
City of Greater Geraldton

4.20 JOINT REFORM POLICY

SUSTAINABILITY THEME

Leadership

OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this policy is to protect and maintain the interests and assets of the former Shire of Mullewa and the former City of Geraldton-Greenough for the future of the local communities.

POLICY STATEMENT

This policy applies to the amalgamated entity of the City of Greater Geraldton.

POLICY DETAILS

1. Local Assets and Local Funding

The purpose of this section is to protect and maintain the assets of the former Shire of Mullewa and the former City of Geraldton-Greenough for the future of the local communities.

The City of Geraldton-Greenough and the Shire of Mullewa strongly supported the identification of local assets and local funding reserves owned and generated by local communities for use and benefit in the future for those communities.

The new local government shall work towards the following principles:

- 1.1. All assets will be managed and maintained in accordance to the best practice model of Aus-Spec, or equivalent alternate best practice system, in accordance with agreed service level agreements;
- 1.2. All assets and infrastructure will be budgeted in accordance with WAAMI principles, or equivalent alternate best practice system, through a 5-year budget process;
- 1.3. All existing reserves and restricted funds will be maintained into the future for their current specified purpose and within the originally prescribed geographic boundaries; and
- 1.4. It is understood that the Shire of Mullewa owned houses in their community. If a future council changed the purpose or disposed of these properties, all funds would be placed in a restricted fund or reserve for the purpose of special projects and improvements within the Mullewa ward.

2. Local Identity

The purpose of this section is to maintain local community identity throughout any reform process.

The City of Geraldton-Greenough and the Shire of Mullewa strongly supported the retention of community identity where local governments undergo any structural reform to ensure continued employment and representation is provided to all communities.

The new local government shall work towards the following principles:

- 2.1. Developing and supporting a community representative group for Mullewa in accordance with the paper prepared by the Reform Steering Committee, June 2009, "Options for community representation and maintaining local identity";
- 2.2. Reviewing the opportunities for facilitating additional consultative mechanisms within each former local government community;
- 2.3. Establishing a head office for administration in Geraldton which will be headed by the Chief Executive Officer of the newly created City of Greater Geraldton;
- 2.4. Maintaining a local administration office at Mullewa which will be headed by a Place Manager;
- 2.5. Establishing a City depot located in Geraldton which will provide housing for maintenance and construction services; and
- 2.6. Maintaining a local depot site located in Mullewa.

3. Local Workforce

The purpose of this section is to maintain a local work force that supports the City of Greater Geraldton.

The City of Geraldton-Greenough and the Shire of Mullewa strongly supported the establishment and retention of a local community workforce that will complement services offered by the City of Greater Geraldton.

The joint local governments shall work towards the following principles:

- 3.1. Where there is a City presence in respect to either offices, depot or other establishment associated with the provision of services, that consideration be provided towards ensuring employment opportunities within those communities are maintained to ensure economic advantage to those communities;
- 3.2. That a local office shall be maintained at the Mullewa townsite and shall provide the following services:
 - Customer service
 - Rates collection
 - Department of Transport licensing services
 - Dog registrations
 - Submissions for applications, licenses and public notices
 - Outreach library services
 - Community liaison
 - Community development
 - Landcare
 - Ranger services
- 3.3. Consideration for indigenous services and engagement be developed at Mullewa;
- 3.4. Maintenance of a depot site at Mullewa which will provide the following functions:
 - Parks and maintenance crew
 - Roads and drainage maintenance crew
 - Road construction crew
 - Technical support capacity

4. Untied Road Funding Arrangements

The City Greater Geraldton shall ensure that the local government road network within each district area is not disadvantaged as a result of structural reform of the City of Geraldton-Greenough and Shire of Mullewa.

The new local government shall work towards the following principles:

- 4.1. Identifying funding levels of road maintenance and road asset renewal for each local government district for the period ending 30 June 2011;
- 4.2. Ensure that the levels of road expenditure related to maintenance and renewal of road infrastructure is maintained to levels no less than what was provided for the period ending 30 June 2011 for each of the former local government areas;
- 4.3. The duration of this arrangement shall be for a minimum period of five (5) years following the date of amalgamation.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Director Corporate and Commercial Services is responsible for this policy.

In order to vary these policies Councils in the future must undertake community consultation and seek submissions in accordance with Section 1.7 of the Local Government Act 1995 and variations must be passed by a majority vote.

WORKPLACE INFORMATION

Local Government Act 1995

POLICY ADMINISTRATION

Directorate		Officer	Review Cycle	Next Due
Corporate and Commercial Services		Manager Corporate Services	Biennial	2022
Version	Decision Reference	Synopsis		
2.	CCS489 – 26 May 2020	Biennial Review		