

CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN

West Arthur 2021-2025

Shire of West Arthur

31 Burrowes Street

DARKAN, WA 6392

Phone: 9736 2222

Email: Shire@westarthur.wa.gov.au

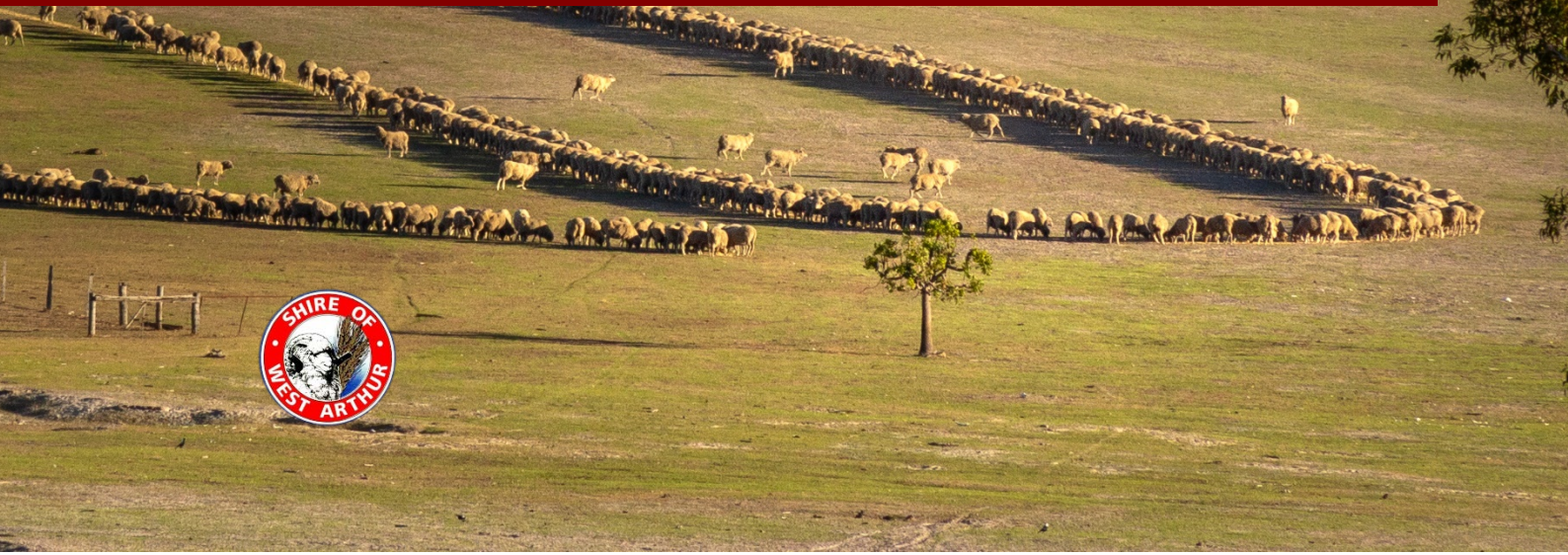


Table of Contents

Introduction 3

How the Planning Process Works 3

Key Issues for Our Shire 5

Our Year Ahead 5

The Corporate Plan 5

Our Community - Safe, Friendly, Inclusive 6

Local Economy – Stable, sustainable agricultural industry, a dynamic and growing business sector 14

Natural Environment – our natural assets are valued and meet the needs of the community 19

Built Environment – well maintained roads and infrastructure which reflects our identity 25

Leadership and Management – inspirational, dynamic, transparent 30

Financial information 35

Abbreviations used throughout the document 35

Photo credits throughout the report: Caroline Telfer, Astrid Volzke and Kerryn Chia

Introduction

The Corporate Business Plan (CBP) is our plan that puts into effect the strategic vision and aspirations outlined in our Community Strategic Plan. These visions and aspirations were identified in our community consultation program undertaken in 2020 and 2021.

The CBP is the next step in the planning process and details the projects, actions and initiatives that the Shire will undertake over the next four years that address the visions and aspirations of our community to make our Shire a better place to live, work and visit. It also advises our budget planning for the next four years to ensure that rate payers are getting value for money.

How the Planning Process Works

The CBP is structured around themes and strategies that were identified through our community consultation programme; in existing plans, policy documents and reports; and council and staff identified projects.

Our integrated planning process provides the Shire with a clear structure to guide a coordinated and collaborative approach to develop our strategic direction and activities.



Following extensive community consultation our Strategic Community Plan was released on 28th July 2021. This plan set out the visions, aspirations and priorities according to themes

and the Corporate Business Plan sets out the activities and initiatives aimed at achieving these community visions and aspirations (shown below). The Corporate Plan will guide the Shire's annual budgeting and resource planning



Key Issues for Our Shire

Community consultation and review of the issues raised identified some key trends and challenges for the Shire. These include:

- How do we ensure everyone has access to medical services and facilities?
- How can we help main street businesses grow and develop?
- How do we help our elderly residents to stay in the community?
- How do we ensure water security for farmers, emergency service volunteers and the community?
- How can we better manage our waste disposal and encourage recycling?
- What can we do to improve key iconic locations in our community?
- How can we grow community confidence in the Shire of West Arthur Council and Administration?

