



Councillor Information Bulletin

For the Ordinary Council Meeting
held on Thursday 24th September 2026

INDEX

1. **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

2. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

3. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

Community Development Update

Wellbeing Update

Tourism Update

Hood-Penn Museum Update

4. **COUNCIL INFORMATION**

- Longreach Conference 2026
- Harvest Fire Conversation
- Wheatbelt secondary freight network
- Western Australian local government grant commission 2026-27
- WALGA Quarterly Service Report
- Visit to the shire of Westonia
- Main Roads at Dowerin



SHIRE OF WESTONIA

Sept/Oct 26

Date & Time	What	Where	Who
Thursday 20 September	Council Meeting	Chambers	Councillors, Senior Staff
Monday 5 October	CEACA Management Meeting	Teams	CEO
Tuesday 6 October	NEWTRAVEL	Nungarin	Cr Faithfull & CEO
Thursday 8 October	WSFN John Nuttall Meeting	CEO Office	CEO
Thursday 15 October	Council Meeting	Chambers	Councillors, Senior Staff
Friday 16 October	Hub Opening & Night at the Museum	Hub/Main Street	Community

CEO'S REPORT

- **GENERAL MATTERS**

- During the month the Visa application process has been submitted for Juan Petroni with Migration Services.
- A new CEO Toyota Landcruiser was picked up in Perth with the trade Toyota Landcruiser 300 series vehicle being sold for \$ 100k to car yard in Perth.
- Conducted interviews for Town Maintenance Person position vacancy. Charlie Dixon from Merredin has been appointed to the position. Charlie is a retired plumber and has extensive gardening, reticulation and grounds maintenance experience at mining camps and hospitals. I intend to also offer a 3 month contract to a Bradley Stack, also from Merredin as a gardener to assist the town crew in catching up on landscaping jobs, particularly as Mick Iburg has been on extended sick leave and we have gone several months without a Town Maintenance person.
- Dealt with Police Crash Investigation Squad in relation to fatal crash on the Westonia Carrabin Road.
- Coordinated a social function for the Georgio Group (60 attendees) held at the Wanderers Stadium on Tuesday 1 September.
- Met with Steve & Lorraine Filletti to discuss some accommodation options should they relocate back to Westonia offering St John Ambulance volunteer service.
- The community bus has again gone into Merredin Panel & Paint to fix the kangaroo dents on the passenger side.
- A group of 9 x delegates attended the Small Town Revitalization Conference held in Longreach, QLD. The conference was extremely inspiring with many ideas to be had in relation to opportunities for Tourist expansion and service delivery in Westonia. A full report has been shared in the main agenda.
- I met with new mine Supervisor, David Baumgartel, who visited Westonia on Tuesday 15 September.
- A vintage Wayne 605 has been purchased in Bunbury for restoration by Murray for future placement in the passageway to the museum.



- The new antique radio collection has been delivered and is currently on display in the passageway until the Hood Penn Museum is reconfigured and refurbished later in the year.



- A meeting with the Playground working group was held on Friday 18 September to make final comments and changes to the original concept of the playground design. A 3D concept with costings will be provided as part of the next stage design.
- The third transportable unit will be delivered on 13 October. Fencing landscaping and general tidy up will be completed over the next 6 weeks.
- Council has been provided minutes and correspondence from CEACA which is now only for Councillors information and is not for public airing.

- **DELEGATED AUTHORITY ACTIONS**

- Nil

- **ROADCREW**

- Graders completed the winter grading program with every gravel road within the shire being graded.
- The construction crew are in Mukinbudin undertaking the construction project on the Nungarin Mukinbudin Road.
- Sand and gravel materials have been carted to the SRG Yerbillion stockpile and will continue each swing.

- **TOWN**

- 3 x new sand pads constructed in preparation for new sheds being constructed in townsite.
- Juan is steadily re-mulching the gardens in Cement Street and Rose Gardens.
- Installed storm water pipe to the new 150Kl tank at the playground.
- 100m of new concrete footpath has been installed in Cement Street.
- A new 40Ft 4 x door sea container has been purchased and delivered to the Council laydown area for storage.
- Western Power have been installing new LED street lights around the town. Contractors have installed the new underground power on the Granite Street lots.
- Community busy bee took place on Sunday 20 September to spread mulch in the Community Rose Garden. Appreciation to all volunteers and to Peter Lilly for spraying the aphid invasion.



- Juan has purchased a 1937 Chevrolet Stylemaster truck and wishes to use the vehicle as part of his garden rounds.



- **PLANT HOURS**

The following is a list of plant and vehicle kilometre and hour readings for the period ending 30.09.26.

Item		31.08.26	30.09.26
P1	CAT 140 GRADER	4,947hrs	5,042hrs
P2	CAT 12M GRADER	11,349hrs	11,503hrs
P3	PRIME MOVER (KENWORTH)	95,570kms	96,401ms
P4	ROAD TRAIN (NEW FREIGHTLINER)	191,565kms	192,009kms
P5	JOHN DEERE LOADER	261hrs	271hrs
P6	CAT ROLLER (SKIP)	3,556hrs	3,657hrs
P7	MINI-EXCAVATOR	1,592hrs	1,614hrs
P8	TELEHANDLER JCB	866hrs	909hrs
P9	TOYOTA (GRADER UTE)	96,916ms	98,616ms
P10	MITSUBISHI CANTER	42,817ms	42,817ms
P11	TOYOTA HILUX (HCS) WT 35	115,782kms	115,934kms
P12	JOHN DEERE (5100)	2,847hrs	2,892hrs
P14	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER GXL (CEO)	41,112kms	1,100 kms
P15	TOYOTA HILUX D/CAB (W/SUPER)	19,597kms	23,573kms
P16	TOYOTA RAV4 (Community)	34,517kms	35,789kms
P17	TOYOTA HILUX DUAL CAB	96,468kms	97,721kms
P19	FAST ATTACK	23,038kms	23,038kms
P20	FIRE TRUCK	7,787kms	7,787kms
P18	WESSY BUS	158,310kms	158,310kms
P22	KUBOTA RIDE ON MOWER (OVAL)	2,217hrs	2,229hrs
P23	TOYOTA MINI-BUS (WT COM V)	51,129kms	52,331kms
P24	CAT ROLLER (LOLA)	3,960hrs	4,111hrs
P25	MICK's BEAUT UTE	192,874ms	193,139kms
P27	TOYOTA PRADO GXL (DCEO)	13,870kms	19,369kms
P28	TOYOTA HILUX UTILITY (TOWN)	19,090kms	19,178ms
P29	MOWER	25hrs	26hrs

