



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
AGENDA

23 FEBRUARY 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	DECLARATION OF OPENING.....	2
2	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	2
3	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE	2
4	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS.....	3
5	RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE.....	3
6	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	3
7	APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE	3
8	PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS	4
9	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	4
10	ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR AND PRESENTATIONS	5
11	UNRESOLVED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS.....	7
12	REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS	8
	12.1 REPORTS OF DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	8
	<i>DCS481 GERALDTON FORESHORE PRECINCT USE – LICENCE TO OPERATE.....</i>	<i>8</i>
	<i>DCS482 REGIONAL RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY (TRANSFER STATION) – FUNDS TRANSFER FROM RESERVE</i>	<i>14</i>
	<i>DCS483 DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION (DWER) – WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2020-2025.....</i>	<i>18</i>
	<i>DCS484 ALIGNMENT SELECTION STUDY DONGARA-GERALDTON- NORTHAMPTON</i>	<i>22</i>
	12.2 REPORTS OF CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES	33
	<i>CCS565 AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL</i>	<i>33</i>
	<i>CCS566 ORDINARY COUNCIL ELECTION 2021.....</i>	<i>37</i>
	<i>CCS567 COMPLIANCE AUDIT RETURN 2020.....</i>	<i>42</i>
	<i>CCS568 2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE CITY OF GREATER GERALDTON</i>	<i>45</i>
	<i>CCS569 PROPOSED BUSH FIRE BRIGADES LOCAL LAW 2021.....</i>	<i>48</i>
	<i>CCS570 APPOINTMENT OF COMPLAINTS OFFICER AND ADOPTION OF COMPLAINT FORM – MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT</i>	<i>55</i>
	<i>CCS571 MID YEAR BUDGET REVIEW 2020-21.....</i>	<i>58</i>
	<i>CCS572 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY TO 31 JANUARY 2021</i>	<i>69</i>
	12.3 REPORTS OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES.....	72
	<i>IS227 SELF-SUPPORTING LOAN APPLICATION – GERALDTON AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (GABA).....</i>	<i>72</i>
	<i>IS228 GERALDTON HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (INC) REQUEST FOR SELF SUPPORTING LOAN</i>	<i>78</i>
	<i>IS229 LIST OF SIGNATURES – FENCING & SHADE REQUEST FOR THE FORESHORE WATERPARK AND PLAYGROUND</i>	<i>86</i>
	12.4 REPORTS OF OFFICE THE CEO.....	89
	<i>CEO070 SHORE LEAVE SUPPORT REQUEST.....</i>	<i>89</i>
	<i>CEO071 CITY OF GREATER GERALDTON – 150 YEARS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.....</i>	<i>97</i>
	12.5 REPORTS TO BE RECEIVED	101
	<i>RR22 REPORTS TO BE RECEIVED - FEBRUARY</i>	<i>101</i>
13	MOTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN	104
14	QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN	104

15	NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE MEETING	104
16	MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC	104
	<i>CCS576 RFT 2021 16 SUPPLY INSTALL REPAIR & MAINTAIN FENCING & BOLLARDS</i>	
	<i>104</i>	
	<i>CCS577 RFT 2021 26 MOWING, SLASHING, MULCHING & FIREBREAK SERVICES....</i>	<i>108</i>
	<i>IS226 RFT 2021 27 CATHEDRAL AVENUE AND SANFORD STREET ROUNDABOUT</i>	
	<i>CONSTRUCTION</i>	<i>112</i>
17	CLOSURE	117
	APPENDIX 1 – ATTACHMENTS AND REPORTS TO BE RECEIVED	118

CITY OF GREATER GERALDTON
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 5.00PM
CHAMBERS, CATHEDRAL AVENUE

A G E N D A

The State of Emergency and Public Health Emergency declared by the State Government on 16 March 2020, remains in force. Please refer to the information on the current restrictions [COVID-19 coronavirus: What you can and can't do](https://www.wa.gov.au/government/news/covid-19-coronavirus-what-you-can-and-cant-do) (www.wa.gov.au)

DISCLAIMER:

The Presiding Member advises that 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 the 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. Persons should be aware that the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 (Section 5.25(e)) and Council's Meeting Procedures Local Laws establish procedures for revocation or rescission of a Council decision. No person should rely on the decisions made by Council until formal advice of the Council decision is received by that person. The City of Greater Geraldton 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.

