; and
5. Advertises Annual Elector's Meeting be held on (insert date), commencing at (insert time) pm in the Old Miner Hall

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Huxtable

Seconded: Cr Corsini

08/12-19 That Council accepts the recommendation from the Audit Committee, therefore:


1. Adopts the Annual Financial Report for the Financial Year 2018/19;
2. Adopts the Audit Report for 2018/19 Financial Year;
3. Adopts the Management Report for the 2018/19 Financial Year;
4. Adopts the Annual Report for the 2018/19 Financial Year inclusive of the above as presented; and
5. Advertises Annual Elector's Meeting be held on Tuesday 11th February 2020, commencing at 6.00pm in the Old Miner Hall.

CARRIED 6/0

9.2 COMMUNITY AND REGULATORY SERVICE

9.2.1 WATER CORPORATION – STANDPIPE AGREEMENTS

Responsible Officer:	Jamie Criddle, CEO	
Author:	Jamie Criddle, CEO	
File Reference:	CA4.3.3	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Nil	
Signature:	Officer	CEO



Purpose of the Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

To endorse proposed actions in relation to Standpipe Water Supply Agreements, drafted by Water Corporation.

Background

Councillors may be aware that in 2018/2019, the Water Corporation (WC) advised that in 2019/2020, they were implementing changes to the way they would charge for water accessed from Shire operated standpipes.

In brief, water accessed from standpipes that were available to the public, and had a supply meter of more than 25mm were to be charged at a commercial rate, which would see an increase in the WC rate per kilolitre from \$2.534 up to a range between \$5.011 to \$8.353.

As a result, Council at their June 2019 meeting resolved the following:

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Geier

Seconded: Cr Corsini

07/06-19 That Council completes the Standpipe Action Plan, including the rationalising of standpipes as required and advising of the size of outlet require for each as requested by the WA Water Corporation prior to implementation of the new pricing structure on the 1 July 2019 as per list below:

Meter number	Meter Size	Standpipe Type
BC0702036 George/Boodarockin	20	Community 20mm
BK0158493 George/Warrachuppin	20	Community 20mm
BK0037297 M40/Boodarockin	20	Community 20mm
FK1650131 Walgoolan TS	50	Commercial 50mm
EK1000537 Westonia TS	40	Commercial 40mm
FK0510078 Carrabin TS	50	Commercial 50mm
WED9750725 Cranleigh	40	Commercial 40mm
FK0900022 McPharlin	50	Community 25mm
BC0775141 Begley	20	Disconnect
FK0600229 Warralakin East	50	Commercial 50mm
FK0900162 Warralakin O/H Tank	50	Fire Fighting 50mm

CARRIED 6/0

WC have commenced installation on the new 25mm meters, as per Councils decision.

On the 29th October 2019, the Shire received Standpipe Water Supply Agreements, for the new meters, and were advised that agreements would be provided for all existing standpipe meters in due course.

A copy of one of the agreements (of which all are standard and the same), is attached, Councillors are directed to Section 5, whereby the quality of water provided is to be agreed to by the Shire.

On all of the Shire's standpipes, it is proposed by WC to deem the water quality as "Option 2 – Water Quality with Conditions", which details the following:

Option 2 –Water Quality with Conditions

- (a) The Corporation will provide Water at the Delivery Point for the purposes of this Agreement that may not comply with the microbiological provisions of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.
- (b) The Local Government Authority acknowledges and agrees that:
 - (i) the Water may not be potable at the Delivery Point and may not comply with the microbiological provision of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines;
 - (ii) the Water must be disinfected if it is to be used for domestic purposes, including drinking, making beverages, ice or food preparation, bathing, showering or for any other purpose which may result in the potential for the water to be consumed or inhaled;
 - (iii) the Local Government Authority must inform any third party taking Water from the Delivery Point of the Department of Health Guidelines for the Bulk Cartage of Drinking Water if the carted water is to be used for any potable purposes; and
 - (iv) the Corporation will not be liable under any circumstances whatsoever or howsoever arising for any loss or claim which the Local Government Authority may suffer or incur, and the Local Government Authority will have no right to make any Claim for any Loss or inconvenience caused to, or sustained by it, on account of any of the matters set out above for any reason whatsoever.

The Chief Executive Officer queried the proposed classification of water by WC; seeking to understand if the water coming from the mains pipe was potable. A WC representative stated that whilst the water from the pipe was deemed potable, once collected, they had no control over the water and as such, this is the reasoning behind the classification.

The CEO advised WC that the classification did not read in that manner, and the way the classification was written, indicated the water coming from the pipe may not be potable, and that it was the Shire's responsibility to inform users and seemingly take on all liability.

The CEO sought to have the classification changed to the following (changes highlighted):

- (a) The Corporation will provide Water at the Delivery Point for the purposes of this Agreement that complies with the quality requirements for drinking water as specified in the Operating Licence. However, post collection, the water may not comply with the microbiological provisions of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.
- (b) The Local Government Authority acknowledges and agrees that:
 - (i) the Water may not be potable once collected at the Delivery Point and may not comply with the microbiological provision of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines;
 - (ii) once collected, the Water must be disinfected if it is to be used for domestic purposes, including drinking, making beverages, ice or food preparation, bathing, showering or for any other purpose which may result in the potential for the water to be consumed or inhaled;
 - (iii) the Local Government Authority must inform any third party taking Water from the Delivery Point of the Department of Health Guidelines for the Bulk Cartage of Drinking Water if the carted water is to be used for any potable purposes; and
 - (iv) the Corporation will not be liable under any circumstances whatsoever or howsoever arising for any loss or claim which the Local Government Authority may suffer or incur, and the Local Government Authority will have no right to make any Claim for any Loss or inconvenience caused to, or sustained by it, on account of any of the matters set out above for any reason whatsoever.

WC responded as follows to the above request:

The water quality clauses in the agreement cannot be amended as they have been approved by Water Quality branch and the Department of Health.



Comment

It is the opinion of the CEO that the Shire should not be signing these agreements, as it is misleading around the quality of the water being provided through the meter, and places liability onto the Shire for matters out of its control.

Having raised Shire concerns with the Water Corporation without result, the CEO is seeking Council's endorsement to:

- Withhold signing of the agreements; and
- Raise the matter with the Minister for Water.

Proposed correspondence attached.



Statutory Environment

Water Corporations Act 1995



Policy Implications

Nil



Strategic Implications

Nil



Financial Implications

Nil



Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council endorse withholding the signing of Standpipe Water Supply Agreements, provided by Water Corporation, for the Shire of Westonia operated standpipes until further investigation has been made by the Chief Executive Officer into the water classifications stipulated by the Water Corporation and for this to be referred back to Council's February 2020 Ordinary meeting for further consideration; and in the meantime Council writes to the Minister for Water, raising the Shire of Westonia's concerns on the Standpipe Water Supply Agreements as provided by the Water Corporation, citing the misleading nature of the water quality classification applied to Shire standpipes and the potential liability placed onto the Shire of Westonia over water quality issues out of the pipe.

9.3 WORKS AND SERVICE

NIL

9.4 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

NIL

10 ELECTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

11 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY A DECISION OF THE MEETING

12 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Annual Electors Meeting will be held on 11th February 2020 commencing at 6.00pm

The next ordinary meeting of Council will be held on 20th February 2020 commencing at 3.30pm

13 MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business the President, Cr Day declared the meeting closed at 5.55pm