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND WELLBEING REPORT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Working group meetings held every 3rd Wednesday of the month:

Event planning –

Wessy on the Green 2027. We have started locking in food vendors, Entertainment, sound tech and bands for the 10th of April 2027.

A Night @ the Museum – to be held 16/10/2026 Friday evening. Incorporating the opening of the Mens shed and the Warm Water Leisure Pool.

A Triathlon is being planned for the end of the year or early 2027. Community fitness, active Farmers and move it or Loose it are well underway thanks to our effervescent and highly motivated instructor Emilie Menze.

The Warm Water Leisure Pool is open and getting a lot of use.

CRC – with Co-design workshops over the DPIRD WACRN team have now moved into the Procurement and Contracting phase, which will run until 1 July 2027, when the new contracts begin.

Community Hub – Initial consultation with the community 9/09/2026, a meeting was held to brainstorm the logistics of setting up the Mens Shed, Community, Greenhouse-Garden and Games Room. It was a very productive meeting with lots of ideas and enthusiasm

Grant applications & award nominations submitted:

The CRC have submitted the official grant application for Major Sponsorship to the Bendigo Bank for \$30,000.00 towards Wessy on the Green 2027. This has been accepted and the event will now be called Bendigo Bank Wessy on the Green and will be on all advertising going forward.

Application for \$1000 for Seniors week has been submitted, planned activities are to begin a Garden Wicking bed project and hold an Open Day in November for the Community Hub.

Future grant opportunities & award nominations:

WELLBEING REPORT

Weekly Activities

Bingo every Thursday 9-12 Pax

Scrabble every Tuesday 5 Pax

Bus trips Movies in Merredin and coming up Daffodil day in Nungarin this Friday and Chinese Friday 28/8/26.

Active Farmers with Emilie Menze Every Wednesday (2x General Fitness classes and seniors' session)

Age Care

Westonia Home Care Services

We are continuing to provide community Wellbeing activities

Westonia Home Care Services Clients: 23

New clients about to join service: 2

Staff delivering services: 5

Services: Administration and Package management, Cleaning and Household tasks, Medical, Personal Care, Social Support, Support work, Gardening & Maintenance, Meals, Allied health, Medicine management, Equipment and Home modifications.

Department of Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission - Westonia Home Care are currently making application to renew their 3 yearly contract to provide Support at Home Services.

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing – Thin Markets Grant (round 3) is open and we will be applying for the 2027-2028 financial year, approximately \$200,000.00 to assist in keeping cost lower while delivering aged care in rural and remote areas.

Monthly and annual reporting – Quarterly and annual financial reports to Department of health, disability and ageing. SaHCC annual reporting (Support @ Home cost collection).

WESTONIA TOURIST PARK

The Park has been full most nights, there have been five caravan clubs that have visited just this month, which is awesome that Westonia is being considered as a destination for so many clubs. The single units are booked out to McConnell and Dowell on a 2:1 roster which means we are still able to offer accommodation to traveler's during the week they are away.

REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

Various minor repairs and maintenance are ongoing. Focal area being bathroom maintenance (fixtures and disabled bathroom upgrade)

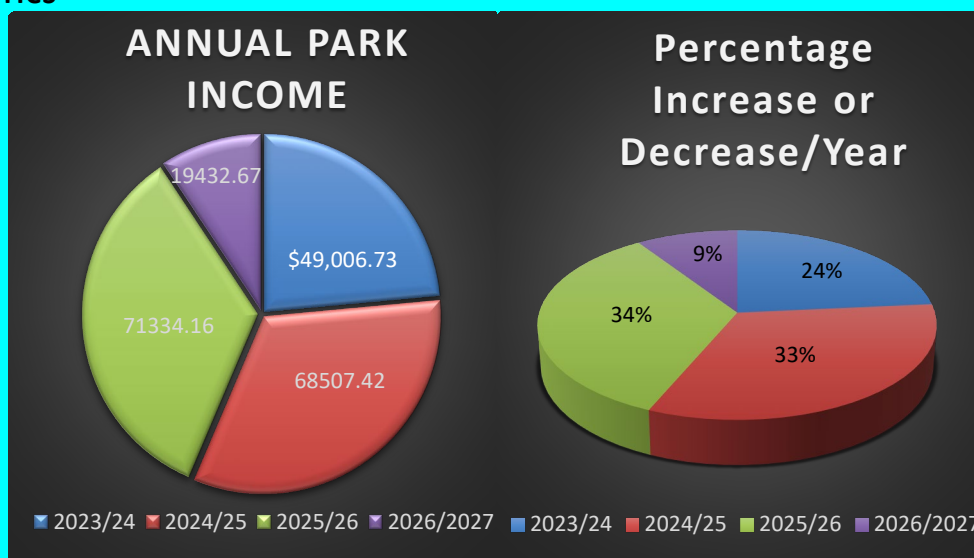
Disabled toilet drainage will need some major work as tree roots have made their way into the pipes.

