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CONFIRMED MINUTES

Shire of West Arthur Special Council Meeting 18 January 2022

MISSION STATEMENT

To value and enhance our community lifestyle and environment through strong local leadership, community involvement and effective service delivery.

DISCLAIMER

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of West Arthur for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or Committee meetings or during formal/informal conversations with staff. The Shire of West Arthur disclaims any liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or Committee meetings or discussions. Any person or legal entity that act or fails to act in reliance upon any statement does so at the person's or legal entity's own risk.

The purpose of this council meeting is to discuss and, where possible, make resolutions about items appearing on the agenda. Whilst Council has the power to resolve such items and may in fact, appear to have done so at the meeting, no person should rely on or act on basis of such decision or on any advice or information provided by a member or officer, or on the content of any discussion occurring, during the course of the meeting.

In particular and without derogating in any way from the broad disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a licence, any statement or limitation of approval made by a member or officer of the Shire of West Arthur during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of West Arthur. The Shire of West Arthur warns that anyone who has an application lodged with the Shire of West Arthur must obtain and only should rely on WRITTEN CONFIRMATION of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of West Arthur in respect of the application.

Persons should be aware that the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 (section 5.25 (e)) establish procedures for revocation or rescission of a Council decision.

The Shire of West Arthur expressly disclaims liability for any loss or damage suffered by any person as a result of relying on or acting on the basis of any resolution of Council, or any advice or information provided by a member or officer, or the content of any discussion occurring, during the course of the Council meeting

These Minutes were confirmed at the ordinary council meeting on 15 February 2022:

Signed:

Presiding Member at the meeting at which the Minutes were Confirmed.

MINOUL

SHIRE OF WEST ARTHUR

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers Tuesday 18 January 2022.

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1. Declaration of Opening / Announcements of Visitors

The Presiding Member to declare the meeting open 7.06pm.

2. Attendance / Apologies / Approved Leave of Absence

COUNCILLORS: Cr Neil Morrell (President)

Cr Graeme Peirce (Deputy President)

Cr Adam Squires Cr Robyn Lubcke Cr Duncan South

STAFF: Ian McCabe (A/Chief Executive Officer)

Jamie Muir Manager Works and Services

APOLOGIES: Cr Neil Manuel

Cr Karen Harrington

ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Nil

ABSENT: Nil

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Nil

3. Announcements by the Presiding Member

Nil

4. Response to Previous Public Questions Taken on Notice

Nil

5. Public Question Time

Nil

6. Petitions / Deputations / Presentations / Submissions

Nil

7. Applications for Leave of Absence

Nil

8. Disclosures of Interest

Nil

9. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings Held

Not Applicable

10. Reports of Committees of Council

Nil tabled

11. Reports from Councillors

There were no reports. To assist with record administration, Councillors are asked to list here or at item 10 any events, committees or other obligations as councillor.

Cr Neil Morrell (President)

Cr Graeme Peirce (Deputy President)

Cr Neil Manuel

Cr Adam Squires

Cr Robyn Lubcke

Cr Karen Harrington

Cr Duncan South

12. Chief Executive Officer

12.1 RISK REGISTERS

File Reference: 2.8 Risk Management

Location: Not Applicable

Applicant: Ian McCabe Acting Chief Executive Officer
Author: Ian McCabe Acting Chief Executive Officer
Authorising Officer Ian McCabe Acting Chief Executive Officer

Date: 13 January 2022
Disclosure of Interest: Not Applicable

Attachments: NIL

Previous Reference: Not Applicable

Summary:

The preparation and maintenance of an operational risk register will assist with prioritisation, resource allocation and the escalation of items for Council decision. This item seeks Council's endorsement of the risk management philosophy and considers a mechanism for consideration of risk by the CEO and Council.

Background:

It is a requirement of local government integrated planning and reporting framework to make risk management part of business decision making. Good risk management delivered by good records, a high standard of training for staff and open, transparent reporting projects a professional approach to making and delivering Council's plans.

Comment:

Local government is an inherently conservative sector dealing with public monies, public assets and shared community concerns. This means Council and officers are custodians on behalf of a wide range of interests and the focus is on preservation and proper use.

Risk management is the removal of uncertainty from business decisions. To ensure good stewardship and proper use, the employment of lower risk removes uncertainty.

One methodology of managing risk is to consider the level of risk by calculating the likelihood of an event and the consequence of it occurring. For example, the matrix in council agenda items assigns a value against each of those criteria to indicate how serious it might be – the greater the consequence, the greater the value (1 to 5); similarly, the more likely an event is to occur, the greater the value attributed to it (1 to 5). Combining these two values results in a risk score (consequence multiplied by likelihood = risk).

In this way, the author provides Council with a value aligned with the level of risk: the higher the value, the greater the risk. When Council makes decisions to invest, support or approve an action, the perceived benefits or consequences are weighed against the estimated risk of supporting or not supporting the recommendation.

Some business risk or uncertainty cannot be removed because the decision maker doesn't have all the information nor control over all the factors that affect the decision. Prices may rise; a workforce may not be available; supply chains may be disrupted. To reduce this uncertainty and mitigate the risk or control it, the risk has to be well considered (for example, what is the risk of machine failure; what would it cost to replace the machine; can we reduce the risk of failure by a maintenance programme). Once its measured in this way, plans can be made to avoid the risk as well as understand any associated price, timeline and other considerations.

A list of the main risks is referred to as a risk register. There may be operational risk registers used by managers to make decisions about work; or strategic risk registers used by Council to make long term plans. An operational risk register will list material issues that require

prioritisation and may require Council decisions to progress. Items of this nature may be reported to the Audit Committee.

This item seeks Council's support for an operational risk register (which may have elements or relationships to strategic objectives). As an operational tool it will be utilised by managers in implementing Council decisions or elevating material issues to Council for Decision. where material, risk items will be reported to the Audit Committee, Council or discussed in confidential briefings.

Consultation:

Full Council; all managers.

Statutory Environment:

s.5.56 Local Government Act 1995; regulation 19BA (et al) Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996.

Policy Implications:

G1.11 Risk Management

Financial Implications:

Poor risk management will result in efficiency, loss or delay; these things all cost time and money. Potentially, poor risk management will have a major financial impact on local government performance.

Strategic Implications:

Similarly, poor risk management will stimy strategic outcomes, resulting in poor implementation of long term goals.

Sustainability Implications:

• Environmental: Major

• Economic: Major

Social: Major

Risk Implications:

The following risk assessment is calculated on the absence of a risk register and inclusion of risk in planning and implementing decisions.

Risk		
Risk Likelihood (based on history and with	Almost Certain (5)	
existing controls)	7 umost ostam (o)	
Risk Impact / Consequence	Major (4)	
Risk Rating (Prior to Treatment or Control)	Extreme (20)	
Principal Risk Theme	Multiple Categories (affects all areas of	
	activity)	
Risk Action Plan (Controls or Treatment	Risk register to assess and prioritise; use of	
Proposed)	project planning techniques; improve record	
	keeping and communication about risk and	
	process.	