Our Year Ahead

The next financial year (2021-2022) will see a number of key projects undertaken around the Shire. These include:

- Whole of Shire Water Strategy to better manage water resources within the Shire
- White Line Project – install white lines on Darkan South, Duranillin Bowelling and Moodiarrup Changerup roads
- Railway reserve redevelopment – undertake construction of a pump track and new iconic shade structure in the Darkan Railway Reserve
- Car Park across the road from the CRC
- Heritage Inventory review – undertake a full review of the Shire current Municipal Heritage Inventory and create a Heritage Survey, Heritage List and Local Planning Policy
- Contribute and assist with the construction of an St John Ambulance building in the Darkan Railway Reserve
- Continued redevelopment of the public space at Lake Towerrinning
- Installation of a new cricket pitch and practice pitch at the Darkan town oval
- Swimming pool upgrade including solar power and investigations in to most appropriate way to provide a swimming pool to the community

The Corporate Plan

The following tables, outline these projects and those we have planned for the next four years in more detail. A list of abbreviations used in the tables can be found at the back of the document. In addition, it should be noted that costings are indicated where these have been confirmed and allocated. The Budget column in the table outlines where funds are likely to be sourced from. As the Shire strives to achieve the goals outlined here the local community will be kept informed of the progress through the Annual Report.

Our Community - Safe, Friendly, Inclusive

Outcome 1.1 - A safe place to work, live and visit								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Support for the provision of emergency services and volunteers	St John Ambulance Emergency Services Facility Assist the local St John Ambulance with the relocation and construction of a new local headquarters within the Darkan Townsite.	Emergency Management Act 2005	LCRI Funding	●	●			
	Bush Fire Management • Administer the expenditure of the Emergency Services Levy for purchase of equipment and insurance for Bush Fire Brigades; • Support Bush Fire Brigade volunteers through coordination of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee, advocating for resources, liaison with Government Departments, maintenance of vehicles and fire shed facilities, management of radio network, and provision of Shire equipment and staff for fire suppression. • Monitor opportunities for the engagement of a CESM with DFES and partner local governments. • Implement the Bushfire Risk Management Plan	Bushfires Act 1954 Shire Bushfire Risk Management Plan	ESL Grant and OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Local Emergency Management Plan and Committee • Ongoing review and implementation of Local Emergency Management Plan Arrangements, Welfare and Recovery plans in partnership with key agencies and stakeholders; • Monitor and address risks identified in the AWARE Summary Risk Report.	Emergency Management Act 2005 Local Emergency Management Plan	OE and OM	●	●	●	●	➔
Prevention of crime	Relationship with Police Maintain regular communication with Police Officers who provide services in the Shire and provide them with access to Shire facilities and resources as required.			●	●	●	●	➔

Outcome 1.1 - A safe place to work, live and visit (cont'd)								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
	Lighting Audit Renew the existing lighting of reserves and public places to identify areas that require additional lighting and to allow for future planning. Ensure lighting upgrades are in accordance with principles for protecting light pollution and the night sky asset.	West Arthur Lighting Audit		●	●			
	CCTV Continue to monitor opportunities for funding for the installation of CCTV security cameras on Coalfields Highway – east and west entries to Darkan, school and main street.			●	●	●	●	➔
Communicate risks and hazards to the community and assist with management of these	Health Pandemic Facilitate the dissemination of information relating to health emergencies such as the COVID 19 pandemic and assist the local community, businesses and sporting organisations to manage changes to their circumstances that have arisen as a result of State and Federal requirements.	Public Health Act 2016 Emergency Management Act 2005	OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Movement of Vehicle and Harvest Ban Information Disseminate public information regarding movement of vehicle and harvest ban information and emergencies.	Bushfire Risk Management Plan	OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Risk Management Planning Prepare a Risk Management Plan for all Shire events and require others to provide Risk Management Plans prior to issuing approvals for large or significant events.	Risk Management Policy	OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Collaborative Services Comply with legislation and regulations by the provision of an Environmental Health Service and Ranger service through collaboration with surrounding Shires.	Cat Act 2011 Dog Act 1976 Public Health Act 2016	OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Outcome 1.2 – Support available for people of all ages and abilities								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Actively support and promote a range of activities for a range of ages and abilities	Youth • Redevelop the Darkan Railway Reserve to incorporate a pump track and continue to develop the playground areas for children and youth. • Encourage the involvement of youth in volunteering roles in the community such as assisting with Senior's meals preparation • Investigate opportunities to provide activities for the youth (including Youth Week) in the Shire and provide staff resources for ongoing support to youth of the district.	Darkan Railway Reserve Concept Plan	LRCI Funding OE	• •	• •	• •	• •	➔
	Seniors Support the delivery of social activities and learning programs to improve quality of life for seniors in the Shire.	Aged Friendly Plan	OE	•	•	•	•	➔
	Whole community • Financially support sporting clubs and community groups through an annual small grants program • Subsidise or underwrite travelling shows to ensure our community has access to quality entertainment. • Support the CRC in the provision of the delivery of services, activities and events for people of all ages. • Maintain relationship and regular communication with the Darkan Primary School (DPS), to develop opportunities to improve the lifestyle of the community's children, and families, and provide the support of the Shire's workforce for non-routine maintenance. • Provide funding, access to facilities and assistance to community groups holding events for the community. • Continue to provide a quality library service in conjunction with the Community Resource Centre.	Community Groups Financial Assistance Policy Darkan Primary School Support policy MOU with CRC	OE	•	•	•	•	➔