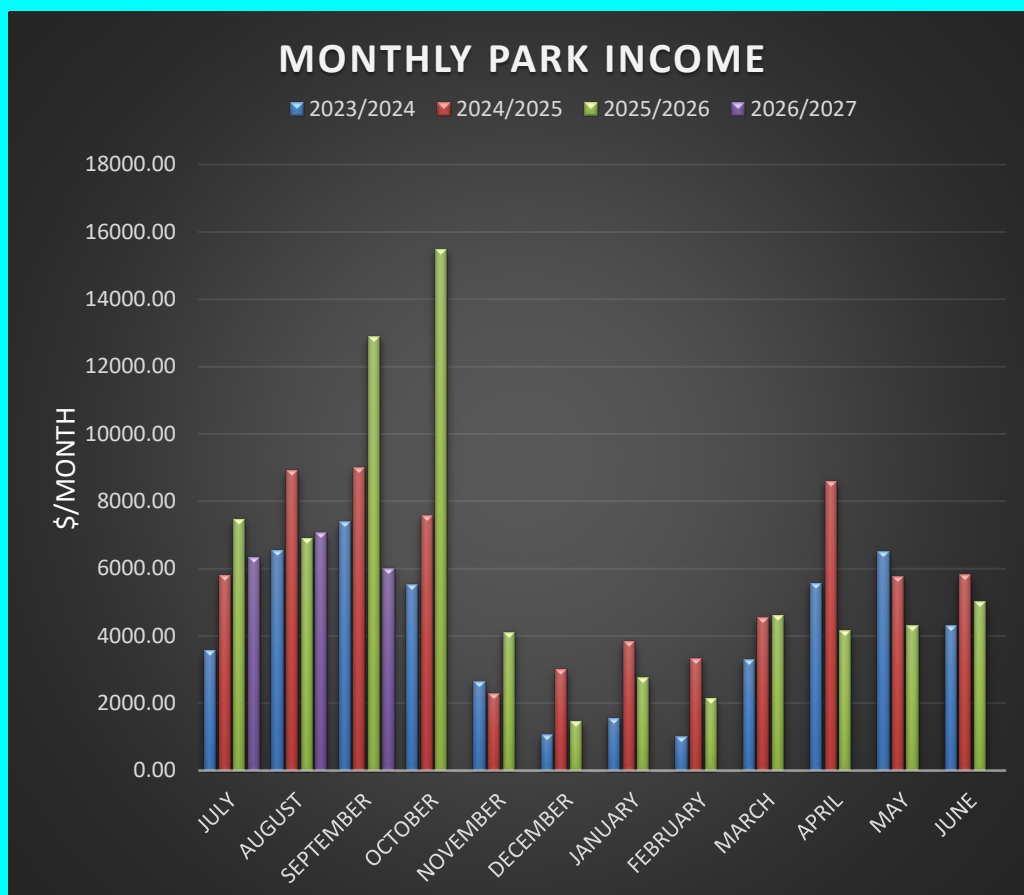
FUTURE PROJECTS

Permanent signage required to say "If office is unattended, please ring the caretaker's phone or Shire office alternatively you can visit the Shire office during business hours Monday to Friday to complete your booking".

Overflow – new signs needed for sites and information sign needed to describe who to ring or see to book in and outline that you must un-hook. Defined bays might be a good idea for this area.

STATISTICS





HOOD-PENN MUSEUM and COOPERS GARAGE MUSEUM

The museums have been very busy a very impressive 326 visitors have been recorded so far for September, a little mention to the Shires of Cunderdin and Kellerberrin who each brought a bus of visitors to see the museums the, feedback was great with everyone impressed at what Westonia has to showcase.

REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

Various minor repairs and maintenance ongoing

RECENT PROJECTS

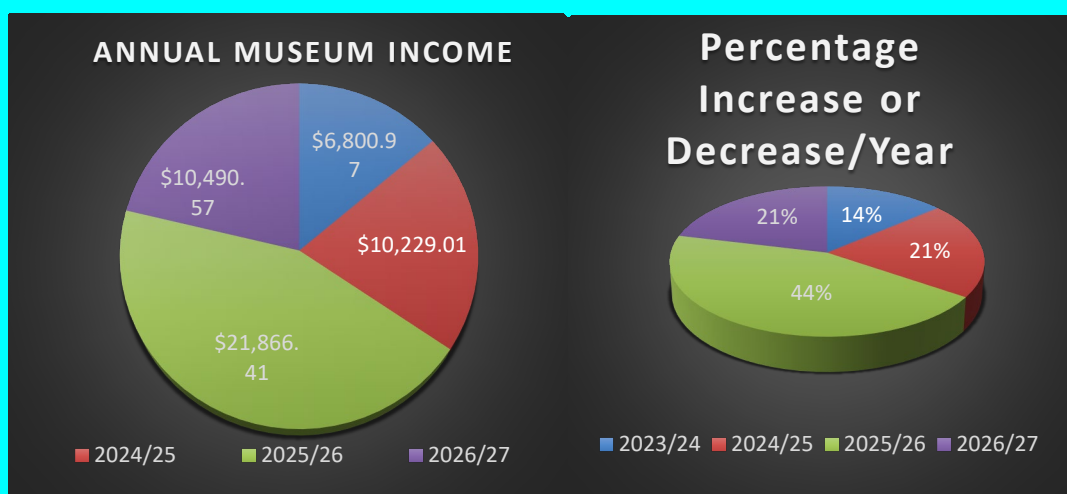
War Memorial moved from OM Hall and photo signs now installed.