Risk Matrix:

Consequence		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Likelihood		1	2	3	4	5
Almost Certain	5	Medium (5)	High (10)	High (15)	Extreme (20)	Extreme (25)
Likely	4	Low (4)	Medium (8)	High (12)	High (16)	Extreme (20)
Possible	3	Low (3)	Medium (6)	Medium (9)	High (12)	High (15)
Unlikely	2	Low (2)	Low (4)	Medium (6)	Medium (8)	High (10)
Rare	1	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Low (4)	Medium (5)

A risk is often specified in terms of an event or circumstance and the consequences that may flow from it. An effect may be positive, negative or a deviation from the expected and may be related to the following objectives; occupational health and safety, financial, service interruption, compliance, reputation and environment. A risk matrix has been prepared and a risk rating of 2 has been determined for this item. Any items with a risk rating over 10 (considered to be high or extreme risk) will be added to the Risk Register, and any item with a risk rating over 17 will require a specific risk treatment plan to be developed.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Officer Recommendation:

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the use of risk registers by managers to assess risk items and escalate consideration of material risk;
- 2. That an operational risk register be tabled at Council briefings at a frequency to be agreed by the CEO and Council;
- 3. That material strategic and operational risk be reported to Audit Committee.

Moved:	Cr South	Seconded:	Cr Squires
		•	

CARRIED 5/0

13. Finance

14. Planning and Technical Services

14.1 RURAL SUBDIVISION: LOT 1 CORDERING ROAD SOUTH, BOWELLING

File Reference: 6.5.8

Location: Lot 1 Cordering Road South, Bowelling

Applicant: Michael McKenna

Author: G. Lush (Planning Consultant)

Authorising Officer Ian McCabe, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Date: 12 January 2021

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Attachments: 1 Site Plan

2 Subdivision Plan

Previous Reference: Nil

Summary:

To consider the referral of subdivision application by the WAPC (Ref No 161813) for a two-lot rural subdivision.

Background:

The subject land is Lot 1 (#188) D83364 Cordering Road South, Bowelling and this has an area of 206.4138 hectares. It has a frontage of 610m to Cordering South Road and a depth of between 1,800 and 2,000m. A plan of the subject land is contained in Attachment 1.

The subject land contains a large area of remnant vegetation and a blue gum plantation. The plantation has an area of 87 hectares and was harvested in 2018. The plantation area is now regenerating with coppice and the applicant has advised that this will be removed by the end of February. There will be no plantation on the property after remediation and removal and we will be planting pasture in due course.

There is also an existing dwelling and sheds on the property.

The owner has also made an application to the Shire to close and purchase the unmade road reserve adjoining the northern property boundary. This does not form part of the subdivision application.

Council in 2012 approved an application for a "free range" piggery (animal husbandry – intensive) on the property for a maximum of 182 animals. This was for a 15-hectare portion of the property as shown in Attachment 1. It is not known if the piggery is still operating.

The proposed subdivision is shown in Attachment 2 and will divide the property in half with the lots being 100 and 106 hectares. Both lots will be 500m wide.

Comment:

Intensive Agriculture

The application notes that Clause 5.18.4 (a) of the Scheme states that the Shire <u>will support</u> subdivision applications for intensive agriculture. It then suggests that the previously approved piggery is "intensive agricultural" and therefore the subdivision confirms with the provisions of Clause 5.18.4.

This is not supported for the following reasons.

- 1 The definition of "intensive agricultural" does not include animal keeping but rather refers to
 - (a) the production of grapes, vegetables, flowers, exotic or native plants, or fruit or nuts;
 - (b) the establishment and operation of fruit nurseries; or

- (c) the development of land for irrigated fodder production or irrigated pasture (including turf farms);
- While the piggery was approved as "animal husbandry intensive" it was in fact for a freerange extensive piggery.
- 3 This would only be a possible consideration if the piggery was still operating.

The inference from Clause 5.18.4 (a) is that Council <u>will only support</u> subdivision applications for intensive agriculture. This is not correct and there is nothing in Clause 5.18.4, which actively prevents the Council from supporting other subdivision applications.

The only supporting factor for the application, is that there are a number of other lots in the surrounding area which are of a similar size or smaller to those being proposed and a number of these are only 60 hectares.

BAL Assessment

The application has included a Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) Assessment for a hypothetical house site on the proposed new lot. The house site is shown in Attachment 2 and this portion of the property is not designated as being bushfire prone.

The BAL Assessment assigns the house site and a 150m radius around this has having a BAL-Low rating. This has classified the area as being non-vegetated (bare ground) on the basis of the area being in the process of having the blue gum coppice removed. However, the bushfire assessment for the subdivision is required to consider the proposed final development.

This is not supported and as indicated by the applicant, this area will be developed as "pasture in due course." Given that the area around the proposed house site will be pasture, then with the provision of a standard 20m building protection zone, the dwelling can achieve a BAL-12.5 rating which complies with SPP3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas.

Access

There are two driveway cross overs to the property as shown in Attachment 1. The northern driveway extends along the western property boundary to the unconstructed road reserve on the northern boundary.

The proposed subdivision would require a new crossover to be built to Cordering Road South and this would have to be existing remnant vegetation. The alternative is to re-align a portion of the proposed boundary to include the existing access, or to provide a carriageway easement over it.

Consultation:

CEO consulted Manager Works and Services to advise on access to sites; both officers support the recommendations as written.

Statutory Environment:

Local Planning Scheme No 2

The subject land is zoned Rural Local Planning Scheme No 2. The objectives for the Rural zone include:

- to ensure the continuation of broad-hectare agriculture as the principal land use in the district, encouraging where appropriate the retention and expansion of agricultural activities.
- to provide for intensive agricultural uses and diversified farming which retain the rural character and amenity of the locality, and which are consistent with land suitability.

Clause 5.18.4 of the Scheme specifically deals with the subdivision of Rural zoned land stating when making recommendations to the Commission on applications for subdivision the local government will have regard to the relevant policies of the Commission and the following:

(a) Subdivision for Intensive Agriculture

The local government will support subdivision in the Rural Zone where one or more of the proposed lots are for an existing or proposed intensive agriculture use and the application demonstrates that:

- (i) any intensive agriculture lot would be a minimum size of 80 hectares unless the Department of Agriculture advises that a lesser lot size is adequate for a long term sustainable intensive agriculture use;
- (ii) the land has high land capability for the use and all lots have a sustainable water supply for domestic, fire management, agricultural, and environmental needs;
- (iii) the use would not result in adverse impacts on the environment (e.g. waterways or native flora and fauna) or cause conflict with existing agricultural uses on adjoining lots:
- (iv) the balance lot would be usable in the long term as a viable broad acre agricultural enterprise without the need for clearing of remnant vegetation; and
- (v) the intensive agriculture use has been approved by the local government under the Scheme.

State Planning Policy 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas

A large portion of the subject land is designated as being bushfire prone on the State Bushfire Prone Maps.

State Planning Policy SPP3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas requires that any subdivision application must be accompanied by a bushfire assessment which includes:

- a) a Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) Assessment or a BAL Contour Map to show the expected BAL ratings for the developed site;
- b) the identification of any bushfire hazard issues arising from the BAL Contour Map or the BAL assessment; and
- c) an assessment against the bushfire protection criteria requirements contained within the Guidelines demonstrating compliance within the boundary of the development site.

State Planning Policy 2.5 Rural Land

State Planning Policy 2.5 Rural Land has a presumption against the subdivision of rural land except for specific circumstances being:

- a) A boundary re-alignment;
- b) To protect and actively conserve places of cultural and natural heritage;
- c) To allow for the efficient provision of utilities and infrastructure;
- d) Homestead lots; and
- e) For other unusual or unanticipated purposes which, in the opinion of the WAPC, do not conflict with this and other relevant policies and are necessary to the public interest.

In addition to the provisions of the policy the WAPC will have due regard to:

- the provisions of a local planning scheme;
- a local planning strategy or local rural strategy;
- applicable region schemes;
- applicable regional strategies;
- relevant State planning and operational policies;
- the individual merits of the proposal; and
- existing precedent(s) or any potential precedent the proposal may create.

