



Councillor Information Bulletin

For the Ordinary Council Meeting
held on Thursday 20th December 2018

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SHIRE OF WESTONIA

Nov/Dec 2018, Jan 2019

Date & Time	What	Where	Who
Wednesday 14 th November	CEACA AGM	Merredin	CEO, Louis Geier
Thursday 15 th November	Council Meeting	Westonia	CEO, Councillors
Thursday 22 nd November	LEMC Meeting	Southern Cross	CEO, Cr Geier, Works Supervisor
Wednesday 28 th November	WEROC Executive	Westonia	CEO
Tuesday 4 th December	Seniors Luncheon	Merredin	CEO, Stacey Geier
Monday 10 th December	Great Eastern Wheatbelt Safety Advisers Group	Kellerberrin	Works Supervisor, Stacey Geier
Tuesday 11 th December	OSH – Admin Meeting	Westonia	All Admin Staff
Thursday 20 th December	Council Meeting	Westonia	CEO, Councillors
Thursday 20 th December	XMAS Function	Westonia	CEO, Councillors
Friday 21 st December	Office Closure 5.00pm	Westonia	All Staff
Thursday 3 rd January	Office Re-Opens	Westonia	All Staff
Thursday 3 rd – Friday 18 th January	CEO Leave		CEO
January 26 th	Australia Day Celebrations	Westonia	All
Thursday 21 st February	Council Meeting	Westonia	CEO, Councillors

Shire of Westonia

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Please address all correspondence
to the Chief Executive Officer

ES1.6.2

Emma Gaunt
Appeal Convenor

Dear Emma,

RE: SHIRE OF WESTONIA SUPPORT TO GREENFINCH PROJECT CLEARING APPEAL (CPS 8069/1)

As Chief Executive Officer of the Shire of Westonia, acting on behalf of the ratepayers, residents and wider Wheatbelt community, I would like to offer the Shire's full support to Edna May Operations Pty Ltd (a subsidiary of Ramelius Resources Ltd) in their effort to secure the approvals necessary for the Greenfinch Project at its Edna May mine, including its application for a native vegetation clearing permit (**Greenfinch Project**).

The Shire Council is entrusted in acting on the best interest of the wider community and does so via the four goals outlined in the Shire of Westonia Strategic Community Plan (2013-2023);

- Social and community wellbeing and capacity **SOCIAL**
- Economic diversity, innovation and prosperity **ECONOMIC**
- Infrastructure that meets the needs now and allows for growth **ENVIRONMENT**
- Leadership and financial sustainability **GOVERNANCE**

As listed below Westonia's Strategic Community Plan (2013-2023) highlights the ongoing economic viability of the mine as a major priority.

It is also a major consideration in the Wheatbelt Blueprint and Central East Sub-Regional Economic Strategy developed by the Wheatbelt Development Commission.

3.5 CHALLENGES FACING THE SHIRE OF WESTONIA

The Shire of Westonia faces a variety of challenges as it develops over the next 10 years. The critical challenges affecting the Shire have been identified through community engagement and Council workshop. The Strategic Community Plan will need to consider these and includes:

- *Ongoing economic viability of the mine*
- *Attracting and retaining people, specifically young people and families as well as business into the community*
- *Increasing number of older residents*
- *Providing and maintaining infrastructure that meets the expectations of the community*
- *Lack of telecommunication infrastructure in the Shire*
- *Changes in technology*

“A Golden Heart”

- ***The impact of the climate and weather conditions***
- ***The policies of all levels of government and decision making that impacts at local level***
- ***How to make the most of technology and be innovative***
- ***Remaining relevant to the community and regional decision makers***
- ***Attracting funding for local projects from national, state and regional organisations who prioritise regional projects***

The ongoing viability of the existing Edna May pit and proposed future expansion through the Greenfinch project will sustain existing and create employment opportunities (both direct and indirect) and support economic activity in the Westonia area, regionally, and Perth city suppliers.

The recent forced redundancies and terminations at Edna May have had a significant impact on our local economy first and foremost but have also felt the wave of impact in regional centres at Merredin, Southern Cross and Northam whom all support the Edna May Operations through direct employment, servicing, manufacturing and parts supply.

The impact is far more noticeable in a small community such as Westonia as the smallest variation in sales can have a large impact on the bottom line and staff numbers. This was first noticed when open pit mining was reduced to a single (day) shift operation due to delays in the environmental approvals process. As an example, shop sales at the community owned Cooperative reduced by 11% by reducing the nightshift. Workers would normally come in on a daily basis to purchase drinks, food, cigarettes and consumables. This dried up overnight and then was exacerbated at the completion of the stage 2 cutback, making a total of 100 employees (72% reduction) in the workforce no longer contributing to the local economy. Sales reduced by 18% overall, with the shop reverting to shortened hours to minimize operating costs. Three to six months of this reduction has been hard to manage, but cash surpluses have enabled operation to continue. Further reductions and reduced patronage of mine employees and commuting suppliers and contractors will have a disastrous effect on the bottom line of the shop and cause potential reduction in services, staff and opening hours or potential closure!!! This Cooperative shop not only acts as the only food & grocery outlet in the district, it is also the Post Office, Café, Newsagency and Gas supplier.

This is an example of one business impacted by the reduction in staff at the Edna May Mine, impacts such as these in small communities have lasting and disastrous flow on effect to the whole district.

Payments to numerous community groups via Memorandum of Understanding agreements (MOU) are also jeopardised as they rely on bed numbers in the mine camp situated in the town. These numbers have severely reduced which will result in up to a 60% reduction in MOU payments \$45,000 per annum that would normally be distributed to community projects via the Westonia Progress Association. There are numerous other similar agreements in place that would also be jeopardised as a result of the limited mining operations.

In weighing up Council's decision to fully support the Greenfinch project, Council took several factors into consideration in relation to the environmental impact to the town common.

The existing mining tenement M77/88 is located with the Westonia Town Common, and is vested to the Shire of Westonia which makes Council suitably qualified to comment on the proposed project.

The Shire has been over several years maintaining the Common Reserves that surround the Westonia townsite and have actively been rehabilitating, monitoring and baiting the reserves in order to preserve the area going forward.

Council believes the overall environmental impact on the Westonia Common is relatively minor and looks forward to working with Ramelius Resources as highlighted in their original submission to conduct a variety of environmental projects to assist in preserving and enhancing the Westonia Common for the now and the future.

Ramelius (EMO) have shown a great ability previously to preserve and enhance threatened flora such as Eremophila Resinosa. Several successful translocation sites have been established in and around the Town Common, increasing the E. Resinosa populations within the district. There have also been various successful large-scale revegetation plantations immediately to the north of the existing mine.

It should also be noted that the Greenfinch area has seen significant mining and exploration over the past 100 years with large scale vegetation disturbance and regrowth occurring on the site closest to the existing noise bund as the satellite imagery will suggest. I encourage you to visit the site and see for yourself how historical mining disturbance has impacted the Greenfinch footprint and the plans that Ramelius Resource are proposing to improve the area with net beneficial environmental outcomes

In addressing the clearing potentially cutting the Town Common in two, the Shire of Westonia does not believe this to impact significantly on the landscape of the resident fauna (which are all common species) in the area. There will still be a corridor to the north of the mine which would be further away from the townsite, and significant vehicular access. It should also be noted that the two suggested areas are significantly large enough to sustain themselves while the large area of proposed re-connecting farmland rehabilitation back to woodland establishes itself adjacent to the Greenfinch mine.

There is no way that the Shire of Westonia would put the economy before the environment, we are simply making an informed decision on behalf of its constituents and community to draw a balance between the two and ensure that preservation continues not just during this mining phase but in years to come. Westonia was founded upon mining over 100 years ago, farming has sustained the community since, but the community, district and Wheatbelt has only prospered during times of extended mining.

The significant benefits will not only be felt during the term of the Greenfinch Project, but beyond it, as it will facilitate the extension of the Edna May operations.

The multiplier effect of the increased and extended activity will bring additional benefits to communities and the authorities and governments that serve them, through rates and royalties, thereby providing a strong foundation for long-term viability and growth.

Please accept the correspondence as strong support the Greenfinch Project and urge the West Australian Government and regulatory authorities to take such steps to approve and enable the progression of the Greenfinch Project.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet you to discuss the Shire's support for Greenfinch, as we believe it is important that this be taken into account as part of your consideration of the appeal.

If you have any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours faithfully,



JAMIE CRIDDLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

12 December 2018

One year on, regional WA still reeling from Labor's cruel education cuts 13 December 2018

Local Member for Central Wheatbelt Hon Mia Davies MLA has used the one-year anniversary of Sue Ellery's ill-fated regional education cuts to renew calls for the McGowan Government to "reverse the rest".

Ms Davies said almost \$40 million of education cuts remained on the Budget papers, despite a number of backflips since the initial announcement on 13 December 2017.

"The outstanding cuts The Nationals want reversed include Labor's raid on the Agricultural Farm Provisions Trust, the decision to outsource management of six camp schools and Landsdale Farm School to a private operator and the closure of the Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre," Ms Davies said.

"The Nationals are also seeking to have Labor's cuts to the Boarding Away from Home Allowance reversed and the future of community kindergartens confirmed."

Ms Davies said the pain and distress caused by Minister Ellery's announcement had shaken regional communities to the core.

"These cruel cuts came out of the blue just as school was wrapping up for the year, less than two weeks before Christmas," Ms Davies said.

She praised the immediate response from affected communities who instead of enjoying downtime with loved ones over the Christmas period, found their voice, picked up placards and changed the outcome.

"Regional WA came together as one, and history has shown that when we do this we are a force to be reckoned with," she said.

"Following the initial backflip on School of the Air, our communities dug deep again to save Moora Residential College.

Member for the Agricultural Region Hon Martin Aldridge MLC said Minister Ellery's lack of consultation before announcing the cuts last year had left many nervous that the Government could come back again.

"Regional parents no longer trust the Education Minister or the Labor Government at large to look after the best interests of their children," he said.

"Our Nationals team understands the importance of education opportunities close to home," Mr Aldridge said.

"It begs the question that if a Labor Government was prepared to cut education funding, what else is in the firing line for regional WA in the March 2019 budget."

For media enquiries please contact Mia Davies on 9041 1702 (Merredin office), 9622 2871 (Northam office) or email mia.davies@mp.wa.gov.au



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Leader; Spokesperson for Regional Development, State Development, Public Sector Management, Jobs and Trade, Federal-State Relations

Member for the Central Wheatbelt

VacSwim and water safety essential as summer begins

7 December 2018

Member for Central Wheatbelt Hon Mia Davies MLA has recognized that Royal Life Saving Australia has identified strengthening school and holiday swimming programs and community water safety programs as an essential step in increasing water safety education for all children.

“As Vice Patron of Royal Life Saving Western Australia, I encourage all families to enrol children in VacSwim classes this Summer and to be safe around waterways, beaches and swimming pools,” Ms Davies said.