Model War Planes hung in War Memorial scene

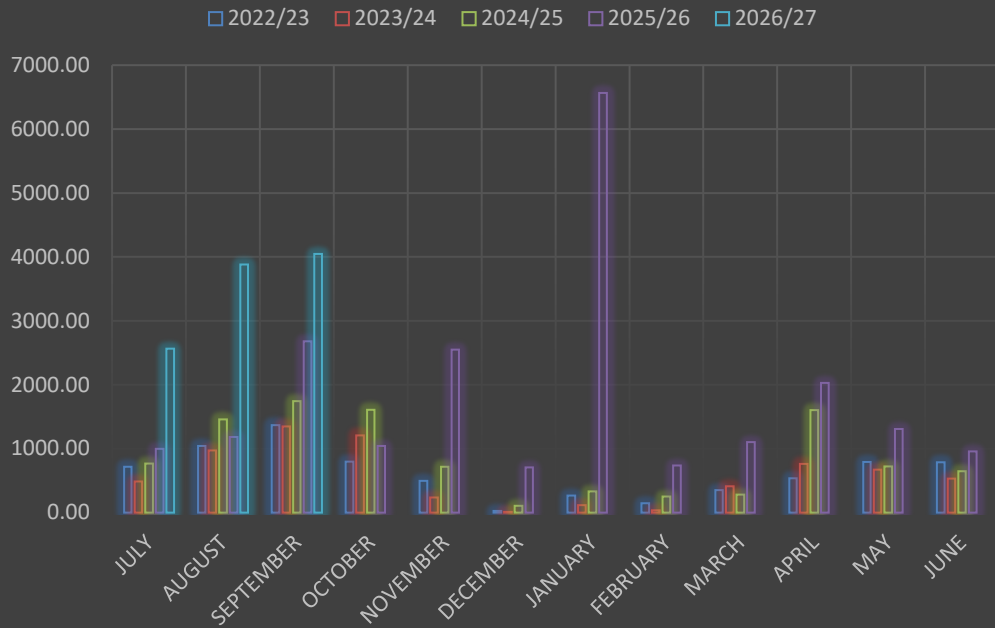
FUTURE PROJECTS

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.

STATISTICS



MONTHLY MUSEUM INCOME



WESSY TAKES ON LONGREACH—NATIONAL SMALL TOWN RE-INVENTION CONFERENCE

What an incredible week exploring the Queensland Outback and connecting with communities from all around Australia and New Zealand!

We arrived Sunday afternoon, settled into our accommodation and headed straight to Chute 1 for a few drinks and do some networking with all the other participants from around Australia and New Zealand.



We kicked things off on Monday with a visit to the Qantas Museum before heading into our conference day. We heard from towns that have come from almost nothing to now booming communities, with exciting plans for the future. We also heard about the importance of health and wellbeing, particularly in rural and remote communities.

We were very proud to showcase Westonia, and a huge thank you to Sophie Jane for putting our video together. It was a massive hit and definitely put Westonia on the map! Our video made some eyes water in the room! A very touching film of our amazing town. Here's the link for the video— <https://youtu.be/H6QoSJSICSE?si=8PTDeGky9agSHSGg>



That evening, we headed to Outback Pioneers for a traditional stockman's dinner, beef stew, creamed rice and damper. followed by some classic Australian bush poetry. A very fitting night for the Outback!



Tuesday was an early start as we jumped on the bus and headed to Ilfracombe for breakfast and a look around their town. We then continued on to Aramac, where we learnt more about their community, their future goals and the important role cooperatives can play in small towns. Next stop was Muttaborra — the centre of Queensland! We had a quick 30-minute stop, just long enough to visit the Muttaborrasaurus Interpretation Centre... and sneak in two drinks at the Exchange Hotel. We like to call that supporting local.

Hot tip: Do NOT park a bus full of Westonians directly in front of a pub and expect nobody to go inside.



Wednesday morning meant another two-hour bus ride to Winton, where we visited the dinosaur museum, Waltzing Matilda Centre and explored the town on a street tour.



We finished up at the Crackup Sisters Dust Arena before heading out to Darr River Downs Station, where Fiona gave us a fascinating presentation about life on the station. Once back in Longreach, some of the group headed off to the Qantas light show, followed by a beautiful roast dinner at the staging post.



Back on the bus again on Thursday, this time heading to Isisford, a town of just 100 people, to hear about their community and the incredible things they're achieving. From Isisford, we headed to Blackall for a town tour and a beautiful lunch at the old Masonic Lodge. We then visited the Historic Blackall Woolscour, Australia's last steam-powered wool

washing plant, and learnt more about the creative initiatives happening across the Blackall-Tambo region. We finished the day at the Well-shot Hotel for dinner and a hilarious show from the Crackup Sisters. What a way to finish the day!



Friday, we finally got a bit of a sleep-in! Then it was a wander down the road to historic Drover's Place for a morning of presentations and more great stories, ideas and inspiration from rural communities.

Saturday we packed our bags ready to head back home, to fill in some time before the plane, we visited the Stockmans hall of fame, a beautiful museum which pays tribute to pioneers of the Australian outback.



What a week! So many incredible towns, passionate people, big ideas and plenty of laughs along the way. It was a great reminder that small towns might be small in size, but they are certainly not small in ambition.



OFFICIAL

Harvest Fire Conversations

Summary of insights from regional conversations

Geraldton 17 March 2026; Dalwallinu 18 March 2026; Merredin 24 March 2026; Katanning 26 March 2026, Esperance 24 July 2026

September 2026

Contents

Regional Harvest Fire Conversations Summary	3
Key themes identified	3
Shared prevention practices	4
Turning conversations into positive change	4
Next steps.....	4

Regional Harvest Fire Conversations Summary

The Regional Harvest Fire Conversations were held across five grain-growing regions: Geraldton on 17 March 2026, Dalwallinu on 18 March 2026, Merredin on 24 March 2026, Katanning on 26 March 2026 and Esperance on 24 July 2026. The conversations brought together growers, local government, volunteers, industry representatives and emergency services to share insights and practical experience, and to identify ways to reduce harvest-related fire risk.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) supported these conversations through the facilitation of Karen Chappel and Murray Carter, creating an opportunity to better understand what is occurring on the ground, listen to the lived experiences of regional communities, and identify practical improvements in prevention, preparedness, communication, training, and reporting ahead of future harvest seasons. The sessions were designed to support shared learning and encourage practical, locally informed action.