Policy Implications:

None

Financial Implications:

None

Strategic Implications:

Shire of West Arthur Strategic Community Plan – Strategic Direction - Local Economy - supporting agriculture and local business.

Sustainability Implications:

- Environmental: There are no known significant environmental considerations.
- **Economic:** There are no known significant economic considerations.
- **Social:** There are no known significant social considerations.

Risk Implications:

Risk	
Risk Likelihood (based on history and with	Unlikely (2)
existing controls)	Offlikely (2)
Risk Impact / Consequence	Minor (2)
Risk Rating (Prior to Treatment or Control)	Low (4)
Principal Risk Theme	Providing accurate advice and information.
Risk Action Plan (Controls or Treatment	Consultation and compliance
Proposed)	Consultation and compliance

Risk Matrix:

Consequence		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Likelihood		1	2	3	4	5
Almost Certain	5	Medium (5)	High (10)	High (15)	Extreme (20)	Extreme (25)
Likely	4	Low (4)	Medium (8)	High (12)	High (16)	Extreme (20)
Possible	3	Low (3)	Medium (6)	Medium (9)	High (12)	High (15)
Unlikely	2	Low (2)	Low (4)	Medium (6)	Medium (8)	High (10)
Rare	1	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Low (4)	Medium (5)

A risk is often specified in terms of an event or circumstance and the consequences that may flow from it. An effect may be positive, negative or a deviation from the expected and may be related to the following objectives; occupational health and safety, financial, service interruption, compliance, reputation and environment. A risk matrix has been prepared and a risk rating of 2 has been determined for this item. Any items with a risk rating over 10 (considered to be high or extreme risk) will be added to the Risk Register, and any item with a risk rating over 17 will require a specific risk treatment plan to be developed.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation:

Council advise the Western Australian Planning Commission that:

- 1 It has no objection to the proposed subdivision of Lot 1 (#188) D83364 Cordering Road South (Ref No 161813) on the basis that:
 - The proposed lot size is consistent with the prevailing lot size in the area; and
 - There a suitable location for a future dwelling on land which is not designated as being bushfire prone.
- The property has two existing cross overs to Cordering Road South and the subdivision would require a third cross over. As the frontage of the proposed lot contains remnant vegetation, the creation of an additional cross over is not supported. To address this the subdivision boundary should be realigned to include the existing access; or a carriageway easement be provided over this with a restrictive covenant applied to prevent further direct access to Cordering Road South.

CARRIED 5/0

Moved:		Seconded:	
MOTION:			
carriageway	2 of the officer recommendation easement be provided over this taccess to Cordering Road South.	with a restrictive cover	
Moved: C	Or Squires	Seconded: Cr Lubo	cke
		С	ARRIED 5/0
The substan	ntive motion becomes:		
Officer Rec	ommendation:		
That Counci	il advise the Western Australian Pla	anning Commission th	at:
Sout • The p	s no objection to the proposed subo h (Ref No 161813) on the basis the proposed lot size is consistent with te a suitable location for a future dw fire prone.	at:	in the area; and
woul vege	property has two existing cross ove d require a third cross over. As the station, the creation of an additional subdivision boundary should be rea	e frontage of the propo al cross over is not sup	osed lot contains remnant oported. To address this
Moved: _C	Or Lubcke	Seconded: Cr Piero	ce

ATTACHMENTS
Attachment 1 – Site Plan
Attachment 2 – Subdivision Plan

Attachment 1 - Site Plan



Attachment 2 - Subdivision Plan



15. Elected Members Motions of Which Previous Notice Has Been Given

Nil

16. New Business or Urgent Business Introduced by Decision of the Meeting

New business of an urgent nature introduced by decision of the meeting. Best practice provides that Council should only consider items that have been included on the Agenda (to allow ample time for Councillors to research prior to the meeting) and which have an Officer Report (to provide the background to the issue and a recommended decision).

16.1 Elected Members

Nil

16.2 Officers

In accordance with 3.11 of the Standing Orders Local Law, the CEO requested the presiding member introduced three items for acceptance as late items without notice and decided by the meeting.

Motion:

That the meeting accept for consideration the following items:

- a. Arthur River Roadhouse signage (16.2.1);
- b. ALGA Election Priorities (16.2.2); and,
- c. Caravan Park Terms and conditions (16.2.3).

Moved: Cr Squires Seconded: Cr Lubcke

CARRIED 5/0

16.2.1 ARTHUR RIVER ROADHOUSE SIGNAGE

File Reference: 6.5.1

Location: Albany Hwy Arthur River

Applicant: WARRIV Pty Ltd

Author: Ian McCabe Acting Chief Executive Officer
Authorising Officer Ian McCabe Acting Chief Executive Officer

Date: 18 January 2022

Disclosure of Interest: NIL

Attachments: 1. Sign approved 14 December 2021; 2. Sign Detail updated

Previous Reference: 14.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council 14 December 2021

Summary:

Council was advised in the meeting 14 December 2021 that logo detail may be updated. This has now been advised and branding is altered from Puma to Shell with no other changes to design.

Background:

Council approved signage at its meeting 14 December 2021. The branding has been altered. Council is advised of the changed detail and affirmation of the approval is sought.

Comment:

The application to erect a pylon identification sign Albany Highway as part of the redevelopment of the Arthur River Roadhouse.

Council at its Meeting of the 21 August 2021 approved the redevelopment of the roadhouse at Arthur River.

The application included an illuminated pylon sign 6.9m high by 2.2m wide located on the verge of Albany Highway. It was noted that the sign being located on the road verge is not part of the property and is a separate lot / road widening. The approval of Main Roads WA as both the landowner and responsible authority is required.

An application was made 14 December 2021 for a sign as shown in Attachment 1. This was approved by Council. The logo design has been updated to reflect the Shell brand.

Consultation:

Geoffrey Lush, planning consultant.

Statutory Environment:

Local Planning Scheme No 2

Clause 60 of the Deemed Provisions (Local Planning Scheme Regulations 2015) states that a person must not commence or carry out any works on, or use, land in the Scheme area unless:

a) The person has obtained the development approval; or

b) Development approval is not required for the development under clause 61.

Clause 61 then sets out the items which do not need a development approval. While this includes various types of signs, it does not include a permanent sign of the size and type that is being proposed.

Other

Roadside advertising is also controlled through multiple legislation including:

Main Roads Act 1930;

Main Roads (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 1996;

Road Traffic Administration Act 2008; and

Road Traffic Code 2000

The Main Roads (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 1996 state that other than exempt signs, a person must not erect or construct a hoarding or other advertising structure, or exhibit an advertisement on or in the vicinity of a State road without the Commissioner's approval to do so.

Policy Implications:

There is no applicable policy.

Financial Implications:

NIL

Strategic Implications:

NIL

Sustainability Implications:

- Environmental: Not applicable to this item.
- Economic: Not applicable to this item.
- Social: Not applicable to this item.

Risk Implications:

Approval has been granted for a sign and construction of this specification. There is no material risk to affirming the altered brand contained within the sign.