“Incidents can occur anywhere including pools, beaches, falling or being swept from rocks, in rivers and creeks, dams or even in the bathtub.”

“While drowning deaths are down 31 per cent in WA, there is still work to be done improving water safety and education.”

WA had 27 drowning deaths last year, with swimming pools again the most likely place for drownings to occur in the State. Summer months are the most dangerous, with 41 per cent of drownings occurring from December to February.

Ms Davies said participating in programs like VacSwim would help children and families develop and build vital aquatic skills and encourage safety in and around the water.

“VacSwim is Australia’s longest running swimming program, offering lessons to more than 55,000 children at more than 180 locations throughout WA, many of these in regional areas.”

Ms Davies said it was always important to be aware of hazards associated with different aquatic environments and to ensure they followed the following guidelines:

- Always supervise children when around water
- Check pool barriers are compliant and in good working order
- Learn to Swim and Survive
- Learn lifesaving skills
- Check conditions before activity

Ms Davies said she was disappointed the McGowan Labor Government has increased fees for VacSwim by more than 120 per cent and scrapped the \$3 million *Royalties for Regions* Community Pools Revitalisation Program.

“Given Royal Life Saving Australia has identified VacSwim-style programs and the access and availability of aquatic facilities as core goals to increasing life-saving water skills, it’s appalling that Labor has diverted funds for these to underwrite their extravagant election promises.”

“I support Royal Life Saving Australia call on the State Government to continue supporting programs such as VacSwim to help prevent drownings.”

To find out more about VacSwim, including nearby programs and locations visit

www.education.wa.edu.au/vacswim.



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Leader; Spokesperson for Regional Development, State Development, Public Sector Management, Jobs and Trade, Federal-State Relations

For media enquiries please contact Mia Davies on 9041 1702 (Merredin Office), 9622 2871 (Northam Office) or email mia.davies@mp.wa.gov.au



MELISSA PRICE MP

Federal Member for **Durack**



Making it easier for Durack households and small businesses to get a better deal

10 December 2018

The Federal Government is making it easier for households and small businesses in Durack to compare prices, products, services and providers across the banking, energy and telecommunications sectors.

Federal Member for Geraldton and Minister for the Environment Melissa Price said that new laws, introduced into the Parliament last week, will establish a 'Consumer Data Right' for individuals and small businesses in Durack.

"Currently, businesses hold personal data which consumers have not been able to access. Under the Government's changes, consumers will be able to access this previously unattainable data, shift it around to accredited third parties and find the products and services for their needs," Minister Price said.

"This means people's unique circumstances can be taken into account more effectively when they are engaging with product and service providers.

"It will allow for improved price comparison, easier switching between products and providers and assisting individuals to better understand how they spend their money.

"Consumers will determine what data is shared under the Right, on what terms and with whom. High levels of privacy protection and information security will be a core feature of the system," said the Minister.

The Consumer Data Right will apply in the banking sector, where it is referred to as Open Banking, from 1 July 2019. It will then be applied to the energy and telecommunications sectors.

The Consumer Data Right is part of the Liberal National Government's plan for a stronger economy.

ENDS

Media contact: Sue Chiera (08) 9964 2195 | Mob: 0427 587 395 | Email: Susan.Chiera@aph.gov.au



MELISSA PRICE MP

Federal Member for **Durack**



Helping more Durack families access In Home Care

10 December 2018

Federal Minister for Education Dan Tehan last week said the Government had listened to feedback from families and providers in rural and remote areas, and some will find it easier to get child care support in their homes, thanks to reforms from the Federal Government.

“The reforms will help shift workers or those with complex needs find it easier to get In Home Care,” he said.

Federal Member for Durack and Minister for the Environment Melissa Price said the Federal Government is providing \$44.5 million to increase the Child Care Subsidy for families using In Home Care as well as increasing the number of places by 200 to 3,200.

The family hourly rate cap will increase from \$25.48 to \$32.00 per hour and the additional Child Care Subsidy rate will increase from \$30.58 to \$38.40 per hour, starting 1 January 2019.

“The increased rate cap will help eligible families access affordable In Home Care as well as support providers in the rural and remote parts of the Durack electorate,” Minister Price said.

“Our Government recognises the importance of In Home Care to the families who can’t access other types of child care because of their circumstances.

“We understand that families in regional and remote areas, shift workers or those with a child who has complex needs should also be supported.

“The new rate cap balances the needs of families to access affordable education and care with the interests of providers,” said Minister Price.

“We will continue to monitor the impact of the Child Care Subsidy rate caps on families and services as part of the new child care package evaluation.”

In Home Care is a unique type of education and care for families who cannot access standard childcare.

An IHC educator may be looking after four children in the one home, a subsidy of \$32 per hour will enable the services that engage the educator to cover their costs, will enable the educator to be more fairly recompensed, but above all will make IHC more affordable for the families who need it.

ENDS

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MELISSA PRICE MP

Federal Member for **Durack**



Landmark Medicare support for Durack residents living with eating disorder

11 December 2018

Federal Member for Durack and Minister for the Environment Melissa Price said for the first time, residents in Durack with severe eating disorders will now be able to access a comprehensive treatment plan under Medicare.

“The Federal Government will help people in Durack with an eating disorder get access to life-saving treatment with a \$115 million landmark package,” she said.

“Patients will be able to access up to 40 Medicare funded psychological services and 20 dietetic sessions each year, from November 1, next year.

“Eating disorders have one of the highest mortality rates of any psychiatric illness, with anorexia by far the deadliest mental health condition in Australia. There are around 1 million Australians living with an eating disorder.”

A \$110.7 million investment into the first dedicated Medicare item for eating disorders will benefit around 30,000 people each year who are living with these debilitating disorders, helping them to get better and stay out of hospital.

“This will undoubtedly save many lives as eating disorders can be debilitating for both men and women of any age and this illness is one of the many nightmares parents have for their children,” Minister Price said.

“The Federal Government has worked closely with medical experts and key stakeholders for many months to achieve this outcome, and we thank the independent Medicare Benefits Schedule Review Taskforce for their work, following our request for a review last year.

“Our Government will also provide \$4 million to the InsideOut Institute for Eating Disorders.

“This funding will support new research into better treatment and care for people living with an eating disorder condition,” said Minister Price.

The Federal Government is prioritising better mental health for all Australians with \$4.7 billion expected to be spent on mental health this financial year.

The government’s strong economic management ensures the continued investment of record amounts of funding into vital health initiatives including mental health, life-saving medicines, Medicare and public hospitals.

ENDS

Media contact: Sue Chiera (08) 9964 2195 | Mob: 0427 587 395 | Email: Susan.Chiera@aph.gov.au

About WATC

WATC is the central financial services provider for the Western Australian public sector, and delivers the following efficient and cost-effective services for all government agencies:

- funding and debt management
- asset and investment management
- financial advisory services
- financial risk management
- treasury management services and systems.

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Crossroads

"The Reserve Bank has repeatedly said that our expectation is that the next move in monetary policy is more likely up than down, though it is some way off. But should that turn out not to be the case, there is still scope for further reductions in the policy rate."

RBA Deputy Governor Guy Debelle - Address to Australian Business Economists Annual Dinner
6 December 2018

THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

The escalation of the US-China trade war and the US midterm elections has seen a spike in market volatility in Q4. However, there is some hope of a resolution to the trade dispute, with the US and China agreeing to halt further tariff increases for 90 days while negotiations take place to resolve their differences.

The US election result turned out pretty much as expected, with the Democrats taking control of the House of Representatives, while the Republican Party maintained its majority in the Senate. The result will make it more difficult to pass legislation through Congress.

The US remains the standout performer among the major global economies, with growth remaining strong in Q3 and the official unemployment rate dropping to its lowest level since 1969. However, there are some early signs that the US economy may be just starting to lose momentum.

The Fed remains on track to continue raising rates from the current target band of 2.00 to 2.25 per cent, with another 25 basis point hike expected in December. However, the Fed appears to be moving to a slightly more dovish stance, with Chairman Jerome Powell telling a gathering of economists in New York that interest rates are just below neutral. The consensus of opinion on the FOMC has been for another 25 basis point increase in December, followed by 75 basis points in 2019 and 25 points in 2020. Powell's comments suggest those expectations could be wound back when new projections are updated following the December meeting.

The futures market, on the other hand, is not quite so bullish and is pricing in just two more 25 point rate increases, one in December and one in 2019.

Elsewhere, growth continues to lose momentum in Europe and Japan, while Chinese annual real GDP growth slipped to 6.5 per cent YoY in Q3, the slowest growth rate since the depths of the global recession in early 2009. Meanwhile, the UK appears to be heading towards either a chaotic 'no deal' Brexit in March 2019 or a second Brexit referendum.

From the CEO's Desk



Dear clients and staff

The second quarter of this financial year has been active. The maturity of the remaining \$3.5 billion of the 23 October 2018 benchmark bond was managed uneventfully. After four consecutive months of debt repayments, clients borrowed \$30 million in November. Net repayments over the past five months have totalled about \$260 million. It would not be unexpected to see the borrowing program reduced from budget projections this year, given changes to GST arrangements (likely to influence future years more significantly), higher than expected iron ore prices and a lower than budgeted USD/AUD foreign exchange rate thus far.

Term interest rates became more volatile over the quarter, led by US interest rates. Australian Government 10-year rates, having traded between 40–55 basis points below US rates, are now at about 2.55%.