Karen Chappel reflected that the conversations have provided an important platform to continue discussion on this matter, strengthen shared understanding, and support practical action with regional communities, industry and emergency services.

Murray Carter noted that this was an important initiative, recognising that the loss of life and livelihoods is unacceptable and that continued improvement is needed to help ensure these impacts do not continue to occur

While each region has different conditions, the conversations highlighted a shared message: many harvest fires can be reduced, contained earlier or better understood when prevention practices, communication, training and reporting are strengthened before and during harvest.

Key themes identified

The conversations highlighted several common themes across the regions, alongside local differences in operating conditions, fire causes and preparedness arrangements.

Participants reported a range of ignition sources, including machinery components, dust and chaff build-up, static electricity, lightning, power infrastructure and local fuel load conditions. Across the sessions, machinery-related risks were commonly linked to bearings, belts, engine bays, fronts, dust accumulation, rocks, wire, and debris, while external ignition sources such as lightning and power infrastructure were also identified as important contributors in some regions. There was strong recognition that harvest fire risk is influenced by machinery, operating conditions, weather, communications, available water, farm layout and the experience of the people working in the paddock.

A consistent theme across sessions was the value of practical, locally relevant prevention activity. Participants highlighted the importance of regular walk-arounds, blow-downs, machinery checks, thermal monitoring, dust and debris management, static mitigation, accessible firefighting units, clear first-action guidance and strong communication arrangements.

The cross-session feedback also showed that each area has different local pressures, including dispersed farms, larger paddocks, high fuel loads, dry lightning, communications outages, cross-boundary arrangements and differing levels of local mitigation capacity. These differences reinforce the need for prevention messages and preparedness activities that are practical, locally informed, and adaptable to regional conditions.

Shared prevention practices

The conversations reinforced the idea that prevention does not rely on a single action. It is built through a combination of small, consistent practices that reduce the chance of ignition and improve the likelihood of early containment if a fire starts.

- Checking machinery regularly throughout the day, particularly bearings, belts, guards, engine bays and areas where dust, chaff or debris can accumulate.
- Using thermal cameras, heat guns or similar tools where available to identify hot components before they become an ignition source.
- Managing dust, chaff, rocks, wire and other debris that may increase machinery fire risk.
- Considering static mitigation measures where static electricity is a known or suspected issue.
- Keeping firefighting capability close to harvest operations, including accessible extinguishers, slip-on units, chaser-bin water capacity or mobile water where appropriate.
- Using local conditions, weather, wind direction and lightning information to guide decisions about when to harvest, pause operations, increase readiness or monitor after storm activity.
- Ensuring seasonal workers, contractors and farm staff understand what to do if a fire starts, who to contact and when to disengage for safety.

Turning conversations into positive change

The information shared through these conversations is intended to support learning and practical improvement. Attendees, growers, brigades, local governments, industry groups and community members are encouraged to use these insights to review their own harvest preparation, strengthen local arrangements, and consider whether additional prevention practices could be adopted before the next high-risk period.

Positive changes may include updating pre-harvest checklists, improving worker induction, reviewing machinery maintenance routines, confirming communications back-up options, strengthening local WhatsApp or radio arrangements, improving fire reporting, or identifying where local mitigation and preparedness activities can be better coordinated.

Next steps

DFES will use the feedback from the Regional Harvest Fire Conversations to guide practical prevention messaging, improve guidance, enhance reporting, and continue engagement with growers, local government, volunteers, and industry. The focus will remain on shared learning, safer harvesting and locally informed action to reduce fire risk.

A further harvest season of observation and data collection period will help build a clearer understanding of common themes across fires, including longer harvest periods, sector fatigue, machinery use, environmental conditions and other contributing factors. Reviewing this information over time will support clearer trend analysis and more targeted prevention, training and operational improvements.

Participants also identified opportunities to improve data collection and reporting. DFES will review how harvest fire information can be reported and captured more easily, so it is timely, useful, and better informs future prevention, training, and operational decisions.

The conversations also showed strong support for further training. Attendees consistently expressed interest in training that is practical, contemporary and relevant to local conditions.

Training is therefore a priority for further action, with three proposed streams:

1. Refresh the Rural Fire Awareness program to make it more contemporary, practical and relevant to current rural and agricultural fire risks.
2. Develop survivability training for family members, employees and seasonal workers, focused on practical actions that may help keep people safe during a fire incident.
3. Review accessibility of current practical fire awareness for people who are not volunteer Bush Fire Brigade members but live in fire-prone areas or may need to respond in some way to fires through work or community responsibilities.

This feedback also supports establishing a sector focus group of key contributors to help shape future training, reporting, prevention, and preparedness initiatives and to build on the learnings from the conversations.