Risk	
Risk Likelihood (based on history and with	
existing controls)	
Risk Impact / Consequence	
Risk Rating (Prior to Treatment or Control)	
Principal Risk Theme	
Risk Action Plan (Controls or Treatment	
Proposed)	

Risk Matrix:

Consequence		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Likelihood		1	2	3	4	5
Almost Certain	5	Medium (5)	High (10)	High (15)	Extreme (20)	Extreme (25)
Likely	4	Low (4)	Medium (8)	High (12)	High (16)	Extreme (20)
Possible	3	Low (3)	Medium (6)	Medium (9)	High (12)	High (15)
Unlikely	2	Low (2)	Low (4)	Medium (6)	Medium (8)	High (10)
Rare	1	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Low (4)	Medium (5)

A risk is often specified in terms of an event or circumstance and the consequences that may flow from it. An effect may be positive, negative or a deviation from the expected and may be related to the following objectives; occupational health and safety, financial, service interruption, compliance, reputation and environment. A risk matrix has been prepared and a risk rating of 2 has been determined for this item. Any items with a risk rating over 10 (considered to be high or extreme risk) will be added to the Risk Register, and any item with a risk rating over 17 will require a specific risk treatment plan to be developed.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Officer Recommendation:

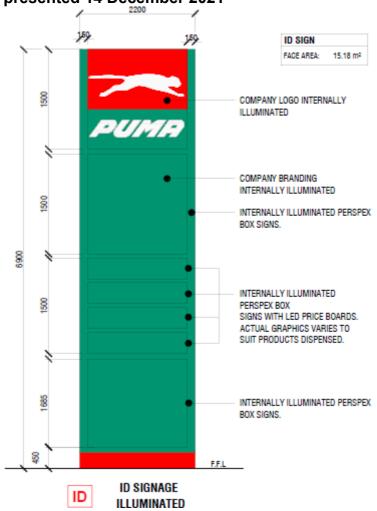
- A. That Council approve the development of a pylon identification sign on the Albany Highway road reserve adjacent to Lots 15220 & 15221 DP166445 Albany Highway Arthur River, subject to the following conditions:
- 1 The development hereby approved shall occur in accordance with the plans submitted with the application and these shall not be altered or modified without the prior written approval of the Council
- 2 Any use, additions to and further intensification of any part of the building or land (not the subject of this consent) shall be subject to a further development application and consent for that use.

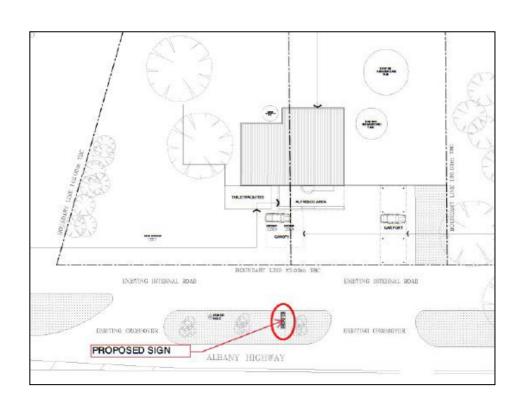
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к	I hat	Main	Roads	WAI	he a	dvised	of the	above

Moved:	Cr South	Seconded:	Cr Pierce
		•	

ATTACHMENTS

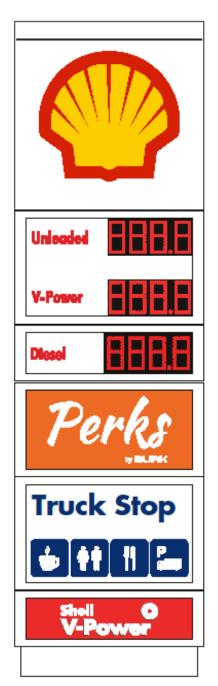
Attachment 1 As presented 14 December 2021





Attachment 2 Re-branded with same design features and dimensions







16.2.2 ALGA FEDERAL ELECTION PRIORITIES

File Reference: 2.7.1

Location: Not applicable

Applicant: Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), through

WALGA

Author: Ian McCabe Acting Chief Executive Officer
Authorising Officer Ian McCabe Acting Chief Executive Officer

Date: 18 January 2022

Disclosure of Interest: NIL

Attachments: 1. Explanatory memo "Don't Leave Local Communities

Behind."

Previous Reference: No Applicable.

Summarv:

ALGA has prepared a set of priorities to promote in the upcoming election and seek Council's support to advance these.

Background:

The Shire of West Arthur is a member of the West Australian Local Government Association (WALGA). WALGA advocates to government and other sectors on behalf of local governments, as well as providing services and advice to the Shire of West Arthur.

In turn, WALGA represents the sector within the national body, the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA). ALGA represents the interests of local government at a national level. This is important as local government is recognised at a state level constitutionally and relies on legislation and Ministerial decisions to advance common interests such as road funding.

Comment:

The Federal election is most likely to occur early in 2022. ALGA has a set of priorities entitled "Don't Leave Local Communities Behind". This document, available for download at alga.asn.au includes initiatives to address economic recovery; transport and community infrastructure; resilience building; the circular economy; and inter-governmental relations. Some of these seek a return to previous practices by the next Federal Government. The total package is proposed to add \$6.4 billion to the national gross domestic product.

This campaign is non-partisan and seeks to state clearly to the potential federal government what the priorities of the local government sector are.

Consultation:

Full Council

Statutory Environment:

No direct statue but relevance to Roads to Recovery and other Federal programmes.

Policy Implications:

Not applicable.

Financial Implications:

There is a consistent pressure on external funding sources including federal funding.

Strategic Implications:

No direct relationship to Council strategies; however, the local government is reliant on external funding to implement projects of strategic value.

Sustainability Implications:

Increased external funding would assist in improved outcomes in reduced timelines.

- Environmental: Local environment is reliant on properly funded projects of value.
- Economic: Local economy is reliant on timely project completion.
- Social: The community would benefit from continued and expanded funding of local projects.

Risk Implications:

There is no material risk associated with this item.

Risk	
Risk Likelihood (based on history and with	
existing controls)	
Risk Impact / Consequence	
Risk Rating (Prior to Treatment or Control)	
Principal Risk Theme	
Risk Action Plan (Controls or Treatment	
Proposed)	

Risk Matrix:

Consequence		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Likelihood		1	2	3	4	5
Almost Certain	5	Medium (5)	High (10)	High (15)	Extreme (20)	Extreme (25)
Likely	4	Low (4)	Medium (8)	High (12)	High (16)	Extreme (20)
Possible	3	Low (3)	Medium (6)	Medium (9)	High (12)	High (15)
Unlikely	2	Low (2)	Low (4)	Medium (6)	Medium (8)	High (10)
Rare	1	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Low (4)	Medium (5)

A risk is often specified in terms of an event or circumstance and the consequences that may flow from it. An effect may be positive, negative or a deviation from the expected and may be related to the following objectives; occupational health and safety, financial, service interruption, compliance, reputation and environment. A risk matrix has been prepared and a risk rating of 2 has been determined for this item. Any items with a risk rating over 10 (considered to be high or extreme risk) will be added to the Risk Register, and any item with a risk rating over 17 will require a specific risk treatment plan to be developed.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation:

It is resolved that the Council of Shire of West Arthur:

- 1. supports the national funding priorities of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), which would contribute an estimated \$6.39 billion per year to Australia's GDP and create 42,975 jobs; and
- 2. agrees to support and participate in the Australian Local Government Association's advocacy for their endorsed national funding priorities by writing to the local Federal Member(s) of Parliament, all known election candidates in local Federal electorates and the President of the Australian Local Government Association to:
 - a. express support for ALGA's funding priorities;
- b. identify priority local projects and programs that could be progressed with the additional financial assistance from the Federal Government being sought by ALGA; and