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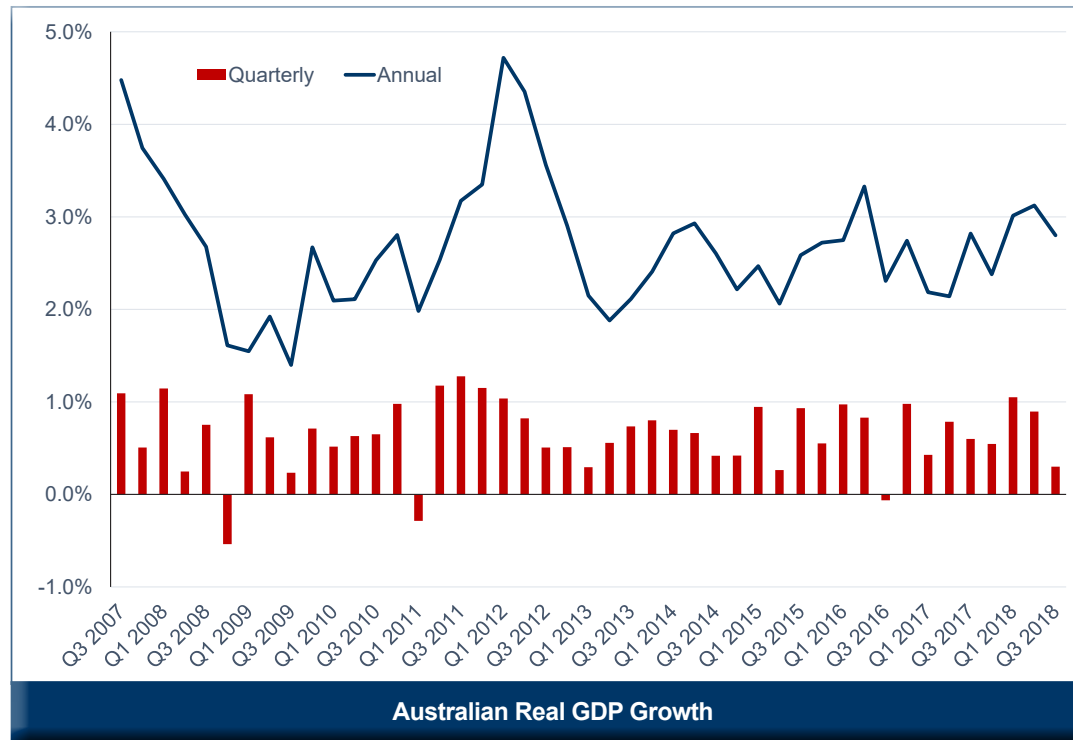
THE AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY

Aussie economic momentum also appears to be easing, following the above trend growth we saw in the first half of the year. Australian real GDP rose 0.3 per cent in seasonally adjusted terms in Q3, following 0.9 per cent growth in Q2. This was the weakest quarterly growth since a 0.1 per cent fall in Q3 2016, with the annual growth rate falling to 2.8 per cent YoY, from 3.1 per cent in Q2. The details were as soft as the headline, with household consumption growth slowing and business fixed investment posting another decline. Third quarter growth would have been flat in the absence of government consumption and investment spending. Per capita real GDP fell -0.1 per cent, the first quarterly decline in two years, to be up 1.2 per cent YoY.

The terms of trade rose 0.8 per cent in the quarter, as high commodity prices continue to support national income.

Employment growth has remained solid, with the trend unemployment rate falling to a more than seven-year low of 5.1 per cent in October, though growth has slowed from the breakneck pace of 2017. The leading indicators of employment growth we follow, such as the ANZ job ads series, the Department of Jobs and Small Business internet vacancies report, and dwelling approvals, suggest employment growth will slow in the months ahead. Wages growth appears to be picking up but with the wage cost index rising just 2.3 per cent in the year to Q3, wage inflation remains soft.

Consumer price inflation remained soft in Q3, with the headline CPI rising 0.4 per cent in the quarter and the annual rate slipping back to 1.9 per cent, to be once again below the RBA's 2 to 3 per cent target.



The various measures of underlying inflation were also below target. The RBA will not only need to see inflation back at target, but will also need to be convinced that it is there to stay before the Board even considers raising rates.

The Western Australian real state final demand rose a seasonally adjusted 0.4 per cent in Q3, after declining 0.4 per cent in Q2, to be down 0.6 per cent YoY. The trend unemployment rate fell to an 11-month low of 5.9 per cent in October, after being as high as 6.3 per cent in May.

The Perth inflation rate of just 1.2 per cent YoY remains well below the national average, as does wages growth, with the wage cost index for Western Australia up just 1.6 per cent YoY.

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The AUD traded in a USD 0.7100–0.7300 range over much of the quarter. Market participants have been reducing their expected trajectory of the US cash rate rises. The US cash rate is currently 2.25 per cent. Australian economic statistical releases, (excepting housing) are continuing to show trend or above trend growth. Most commentators expect no RBA cash rate rises through 2019. Global trade, oil price changes and Brexit negotiations are fuelling volatile equity markets, which is also adding to uncertainty in fixed income markets, with some yield curves continuing to flatten.

Towards the end of October, WATC participated in the 10th Annual Commonwealth Bank Global Markets Conference (as detailed elsewhere in this newsletter), the only investor marketing activity outside of Perth during the quarter.

Two key IT projects are ongoing. Firstly, the movement of WATC's IT infrastructure to the GovNext-ICT cloud is progressing, albeit at a slower pace than originally anticipated. Secondly, work to update WATC's core treasury management system, reliably in place since 2000, is moving forward. WATC is currently working with the Department of Finance to ensure appropriate procurement processes are followed. This project will likely take 12-18 months to complete and will allow for process improvements and efficiencies to take place.

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FINANCIAL MARKETS

The last three months have been a period of increased volatility on financial markets, driven by concerns over the impact of higher US interest rates, the escalation of the US-China trade war and the United Kingdom's impending exit from the European Union.

The increased volatility has seen a sell-off across the major global equity markets, with the S&P 500 dropping 9.5 per cent between the end of Q3 and 10 December. The Chinese CSI 300 is down 8.6 per cent and the Nikkei 225 is down 12.0 per cent. Domestically, the ASX 200 has dropped 10.2 per cent.

BBSW rates have remained relatively steady but elevated, with three-month BBSW sitting between 1.91 and 1.99 per cent in Q4.

Aussie Treasury bond yields continue to trade below US yields. The 3-year Australian Treasury bond yield opened Q4 at 2.05 per cent and has averaged 2.03 per cent so far in Q4. The 10-year Australian Treasury bond yield closed Q3 at 2.67 per cent and has averaged 2.66 per cent in Q4. The Aussie 10-year yield is currently 41 basis points below the US 10-year yield.

Iron ore prices have been volatile in Q4. After closing Q3 at USD68.15/tonne, the price of the most active futures contract for 62 per cent Fe iron ore on the Singapore Exchange peaked at USD75.00 on 30 October, before falling back to a low of USD62.78 on 26 November, and averaged USD69.70 for the quarter.

After closing Q3 at USD0.7224, the AUD has traded in a range between USD0.7052 and USD0.7358 on a close of day basis over the course of Q4. At the time of writing on 11 December, it is sitting at USD0.7188.

RBA commentary continues to be generally upbeat, with the Bank now forecasting the unemployment rate will fall to 4.75 per cent by the middle of 2020, down from the previous forecast of 5.0 per cent by the end of 2020. Their growth and inflation forecasts were virtually unchanged, with inflation to rise to the lower half of the 2 to 3 per cent target band over the next two years. The RBA continues to signal that there is no pressing need to raise rates in the near-term, particularly given the slowdown in credit growth, but that the next move is most likely to be up.

Current market pricing suggests little to no expectation for a rate hike in 2019, in line with our forecast for the cash rate to remain unchanged over our forecast horizon. However, we remain concerned about significant downside risks to the outlook, particularly the dynamics of falling east coast house prices and the high level of household debt. We remain of the view that if the cash rate is likely to go anywhere over the next 12 to 18 months, it is more likely to be down than up.

*Craig McGuinness
Chief Economist
December 2018*

S&P Revise Outlook and Affirm Credit Rating for WA

On 25 October 2018 Standard & Poor's (S&P) affirmed its AA+/A-1+ rating for Western Australia and Western Australian Treasury Corporation's long-term and short-term debt and revised its outlook to stable from the previous negative outlook.

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Our Advisory Services team continues to work on an ever increasing number of projects, assisting our clients to make better informed financial decisions. As a result, several staff have now been temporarily seconded to other government entities to assist with projects. You will see several new high quality additions to our staff to help satisfy the growing need in this sector.

Lastly, now in my tenth year, I have decided it is a good time to finish my tenure at WATC, which will occur effective 31 January 2019. I have always felt a CEO should serve a term of 6-10 years, as it is important to refresh leadership periodically. I want to thank our staff, board, clients, banks, investors, the many Government officials and others who have made it such an interesting and successful time. WATC is a group of motivated, passionate Western Australians who take great pride in making a difference. There is no doubt in my mind that this will continue successfully under new leadership.

Best wishes for an excellent holiday season.

Kind regards,

John Collins

Chief Executive Officer
10 December 2018

CFA Society Perth's Women in Finance Network Launch Event

WATC was proud to sponsor the launch of CFA Society Perth's Women in Finance Network, on Monday 26 November. This is a fabulous initiative by CFA Society Perth, which is aiming to improve female participation in the finance industry in Western Australia. WA currently lags behind the rest of Australia in terms of female participation in the finance industry and Australia lags behind the rest of the world, so there is plenty of room for improvement.

The event, held at the University Club at UWA, was a tremendous success, with well over 100 attendees. Kaylene Gulich, Executive Director at the Department of Treasury, a previous Director at WATC, spoke on behalf of WATC at the event. There was also a panel discussion featuring high profile professionals Alison Gaines, Elizabeth Gaines and Heather Zampatti talking about their experiences as females in male dominated industries.



Kaylene Gulich speaking at the launch event for CFA Society Perth's Women in Finance Network

The Women in Finance Network will hold ongoing networking and conference style events over the course of 2019, encouraging more female participation in the finance industry. Please check their [website](#) for further information.

10th Annual Commonwealth Bank Global Markets Conference

The 10th Annual Commonwealth Bank Global Markets Conference was held in Sydney and Queensland during the last week of October 2018. WATC has supported this conference since its inception. This year, there were a variety of presentations from issuers, ratings agencies, regulators, economists and politicians. About 60 investors, from 22 countries, including asset managers, hedge funds, insurance companies and central banks, attended. As the conference's focus was largely on offshore investors, it was an excellent opportunity to reach a portion of WATC's potential overseas investor base, with some investors being met for the first time.

John Collins, CEO of WATC, participated in a panel session alongside representatives from every state of Australia, each having 10 minutes to present, followed by a question and answer session. Feedback from the panel session was positive.

It was beneficial that the panel session followed a presentation from Anthony Walker from S&P, who noted that WA's outlook had been upgraded from AA+ Negative to AA+ Stable on 25 October 2018. Given recent improvements in the State's financial position, the outcome was not a surprise to the market and, as such, there was no material improvement to our borrowing rates. However, the upgraded outlook is an independent recognition of the positive trend currently occurring in WA.

Vince Cinquina, WATC's Head of Financial Markets, also spoke to a number of investors, answering questions throughout the day.

WATC continues to promote the fact that its borrowing requirements, though substantial, have probably peaked. This provides opportunities for investors in WATC paper to continue to outperform market movements in other investments.

WATC's New Investment Facility

WATC has just established a new over-arching Investment Facility, to provide clients with access to all of WATC's existing and future government guaranteed investment products.

WATC has a number of existing clients utilising the competitive Overnight Cash Deposit Facility (OCDF), which is now offered as part of the over-arching Investment Facility, together with a newly established Term Deposit product.

The key advantage of WATC's Term Deposit product offering, compared to similar products offered by banks, is its flexibility – with WATC able to provide investments maturing on any business day to suit client needs. Term Deposits are also redeemable at short notice, subject to a potential early termination adjustment, should a client's circumstances change. This can facilitate clients placing a higher proportion of funds, currently kept in lower yielding overnight or trading accounts, into WATC's higher yielding Term Deposit product.

WATC's Client Portal has greatly enhanced high frequency transaction efficiency, further improving the overall competitiveness of WATC's short term investment service.