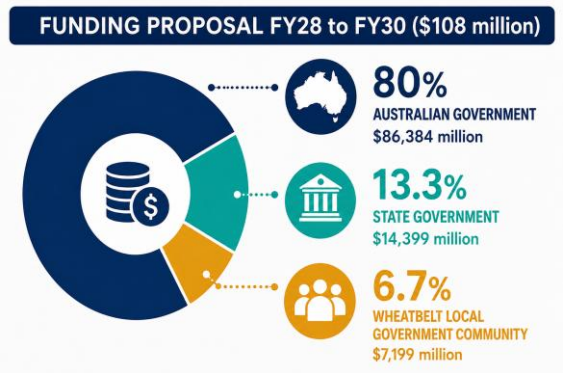
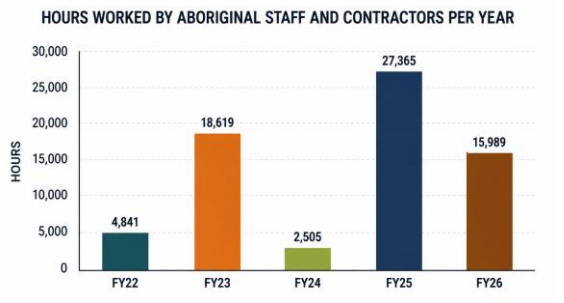
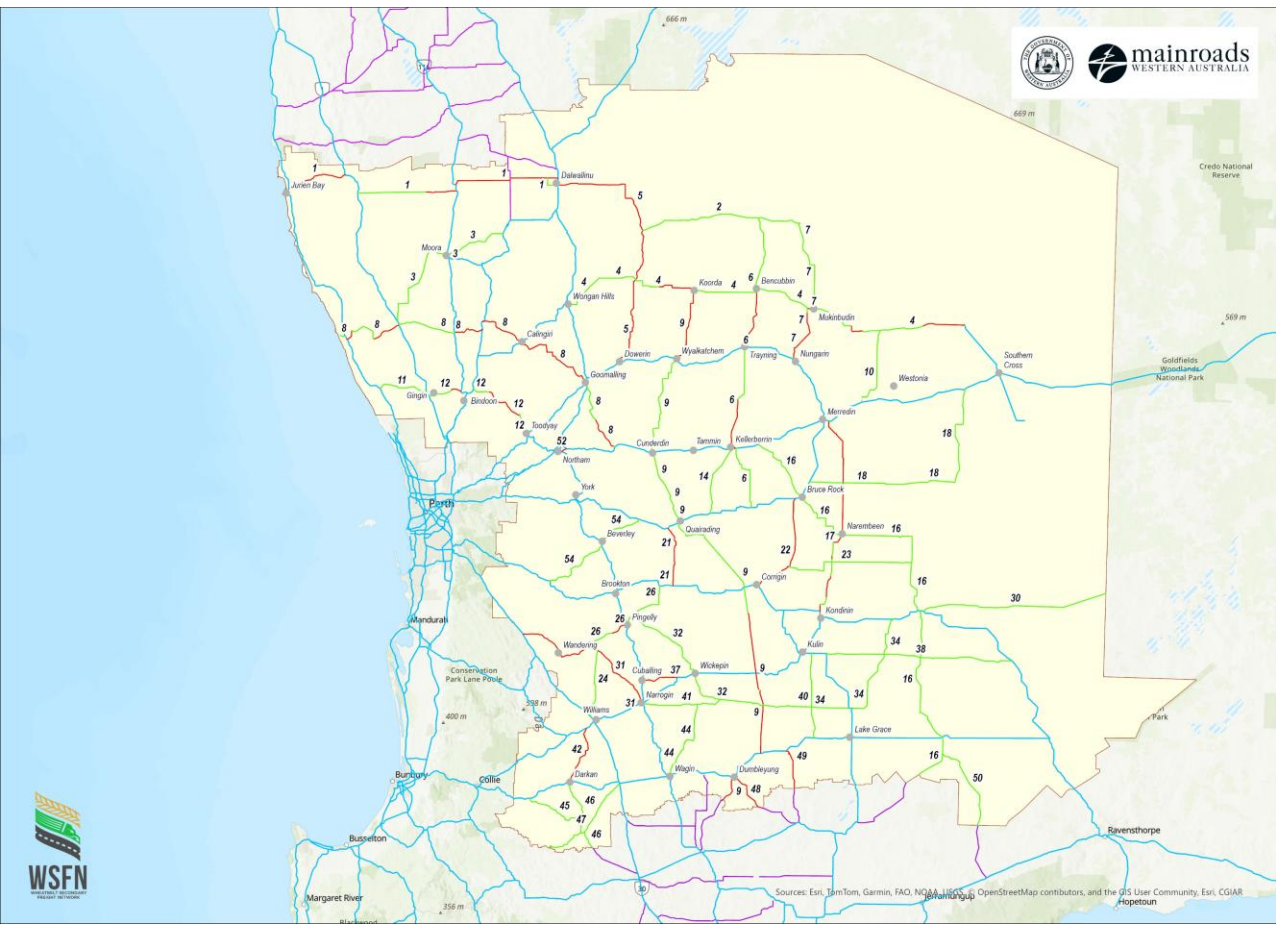


The Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network (WSFN) is a rolling program of local road upgrades on over 4,400 kilometres of high-priority freight routes across the Wheatbelt Region.

The network is a collaboration of 42 Wheatbelt Shires.

Typical works include:

- Widening pavements to 10.0 metres with an 8.0-metre-wide seal
- Pavement strengthening
- Intersection design and upgrade
- Centreline and shoulder line marking



Before

Unsealed, narrow road – minimal visible line marking



After

Smooth, wide, sealed pavement with clear centre and edge lines



Key Benefits



Safer roads – reducing the risk of run-off and head-on crashes



More efficient routes – increased access to keep up with the increasing trade task



Lower cost to maintain – stronger, more resilient pavement needing fewer repairs



Capability and collaboration – developing planning and delivery skills in local government



Government of **Western Australia**
WA Local Government Grants Commission

Our Ref: fA17702882
Enquiries: Grants Commission
Phone: 08 6551 4803

Email: grants.commission@lgirs.wa.gov.au

Mr Arthur Price
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Westonia
41 Wolfram Street
WESTONIA WA 6423

Dear Mr Price

**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION - 2026-27
FINAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANT ALLOCATIONS**

The WA Local Government Grants Commission (Commission) has been advised by the Commonwealth Minister for Local Government that the 2026-27 Financial Assistance Grants (FA Grants) have been approved.