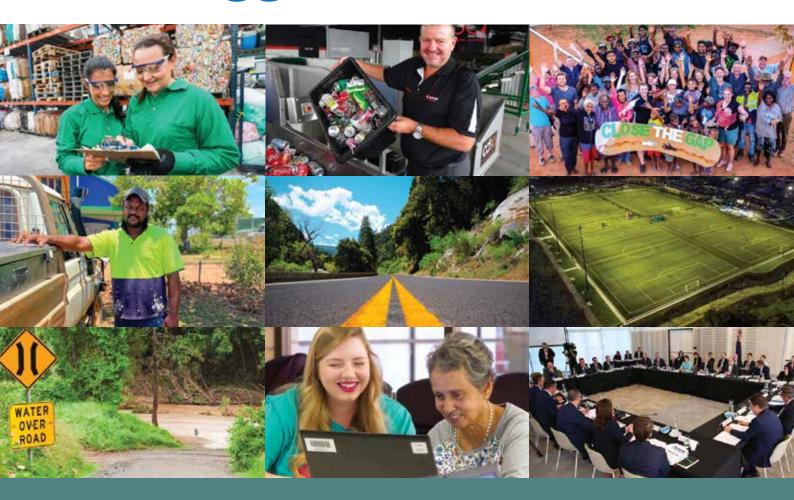
CARRIED 5/0

c. seek funding commitments identified local projects and progra	from the members, candidates and their parties for these ns.
Moved: Cr Squires	Seconded: <u>Cr Lubcke</u>

ATTACHMENTS

The attachment "Don't Leave Local Communities Behind" may be viewed at:

https://alga.asn.au/our-federal-election-priorities-dont-leave-local-communities-behind/



DON'T LEAVE LOCAL COMMUNITIES BEHIND.

Federal Election Priorities

Successfully delivering for Greater Sydney communities



Rouse Road footbridge (\$22 million), Blacktown City Council, NSW

Blacktown City Council Mayor Tony Bleasdale said the opening of the Rouse Road Bridge in 2019 - partially funded through the Commonwealth's Bridges Renewal Programme - solved a number of significant problems and that the bridge was a major access point fo the Tallawong Metro station and Rouse Hill Anglican College.

"This area is experiencing rapid growth and the old causeway was an enormous traffic bottleneck and a serious safety concern for pedestrians and motorists alike during times of heavy rain," Cr Bleasdale said.

"Blacktown City Council had the bridge planned for some time, but needed to wait for available funding. The Australian Government grant enabled the work to be fast-tracked."

Authorised by Matt Pinnegar Chief Executive Officer of ALGA.



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- **15** Intergovernmental Relations



Introduction: Linda Scott, ALGA President

As our nation faces social and economic challenges unseen in peace-time Australia, Australians need their decision-makers working together.

They want, expect, and need pragmatic policy making that delivers a locally led recovery from COVID-19, and a focus on opportunity rather than austerity from this economic crisis.

In total (including direct and flow-on impacts), the funding priorities we've proposed in this document are estimated to contribute at least \$6.39 billion per annum on average to Australia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), as well as support an average of 42,975 full time equivalent (FTE) jobs per annum across Australia over a four-year period.

By working with Australian councils – the level of government closest to its community – a future Federal Government can put steps in place to guarantee no local community is left behind as we recover from COVID-19.



The COVID-19 pandemic that shook Australia in March 2020 has imposed new physical, social, and economic realities in Australia.

Occurring almost simultaneously with the Black Summer fires, floods, and drought, the pandemic helped trigger Australia's first recession in nearly 30 years.

It has led to unprecedented Commonwealth, state and local government economic support for those most affected by the economic and social impacts, but the cumulative shocks to our system – exacerbated by the Delta variant and a mammoth vaccination task – have presented all governments with significant



Councillor Linda Scott President of the Australian Local Government Association

financial challenges, which local governments are unable to face without the support of the Commonwealth.

Businesses closed their doors and laid off staff, families lost income, and individuals were left isolated from friends and loved ones.

Unwelcome as the pandemic was, it has also revealed the adaptability, innovation, and resilience of our nation and its citizens.

Through stay-at-home orders in place, our homes became our offices, schools, and lecture halls, and many have faced unemployment or uncertainty about how to pay the rent or support our families.

Within days of the announcement of lockdowns and health restrictions, we took difficult but necessary steps to protect our communities from the risks of infection – educating people about the need for social distancing and providing masks and food for communities.

We used our own limited funding to provide financial support to local small businesses directed to close because of COVID-19 restrictions, and organised vouchers for aged and other vulnerable locals to redeem at participating local cafes and restaurants struggling to stay in business.

We supported our communities to innovate, quickly adapting in a way only local governments can.





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As communities and businesses "pivoted", we saw the adaptability that characterises local government.

Recognising that broad economic stimulus and job-creation programs were the keys to community recovery, local governments accelerated local employment-generating programs.

We partnered with other governments to roll out targeted capital works to improve road safety, rejuvenate or upgrade local community assets, and enhance our local parks, footpaths and community open spaces.

Forced to contemplate what the future might look like post-COVID, many Australians believe our communities should be restored not to what they were, but to what they could be.

A successful national recovery is a recovery that will be made up of thousands of smaller locally driven recoveries led by local governments in partnership with funding partners: private, philanthropic, state, territory and federal.

To sustain such a recovery and ensure it is felt across all communities regardless of size or location, we need a stronger, more equal partnership between governments. Our local communities need more investment, and they need to have a greater say in decision-making about their futures.

All spheres of government, elected and administrative, must work together to ensure that economic recovery post-COVID does not falter.

We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build a better future: one that bolsters community connection, wellbeing and resilience.

This document lays out a series of offers to the next incoming government, alongside a set of asks.

They build upon local government's strengths and its proven track record of working in partner-ship to deliver for Australian communities and national productivity.

The policies contained in these election priorities have been assessed by independent economists, who were engaged to model the contribution to the Australian economy from each priority investment as well as articulate the socio-economic benefits these programs can be expected to deliver.

They are exactly what is needed to ensure local communities of all sizes are in a strong position to drive the inclusive recovery all Australians want and that leaves no community behind.

Local government can lead and deliver the strong community-focused recovery from COVID-19 by:

- leading local economic growth;
- delivering stimulus projects that generate local jobs, support local businesses and boost productivity;
- enabling economic growth through the development of a circular economy;
- building community resilience to disasters and climate change; and
- facilitating community wellbeing.



Local Government Ask **Local Government Offer** to the Australian Government of the Australian Government To partner with the Federal **Economic** To commit to a progressive increase in Financial Assistance Government to create more jobs, Recovery while addressing the nation's Grants to at least one percent of skills shortage through training Commonwealth taxation revenue (at least \$4.5 billion per and upskilling Australian workers. year), and an initial injection of additional Financial Assistance Grants funding. To partner with the Federal To invest \$500 million per year **Transport and** Government to create for four years extending the Local Community infrastructure that will improve Roads and Community the safety, liveability and Infrastructure Program, while Infrastructure productivity of our communities, increasing roads funding and while contributing to Australia's improving digital connectivity in economic recovery. our regions. To invest in an innovative housing partnerships of \$200m over four years to support affordable housing in communities. **Building** To partner with the Federal To provide \$200 million per Government to grow the year for four years for a targeted Resilience resilience in our communities, disaster mitigation program, while establishing a \$200 mitigate against the impacts of future disaster events, while million Local Government focussing on local opportunities to Climate Partnership Program reduce our carbon emissions and and supporting all councils to to Close the Gap between implement Closing the Gap Indigenous Australians and the targets with \$100 million per nation. annum over four years. To identify and implement Circular To provide \$100 million per year opportunities to reduce waste for four years to fund local Economy sent to landfill and support the government circular innovation development of a circular projects, and support our communities to reuse wherever economy that will deliver environmental and economic possible. benefits for all our communities. To provide a local, place based To reinstate local government Intercommunity perspective to representation to the primary governmental intergovernmental deliberations intergovernmental forum in Relations to ensure that decisions are Australia, the National Cabinet, responsive to local needs and and ensure local government's ongoing voting membership of have regard to the great diversity between communities. other Ministerial forums.