Outcome 1.2 – Support available for people of all ages and abilities (cont'd)								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Maintain and support the growth of medical facilities, childcare and aged services in the district.	Health Centre and Medical Services • Provide a well maintained and equipped health area within the Health and Resource Centre to enable allied health professionals to provide services to West Arthur residents. • Maintain a positive working relationship with health providers and monitor the community's needs for medical services, lobbying for or seeking additional services where required. • Continue to investigate opportunities for increasing doctor's appointment availability and promote the Patient Assisted Transport Scheme (PATS) to those available.	MOU with CRC	OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Support for Seniors • Review and update the Age Friendly Plan • Continue to coordinate and facilitate the provision of weekly meals service to the senior community. • Investigate and instigate, where possible, support to enable seniors to stay in our community including, transport (e.g. social or medical), and home maintenance; • Continue to support Wagin Homecare in the provision of home care services to those that require assistance. Investigate alternative options for aged care. • In partnership with the West Arthur Cottage Homes, ensure a high standard of ongoing management of Independent Living Units	Aged Friendly Plan 4WDL funding agreements Shire/WACH Agreements	OE	● ●	●	●	●	➔
	Childcare Services • Maintain a relationship and regular communication with REED to ensure a high standard and sustainable childcare service to our community. • Continue to support the Kids Central Reference Group and user groups of these facilities.			●	●	●	●	➔

Outcome 1.2 – Support available for people of all ages and abilities (cont'd)								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Provide services and infrastructure to meet the needs of the community	Secondary Education Advocate for Year 6 Darkan Primary School students to continue to have access to a bus service to secondary schools that suit the needs of the community.		OE	●	●			
	Disability Access and Inclusion Plan • Review and update the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan and implement the strategies to improve inclusion and access to all, throughout the Shire. • Investigate a design for a disability access ramp at Lake Towerrinning to allow access to the water's edge for people of all abilities. Apply for funding when available for construction of a ramp.	Disability Access and Inclusion Plan	OE	●	●			
	Community Transport Monitor the need for community bus and other transport solutions.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Management of Facilities • Upgrade the facilities at the Darkan Swimming Pool in collaboration with the Education Department. • Upgrade the cricket pitch, covers and practice nets at the Darkan Town Oval • Install additional shade shelters in the public terraced area at Lake Towerrinning • Continue to maintain and improve the playgrounds and public facilities throughout Shire. • Maintain the Darkan Town Hall and make available to community groups for free use to encourage activity and social opportunities including the community gym, exercise classes, dance classes, and other activities. • Provide well maintained cemeteries in Darkan and Arthur River.	Agreement Darkan District High School Swimming pool and Variation of Licence – Darkan Primary BBI Swimming Pool. Lake Management Plan	LCRI funding LCRI funding LCRI funding OE	● ● ● ●	● ● ● ●	●	●	➔

Outcome 1.2 – Support available for people of all ages and abilities (cont'd)								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
	Housing • Ensure teaching staff have access to quality accommodation through the provision of housing leased to Government Regional Officers Housing. • Investigate issues associated with housing and identify opportunities to provide additional housing or upgrade existing housing within the Darkan townsite where financially viable		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Services and Information • Support the provision of commercial (i.e. access to food and supplies, banking) and social services locally to support the needs of the community. • Ensure signage throughout the Shire is maintained and updated where required (including signage for 24 hour fuel and at the Caravan park) • In collaboration with the CRC develop a "Welcome to West Arthur" pack and host an event to welcome new residents to the district.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Outcome 1.3 - A unique identity and a strong connection to our past								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Maintain and preserve our cultural and heritage assets	Heritage Planning • Update the Shire Municipal Heritage Inventory to a Local Heritage Survey and Heritage List. • Develop a Local Planning Policy to ensure appropriate development of historical buildings	Heritage Act 2018 Municipal Heritage Inventory	OE and DPLH Grant	●	●			
	Community Archives Continue to develop the community archives to enable access to historical documents by the general public	Shire Community Archives policy and procedure	OE	●	●			
	Betty Brown Historical Centre • Continue to maintain and develop the Betty Brown Historical Centre to provide meaningful exhibitions and promote the Center as a place for locals to engage with the history of the region • Continue to develop a diverse collection of historical books from the Shire and surrounding areas for people to access in the Darkan Town Library • Encourage the Darkan Primary School to engage with and use the Betty Brown Historical Centre as a learning resource for students. • Ensure maintenance and pest management is carried out in accordance with the BBHC pest management procedures.	BBHC policy and procedures		●	●	●	●	➔
	Heritage Maintenance and Development • With the support of volunteers, maintain and preserve heritage buildings and places. • Develop the area adjacent to the Arthur River Hall to allow better usage of the hall. • Investigate funding opportunities for the development of an Inventor's display, to showcase the innovations developed within the Shire • Incorporate historical elements into the development of new structures in the Darkan Railway Reserve and include display panels outlining our Shire's history. • Continue to maintain the Shire of West Arthur self-drive heritage Trail on the izi.travel app.	Darkan Railway reserve concept plan	OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Outcome 1.3 - A unique identity and a strong connection to our past (cont'd)								
Strategy	• Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Maintain and preserve our cultural and heritage assets (cont'd)	• Investigate opportunities for the development and use of historical buildings such as the Darkan Station Masters house and the Arthur River Shearing Shed. • Update Darkan Heritage Trail signage and brochures • Develop a list of sites of historical significance where there is no longer any visible infrastructure and plan for future signage including historical school sites linked to the book Playgrounds of the Past.	Shire Heritage Survey						
Reconnect with our Aboriginal heritage	• In collaboration with the Darkan Primary School, engage with the Indigenous community and non-Indigenous community to recognize and respect our local Indigenous heritage. • Develop a Reconciliation Action Plan to formalize reconciliation within our Shire and develop pride in our Indigenous heritage for the benefit of the whole community. • Ensure that all Shire run events and functions include an Acknowledgement of Country. • Consult with Indigenous community regarding the history of Lake Towerrinning and develop Interpretative signage to reflect this history. • Liaise with Aboriginal community in relation to development of the area adjacent to Nissan Hut (part of old Aboriginal Reserve). • Encourage and support the community (School and CRC) to celebrate NAIDOC week		OE	•	•	•	•	➔
Support community events and cultural activities that connect to our history and culture	• Hold an Australia Day Breakfast at Lake Towerrinning annually, and hold other events to recognise people within the community or to celebrate milestones and achievements. • Coordinate a biennial cultural events celebrating cultures in the community in rotation with WAX activities. • Continue to support the annual Sheepfest event. • Investigate funding for the development of iconic art installations at Lake Towerrinning.		OE	•	•	•	•	➔