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to respectfully acknowledge the Yamatji people who are the Traditional Owners and First People of the land on which we meet/stand. I would like to pay my respects to the Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Yamatji people.

3 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present:

Officers:

Others:

Members of Public:

Members of Press:

Apologies:

Leave of Absence:

Cr N Colliver

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Cr J Critch declared a Closely Associated Persons interest in Item DCS481 Geraldton Foreshore Precinct Use – Licence to Operate as the proponent is a casual employee of her business.

Cr T Thomas declared an Impartiality interest in Item CCS568 Annual Report for the City of Greater Geraldton *and* RR22 CCS573 - Audit Committee Meeting Minutes – 27 January 2021 as AMD firm is her family farm accountant but not the same person.

Cr J Clune declared an Impartiality interest in CCS569 Proposed Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2021 as he is a Moonyoonooka Brigade Member.

CEO Ross McKim declared and Impartiality interest in Item IS226 RFT 2021 27 Cathedral Avenue and Sanford Street Roundabout Construction as one of the possible footpath renewal projects is along Shenton St which is where he lives.

5 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

There are no questions from previous meetings.

6 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Questions provided in writing prior to the meeting or at the meeting will receive a formal response. Please note that you cannot make statements in Public Question Time and such statements will not be recorded in the Minutes.

Our Local Laws and the Local Government Act require questions to be put to the presiding member and answered by the Council. No questions can be put to individual Councillors.

7 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**Existing Approved Leave**

Councillor	From	To (inclusive)	Date Approved
Cr N Colliver	1 February 2021	15 March 2021	27/01/2021

**Note: If Elected Members' application for leave of absence is for the meeting that the request is submitted, they will be noted as an apology until Council consider the request. The granting of the leave, or refusal to grant the leave and reasons for that refusal, will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting*

If an Elected Member on Approved Leave subsequently attends the meeting, this will be noted in the Minutes.

8 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS**Mr Malcolm Steele**

The Mayor, Councillors, CEO and staff of the City of Greater Geraldton express their deepest sympathy of the passing of Malcolm Steele.

Mr Steele was a Councillor of the [then] Shire of Mullewa from 1985 to 2005 and was a very respected community member who gave so much and will be sadly missed.

9 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 27 January 2021, as previously circulated, be adopted as a true and correct record of proceedings.

10 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR AND PRESENTATIONS*Events attended by the Mayor or his representative*

DATE	FUNCTION	REPRESENTATIVE
28 January 2021	Triple Radio Interview – Outcomes of Council Meeting	Mayor Shane Van Styn
28 January 2021	Opening of Durlacher - Maitland Streets Roundabout	Mayor Shane Van Styn
28 January 2021	La Fiamma/ BMX Track - photos for lighting pole media releases	Mayor Shane Van Styn
28 January 2021	QEM First Shipment Party	Mayor Shane Van Styn
29 January 2021	Signature Event Launch	Mayor Shane Van Styn
29 January 2021	Launch of Midwest Orthopaedics	Mayor Shane Van Styn
2 February 2021	Concept Forum	Mayor Shane Van Styn
3 February 2021	National Broadband Network (NBN) Business Fibre Zone	Mayor Shane Van Styn
4 February 2021	Installation of Bayly St Turning Lane and Light - Photo for Media Release	Mayor Shane Van Styn
4 February 2021	Chapman Road Tactical Activation Pilot - Filming for Media Release	Mayor Shane Van Styn
8 February 2021	Regular Catch up – Mayor / CEO	Mayor Shane Van Styn
8 February 2021	Regular Catch up – Media Team	Mayor Shane Van Styn
8 February 2021	Citizenship Ceremony	Mayor Shane Van Styn
8 February 2021	Linfen City - Chinese New Year Message – Filming	Mayor Shane Van Styn
10 February 2021	St Lawrence's Primary School Leadership Day with Year 5's and 6's	Mayor Shane Van Styn
10 February 2021	Filming - Profile for WALGA	Mayor Shane Van Styn
15 February 2021	Regular Catch up – Mayor / CEO	Mayor Shane Van Styn
15 February 2021	Regular Catch up – Media Team	Mayor Shane Van Styn
15 February 2021	Citizenship Ceremony	Mayor Shane Van Styn
16 February 2021	Agenda Forum	Mayor Shane Van Styn
17 February 2021	ABC Radio Interview – Time Capsule and Sesquicentenary	Mayor Shane Van Styn
17 February 2021	GWN Interview – Sesquicentenary and Corellas	Mayor Shane Van Styn
17 February 2021	Update on Summersalt Festival	Mayor Shane Van Styn
17 February 2021	Mid West Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MWCCI) Mid West Economic Summit Dinner	Mayor Shane Van Styn
18 February 2021	MWCCI Mid West Economic Summit	Mayor Shane Van Styn
18 February 2021	MWCCI Mid West Economic Summit Business After Hours – Mid West Ports Authority, Geraldton Fishermen's Co-op and Svitzer	Mayor Shane Van Styn
19 February 2021	96.5 Radio Interview – Sesquicentenary and Time Capsule	Mayor Shane Van Styn
19 February 2021	The Nationals WA State Campaign Launch	Mayor Shane Van Styn
22 February 2021	Regular Catch up – Mayor / CEO	Mayor Shane Van Styn
22 February 2021	Regular Catch up – Media Team	Mayor Shane Van Styn