Economic Recovery

Government responses to COVID-19 over the past two years have been overwhelmingly concentrated on averting a health and economic crisis. 2022 and the years beyond are set to be dominated by discussions and decisions around economic recovery.

New policies and strategies will be required to ensure all Australians can be employed in secure, meaningful, and sustainable jobs.

With our footprint across the nation and a workforce that encompasses 394 occupations, local governments provide an ideal catalyst for growing jobs.

We are also the ideal vehicle for co-investment in new job-creation initiatives.

Increased federal funding and investment will help councils roll out new local economic stimulus projects and give us the ability to cut the red tape that might potentially be slowing or blocking other investments planned for communities across Australia.

We would be able to create more jobs, including traineeships and apprenticeships, to address an emerging skills gaps in local government that threatens to slow decentralisation efforts aimed at rejuvenating regional and rural Australia.

Longer term certainty with Federal funding will enable Council's to invest in workforce planning and training.

In many communities, we are proud to be a major employer of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Local governments are willing to support opportunities for skill training, new jobs, and business opportunities for indigenous people and their communities to help close the gap on indigenous disadvantage.

An added benefit of increased federal funding to local government is that it will help achieve equitable levels of services across all parts of Australia, build community resilience and wellbeing, and improve productivity-generating infrastructure.

Don't leave our regional communities behind



Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants support equitable service levels for all Australians and ensure that no community is left behind.

These grants are particularly vital in many regional communities, but over the past twenty years they have significantly declined as a share of total Commonwealth taxation revenue.

North Burnett Regional Council Mayor Rachel Chambers, pictured, said a number of factors including amalgamation, changes to Financial

Assistance Grants, and increasing depreciation expenses placed the region in a predicament, and could cost local jobs in her community.

"Our back is against the wall. We're running out of money, we're running out of options to save jobs, and we're running out of time," she said. "We have to use depreciation as an expense so our expenses have increased and that has been an issue. Then we have had budget cutbacks by the state and federal governments over the years."



Economic Recovery

Failure to secure future federal funding creates the real risk of communities being disproportionately impacted in this period of economic recovery.

Councils are also grappling with the budget repair challenges that are facing state and federal treasuries.

Funding certainty is critical to the short and long-term planning of councils, particularly in rural and regional areas where there is a greater reliance on external funding.

We are seeking:

1: An initial injection of Financial Assistance Grants to local government worth \$1.3 billion to support communities and jobs and also resolve the current practice of bringing forward two quarterly Financial Assistance Grant payments each year.

f funded

Jobs created: 13,213 Contribution to annual Gross Domestic Product (\$b): \$1.928

2: A commitment to return Financial Assistance Grants to at least one percent of Commonwealth taxation revenue - an additional (\$b) 1.598 per year - via a phased approach to be agreed with the Government.

funded:

Jobs created: 16,242 Contribution to annual Gross Domestic Product (\$b): \$2.370

Local Government Offer to the Australian Government

To partner with the Federal Government to create more jobs, while addressing the nation's skills shortage through training and upskilling Australian workers.

Local Government Ask of the Australian Government

To commit to a progressive increase in Financial Assistance Grants to at least one percent of Commonwealth taxation revenue (at least \$4.5 billion per year), and an initial injection of additional Financial Assistance Grants funding.



Better Transport and Community Infrastructure

Well-targeted infrastructure investment generates lasting economic, social and environmental benefits.

It lowers costs for business and government and better connects workers to their jobs. It increases community resilience and ensures we as a nation are protected against the extreme weather events associated with global warming.

We are responsible for 33 percent of Australia's public infrastructure, including 75 percent of the country's roads by length. Much of this infrastructure is ageing and needs renewing or replacing so it meets community and industry needs.

Roads represent 39 percent of the total local government infrastructure with a total replacement cost of \$204 billion. Bridges represent four percent of the total infrastructure with a replacement cost of \$26 billion. Park and Recreation assets represent \$16 billion or 3 percent of the total infrastructure replacement cost.

However, we collect only 3.5 percent of all taxes raised in Australia, while faced with the mammoth task of maintaining a third of the nation's infrastructure.

Councils are committed to providing quality infrastructure and creating sustainable jobs.

We need additional funds to achieve this commitment and a longer-term funding assurance that allows councils to recruit trainees and apprentices, upskill workers, and attract skilled workers into rural, regional and remote areas.

Access to affordable housing underpins the economic and social fabric of local communities. We are calling for a national housing summit that can develop a national housing strategy to address the current housing challenges in our communities. Local governments must be involved with national housing governance arrangements.

Successfully delivering for Perth suburban communities



Thornlie Community and Sports Hub (\$5.6 million, partially funded through Community Development Grants Programme) City of Gosnells, WA

"It's been very exciting to watch this building rise from the ground, "Gosnells Mayor David Goode says.

"The hub will provide important facilities to keep local residents active, provide a welcoming meeting place, and support local community groups. I look forward to the day when we can welcome the whole community to enjoy it."



Better Transport and Community Infrastructure

We are seeking:

1: A \$500m per annum four year continuation of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program which allows councils to deliver projects that respond to local needs.

funded:

Jobs created: 3,974

Contribution to annual Gross Domestic Product (\$m): \$604

2: A strategic local roads investment program of \$300m per annum over four years to address road transport first and last mile issues and congestion on local roads.

ffunded:

Jobs created: 2,332

Contribution to annual Gross Domestic Product (\$m): \$366

3: An increase in Roads to Recovery to \$800m per annum (an additional \$300m per annum) and the Black Spot Program to \$200m per annum over four years, while addressing the South Australian road funding anomaly by making the additional \$20m per annum to SA in 2021-22 and 2022-23 permanent, to more sustainably manage local government's 75% share of the national road network and boost productivity and road safety.

funded:

Jobs created: 3,214

Contribution to annual Gross Domestic Product (\$m): \$502

4: Continuation of the Stronger Regional Digital Connectivity Package at \$55m over four years to improve community resilience and local economic recovery.

funded:

Jobs created: 99

Contribution to annual Gross Domestic Product (\$m): \$18

5: \$200m over four years to assist councils to develop and implement innovative housing partnership.

Local Government Offer to the Australian Government

oft

Local Government Ask of the Australian Government

To partner with the Federal Government to create infrastructure that will improve the safety, liveability and productivity of our communities, while contributing to Australia's economic recovery.

To invest \$500 million per year for four years extending the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, while increasing roads funding and improving digital connectivity in our regions. To invest in an innovative housing partnerships of \$200m over four years to support affordable housing in communities.



Resilient Communities Building Back Better

Communities across Australia are doing it tough – their physical, financial and mental reserves depleted by years of drought swiftly followed by the Black Summer bushfires, the coronavirus pandemic and severe storms and flooding.

All levels of government have worked hard to address the challenges thrown up by these rolling disasters.

They have supported businesses, communities, and individuals – and they are now focused on engineering a national economic recovery.

Although mass vaccinations diminish the health threats posed by COVID-19, the swift succession of natural disasters has demonstrated that communities need to be better prepared.

The likelihood of more frequent severe weather events in future underlines this need.

Investing in programs to mitigate natural disasters is critical to building community resilience.