Western Australia's share of the 2026-27 FA Grant funding pool is \$448,646,433 (includes adjustment for 2025-26), comprising of \$277,650,942 in General Purpose funding (\$221,927,692 paid in advance in June 2026) and \$170,995,491 in Local Road funding (\$136,160,929 paid in advance in June 2026).

General Purpose Grants are distributed in accordance with the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* (Cth), the National Principles and the Commission's assessment of relative need. Consistent with the Commission's policy, grant allocations are not subject to annual caps on increases or decreases, ensuring available funding is distributed as equitably as possible across local governments. Local Roads Grants continue to be allocated using the asset preservation model.

The Financial Assistance Grants for the Shire of Westonia in 2026-27 are as follows:

Advance Payment paid in June 2026

General Purpose Grant:	\$1,116,525
Local Roads Grant:	\$654,246

Remaining payment to be made in 2026-27 Financial Year

General Purpose Grant:	\$272,557
Local Roads Grant:	\$109,693
Special Project Grants	
Bridges:	\$0
Aboriginal Access Roads:	\$0

Total 2026-27 FA Grant payments

Total General Purpose Grant:	\$1,389,082
Total Road Grants (incl special projects):	\$763,939

Gordon Stephenson House, 140 William Street Perth WA 6000
Locked Bag 14 Cloisters Square Perth WA 6850
Telephone (08) 6551 4803
Email grants.commission@lgirs.wa.gov.au
Web www.lgirs.wa.gov.au

A comprehensive schedule of the FA grant allocations and the supporting balanced budget calculations will be available on the Commission's website:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/western-australian-local-government-grants-commission>

Quarterly Payments to Local Governments

The first quarterly payment was made on 17 August 2026. The remaining three quarterly payments are expected to be deposited in the middle of November, February and May of the 2026-27 financial year.

Financial Impact of Advance Payments

In June 2026, local governments received an advance payment representing around 80 per cent of their estimated 2026-27 FA Grant entitlement. The advance payments do not represent an exact 80 per cent of each individual local government's 2026–27 grant allocation. This is because the advance payment is calculated using a simplified methodology based on last year's allocation and does not incorporate changes to the distribution methodology that may apply in 2026–27.

In accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, this income is required to be recognised on receipt - in the financial year in which the funds are received by the local government. This means the advance payment is to be recognised as revenue for 2025-26, as control passes to the local government on receipt of the grant.

The remaining approximate 20 per cent will be paid through the normal quarterly payment process following the Commission's determination of final grant allocations.

Special Project Grants

Special Project Grant allocations for Bridges and Aboriginal Access Roads will be paid alongside the quarterly FA Grant instalments. Main Roads WA (MRWA) contributes \$1 for every \$2 allocated by the Commission under both programs, subject to funds being expended on approved projects. Local governments are reminded to maintain appropriate records of expenditure for annual audit and reporting purposes.

Bridges Program

The Commission has allocated a total of \$7,942,722 to local governments through its Bridges Program to assist local governments with the preservation and replacement of bridges on local roads. Allocations are based on recommendations from the Bridge Committee, which includes representatives from the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and MRWA. Local governments should consult MRWA before commencing any bridge works.

Aboriginal Access Roads Program

The Commission has allocated a total of \$3,971,360 to local governments in funding to improve access roads servicing remote Aboriginal communities. Allocations are guided by the Aboriginal Roads Committee, comprising representatives from the Commission, WALGA, the National Indigenous Australians Agency, MRWA, the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, the Department of Communities, the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, and the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety.

Local governments are reminded that Aboriginal communities should be appropriately consulted before works commence. Funding is provided for road improvements and gravel re-sheeting and is not intended for routine maintenance, which is supported through Commonwealth road funding distributed in accordance with asset preservation needs.

Should you have any queries about any of the included information, please contact the Grants Commission on 6551 4803 or by email grants.commission@lgirs.wa.gov.au. Queries relating specifically to Bridges and Aboriginal Access Roads allocations may be directed to Dr Chris Berry at chris.berry@lgirs.wa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Shannon Wood

Manager Board Governance and Reporting

31 August 2026



Quarterly Services Report

Q2 2026



WALGA

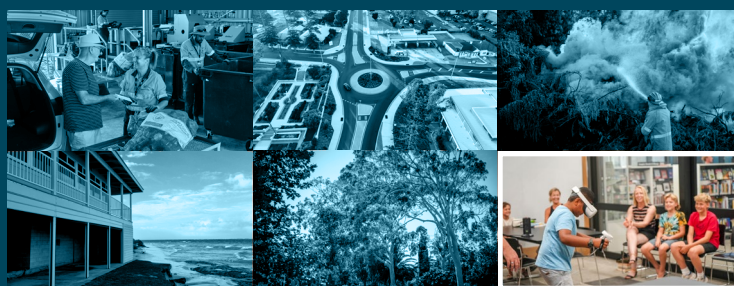
Registration closing soon

WALGA

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONVENTION 2026

16–18 September, PCEC



Expertise



Economic case study launch

WALGA's economic development publication and web collection 'From Idea to Implementation: Local Government economic development case studies' was launched in May 2026. While every Local Government area is unique, each plays an integral role in creating liveable and vibrant places, attracting investment, supporting local businesses and encouraging visitation. Developed in response to sector feedback, the collection includes stories and successes of economic development from Local Governments throughout WA.

[Economic Development Case Studies | WALGA](#)



Flying the flag for WA at ALGA's National General Assembly (NGA)

In June, a WALGA contingent, led by President Mark Irwin AM and Deputy President Chris Antonio travelled to Canberra to represent and support Members and their communities. They joined over 115 WA delegates from 41 WA Local Governments at the three-day Australian Local Government Association's (ALGA) National General Assembly (NGA).