Local Economy – Stable, sustainable agricultural industry, a dynamic and growing business sector

Outcome 2.1 – Improved employment through diversification in agricultural								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Investigate opportunities for diversification within the agricultural sector	• Support agricultural diversification opportunities which have the potential to provide economic benefits and employment growth and promote funding opportunities on social and traditional media when they arise. • Investigate research opportunities with universities and secure funding for diversification and downstream processing for the agricultural sector.		OE	•	•	•	•	➔
Investigate water security and development opportunities associated with water sources	• Prepare and implement a "whole of Shire" water strategy to develop water security in a targeted approach. • Investigate the development of agricultural diversification in areas of the Shire having suitable water supplies as identified in the Shire Water Strategy document.	Shire Water Strategy	OE	• •	• •	•	•	➔
Liaise with key stakeholders to continue to support agriculture in the Shire	• Maintain relationships with relevant industry groups such as Department of Agriculture, Regional Development Australia (Wheatbelt), Wheatbelt Development Commission and Farm Advisory Groups. • Advocate for assistance with the provision of a workforce for the agricultural businesses.		OE	•	•	•	•	➔

Outcome 2.2 – A growing, diverse business community								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Investigate tourism opportunities and support this growing sector	Tourism Investment and development • Continue to be involved in the Astrotowns network and continue to identify locations suitable for astrophotography and promote community activities linked to stargazing or Astrophotography. • Collaborate with other local governments and organisations in the region on opportunities to develop tourism, such as a redevelopment of regional brochures, regional tourism advertising and the Southern Wheatbelt Tourism Facebook Page. • Maintain relationships with relevant industry groups such as Tourism WA and Australia's Golden Outback to promote the region. • Regularly review and revise the tourism brochures and information on the Shire webpage to ensure that it is up to date • Engage a photographer to develop a portfolio of iconic images of the region to use in promotional opportunities. • Research the development of the rail trail from Bowelling through to Duranillin and on towards Kylie and a walk trail extending from the Darkan Dardadine rail trail to Julikin Rock. • Investigate the potential for canoe trails on the river through the Shire and for more adventurous bike tracks. • Promote the region at events such as Sheepfest to the wider community. • Continue to investigate unique tourism opportunities and to support new tourism ventures within the Shire • Continue to develop historical tourism within the shire through the promotion of historical buildings, BBHC and historical resources in our Library.	Tourism Development and Marketing Strategy for the West Arthur Region Shire Trails Master Plan	OE	• • • • • •	• • • • •	• • • •	• • • •	➔ ➔
	Accommodation • Continue to promote and manage the Darkan Caravan Park and chalets including further landscaping improvements. • Support the development of farm stay and bed and breakfast and other short stay accommodation options		OE	•	•	•	•	➔

Outcome 2.2 – A growing, diverse business community (cont'd)								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Maintain and enhance our existing assets to encourage visitation	• Upgrade the signage in the tourist information bay at Arthur River in collaboration with the Arthur River Development Group • Maintain the Collie-Darkan-Dardadine rail trail and collaborate with the DBCA Collie on the promotion of the trail. • Construct a composting toilet at Bowelling Station. • Maintain and upgrade appearance of major arterial roads and reserves through Darkan, Duranillin and Arthur River with streetscaping and landscaping appropriate to the area. • Encourage land owners and tenants to maintain properties. • Consider purchase of properties on the main street of Darkan and upgrade their appearance to improve visual amenity.	Tourism Development and Marketing Strategy for the West Arthur Region	OE	•	•	•	•	➔
Promote the light industrial area for the use of new businesses	• Encourage the establishment of new trade businesses in the Growden Place Light Industrial area. • Promote and consider opportunities to develop industrial sites to attract new businesses to the Shire.		OE	•	•	•	•	➔
Advocate for improved communication facilities	Support the improvement of digital and communication technology in the Shire, in particular increased mobile phone coverage across the whole Shire (highest priorities Moodiarrup and Bowelling), and improved internet speeds and capacity.		OE	•	•	•	•	➔
Promote the Shire to people outside the area as a fantastic place to live, work and visit.	• Provide 'good news' stories to media and on local radio. • Update and improve the Shire's web page; promote and consult with the community through Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and investigate other social media opportunities to promote the Shire well. • Develop an easy to understand approval information sheet to provide to new businesses to encourage development • Monitor land sales and development opportunities and investigate further land release (including larger lot sizes) as needed. Investigate renovating and on selling existing private houses in Darkan to improve the overall appearance of the town and encourage new residents.		OE	•	•	•	•	➔