Communities derive substantial co-benefits from investments in mitigation and adaptation – including new employment opportunities, regional growth, lower insurance premiums, and faster reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

Working in partnership with the Australian Government, we can deliver highly effective projects that greatly assist communities to be better prepared and better able to adapt to future climatic conditions.

Successfully delivering for communities in rural Victoria



Rokewood Bridge upgrade (\$541,000) Golden Plains Shire, Victoria.

"It's terrific to see that works have now been completed to replace the old, single lane bridge over the Kuruc A Ruc Creek with a double lane and unrestricted structure, that is safer for all bridge-users", Golden Plains Shire Mayor Cr Helena Kirby, pictured, said.

"Golden Plains Shire is home to many older bridges, and thanks to the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program, we've been able to get on and

upgrade the Reserve Road Bridge for the benefit of the surrounding community.

"Reserve Road Bridge is the first of four bridge upgrade projects that Council will complete in 2021, with works underway or soon to begin on bridges in Meredith, Rokewood and Rokewood Junction."



Resilient Communities Building Back Better

We are seeking:

1: A targeted disaster mitigation program of \$200m per annum for four years which will reduce the costs of response and recovery and is a sound investment in strengthening community resilience.

funded:

Jobs created: 1,833 Contribution to annual Gross Domestic Product (\$m): \$280

- **2:** A commitment to ensuring betterment funding as a core element of disaster recovery funding arrangements.
- **3:** A commitment to include community infrastructure that is publicly accessible and owned, and local government waste, water and wastewater assets under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.
- **4:** A Local Government Climate Response Partnership Fund of \$200m over four years to enable planning and preparation to minimise the impacts of climate change in local communities and enable councils to achieve climate neutrality as soon as practicable.

ffunded:

Jobs created: 467 Contribution to annual Gross Domestic Product (\$m): \$73

5: \$100 million per annum over four years provided directly to local governments to support the capabilities of indigenous councils and implementation of the Closing the Gap local/regional voice.

fimded.

Jobs created: 804 Contribution to annual Gross Domestic Product (\$m): \$117

Local Government Offer to the Australian Government

To partner with the Federal Government to grow the resilience in our communities, mitigate against the impacts of future disaster events, while focussing on local opportunities to reduce our carbon emissions and to Close the Gap between Indigenous Australians and the nation.

Local Government Ask of the Australian Government

To provide \$200 million per year for four years for a targeted disaster mitigation program, while establishing a \$200 million Local Government Climate Partnership Program and supporting all councils to implement Closing the Gap targets with \$100 million per annum over four years.



Creating a Circular Economy

Guided by the 2018 National Waste Strategy and the 2019 National Waste Policy Action Plan, building Australia's transition from a linear economy to a circular economy is gaining traction.

By embracing the principals of circularity – retaining the value of materials for as long as possible, designing out waste and pollution, and regenerating natural systems – Australia will develop new industries and jobs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and make more efficient use of our natural resources.

As modelled by the Centre for International Economics in 2017, a five percent improvement in the effectiveness of recycling and resource recovery could benefit Australia's GDP by as much as \$24 billion.

In addition, for every 10,000 tonnes of waste recycled, 9.2 jobs would be created, compared with only 2.8 jobs when the same amount of waste is sent to landfill.

As an example, the South Australian Government has estimated that 25,700 new full-time equivalent jobs could be created in South Australia by 2030 by adopting a more circular economy.

Councils are major players in the management of household and domestic waste.

Local governments co-invest in new materials recycling facilities, lead community education and awareness campaigns, and help to create a sustainable market for recycled materials through procurement policies.

Australia can realise the full potential of a circular economy sooner if local government's engagement and capabilities are effectively harnessed.

Local Government Offer to the Australian Government

To identify and implement opportunities to reduce waste sent to landfill and support the development of a circular economy that will deliver environmental and economic benefits for all our communities.

Local Government Ask of the Australian Government

To provide \$100 million per year for four years to fund local government circular innovation projects, and support our communities to reuse wherever possible.



Creating a Circular Economy

We are seeking:

- **1:** Support to provide guidance and advice to councils on how to unlock the circular economy locally, particularly in rural, regional, and remote areas.
- **2:** Support to investigate and, if feasible, implement a national bin harmonisation program that will improve kerbside recycling, reduce contamination, and maximise opportunities for reuse.
- **3:** Funding of \$100 million per annum over four years to fund local government circular waste innovation projects.

funded

Jobs created: 2,332 Contribution to annual GDP (\$m): \$366

What sustainably funded councils could deliver for communities



Upgraded municipal resource recovery infrastructure for South Australia's Limestone Coast.

Naracoorte Lucindale Council Mayor Erika Vickery OAM (pictured centre) says additional financial support from the Federal Government is a catalyst for state and local government and commercial investment in waste management infrastructure.

"By working together, we can all participate in and promote the use of materials that circulate through our economy again and again, providing ongoing value, efficient use of resources and knowledge-based jobs for the future."



Intergovernmental Relations

The Australian Local Government Association was a foundation member of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), and over 28 years made a substantial contribution to our federation.

When COAG was scrapped and replaced by the National Cabinet in mid-2020, local government was effectively sidelined from membership.

The result is that Australia's pre-eminent intergovernmental forum lacks a strong and effective advocate for local communities.

As the level of government closest to the community, we have a unique insight into how to create new jobs, drive economic growth, and build better lives for Australians.

Properly heard, our viewpoints would ensure that decisions are responsive to local needs and contribute to achieving the best outcomes at a local level and cumulatively at the national level.

Australians expect their governments to make decisions that reflect their unique circumstances and requirements.

At the same time, they want all three spheres of government to work together to achieve shared national objectives.

This can only be achieved through ALGA's participation in the National Cabinet or any subsequent structure.

Our place-based, community perspective should not be overlooked – nor our role as a voice for the concerns and aspirations of local communities.

ALGA's input would balance and complement the broader view of the First Ministers, helping to ensure that National Cabinet deliberations result in stronger and more resilient communities.

We are seeking:

- 1: Full membership of the National Cabinet.
- 2: A guaranteed seat at relevant Ministerial forums.

Local Government Offer to the Australian Government

To provide a local, place based community perspective to intergovernmental deliberations to ensure that decisions are responsive to local needs and have regard to the great diversity between communities.

Local Government Ask of the Australian Government

To reinstate local government representation to the primary intergovernmental forum in Australia, the National Cabinet, and ensure local government's ongoing voting membership of other Ministerial forums.





DON'T LEAVE LOCAL COMMUNITIES BEHIND

Federal Election Priorities

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is the national voice of local government, representing 537 councils across the country. In structure, we are a federation of state and territory local government associations.

ALGA's members include:















Local government key facts and figures

There are 537 councils Australia-wide. Of these, around 55 percent are regional, rural, or remote councils.

Local government employs 194,000 people.

The first local government established in Australia was in Adelaide in 1840.

Australia's largest council by population is Brisbane City Council, servicing a population of 1.25 million.

Australia's largest council by area is East Pilbara in Western Australia. It covers an area of 379,571 square km (larger than Victoria), has a population of 11,005 and 3,237km of roads.

16.2.3 DARKAN CARAVAN PARK UPDATE TO TERMS OF STAY

File Reference: 8.1.1 Caravan Park

Location: Reserve 37824 at lot 187 deposited plan 169767 (lot 187

Coalfields Rd Darkan).