To obtain a copy of the Investment Facility brochure and application form, or to obtain further information, please email csoperations@watc.wa.gov.au.

New Appointments...

WATC is pleased to introduce our new staff members to clients.



Joseph Novak
Senior Corporate
Financial Advisor

Joseph Novak

Joseph has over eight years of experience in research at the forefront of theoretical physics, where he solved long-standing problems and worked on complex gravitational theories requiring rigorous quantitative analysis and innovative approaches. He has worked as a researcher at the University of Western Australia and at the Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics (Albert Einstein Institute), Potsdam Germany. As a Senior Corporate Financial Advisor,

Joseph applies his wealth of mathematical quantitative skills when building complex financial models, in order to deliver rigorous financial solutions for WATC's clients. Joseph holds a PhD in physics and has 24 research publications.

Richard John

Richard has a diverse background in finance and operations. Prior to joining WATC, he spent 18 years working in turnaround consulting and corporate advisory in both the USA and Australia. He also has a background in finance and corporate leadership, having previously worked in middle market commercial finance (UK and USA) and held CFO and COO roles at two USA-based business. Richard met his wife Robin in Chicago and they have two teenage children. Outside of work, Richard enjoys golf, tennis and supporting underdogs, as evidenced by his passion for English cricket team!



Richard John
Chief Advisor

For information on any products or services, please contact one of the Business Unit Managers listed below:

Richard McKenzie	Head of Client Debt Finance & Investments	(08) 9235 9127	rmckenzie@watc.wa.gov.au
Lisa Brady	Head of Client Foreign Exchange & Treasury Services	(08) 9235 9122	lbrady@watc.wa.gov.au
David Letts	Head of Advisory Services	(08) 9235 9178	dletts@watc.wa.gov.au

For economic commentary or clarification, please contact:

Craig McGuinness	Chief Economist	(08) 9235 9104	cmcguinness@watc.wa.gov.au
Paula Gadsby	Economist and Senior ALM Analyst	(08) 9235 9110	pgadsby@watc.wa.gov.au

DISCLAIMER

Any opinions, judgements, conclusions, forecasts, predictions or estimations contained in this advice are made in reliance on information provided to Western Australian Treasury Corporation which Western Australian Treasury Corporation believes to be reliable. Western Australian Treasury Corporation, however, cannot guarantee the accuracy of that information. Thus, any recommendations are made in good faith but are provided only to assist you with any decisions which you make. These recommendations are not intended to be a substitute for professional advice on a particular matter. Before accepting or rejecting those recommendations you must discuss your particular needs and circumstances with Western Australian Treasury Corporation.



On behalf of everyone at WATC, we wish our clients a Merry Christmas and all the best for 2019 and thank you for your continued support during 2018.

WATC offices will be closed for the Christmas, Boxing Day and New Year's Day public holidays, but will be open as usual on the business days over the Christmas and New Year period.

We look forward to continuing our successful partnership with you in 2019.

OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE

November/December 2018

1. **LEE NILAN** R1.1.16
RE: CBH LIMITED
EXGRATIA RATES

2. **ERIN STEVENS** D2.1.3
RE: WESTONIA TAVERN
PERMISSION TO SELL/CONSUME LIQUOR ON COUNCIL LAND

3. **MEGAN PELLOW HALES** ST1.2.6
RE: CORPLINE PLT LTD
RAV ACCESS TO CBH CARRABIN BIN

4. **PETER NELSON** HS1.1.1
RE: WESTONIA CARAVAN PARK
NOTICE TO VACATE THE WESTONIA CARAVAN PARK

5. **KAY GEIER** ST1.2.6
RE: DELEGATIONS AUTHORITY
CHANGE ON DELEGATIONS

6. **JASMINE GEIER** ST1.2.6
RE: DELEGATIONS AUTHORITY
CHANGE ON DELEGATIONS

7. **MICK LUNDIE** F1.9.1
RE: TENDER 1 2018/19 SUPPLY AND LAY BITUMENOUS PRODUCTS INCLUDING AGGREGATE
BITUTEX – SUCCESSFUL TENDER

8. **RICHARD MORICONI** F1.9.1
RE: TENDER 1 2018/19 SUPPLY AND LAY BITUMENOUS PRODUCTS INCLUDING AGGREGATE
COLAS – UNSUCCESSFUL TENDER



Council Outstanding Resolutions Status Report

Resolutions not included here can be assumed to have been satisfactorily completed or have become redundant by virtue of a more current resolution or action. Councillors aware of an outstanding resolution not completed that should be placed in this outstanding resolution report

should contact the CEO. Red – New ~~Strikethrough – Delete~~

MEETING	ITEM/RESOLUTION	ACTION REQUIRED	RESPONSE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	TIME FRAME
October 2018	12/10-18	WATER CORPORATION PRICING POLICY – COUNCIL OWNED STANDPIPES	<p>That Council</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discusses any public submissions received from the community; 2. Seeks an extension of time to respond to the Water Corporations Action Plan for Council Controlled Standpipes; 3. Request the Chief Executive Officer to attend the Rural Water Council meeting in Northam on Friday 19th October to raise Council’s issues with the new fee structure; 4. Reaffirm September motion to write to the WA Water Corporation opposing their proposed fee structure in remote parts of the eastern wheatbelt; 5. Reaffirm September motion to write to the Department of Water and suggest that as a result of the increased Standpipe water costs that they re-introduce the Farm Water Grants to allow effected landholders the ability to create on-farm water storage and water connections; 	CEO	June 19



Council Outstanding Resolutions Status Report

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MEETING	ITEM/RESOLUTION	ACTION REQUIRED	RESPONSE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	TIME FRAME
July 2018	10/07-18	Road Closure – Carrabin South Rd	<p>That Council resolves the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For the dedication of the land the subject of Main Roads Land Dealing Plans 1760 273 2 and 1760 274 1 as a road pursuant to section 56 of the Land Administration Act 1997. 2. Initiate the road closure process for the approx. 1600m² section of Carrabin South Road as shown hatched on LOP 1760 273 2 and offer to include the land in the adjoining freehold lots owned by Rythdale Pty Ltd or if not required, include in the Reserve 45634 (purpose of Tourist Information and Rest Bay). 3. In relation to Reserve 45634, Council agrees to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Excise the land required of approx (1,021m²) for the road widening ex Reserve 45634 (purpose of Tourist Information and Rest Bay) to Main Roads as shown on LOP 1760 273 2. b) Advice as to whether the Shire has granted any interests over Reserve 45634 that would be affected by the proposed road widening and dedication – None. c) Consent to Main Roads and its contractors to enter onto Reserve 45634 to carry out construction works which will commence prior to the excision from the reserve being completed 4. Following advertising of the above proposals, please request a Council resolution pursuant to the requirements of the Land Administration Act 1997. 	CEO	Mar 19



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MEETING	ITEM/RESOLUTION	ACTION REQUIRED	RESPONSE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	TIME FRAME
July 2018	12/07-18	Standpipe Controller	That Council agree to install two (2) two solar powered standpipe controllers in Carrabin and Walgoolan, with Council transferring the \$20k from the Trust account (George Road Water Extension) and contributes the difference of approximately \$12k from Municipal Funds to complete the two stand pipes Council investigating alternative, cheaper solutions	CEO, WS	Dec 18
Sept 2018	10/09-18	WATER CORPORATION PRICING POLICY – COUNCIL OWNED STANDPIPES	That Council 1. Write to the WA Water Corporation opposing their proposed fee structure; 2. Write to the Department of Water and suggest that as a result of the increased Standpipe water costs that they re-introduce the Farm Water Grants to allow effected landholders the ability to create on-farm water storage and water connections; 3. Inform all ratepayers/farmers of the proposed changes to the WA Water Corporations fee structure and seek comment on the Shire proposed rationalisations by 15th October 2018. Issue raised with WALGA to be taken to Minister level	CEO	Nov 2018



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MEETING	ITEM/RESOLUTION	ACTION REQUIRED	RESPONSE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	TIME FRAME
Dec 2017	10/12-17	Warrachuppin Road Realignment	<p>That Council</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcomes Ramelius Resources proposal to commence operations with the Greenfinch project in the mid to later stages of 2018. 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to instigate the process for a resumption of land under the Land Administration Act in Reserve 14983. 3. Authorises expenditure to the Chief Executive Officer to commence the survey of the proposed road reserve, possible relocation of utility services (Telstra, Water) and possible new road design (if required) to enable a cost to be provided to Ramelius Resources for comment. <p>Council have engaged the services of RoadsWest engineering to draw up plans and road design. Land resumption process has been commenced, waiting on Ministers desk. Delays in environmental approval</p>	CEO	Dec 18
Sept 2017	10/09-17	Westonia Airstrip	<p>That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate a fair price for the two areas of land to incorporate into the Westonia Airstrip and report back to Council at the October meeting. Offer and Paperwork to be discussed and finalized.</p> <p>The CEO has recently held discussions with Paul Sawyer of AD Astral Aviation in relation to some substantial development & improvements to the Westonia Airstrip to allow commercial flights in and out of Westonia. Waiting on response from Ramelius Resources. Additional discussion held with Ramelius regarding airstrip</p>	CEO	Mar 18



Council Outstanding Resolutions Status Report

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MEETING	ITEM/RESOLUTION	ACTION REQUIRED	RESPONSE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	TIME FRAME
Apr 2017	17/04-17	Town Planning Scheme	Currently seeking input from town planners in relation to low cost solution Held discussions with Dept of Planning – there are willing to assist, spoke with Planner in Kellerberrin who is willing to assist. Result – reduced cost plan. Dept of Planning attended June Meeting to discuss TPS with work to commence in 2018/19. Planning commission waiting on copy of Westonia Community Strategic Plan to progress Scheme, Due for adoption in December 2018.	CEO	June 19
Apr 2017	16/04-17	Westonia Airstrip	Currently investigating, coincide with Kaolin St Renaming.	CEO	Mar 19
Apr 2017	15/04-17	Renaming of Egg Rock Road & Kaolin Street	Currently seeking input from families prior to advertising as per requirements	CEO	Dec 17
Mar 2017	13/03-17	Review of Integrated Planning Suite	Awaiting commencement date for Integrated Planning Suite review. Review undertaken from April 2018, presentation in July/August 2018. Community Strategic Plan due for adoption in December 2018.	CEO	Apr 19
Oct 16	10/10-16	Adopted sea container policy formulated by the Chief Executive Officer on the provision of sea containers in the Westonia Townsite.	CEO awaiting advise from new Health/Building Surveyor in relation to extent of paperwork required in submitting “Building Application” for approval. Local Planning Policies via Town Planning Scheme to address issue. Planning commission waiting on copy of Westonia Community Strategic Plan to progress, Due for adoption in December 2018.	CEO/Building	May 19

WORK SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1. PLANT REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

The following repairs and maintenance were carried out since the last meeting.