Outcome 2.2 – A growing, diverse business community (cont'd)								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Promote the Shire to people outside the area as a fantastic place to live, work and visit. (cont'd)	• Office space, meeting rooms and video conferencing facilities will be available for rental in the Health and Resource Centre for local and external business use. Promote these facilities to external groups for use. • Encourage the development of local accommodation to allow visiting organisations the opportunity to use the excellent existing office space in the CRC for meetings, workshops and other functions. • Maintain our "Film Friendly" certification from Screenwest encouraging film makers to showcase our area.							
Investigate opportunities for growth within the local economy	• Prepare and implement an economic plan and for the Shire which identifies opportunities in key sectors including health and medical, manufacturing and downstream processing to attract investment and create employment. • Prepare a business prospectus to promote business opportunities within the Shire and towns.		OE	•	•	•		

Outcome 2.3 – Existing businesses develop and grow

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Communicate opportunities with existing businesses to support their changing requirements	• Advocate on behalf of local businesses and liaise with WALGA and other agencies to address regulatory issues that negatively impacting on local business. • Advocate for the ongoing provision of public utilities required to suit business needs. • Monitor workforce requirements and assist where required. • Regularly communicate through the local business email network opportunities for funding, support and educations provided by Government and business groups. • Provide support and assistance to main street businesses, particularly when ownership changes are required.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Encourage main street businesses to meet on a regular basis and discuss issues	• Collaborate with the Community Resource Centre to develop programs and opportunities to support and encourage businesses including training, development and marketing opportunities. • Collaborate with the CRC to provide a networking opportunity on a six-monthly basis for local business owners and operators.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Ensure that services and products are sourced locally wherever possible	• Ensure the local purchasing policy is adhered to, ensuring the Shire is purchasing from local businesses where viable. • Encourage local community to support local businesses • Encourage local businesses to continue to grow and develop and provide the community with the services required.	Shire Purchasing Policy	OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Natural Environment – our natural assets are valued and meet the needs of the community

Outcome 3.1 – Maintain and improve our key natural assets								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Maintain Lake Towerrinning as our premier iconic natural asset	• Collaborate with DBCA and DoT in relation to the management of Lake Towerrinning • Hold a meeting of stakeholders every two years to monitor use and review strategic direction of the Lake through the Lake Management Plan • Ongoing maintenance and Improvements including access to the beach, improvements to public space, and maintenance of jetties. • Investigate the potential for a boardwalk around the lake	Lake Management Plan	OE	• • 	• •	• • 	• 	➔
Maintain and develop our walk and bike trails for use by locals and visitors	Rail Trails • Continue to maintain our existing walk trails such as the Collie-Darkan-Dardadine Rail Trail and Nangip Creek walk trail. • Implement recommended improvements to reduce risks along the Collie-Darkan-Dardadine Rail Trail • Investigate opportunities to develop the Duranillin to Bowelling rail trail for use by walkers, bikes, and horse riders. • Collaborate with Wheatbelt Cycling Collective and neighbouring Shires in relation to connecting the Darkan to Dardadine section of the rail trail to rail trails in other Shires to create a Wheatbelt Cycling network.	Trails Master Plan LGIS Risk Advise letter	OE	• • • 	• • •	• 	• 	➔
	Hillman Reserve Work with community, State Government agencies and local member to plan for Hillman Reserve protection and enhancement, including development of a walk trail that allows access to the site whilst avoiding the asbestos at the dam site.	Trails Master Plan	OE	•	•			

Outcome 3.1 – Maintain and improve our key natural assets (cont'd)								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Protect our night skies to ensure that they retain their dark sky rating	In consultation with Astrotowns WA, develop a Lighting Management Policy for new developments and street lighting to ensure that light pollution is minimized.		OE	●	●			
Protect and improve additional natural assets	Nature Reserves Work with DBCA and the local community to ensure the protection and enhancement of State managed nature reserves including Capercup, Kylie, Wild Horse Swamp, Haddleton and Trigwell.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Protection of Privately Owned High Value Remnants Assist landholders in identifying and conserving areas of high value remnants or conservation potential on their private property.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Landcare Continue to fund a Landcare Officer through BBG to submit funding applications for landcare projects within the Shire		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Tidy Towns Committee Support the Tidy Towns Committee and their initiatives to encourage and promote a sustainable community.							

Outcome 3.2 – Our water resources are well defined and used sustainably

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Develop a whole of Shire Water Strategy to better manage our water resources and target development of supplies	• Liaise with government departments such as DWER and engage a consultant with specialist skills in water management to develop a whole of Shire water management strategy that provides the Shire with an action plan for the future development and management of water throughout the whole Shire. • Investigate funding opportunities to implement the Shire Water Management Strategy action plan and continue to develop water resources in a planned and staged manner.	Shire Water Strategy	OE	●	●			
				●	●	●	●	➔
Invest in water security and manage existing water resources in a sustainable manner	Standpipes and Reuse of Scoured Water • Maintain relationship with Water Corporation for reuse of weekly scoured water from Horwood Street standpipe. • Maintain potable standpipe water supply in Darkan (two standpipes) and non-potable in Bokal, Darkan, Duranillin and Moodiarrup. • Invest in additional water infrastructure in Darkan townsite		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
			LCRI Funding	●				
	Kylie Water Project Continue to liaise with DWER regarding funding the development of the Kylie Dam for use as emergency fire and stock water.		Grant funding from DWER and OE	●				
	Waterwise Gardens Ongoing upgrade of watering systems in Shire parks and gardens to reduce water consumption and use water wise plants in Shire parks and gardens.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Encourage development of private water supplies	Promote opportunities for farmers and private land owners to develop water supplies through social and print media when information about such programs becomes available to the Shire.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Outcome 3.3 – Our natural biodiversity is maintained and valued