More than 240 motions were debated across a range of important policy areas including emergency management, governance, climate resilience, transport, infrastructure and health. Read more:

[WA strongly represented at ALGA's National General Assembly | WALGA](#)

The new RoadWise website is live

We're excited to share that the new RoadWise website is now live. The new platform will support Local Governments across WA with practical, integrated tools and resources to strengthen local road safety planning, prioritisation and delivery.

Check it out here: <https://walga.asn.au/roadwise>



Emergency Management Forum

In May, Local Government employees, sector experts and EM practitioners came together at Murdoch University for WALGA's 2026 Emergency Management Forum.

From the opening address and interstate perspectives, to conversations on future risks, community resilience, and WA's path to 2036, the forum reinforced the value of shared learning and collective action across all facets of Emergency Management. Thank you to all attendees, presenters and panellists – read more here: [Latest News | WALGA](#)

WALGA Training – September courses

- Rates in Local Government – Clerical (2 days) – Thursday 3 – Friday 4 Sept
- Meeting Practices for Good Governance Outcomes – Thursday, 10 Sept
- Speaking Professionally as an Elected Member – Tuesday, 15 Sept
- Introduction to Managing Business Records in Local Government – Monday, 21 Sept
- Emergency Management for Local Government Leaders – Friday, 25 Sept
- Procurement Planning and Risk Management – Wednesday, 30 Sept



Influence

Ministerial Meetings

WALGA President Mark Irwin AM has met with the Premier Hon Roger Cook MLA, Deputy Premier and Treasurer Hon Rita Saffioti MLA, Local Government Minister Hon Hannah Beazley MLA and Shadow Minister for Local Government Kirrilee Warr MLA, as well as Ministers and Shadow Ministers across critical portfolios, including planning and housing, regional development, emergency management and community services.

At a Federal level, President Irwin AM has had the opportunity to meet with both the Minister and Shadow Assistant Minister for Local Government.

These discussions are an important opportunity to reinforce WALGA's commitment to working constructively with the State and Australian Governments to achieve better outcomes for local communities.

Read the latest WALGA media releases: [Media Releases](#) | [WALGA](#)



Local Government Honours Awards

June saw more than 40 current and former Elected Members and Local Government officers recognised and celebrated during WALGA's Local Government Honours Awards at WA Museum Boola Bardip. A number of Local Governments were also acknowledged for their significant work in making WA roads safer through WALGA's RoadWise Recognised Awards and in making Local Governments more accessible through the Most Accessible Communities WA Awards (MACWA). Thanks to attendees who travelled from near, and far and congratulations again to all award recipients. See the full list of winners here: [Media Releases](#) | [WALGA](#)



Support

Shire of Westonia – Key statistics



20

Employee Relations queries



0

Governance & Procurement advice



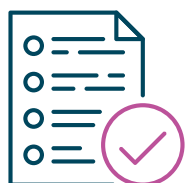
\$410,419

PSP quarterly spend (estimated)



0

Training courses attended



Tax Advisory Service

Supporting Local Government tax compliance

WALGA Contacts



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WALGA

Influence. Support. Expertise.

Hi

On a recent caravan trip from our home south of Mandurah, we decided to call into the town of Westonia after family members had previously visited Westonia and highly recommended a visit to the museum.

On our arrival, the caravan park was fully booked by a visiting caravan club but we were directed to the small church as a 48hr RV stop as we were fully self contained.

This 48hr stay turned out to be one of the best stays we have ever had in all our travels. Your town is without question the cleanest, tidiest town we have ever visited. The streetscape is absolutely amazing, the facilities within the town are first class, the Shire of Westonia office staff are friendly and welcoming, with special mention of a young lady named Lani, who really “sold” Westonia and all its attractions whilst delivering a great sense of humour , we also have to make a special mention of your amazing museum.

Before leaving your Shire we travelled many kilometres on your excellently maintained sealed/unsealed roads and also visited and stayed at Elachbutting Rock and Baladjie Rock, both locations rated high with us and without question we will be returning.

Because your town of Westonia welcomes caravans/RV’s and has adequate parking, along with access to water, we decided to repay the town by way of refuelling our vehicle from your town fuel depot, doing our food shopping, buying lunch and buying gifts/souvenirs and we spent in total \$198.80 all because you welcome caravans and that your community members make tourists feel welcome.

Such progression and genuine commitment and pride from a community and LG Staff does not just happen, it grows with great, supportive leadership. Thank you to your Councillors for providing an RV Friendly town and supporting your CEO, thank you to your Shire Office Staff and outside Works Crew for all the work that an RV Friendly town and full Shire area requires and thank you to the friendly community members of Westonia.

Kindest regards

Terry and Erica Lamey

Sent from my iPad

Good Morning All,

I just wanted to provide an overview of my meeting with Main Roads at Dowerin last week.

I met with Liz Davies (Stakeholder Engagement Manager) and Mohammad Siddiqui. Both commented that our original letter had been impactful and had already resulted in action.

Liz noted that they would not normally undertake remediation works on the Great Eastern Highway out of season; however, extensive works were completed between Kellerberrin and Northam mid-year. Some of this is admittedly failing already.

Mohammad also discussed the overtaking lanes and advised that these are expected to be included in the 2027/28 budget.

I asked whether we could access any data from the Dragons Teeth trial. Mohammad explained that they are only two years into the four-year trial, so there are no findings available to share yet. However, he said he would see whether some interim data could be provided.

With regard to Council-specific concerns, I was advised that Liz is happy to be contacted directly to discuss these.

I also mentioned that we were considering sending another letter to the Minister seeking further action on the Great Eastern Highway. Mohammad advised that the GEH is already a priority for them, and that investment is being directed towards it. He asked that rather than writing to the Minister again, we first give him the opportunity to address our concerns.

Please let me know if you would like me to invite Mohammad to attend our November meeting to provide an update and talk through their plans.

Kind Regards

Rebekah