- JD Loader – 750hr service carried out by MechTech.
- Freightliner Roadtrain – 75,000Km service carried out by Mechtech.
- Iveco Truck – 180,000Km service and check airconditioner carried out by MechTech.
- JCB Telehandler – 900Hr service and repair airconditioner carried out by MechTech.
- JD Tractor – 1,750Hr service carried out by Mechtech.
- Community Bus – Fit 2 x new steer tyres and wheel balance.
- Fossil Fuel Trailer – replace wheel bearings on trailer.

2. CAPITAL ROAD WORKS

- Nil

3. GENERAL ROAD MAINTENANCE

- Roadside spraying of Leach, RPF and Warralakin Roads.

4. PRIVATE WORKS

- Sub-contracting work with Lendlease on the Great Eastern Highway Carrabin project.
- Slashing between trees in revege areas Ramelius.
- Grade driveways and farm roads B. Jefferys.
- Grade driveways and farm roads B Johnston.
- Grade driveways and farm roads R Day.
- Grade driveways and farm roads R DellaBosca.
- Summer grading of Graham, Barnett and Begley Roads currently being used as Haul roads for Carrabin GEH project.

5. TOWN MAINTENANCE

- Slashing of vacant blocks and weed control on surrounding verges etc.
- Hedge trimming in town gardens.

6. OTHER.

- Clean up of depot surrounds including fabrication of new sign racking and work bench in main depot.
- Install fence compound for NRM Officer in Town Common for vegetation survey.
- Install 13 x 1080 warning signs at entry points Town Common.
- Spray African Black Beetle on town oval.
- Attend regional OH&S meeting held in Kellerberrin on Monday 10 December 2018.
- A New skeleton weed (@15) find has been located on on Demarte Road.
- Outside work staff will be taking leave over the Christmas new year break from 21 December until 8 January 2019.

7. PLANT HOURS

The following is a list of plant and vehicle kilometre and hour readings for the period ending 1.12.18

Item		1.11.18	1.12.18
P1	JOHN DEERE 770G GRADER	6,046hrs	6,071hrs
P2	CAT 12M	2,467hrs	2,564hrs
P3	PRIME MOVER (IVECO)	180,624kms	183,781kms
P4	ROAD TRAIN (FREIGHTLINER)	74,577kms	80,701kms
P5	JOHN DEERE LOADER	815hrs	877hrs
P6	MULTI PAC	8,164hrs	8,164hrs
P7	MINI-EXCAVATOR	254hrs	254hrs
P8	TELEHANDLER JCB	903hrs	929hrs
P9	TOYOTA (MTCE UTE)	11,410kms	13,162kms
P10	mitsubishi CANTER	25,135kms	26,092kms
P11	TOYOTA HILUX (GARDENER) WT 35	48,780kms	49,112kms
P12	JOHN DEERE (5100)	1,803hrs	1,819hrs
P14	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER GXL (CEO)	7,496kms	10,400kms
P15	TOYOTA PRADO GXL (W/SUPER)	3,985kms	6,934kms
P16	TOYOTA RAV4 (ADMIN)	40,153kms	41,695kms
P17	TOYOTA HILUX DUAL CAB	17,722kms	18,169kms
P19	FAST ATTACK	4,985kms	5,086kms
P20	FIRE TRUCK	4,263kms	4,263kms
P18	WESSY BUS	100,002kms	100,377kms
P21	DYNAPAC FLAT DRUM	1,079hrs	1,079hrs
P22	RAMSEY RIDE ON MOWER (OVAL)	138hrs	142hrs
P23	TOYOTA MINI BUS (WT COM V)	11,713kms	11,725kms
P24	HAMM ROLLER	773hrs	805hrs

TOURISM REPORT

WESTONIA SHIRE CARAVAN PARK:

Deb has moved in to the new Caretakers Office/Residence and is still adjusting to all the space that she now has. Various works were undertaken such as a building the dividing wall for a bedroom area, water and power connection, water out and Air-conditioning servicing.

There is no longer any Semi permanent residents at the caravan park which has allowed us to re-erect the Garden shed and start to move towards having a suitable area for tents at the park.

1. REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

- Bollard Lights – Phasing old bollards out and introducing new ones gradually over the next year.
- Deck and access ramp to be installed – Caretaker office
- Various minor repairs and maintenance ongoing.

2. FUTURE PROJECTS

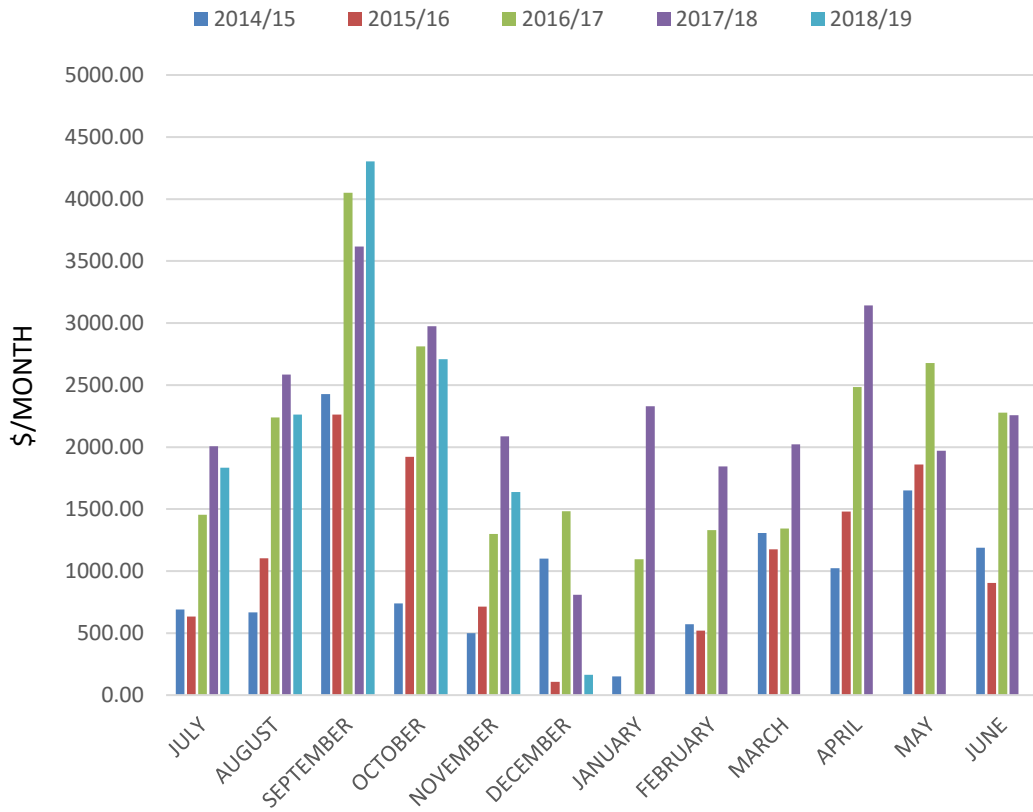
- approval of the Stronger Communities grant (Melissa Price MLA) for the Caretaker office/residence building which will go towards purchase and various upgrades needed.
- Tent Area – under trees East of Caretakers office.
- Unpowered Overflow/ Tent area – Weed matting and out lined sites

3. VISITOR FEEDBACK

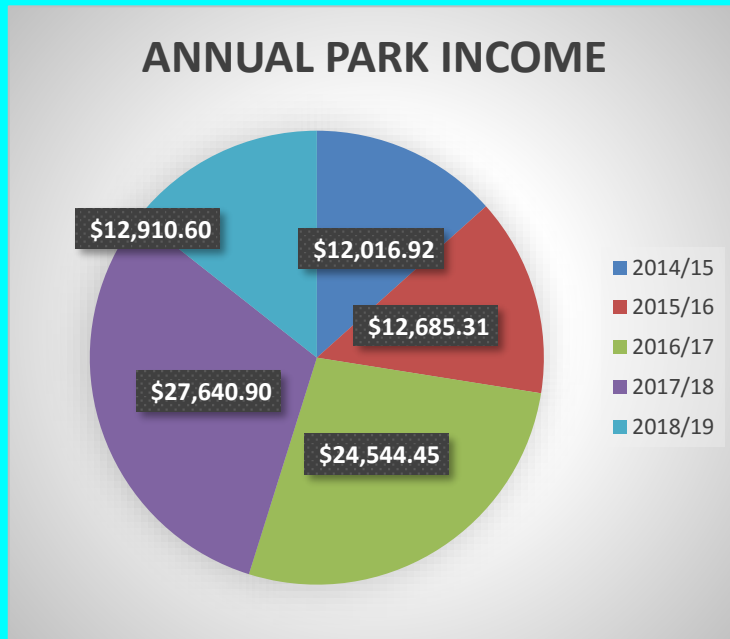
- Getting rave reviews on the Caravan Park and town/ facilities.
- Best value for money even with the slight increase
- Fantastic clean facilities
- Wiki camps still providing a good source of feedback and great promotion tool
- “Word of Mouth” still a big performer for us.
- Wheatbelt way is still growing in popularity and many of our visitors come to Westonia because of this initiative.

4. STATISTICS (Over leaf)

MONTHLY PARK INCOME



ANNUAL PARK INCOME



HOOD-PENN MUSEUM:

The last Busy Bee for the year was held on the 11th of December 2018. Various cleaning and maintenance jobs were completed. The museum is now closed on weekends for the summer and open by appointment or request during this time. It is still running as usual and open to visitors during the week over Summer. Judy Lindley has offered to open the museum for anyone who would like to see it during our shire Christmas break.

1. REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

- CCTV computer - Scott from Merredin Telephones has sourced a new Computer and has now replaced it as the computer was faulty also. Scott will be back to move the computer in to the new facility in the near future.
- Footpaths and Carpark hot mix need to go down before we can start getting the Volunteers to use the new door and close off the old one to become a façade'.

2. RECENT PROJECTS

- Trialing various lighting solutions at the moment due to black spots within the museum.