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Blackwood Biosecurity Inc (BBI) is supported to manage pests in the Shire	• Continue involvement with BBI and provide administrative support for the implementation of pest control programs. • Promote to the local community opportunities for pest and weed control supplied by BBI	Do we have any agreements here?	OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Weeds are managed or eliminated particularly in areas of high biodiversity	• Ongoing weed management on roadsides, in parks and other areas managed by the Shire such as Lake Towerrinning and Nangip Creek. • Work collaboratively with neighbouring regions and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) to tackle nationally identified weeds such as bridal creeper; boneseed; broom, sharp rush and cotton bush and locally significant weeds. • Liaise with BBI to develop a Shire wide Weed Management Plan		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Protection of our unique flora and fauna	Local Flora • Minimise clearing of native vegetation on road verges particularly in areas of high conservation value. Working with community volunteers, contractors and DBCA to monitor and record the unique flora in our Shire, focusing on reserves of high value to the local community.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Phascogales Support education, monitoring and establishment of nesting boxes for phascogales and other fauna.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Darkan Townsite Reserves Review and ongoing implementation of the current plans for Darkan townsite reserves, working collaboratively between School, interested community members, and neighbouring landholders.	Darkan Fire Management Plan; Nangip Creek Plan	OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Consideration of biodiversity in all land use applications and developments	• Consider environmental impacts and biodiversity when assessing land use applications through council.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Outcome 3.4 – Waste is minimised and environmentally sustainable practices are employed

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Provide an effective waste management service	Management of Waste Sites and Waste Minimisation • Develop and implement a Shire Waste Management Plan to guide landfill and collection services. • Continue collaborative approaches to innovation in waste management through liaison with neighbouring local governments and support of the collaborative development of a Waste Local Law with the 4WDL VROC. • Improvement waste management and public access to waste facilities at Darkan and Duranillin Refuse sites and operate these in accordance with best practice, management plans, and regulations. • Monitor use of Darkan Refuse Site with consideration for manning the site in the future or providing restricted access. • Reduce the amount of green waste that is burnt at the refuse sites, moving towards a system of mulching and reuse where possible • Improve signage at the Darkan Refuse Site to discourage scavenging.	Shire Waste Management Plan	OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Waste and Recycling Collection Service • Continue to provide a waste and recycling collection service to residents of Darkan and Duranillin and on the truck's route where possible. • Provide a waste collection service or waste transfer site to interested Arthur River residents which is located on the truck's route. • Provide green waste pick-ups to Darkan and Duranillin town site as needed including after severe storm events.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Container Deposit Scheme Support the implementation of the container deposit scheme collection facilities in the Shire.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Outcome 3.4 – Waste is minimised and environmentally sustainable practices are employed (cont'd)

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Provide an effective waste management service (cont'd)	DrumMuster Participation in the DrumMuster program for collection of chemical drums.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Disposal of Ewaste Support the sustainable disposal of ewaste outside of the Shire of West Arthur.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Chemclear and HHW Continue to support Chemclear and Household Hazardous Waste Temporary Collection by providing a collection site and promotion.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Promote environmentally sustainable principles	Re-Use of Second Hand Items • Encourage the re-use of second hand items to reduce waste including supporting the Darkan Buy, Swap and Sell, the Darkan Oppy Shop, car boot sales, collection of scrap metal and batteries, and local auctions. • Encourage the separation of reusable items from waste destined for refuse sites and the use of home composting and recycling. • Include a second hand shop at the Darkan Refuse Site if the site becomes manned, allowing recycling of items that would otherwise be disposed of in landfill.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Built Environment – well maintained roads and infrastructure which reflects our identity

Outcome 4.1 – Our road network is well maintained								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Regularly review and update our long term road construction and maintenance program	Road Management • Renew the 10 year road program taking into consideration data held in Roman, road preservation needs, future transport needs, current and future school bus routes, available funds, and traffic data, developing an integrated road management plan. • Implement the road construction program driven by priorities identified in integrated road management plan. • Ongoing collection of data and management of Roman system for road infrastructure. • Develop a gravel strategy to meet the requirements of the road program. • Maximise external funding for works on Shire roads by applying for grants and maintaining a high standard of reporting and accountability on funds received. • Ensure ongoing maintenance of bridges in accordance with Main Roads requirements.	Road Asset Management Plan	OE	•	•	•	•	➔
	Clearing permits Develop a database of clearing permits and develop a program for replanting and managing off set plantings that are part of revegetation for clearing off sets.	Road Asset Management Plan	OE	•	•	•	•	➔
	Plant Replacement and Acquisition Ongoing review of the plant replacement program, with consideration for efficiency, available funds, and available work force, and annual acquisition and disposal of plant.	Plant Replacement and Asset Management Plant	OE	•	•	•	•	➔