Applicant: Ian McCabe, acting CEO
Author: Ian McCabe, acting CEO
Authorising Officer Ian McCabe, acting CEO

Date: 13 January 2022
Disclosure of Interest: Not applicable

Attachments: 1. Current Terms and Conditions; 2. Legal advice to the CEO,

Civic Legal 12 January 2022 (confidential, for Council

information only)

Previous Reference: Not applicable

Summary:

Council is asked to support changes to Caravan Park Terms and Conditions and authorise suitable notice to patrons and future users of the site.

Background:

The Shire of West Arthur operates the Darkan Caravan Park on a state reserve under a management order.

Occupancy at the Darkan Caravan Park is governed by Terms and Conditions and these require updating. There have been instances where application of the Terms and Conditions has created uncertainty. This item is to clarify the purpose of the caravan park and provide the CEO with direction in applying conditions of stay.

Comment:

The Darkan Caravan Park is managed by the Shire of West Arthur. There are currently two cleaners who ensure facilities (including two furnished chalets) meet patron expectations. The officers also provide support services to patrons including out of hour bookings and relaying service issues to other staff. Parks and Garden officers also visit the park to maintain areas of vegetation and the Shire Builder provides any necessary works. A contracted waste service collects rubbish and several bins are placed around the park for this purpose.

The Darkan Caravan Park is an attractive, value for money tourism facility, located on the key West-East transit route, Coalfields Rd. It can be busy and is well-patronised and receives good feedback from persons who stay.

The park is not a long-term stay facility; long-term stays are covered by lease type arrangements and regulated by the Residential Parks (Long Stay Tenants) Act 2006. As a short stay, tourist-oriented facility, the current Terms and Conditions refers to clauses that have been removed or amended in the Caravan and Camping Grounds Act 1995 or subsidiary regulations. This requires an update to the Terms and Conditions, particularly as they refer to length of stay.

The Terms and conditions are primarily a business matter within the remit of the CEO; however, it is recognised that the Caravan Park is a strategic asset of Council and sufficiently important to the district that Council is requested to support the officer recommendation.

The previously published length of stay was up to three months. To align with the Act, legal advice is that the maximum stay should be reduced to 28 days in any three-month period. The 28 day period would not commence until notice is made to all current and future patrons and to avoid inconvenience, an additional grace period of 28 days would apply to any current patron

(provided they are not in breach of other conditions such as non-payment or behavioural standards).

Council is requested to support amendment by the CEO of the terms and conditions as may become necessary with the proviso an annual report and business plan is prepared each year as part of the budget process. In this way, Council will be updated about operations at the park and other detail as agreed from time to time. In addition, any risk items would be reported to audit committee.

It is proposed to implement any changes for new patrons from Monday 24 January 2022. For patrons who are already staying at the caravan park, 28 days' notice will be given before the 28 days stay is enacted. This will apply also to any patron already in breach of the three months stay in the current Terms and Conditions. Full implementation will commence 21 February 2022.

It should be noted that staff operating at the site are affected by Directions from the Chief Health Officer regarding vaccination, exemption or COVID-19 practices. These may be expanded to cover other staff or patrons and other conditions may have to be introduced though not currently contemplated.

Consultation:

Civic Legal; full Council; staff members who operate at the site or provide administrative support.

Statutory Environment:

Applicable legislation includes the Caravan and Camping Grounds Act 1995 (the Act) and the Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Regulations 1997 (the Regulations).

Other legislation such as the Public Health Act 2016 will be relevant. Delegations to the CEO, Manager of Works and Services and appointed Ranger apply under s.17(1) and s.23(11) of the Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Act 1995 are relevant.

Policy Implications:

There is no applicable policy.

Financial Implications:

There is no material financial impact related to this item.

Strategic Implications:

The Darkan Caravan Park is an attractive, well-located tourism asset. There is significant potential for the caravan park to be of increased economic value and this requires good planning and good administrative support. It is possible a local law may be considered at a future point should business planning and Council strategy require it.

Sustainability Implications:

- **Environmental:** This item does not have an environmental impact.
- **Economic:** This item will support improved planning for the caravan park.

• **Social:** This item recognises the importance of the caravan park to the community and to its status as a strategic asset held by Council. This makes risk management of the site of increased importance.

Risk Implications:

This risk assessment refers to possible risk associated with compliance with legislation; compliance with Terms and Conditions; and possible legal dispute arising from such disputes.

Risk			
Risk Likelihood (based on history and with existing controls)	Possible – Medium (3)		
Risk Impact / Consequence	Moderate – Medium (3)		
	, ,		
Risk Rating (Prior to Treatment or Control)	Medium (9) (Likelihood x Consequence)		
Principal Risk Theme	Compliance Failure; Business Disruption;		
Risk Action Plan (Controls or Treatment Proposed)	Create business plan		

Risk Matrix:

Consequence		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Likelihood		1	2	3	4	5
Almost Certain	5	Medium (5)	High (10)	High (15)	Extreme (20)	Extreme (25)
Likely	4	Low (4)	Medium (8)	High (12)	High (16)	Extreme (20)
Possible	3	Low (3)	Medium (6)	Medium (9)	High (12)	High (15)
Unlikely	2	Low (2)	Low (4)	Medium (6)	Medium (8)	High (10)
Rare	1	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Low (4)	Medium (5)

A risk is often specified in terms of an event or circumstance and the consequences that may flow from it. An effect may be positive, negative or a deviation from the expected and may be related to the following objectives; occupational health and safety, financial, service interruption, compliance, reputation and environment. A risk matrix has been prepared and a risk rating of 2 has been determined for this item. Any items with a risk rating over 10 (considered to be high or extreme risk) will be added to the Risk Register, and any item with a risk rating over 17 will require a specific risk treatment plan to be developed.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Officer Recommendation:

That Council:

- 1. Affirm the Darkan Caravan Park is a short term-stay facility and accept the legal advice to limit stays to 28 consecutive days in any three-month period in compliance with the Act and Regulations;
- 2. Support the amendment of the Darkan Caravan Park Terms and Conditions and delegate the CEO to make further amendments to maintain appropriate conditions of stay and service standards to meet business plans and legislative requirements;
- 3. Request the CEO to prepare an annual operational report and business plan for the caravan park as part of the local government's budget process;
- 4. Request the CEO to report risk items to the audit committee and Council.

Moved: Cr Squires	Seconded:	Cr Lubcke
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CARRIED 5/0

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Current Terms and Conditions
Attachment 2 – CONFIDENTIAL – Legal Advice provided to the CEO made available to Council for their consideration



Darkan Caravan Park

Terms & Conditions

- You may retain an ablutions key for the duration of your stay but please ensure you return it before leaving.
- Be considerate of other park users with no offensive language, behaviour or noise at any time and especially after 10pm.
- Campers may not camp for any longer than 3 months as per the Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Regulations 1997
- Dogs are to be kept on a leash at all times and owners are responsible for cleaning up after their dog.
- Animals are not permitted in the Camp Kitchen, Laundry or the Ablutions.
- Washing of dog bedding is not permitted in the bathrooms or laundry washing machine.
- Smoking is not permitted in the Camp Kitchen or Ablutions.
- Please leave the ablutions clean and tidy after use including mopping of the floor for other users, also remove all belongings.
- Please leave the camp kitchen area clean and tidy after every use ready for the next user. Ensure you wipe every surface down, wash and put away dishes and sweep the floor.
- Please ensure you clean the BBQ after use so it is ready for the next camper to use.
- The Dump Point provided is for Caravan Park users only and should be cleaned and re-locked after use.

Thank you for your consideration of others and the facilities, we hope you enjoy your stay.

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17. Matters Behind Closed Doors

Nil

18. Closure of Meeting

The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 7.32pm.