3. FUTURE PROJECTS

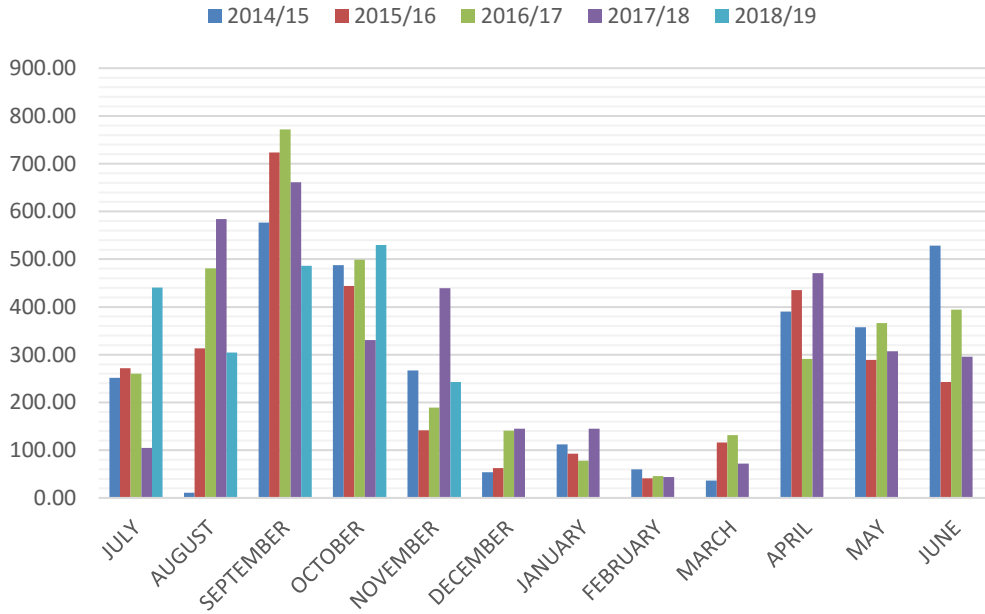
- New scenes to be created in the existing space of the old storage room to tell the stories of our primary industries of which Westonia was founded on.
- Dr Scene, offer of a donation from Dr Olga Ward to buy a new mannequin and donations of various Drs implements etc from Dr Hans Grobbelaar (via Olga). Since the success of the Lottery West/Westonia Progress Association grant the Museum, will now have room for the new Mannequins, we will now commence investigations into funding for the remainder of the Mannequins. Including a possible project to have period costumes made for all mannequins in the museum.

4. VISITOR FEEDBACK (Verbal and Visitor register)

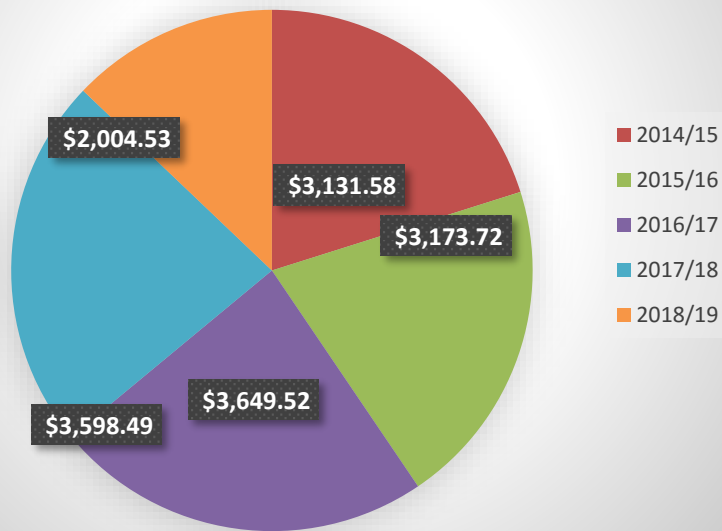
- Fantastic displays / Amazing
- Clean and tidy
- Very interesting / Not like any other museum they have visited
- Amazing
- Visitor's hearing about museum in Merredin at the visitor's centre, railway & military museums
- Wheatbelt way and word of mouth still a big performer for us (getting quite a few through from Kalgoorlie)

5. STATISTICS (Over leaf)

MONTHLY MUSEUM INCOME



ANNUAL MUSEUM INCOME



Author – Pool Manager Leah Philippe

Patron Use

Week 1 – 59 patron visits

Week 2 – 45 patron visits

Week 3 – 39 patron visits

Week 4 – 68 patron visits

Incidents

Bee sting 28/11/2018 – Shauna Hodgkinson, big toe. First aid applied. Patient stated not allergic.

Plant and equipment

- The plant equipment appears to be in working order. The only issues are:
 - some of the pipe joiners have reasonably large cracks in them, although these have been there for some time already.
 - Leak from the filter viewing window is more than last season.
 - Leaks from main circulation pump
- The brick wall that the ladder used to get into the filters is still cracked.
- The ladder inside the filter housing is rusted at the bottom.
- There is still no platform in the filter across the top of the weir to prevent falling.
- The ladder used to get into the filters has not been upgraded yet to comply with safety issues. I will not be using the current ladder to enter the filters. If this is required, other means will need to be used.
- The new disinfection system seems to be working ok, except for the issue on the 29/11/18 (mentioned below). Currently I have put a hose from the overflow outlet on the Procal housing, which I have taken out the front door of the plant room onto the lawn. This should only be temporary measure, and a hole needs to be drilled into the corner of the brick wall near the overflow pipe to better cater for this.
- On the 16/11/18 town lost power for 24 hrs. This means that the pool was not circulating for 36 hrs, which required it to be closed on the 18/11/18 to allow adequate circulation and chlorine disinfection.

Pool

- Water samples for microbial testing were taken on 26/11/18, which came back clear.
- Again, more top up water is being required than last season.
- The expansion joints/cracks in the pool surface are larger again this year.
- The surface coating of the pool is peeling in more places.
- The chemical dosing system is working well, except for the issue on the 29/11/18, where the sensors were isolated when adding water to the balance tank (as advised by installer), and all of the chlorine granules in the hopper were released into the water. The reason for this is unknown at the time of writing this report. This over chlorinated the pool (>10ppm), which led to its closure on the 30/11/18. Levels were still high (6.7 ppm) on 1/12/18, but low enough to allow the pool to be opened. A sign was put up at the entrance informing patrons that chlorine levels were higher than normal.

Other

- The bunting above the brown shade sail has deteriorated. The new bunting is being stored in the first aid room.
- The shade sail above the toddler pool has a substantial rip above one of the steel support beams.
- There are areas in the concrete which are very deteriorated.

From: Peter Johnson <PJohnson@walga.asn.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 12 December 2018 8:45 AM
To: Jamie Criddle <ceo@westonia.wa.gov.au>
Cc: Community.Liaison@police.wa.gov.au; Procurement Reports <ProcReports@walga.asn.au>
Subject: November 2018 Crime Stats for the Shire of Westonia (with attachment this time)

Good morning folks,

Here are the November 2018 Crime Statistics for the Shire of Westonia.

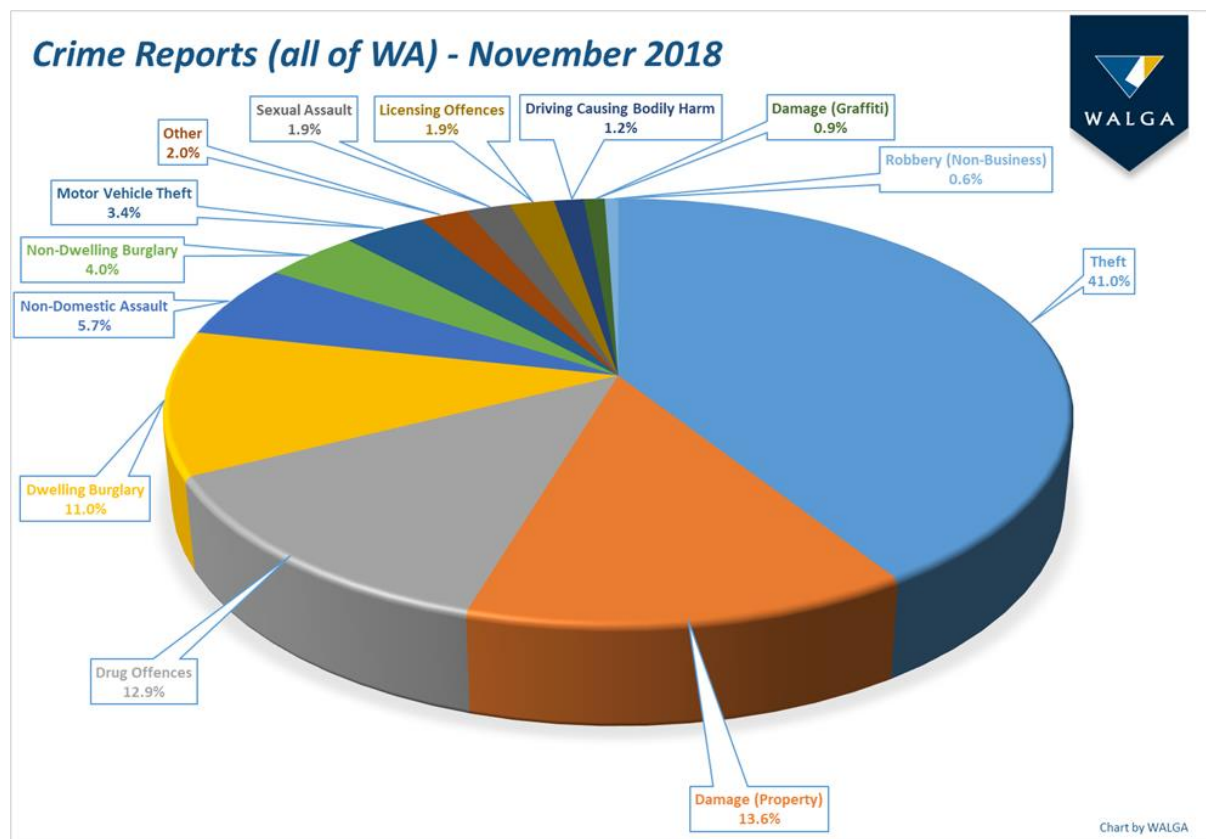
To give some context, WAPol has provided us with data about 20,734 crimes reported across the state in November. Twenty of our 138 member Local Governments had less than two crimes reported in their area. The largest number of crimes reported against a single Local Government was just over 1500.

I've whipped up a quick chart to show (below) to show what the villains were up to in November.

This is the last report from us for 2018. Thanks to WAPol Business Intelligence folk for consistently providing this data this year.

Enjoy your break if you're having one, drive safe, be kind and (obviously from the chart below) make sure you secure your valuables!

Cheers
PeterJ



Peter Johnson | ICT Manager | WALGA
(p) (08) 9213 2019 | (mob) 0477 335 682 | (f) (08) 9213 2077 | (e) ictmanager@walga.asn.au



13 December 2018

[Swim safely in your aquatic facilities](#)

[Save the date: People Risk Day – Great Southern](#)

[LGIS contacts over the holiday period](#)

Hello Jasmine

Swim safely in your aquatic facilities



LGIS has partnered with the Royal Life Saving Society WA (RLSSWA) for 17 years to deliver aquatic safety audits to members and improve safety standards at local government aquatic facilities across Western Australia. This collaborative approach has seen great improvements in safety at community pools across the state.

The safety audits cover areas of management, design and operations based on the Guidelines for Safe Pool Operations, Australian Standards and State legislation. This includes administration, chemical safety, water treatment, first aid, technical operations, facility design, water features, general supervision and learn to swim programs.

Some of our members go above and beyond, with the City of Cockburn receiving a National Aquatic Industry Safety Award from Royal Life Saving Society Australia. They were recognised for their significant contribution to aquatic safety within their community at the new Cockburn Aquatic and Recreation Centre (ARC).