Outcome 4.1 – Our road network is well maintained

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Regularly review and update our long term road construction and maintenance program (cont'd)	State Government Road Network Advocate for improvements to the State Government road network in the Shire with consideration for increased road traffic from grain cartage		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Collaborate with surrounding Shires and State government to ensure sound planning and resource utilization	Regional Network Planning • Liaise with neighbouring shires and the Wheatbelt Regional Road Group on future road programs to ascertain potential for collaborative partnerships on works and for a mutual understanding on road network impacts from upgrades. • Support strategies for the identification of key transport routes across the region and subsequent upgrades.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Shared Plant Support the use of sharing plant and resources with neighbouring shires.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Enhance road safety strategies for road users	School Bus Transport Liaise with State agencies on bus network changes, and regularly liaise with school bus operators on road conditions.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Tree Plantations Maintain good relationship with tree plantation operators and liaise with affected land holders with regards to permits for transport of wood chips and logs.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	White lines Complete the installation of centre white lines on the Duranillin Bowelling road, Moodiarrup-Changerup Road and the Darkan South Road		LCRI Funding	●	●			

Outcome 4.2 – Our built infrastructure is well maintained, attractive and inviting

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Our parks and gardens are well maintained and attractive	Regular Maintenance of Parks, Gardens and Reserves • Carry out maintenance and improvements to the parks, gardens and reserves on an ongoing basis. • Undertake plantings at Lake Towerrinning outlined in the Lake Towerrinning Concept Plan	Lake Towerrinning Concept Plan	OE OE	• •	• •	•	•	➔
Community facilities are continually reviewed and upgraded as required through asset management plans	Building and Asset Management • Review, update and implement the Asset management plan to ensure that public buildings will be improved and maintained. • Carry out annual inspections and complete regularly maintenance to ensure assets (including Shire owned houses) are maintained and well preserved. • Review whether to demolish, maintain or re-utilise the old tennis court building and toilets • Undertake inspections of all public buildings and ensure that they comply with current standards and legislation	Building Asset Management Plan	OEchool	•	•	•	•	➔
	Footpaths and Walkways Review and ongoing implementation of pathways renewal and upgrade program allowing for ongoing upgrades and renewal.	Road Asset Management Plan/Disability Access and Inclusion Plan	OE	•	•	•	•	➔
Our townscapes are attractive and well developed with consideration for current and future usage	Darkan Railway Reserve Implement the master concept plan for the Darkan Railway Reserve to ensure the area provides an attractive showpiece for the town, a dynamic and user friendly are that is frequented by a wide range of locals and visitors.	Darkan Railway Reserve Concept Plan	LCRI Funding and OE	$60,000	•	•	•	➔
	Darkan Swimming Pool Review the pool facilities, management and upgrades required to determine the most appropriate way of providing the community and visitors with a swimming pool facility into the future.			•	•	•		

Outcome 4.2 – Our built infrastructure is well maintained, attractive and inviting (cont'd)

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Our townscapes are attractive and well developed with consideration for current and future usage (cont'd)	Town Streetscapes • Encourage owners of buildings on the main street of Darkan to update and maintain buildings to ensure the street is attractive • Encourage owners of properties in Duranillin townsite to maintain a tidy appearance • Undertake landscape activities in Duranillin to improve the visual amenity of the town (including updating the entrance statements) • Liaise with the Arthur River Development Group on signage and entrance statements for the Arthur River Townsite							

Outcome 4.3 – Our cultural heritage is preserved and promoted

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Maintain the integrity of our heritage buildings	• Ensure that regular maintenance is carried out on Heritage buildings to ensure that they retain their historical character. • Encourage private owners to maintain historical buildings in their care • Investigate opportunities to purchase and preserve the Arthur River Shearing Shed	Heritage Survey and List Heritage Act 2018	OE	•	•	•	•	➔
Investigate opportunities to develop our historical assets	• Continue to review potential uses for the Darkan Station and Station Masters house and investigate funding opportunities to turn these buildings into useable assets. • Investigate the potential for the development of an Inventor's Museum in the Darkan Railway Reserve	Heritage Survey and List	OE	•	•	•	•	➔

Outcome 4.3 – Our cultural heritage is preserved and promoted (cont'd)

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Planning and development take into consideration heritage values	Heritage Review • Undertake a review of the existing Municipal Inventory and convert to a Heritage Survey • Develop a Heritage list from the Heritage Survey and prepare a Local Planning Policy that considers heritage in development and ensures conservation of those buildings or places that are considered to have high historical significance to the local community.	Municipal inventory/Shire Heritage Survey and Heritage List	DPLH Funding and OE	●				

Outcome 4.4 – Appropriate planning and development

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
	Policies • Review and develop town planning policies including a policy with regards to sea containers. • Review and update the Shire Policy Register to reflect current policies and develop new policies relevant to recent regulatory changes.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
	Local Laws Develop new local laws as required and review and amend existing local laws as required and in accordance with legislation.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Leadership and Management – inspirational, dynamic, transparent