Read more in our December edition of [Risk Matters magazine](#) – available on the LGIS website now. Other topics include managing events within your community, managing psychosocial risks in the workplace, preparing for bushfire season, and how climate change can impact your local government and community.

Save the date: People Risk Day – Great Southern



Following the success of our Risk and Governance Day, LGIS is pleased to present our inaugural LGIS People Risk Day – set to take place on Thursday, 21 March 2019 in Gnowangerup.

This event is brought to you by the LGIS WorkCare Services team, who will share their knowledge on topics as voted by you, the members.

The range of topics include:

- ▶ Navigating the fitness for work process - why an assessment might be needed, when to request an assessment, and key points around this process.
- ▶ Guide to promoting a healthy workplace - key steps in planning, implementing and reviewing your workplace's health and wellbeing program.
- ▶ Phasing into retirement - assist individuals to prepare for and feel positive about retirement.
- ▶ Managing an ageing workforce - build awareness of the impacts of changing workforce demographics and equip leaders with skills to manage an ageing workforce.
- ▶ Why we need more than just staff training when tackling unhealthy workplace behaviour – understanding the difference between primary, secondary, and tertiary interventions.
- ▶ Looking through the lens of the employee lifecycle - understand your obligations, and what you should be doing to ensure your workers are happy, engaged and fulfilled in the workplace.
- ▶ Early intervention - how you can provide support during the early stages of a worker's compensation claim.
- ▶ The role of workplace rehabilitation providers in managing return to work - who they are, what they do, when to use them, and the expected outcomes.
- ▶ Working with the medical team – how to achieve efficient and safe return to work.
- ▶ Drive right - how to ergonomically set up your vehicle to reduce your risk of injury.
- ▶ The pros and cons of pre-employment medicals.

Registration forms will be available early in the New Year. For more information, please contact Renee Wockner, LGIS WorkCare Services Manager, on 9483 8826.

LGIS contacts over the holiday period

Please note our office will be closed from Monday, 24 December and will reopen Wednesday, 2 January 2019.

For urgent assistance during this time, please contact:

- ▶ **Insurance and general enquiries:** Andrew Greig – 0427 380 072
- ▶ **Claims:** Lydia Schifferli – 9483 8849 or 0428 553 068 / Chad Cossom – 9483 8854
- ▶ **Risk Management:** Ben Galvin – 0409 048 794
- ▶ **Allied Health and HR:** Renee Wockner – 0429 449 855

The festive period can be a difficult time for some. Our '[mental health tips for the festive season](#)' and '[counselling](#)

[services](#)' flyers provide resources in how to cope, and the LGIS counselling service remains available to all local government workers over the holidays – contact our counsellor Claire Rowe on 0403 575 777 for assistance.

The LGIS team wishes you all a safe and happy festive period.



Every effort has been taken by LGIS to ensure that the information contained in this e-newsletter is accurate, informative, relevant and appropriate for local governments in Western Australia; and is given in good faith based on sources believed to be reliable and accurate. Any such narrative contained in this newsletter should not be construed as a recommendation or advice proffered by LGIS, its respective officers, employees and agents. LGIS does not accept responsibility for any loss or damage arising from the application, use and reliance of information contained within this newsletter. Any information contained within this newsletter does not constitute legal or financial advice. LGIS emphasises that you should consult your advisors before acting on any information contained within this newsletter. LGIS reserves the right to refuse or withdraw any requests for the LGIS e-newsletter at any time without any notification.

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Welcome to the Wheatbelt community

A vibrant Wheatbelt community that creates
healthy environments and livelihoods.

What a year we've had

2018 has been a tumultuous year for Wheatbelt NRM. It started with uncertainty as we prepared a tender for the new Australian Governments Regional Lands Partnership. We launched the new Ag Trials website and in March held another successful Talkin' Soil Health conference. Construction started at Lake Yealering and Lake Ewlyamartup as part of the Living Lake project. We launched our wonderful new book – Birds of the Avon River Basin.

It has been a wild ride but we thank our Member Organisations, our Associate members and our partners in the community who enable us to continue our work and strive with us to achieve "A vibrant Wheatbelt community that creates healthy environments and livelihoods."

[READ MORE](#) >

Latest News



GOVERNANCE

Opportunity: Casual position for Wheatbelt NRM Board of Directors

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management is looking for directors to fill **casual vacancies** on the Board. We are interested in candidates that can bring additional skills in marketing and/or aboriginal cultural engagement. The successful candidates should have NRM skills and own/live or operated within the Avon River Basin.

Applications close Tuesday 1 January 2019.

[APPLY NOW](#) >

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS

Matchstick Banksia – on the hunt for the final 500

As part of the National Landcare Program Wheatbelt NRM has been set the task of urgently acting to protect the threatened species - Matchstick Banksia, *Banksia cuneata*, also known as the Quairading Banksia. This is a unique species named for its distinctive flowers, is found in small patches in the shires of Quairading, Brookton, Cuballing and Narrogin. It is estimated that there are as few as 500 plants left in the wild.





OPERATIONS

The Wheatbelt NRM annual calendar has arrived!

The calendar is produced in conjunction with the Noongar Elders Advisory Group and celebrates Koorā, Yey and Kalyakoorl (Past, Present, Forever). Based on the Noongar 6 Seasons it brings together some of the stories the Noongar community of this region have shared with us. Get your copy and find out about Gumming, The Crack at Boodjin and why the Bobtail has scales along with much more.

The calendar is a limited print and copies can be purchased through the Wheatbelt NRM online shop for \$14.00. It makes a great Christmas Gift. Much better than socks or jocks.

ORDER NOW >

OPERATIONS

Do you know what it means to subscribe to our eNews?

When you join you automatically become an Associate Member of Wheatbelt NRM. Our new Constitution formally recognises Associate members. As an Associate you are entitled to access a copy of the Constitution, invites to events, a list of the names of our Board members, access to information, such as this Enews and of course our Annual Report.

We are committed to making this eNews an even more valuable source of information, news stories, events and new publications so have a look what's on offer and share this with your friends. If you have any



suggestions please email
info@wheatbeltnrm.org.au.



OPERATIONS

Winner Winner Chicken Dinner

We were very excited to recently receive this award as recipients of the Judges' Encouragement Award at the 2018 IAP2 Core Values Award. IAP2 is the International Association for Public Participation and seeks to promote and improve the practice of public participation or community and stakeholder engagement.

[READ MORE](#) >

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS

Wheatbelt icons a focus for door knocking

The iconic Carnaby's cockatoo, Red-tailed phascogale, Numbat and Chuditch are all threatened species that call the critically endangered Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt (a Threatened Ecological Community) home.





SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIES

Mutton no longer dressed as lamb

Mixed farmers in the Wheatbelt Region are set to benefit from recent changes proposed to the Australian definition of lamb by the Sheepmeat Council of Australia.

Including livestock in the rotation can contribute to a more resilient farm business and can have productivity and environmental benefits, supporting the vision of the Regional NRM Strategy for the Avon River Basin.

[**READ MORE**](#) >

SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIES

Salinity – New Directions

A report this year from the Auditor General's Office has put salinity back on the agenda for WA. Salinity is a big problem, and the cost of deciding to just live with it needs to be questioned. Estimates are that 1 – 2 million hectares of the agricultural regions of the south west are impacted, costing \$519 million per annum in lost production. That might double in the next 50 – 100 years. Adding the cost of damaged infrastructure, water resource impacts and biodiversity loss would provide a truer picture of the scale of the problem.





SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIES

Marketing and Tourism consultant needed for the Living Lakes project

Wheatbelt NRM is seeking submissions from suitably qualified consultants to deliver Destination Marketing Plans for Lakes Yealering and Ewlyamartup as part of Stage 3 of the Living Lakes project.

[READ MORE](#) >

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS

The 2018 Great Cocky Count Report has been released!

For the first time BirdLife WA have people on the front cover. This reflects the amazing job the volunteers do to make the GCC a success. Thanks again to all our Great Cocky Counters for doing such a great job.

SAVE THE DATE: The 2019 GCC will be on Sunday April 7



OPERATIONS

Birds of the Avon River Basin and Noongar Dictionary are now available in our online shop!

Hot of the press! The Birds of the Avon River Basin and the Ballardong Noongar Dictionary are now available for purchase. These

amazing publications make great resources and gifts. As always, electronic versions of these publications are free to download on our knowledge hub.

ORDER NOW >

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS

Bird of the Week: Masked Woodswallow

The Masked Woodswallow or *Artamus personatus* is seen in pairs and small groups. The Masked Woodswallow forms large flocks that fly up high and can be found with other woodswallows. The Masked Woodswallow catches prey in the air and usually nests in a dead or living tree branch or low shrubs, but may use fenceposts and stumps. The Masked Woodswallow moves with seasons and rainfall/temperature, usually flies south in spring to breed.



>

The birds featured in "Bird of the Week" are extracts from our Birds of the Avon River Basin book which is available at our online store or download your free electronic copy below.

DOWNLOAD NOW >

Video



Farming with Cultural Heritage

In this video, Cunderdin farmers Alan Carter and Rex Kennedy talk about having a cultural heritage site (in this case, a rock quarry) on a farming property and the opportunities this can bring.

[WATCH VIDEO](#) >



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Operational Fleet Project

Delivering a Fit for Purpose Fleet Together



BACKGROUND AND PROJECT OVERVIEW

What we are doing

The Operational Fleet Project (OFP) is developing a model that will enhance stakeholder engagement and streamline the process to deliver the design, specifications, first of types and build contracts for the DFES operational fleet. By building a robust model that involves end users at multiple steps, such as needs analysis and prototype evaluation, this new process will result in vehicle specifications and tender responses that meet both State needs and user requirements.

In addition to developing a new model the project will be:

- piloting and refining the new delivery model across a number of priority fleet project streams
- developing an online [Fleet Catalogue](#) to improve access to operational fleet information

For further details or feedback on this update, please contact the project team OperationalFleetProject@dfes.wa.gov.au or visit us at the [DFES Intranet](#) or the [Volunteer Portal](#).

Why we are doing it

- Delivery of 'Fit for Purpose' vehicles will better equip all our fire & emergency services to protect the community.
- A key focus of this project is to address concerns regarding the current fleet design and delivery process, by improving stakeholder inclusion and acceptance, considering market innovations, bringing consistency to the process, improving visibility of fleet delivery, and therefore reduce our risks.