Outcome 4.1 – Councillors represent the community and well trained								
Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
The Shire Council is representative of the community and collaborates with Shire staff to ensure the best outcomes for the community	• Develop and implement a program to encourage candidates for elections to increase diversity of elected members. • Promote voting through Shire wide advertising and provide easily accessible in person voting. • Encourage leadership in younger members of the community, through an invitation/mentorship program.		OE	•	•	•	•	➔
Elected members have the training and skills relevant to serving as councillors in order to act in the best interest of the Shire	• Develop an Induction Manual for Elected Members. • Training, informing, and skill development is promoted and available to all elected members including in house development sessions, access to external programs, and induction programs. • Implement education and advisory programs where required to ensure that Councillors are abreast of current issues such as heritage and Aboriginal reconciliation. (OTHER ISSUES?) • Fund, promote, support and encourage elected member representation at relevant conferences, workshops and meetings at a regional and state level. • Support and encourage elected members, officers and community representatives to be active participants on key external and strategic bodies and discussion groups that will benefit the Shire. • Upgrade information technology in Council chambers to allow for video or teleconferencing.		OE	•	•	•	•	➔

Outcome 4.2 – Shire staff are well trained, motivated and customer focused

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Ensure that staff have opportunities to continue professional development when available.	• Encourage a philosophy of continual learning through structured and unstructured programs. • Ensure staff training opportunities are identified during performance management process. • Encourage staff to be members of appropriate professional bodies like LG Professionals to allow networking opportunities and the provision of information to ensure that staff remain up to date with current trends and information in local government.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Provide flexible working arrangements where possible in order to attract the best quality staff	• Continue to provide opportunities for flexible work opportunities including part time, work from home, casual, and extended leave to suit employee's personal commitments and chosen lifestyle. • Improve the quality of staff housing to assist to attract and retain staff. • Continue to provide a safe and positive workplace, ensuring OHS and mitigating risks where required. • Regularly review the Shire Workforce Plan	Workforce Plan	OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Continuously strive to be customer focused and serve Council and the community	• Monitor system used for dealing with customer queries and complaints, and revise where appropriate. • Review code of conduct every two years. • Ensure prompt responses to enquiries through the Shire website							

Outcome 4.3 – Establish and maintain sound business and governance structures

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Ensure that the local community is provided with value for money through the prudent expenditure of rates.	• Conduct annual reviews of the forward financial plan. • Prepare an annual budget to guide the distribution of funding for the Shire's operations • Sporting clubs will be encouraged to plan for asset replacement and upgrade, which support business plans, through reserve funds matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis with the Shire. • Continue to monitor opportunities to apply for external funding for improvements to facilities and the community.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Provide informed decision making based on our strategic directions and legal requirements and that these are adequately communicated with the community.	• Demonstrate compliance with the Western Australian Department of Local Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Requirements Framework and align planning documents to the framework. • Continue to have all meetings and discussion forums open to public and encourage community members to participate in the invited guest program. • Regularly consult with the local community to identify community directions and areas for improvement.	IPRF	OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Comply with regulations and best practice standards to drive good decision making by Council and Staff	• Annually review the Shire's Policy Manual and develop new policies as required. • Continue to maintain professional networks and undertake appropriate training to ensure staff remain up to date with current best practice.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Outcome 4.4 – Actively engage with community, business and other stakeholders to grow and develop the community

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Continue to collaborate with other regional shires to achieve maximum benefits for the region	• Support and actively participate in the 4WDL Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils. • Examine further opportunities and continue to work cooperatively with other councils to create efficiencies and improved services through regional collaboration. • Maintain connections with regional groups such as Regional Development Australia (Wheatbelt) and Wheatbelt Development Commission to ensure collaborative opportunities are identified.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Council will advocate on behalf of the community on issues that the community identifies as important	• Councillors or Shire staff will represent and promote the Council at appropriate regional, state and federal forums • Encourage and facilitate deputations and questions at Council meetings and ensure community members have the opportunity to participate in discussion at Council meetings. • Councillors and staff will represent the Shire on community groups (such as West Arthur Community Resource Centre and West Arthur Cottage Homes) to provide a conduit for information and to show Council support for the community groups.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔
Continued improvement in communication with the community through various platforms that ensure all members of the community have access to information	• Increase use of new technology to engage with public and keep them informed through ongoing review and development of the web site and other digital means including social media platforms • Provide regular information in Bleat Community Newsletter and local newspapers to residents and ratepayers at least once per annum. ● Facilitate meetings and functions to address community opportunities and needs. Conduct community forums for project specific matters as required and as appropriate.		OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Outcome 4.4 – Actively engage with community, business and other stakeholders to grow and develop the community (cont'd)

Strategy	Action	Informing documents	Budget	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing
Continued improvement in communication with the community through various platforms that ensure all members of the community have access to information (cont'd)	• Develop a guide for colours, style and logos to be used consistently in promotion, securing strong public recognition of the Shire. • Continue to support volunteers to care for the community and maintain its assets including Duranillin School, Glenorchy School, and seniors helpers. Update the Shire website to ensure compliance with legislation and ensure ease of use for the general public							
Continuously review and revise the Community Plan to reflect the changing needs of the community.	Annually review the community plan and corporate plan to update projects and Shire direction based on available funding and the changing requirements of the community.	Community Plan/Corporate Plan	OE	●	●	●	●	➔

Financial information

Abbreviations used throughout the document

BBG – Blackwood Basin Group
BBI – Blackwood Biosecurity Inc.
BBHC – Betty Brown Historical Centre
CBP – Corporate Business Plan
DBCA – Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction
DPLH – Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage
DoT – Department of Transport
ESL – Emergency Services Levy
LCRI – Local Community Roads and Infrastructure (Economic stimulas funding program implemented by the Federal Government as a result of COVID pandemic)
OE –Operating Expenses
OM – Operating materials
pa – per annum
WAX –West Arthur eXpression