How we are doing it

- Continual end user engagement with opportunity to contribute towards fleet design and evaluation
- Not a 'one size fits all' exercise – expert configurations will be applied to suit local conditions
- Standardising the composition of our operational fleet where possible will maximise interoperability and improve efficiencies.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Fire & Emergency Services

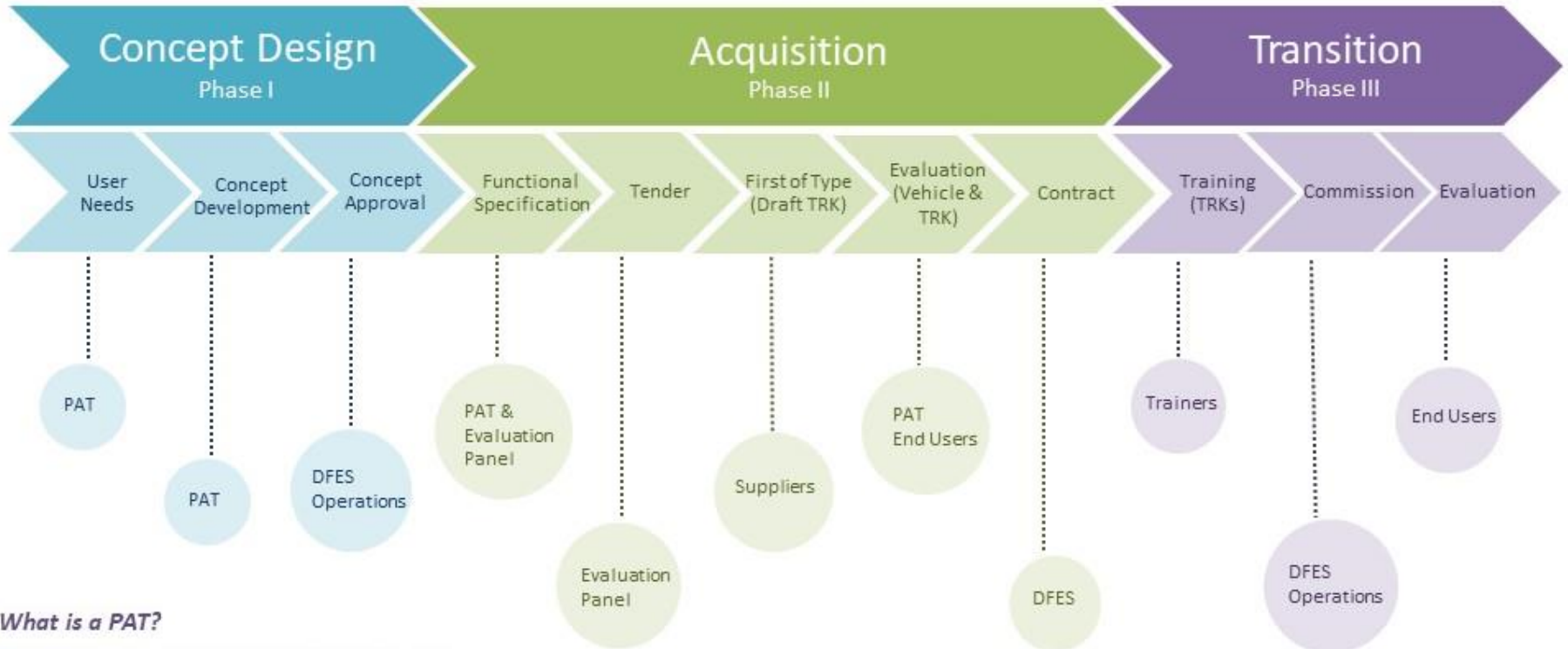


Operational Fleet Project

Delivering a Fit for Purpose Fleet Together



Operational Fleet Design & Delivery Model



What is a PAT?

A Project Advisory Team (PAT) includes representatives from all services and is responsible to provide crucial input to vehicle design and evaluation. The Project Board is responsible for nominating PAT members.

Operational Fleet Project

Delivering a Fit for Purpose Fleet Together



UPDATE | December 2018

What has been happening?

- Operational Fleet Project (OFP) website launched on Volunteer Portal
- Online [Operational Fleet Catalogue](#) launched
- Project Advisory Teams (PATs) convened for SES Rescue Vehicle (SES PC replacement), Combined Aerial Pumper Appliance (CAPA) and 3.4 Urban Tanker
- PAT chairs have been nominated for all active fleet project streams
- Project Reference Group convened for first time – key responsibility will be in reviewing and endorsing PAT recommendations on concept design
- Detailed project plans for all active fleet project streams now complete giving us a clear direction, key activities and milestones to provide visibility of delivery activities
- Project Board met for second time, provided with Fleet Project Streams plans and updates

What is next?

- Online Fleet Catalogue 'Filtering Capability' enhancement to be added by Feb 2019
- PAT Chair briefing session will be held in late January for all active fleet project streams – providing understanding of the Operational Fleet Design and Delivery Model and training as to how they will apply the model in their role as Chairs.
- New Business Analyst (BA) will commence on the project to focus on developing functional specifications for the SES Rescue Vehicle and CAPA initially.

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHT

3.4 Urban Tanker PAT User Trial voted a success

The 3.4 Urban Tanker (UT) PAT met early this month, with great representation from VFERS, VFES and BFS from all around the state, including metro, Kimberley and Great Southern regions. Despite meeting for the first time, there was a surprising amount of commonality across expectations of these diverse groups.

With two trucks available and encouraging engagement from all who attended, our end user trial and evaluation included ergonomics, crew cab protection system, pump performance, mobility and an operational safety risk assessment. Training materials were also evaluated.

As the 3.4 UT is already in production, with these vehicles being first of build under a new contract, the focus was to ensure there were no functional or safety issues. New to Service trials in the field will follow.

What's next

After having evaluated all feedback, recommendations for critical improvements have been made and are now being assessed.

Look out for the 3.4 Urban Tanker PAT Video coming in January 2019



Government of Western Australia
Department of Fire & Emergency Services

For further details or feedback on this update, please contact the project team OperationalFleetProject@dfes.wa.gov.au or visit us at the [DFES Intranet](#) or the [Volunteer Portal](#).

DFES
Department of Fire & Emergency Services

Operational Fleet Project

Delivering a Fit for Purpose Fleet Together



Clearing up the confusion...what the project is not

We have seen some confusion around what the Operational Fleet Project (OFP) is doing and how we can help you with your fleet related queries. OFP is developing a model that will enhance stakeholder engagement and streamline the process to deliver the design, specifications, first of types and build contracts for the DFES operational fleet. The project's focus is the design and delivery of the next generation of Fit for Purpose fleet. Our opportunity is to create an ethos around continuous improvement of our fleet.

Please note the project does not allocate fleet or manage fleet replacements.

We'd like to wish you all the best for the festive season and look forward to continue working with you in 2019.



What's next for our priority fleet?

- Ultra Light Tanker: Working with Procurement to finalise the tender evaluation report. PAT Chair has been nominated. More specific details to follow.
- Light Tanker: Working with Procurement to finalise the tender evaluation report. PAT Chair has been nominated. More specific details to follow.
- 3.4 Urban Tanker: Delivery and hand over of the first 2 appliances to Wyndham VFES and Brookton VFRS, with end users to participate in New to Service trials and provide feedback.
- 4.4 Broadacre Tanker: Tender period has closed and the Tender Evaluation Panel has been established to commence review of tender responses. PAT Chair has been nominated.
- Road Crash Rescue Tender: Currently with Procurement to finalise tender evaluation report. PAT Chair has been nominated.
- CAPA and SES Rescue Vehicle are in final steps of Concept Design, preparing for endorsement by the Project Reference Group and Project Board approval. The functional specifications for each vehicle will then be developed.

[Click Here](#) for full status update on all Vehicle Project Streams

"We achieved more in one day than we have over the past 5 years"
Lin Booth, Secretary SESVA following the SES Rescue Vehicle PAT workshop



Government of Western Australia
Department of Fire & Emergency Services



Training eNews

DECEMBER 2018



Issue 12

With the end of another busy year already upon us, the WALGA training team would like to thank you for your support during 2018.

Our 2019 Training Calendar and course outlines, along with online registration facility is available now on our walga.asn.au/Training website, with an electronic copy of our 2019 Training Directory available in the New Year.

With over 45 courses specifically tailored for Local Government, we continue to strive to ensure that the needs of the sector are met.

On behalf of the team, we wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In this issue:

- [New eLearning Course](#)
- [Emergency Management Training](#)
- [Governance Training](#)
- [Personal Development and Professional Skills Training](#)
- [Elected Member Training](#)

Exciting News!

Overview

We have a new eLearning course coming soon!

The Meeting Procedures and Debating course will now be offered as both face-to-face and eLearning from early 2019.

This course concentrates on knowledge of meeting procedures and high level debating techniques, and is a practical tool kit for those who attend Council

and committee meetings as Members or Presiding Members.

Below are the face-to-face dates for 2019:

- [Tuesday, 5 February](#)
- [Tuesday, 16 April](#)
- [Friday, 28 June](#)
- [Thursday, 11 September](#)

For more information please visit walga.asn.au/Training, email training@walga.asn.au or call (08) 9213 2088.

Emergency Management Training

Overview

WALGA's Local Government Emergency Management courses have been developed to assist Local Governments with their emergency management responsibilities under the *Emergency Management Act 2005*:

AIIMS Awareness (eLearning)	Available online
Emergency Management Fundamentals (eLearning)	Available online
Participate in Local Government Emergency Management Preparation	13 March
Manage Recovery Activities for Local Government	14 March
Local Recovery Coordinator	10 and 11 April

For more information about these courses and many more, please visit walga.asn.au/Training, email training@walga.asn.au or call (08) 9213 2088.

Governance Training

Overview

The following WALGA Training courses specifically constructed for Local Government Officers are scheduled at WALGA's, Railway Parade, West Leederville offices:

Introduction to Local Government	Available online
Making Local Laws	Available online

[Local Government Act 1995 - The Essentials](#) 4 February

[Rates in Local Government - Clerical](#) 18 March

[Rates in Local Government - Debt Collection](#) 19 March

For more information about these courses and many more, please visit walga.asn.au/Training, email training@walga.asn.au or call (08) 9213 2088.

Personal Development and Professional Skills Training

Overview

The following WALGA Training courses specifically constructed for Local Government Officers are scheduled at WALGA's, Railway Parade, West Leederville offices:

[Preparing Agendas and Minutes](#) 22 January

[Effective Letter and Report Writing](#) 23 January

[Dealing with Difficult Customers](#) 18 February

[Effective Supervision - Part 1](#) 7 and 8 March

For more information about these courses and many more, please visit walga.asn.au/Training, email training@walga.asn.au or call (08) 9213 2088.

Elected Member Training

Overview

The following WALGA Training courses specifically constructed for Elected Members and are scheduled at WALGA's, Railway Parade, West Leederville offices:

[Understanding Local Government \(eLearning\)](#) Available online

[Conflicts of Interest \(eLearning\)](#) Available online

[Serving on Council](#) 4 February

[Meeting Procedures and Debating](#) 5 February

[Integrated Strategic Planning - The Essentials](#) 18 February

[Planning Practices - The Essentials](#)

19 February

For more information about these courses and many more, please visit walqa.asn.au/Training, email training@walqa.asn.au or call (08) 9213 2088.

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