22 February 2021	Affordable Housing in Geraldton - Proposal	Mayor Shane Van Styn
22 February 2021	Photo with the de Kock Family – Australian Citizens	Mayor Shane Van Styn
23 February 2021	Ordinary Meeting of Council	Mayor Shane Van Styn

Presentation to Mr Mick Molloy:

In honour of Mick Molloy's retirement, the City of Greater Geraldton acknowledges his 34 years of service to Local Government and the outstanding contribution to the City, the community and the region. Mr Molloy's retirement day is the day of this meeting.

Mr Kerry Smith, Manager Maintenance Operations, will receive the certificate on behalf of Mr Molloy, as he is unable to attend.

11 UNRESOLVED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS
Nil.

12 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS

12.1 REPORTS OF DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

DCS481 GERALDTON FORESHORE PRECINCT USE – LICENCE TO OPERATE
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-012572
AUTHOR:	L MacLeod, Coordinator Land and Property Services
EXECUTIVE:	P Melling, Director Development and Community Services
DATE OF REPORT:	4 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	R50100
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x1) Confidential Confidential – Schedule of Submissions

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to grant a licence to operate on the Geraldton Foreshore being part of Reserve 50100, for the purpose of a commercial itinerant/mobile vendor's licence.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 18 of the Land Administration Act 1997 RESOLVES to:

1. GRANT a licence to operate to Tobias Roland Dieterich trading as Fusions Gelato to operate on the southern Foreshore area denoted as Site B;
2. MAKE the determination subject to consent from the Minister for Lands;
3. SET the proposed conditions as:
 - a. Enter into a one (1) year licence term with an option for a further term of two (2) years;
 - b. Commence the Licence on 1 March 2021;
 - c. Set the licence fee at \$500.00 per annum inclusive of GST;
4. ADVISE the licensee they are responsible for separately paying;
 - a. All applicable rates and taxes;
 - b. All costs associated with;
 - i. The preparation and execution of the licence;
 - ii. All other costs associated with the licence;
5. DELEGATE authority to the Chief Executive Officer to approve any further term licence options; and
6. NOTE that for organised events, Fusions Gelato may submit an event application for any other Foreshore location.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is Tobias Roland Dieterich trading as Fusions Gelato.

BACKGROUND:

Council at its meeting on the 15 December 2020 - Item No. DCS480 - Geraldton Foreshore Precinct Use – Licence to Operate, resolved the following:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 18 of the Land Administration Act 1997 RESOLVES to:

1. *GIVE local public notice of the intent to grant a licence for a commercial kiosk activity that will utilise portion of Crown Reserve 50100 to Fusions Gelato;*
2. *MAKE the determination subject to:*
 - a. *advertising the intent for a period of not less than 14 days inviting public submissions;*
 - b. *consent obtained from the Minister for Lands;*
3. *SET the proposed conditions as:*
 - a. *Enter into a one (1) year licence term with an option of a further term of two (2) years;*
 - b. *Commence the licence on 1 January 2021;*
 - c. *Set the licence fee at \$500.00 per annum inclusive of GST;*
4. *ADVISE the licensee they are responsible for separately paying:*
 - a. *All applicable rates and taxes;*
 - b. *All costs associated with:*
 - i. *The preparation and execution of the licence;*
 - ii. *All other costs associated with the licence;*
5. *REFER the matter back to Council for final consideration; and*
6. *DELEGATE authority to the Chief Executive Officer to approve any further term licence options.*

At the meeting, a variation to the Executive Recommendation was resolved: *'That the matter come back to Council for final consideration, which will give Council a further opportunity to review the intent to grant a licence for a commercial kiosk activity'*.

Public advertising commenced on 23 December 2020 and concluded on 2 February 2021. The extended advertising period was to ensure the public were given the opportunity to respond noting the Christmas and New Year period.

At the end of the period one submission was received. The submission is included as Confidential Attachment No. DCS481.

Comments contained in the submission prompted the City to further investigate the proposed location known as 'Site A' and its proximity to the Jaffle Shack Foreshore and newly established Kai Lani Café. The aerial picture following shows the proposed 'Site A' which is approximately 5.5 metres west of the newly established Kai Lani Café.

Aerial Photo of 'Site A':

It is considered by City Officers, that the financial investment the two proprietors have undertaken to establish their businesses on the Foreshore needs to be considered. Comparatively, a mobile vendor does not have the same initial outlay or ongoing costs such as annual lease fees, Council rates, and utility charges. A mobile vendor, such as Fusions Gelato is permitted to be in attendance at any organised event on the Geraldton foreshore following submission of an event application and subsequent approval at any other location on the Geraldton Foreshore. Further, a mobile vendor also has the ability to set up at markets, fairs etc, apart from the Foreshore providing a more versatile operation.

During the planning phase of the construction of Kai Lani Café the lessee with the consent of the City, altered the layout of the lease area to ensure that it faced the ocean. The current site A trading area of this licence with the close proximity would impact these views and the enjoyment of any alfresco dining customers.

Therefore, supporting the operation of Fusions Gelato in such close proximity to Kai Lani Café and Jaffle Shack Foreshore, would not be in the best interest of the current Lessees.

Therefore, the Executive Recommendation has been amended to limit the operation of the mobile vendor to the southern end of the Foreshore known as 'Site B', depicted in the aerial photo below, one of the current approved areas of operation. The operator of Fusions Gelato utilised this site as their primary site during the previous licence period.

Aerial photo of 'Site B'



COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

There are no adverse community impacts relating to this proposal as there has been a mobile operator on the Foreshore for the previous three years.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts relating to this proposal as the mobile unit is fully self-contained.

Economy:

This proposal has the potential to offer a viable opportunity for a local business looking for an opportunity to operate in a prime Geraldton location. Small businesses, such as this one may enhance tourism and add to the economic vibrancy and vitality of our community in this area.

Governance:

There are no adverse governance impacts relating to this proposal as a licence has been in operation for the previous three years.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

The City provides licences for activities on Crown Reserves for a variety of purposes that are consistent with the uses under the Local Planning Policy – Commercial Recreational Tourism Activity on Crown Land.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

Local community advertising commenced on 23 December 2020 and concluded on 2 February 2021. At the end of this period, one submission was received.

The proposed licensee Mr Tobias Dieterich was informed by email on the 8 February 2021 of the Executive Recommendation to approve one area of trading only at site B.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Section 18 of the Land Administration Act 1997 – Crown land transactions that need Ministerial approval.

Section 18:

(1) A person must not without authorisation under subsection (7) assign, sell, transfer or otherwise deal with interests in Crown land or create or grant an interest in Crown Land.

The application for the proposed licence addresses the criteria and the objectives of Policy CP1.5 – Foreshore Use and Development Policy and Local Planning Policy – Commercial Recreational Tourism Activity on Crown Land.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

A commencement licence fee of \$500 per annum inclusive of GST plus all other costs associated with the preparation and issue of the licence agreement.

This fee is in line with the Local Planning Policy – Commercial Recreational Tourism Activity on Crown Land fee.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Economy	3.1 Growth
Strategy 3.1.1	Promoting Greater Geraldton and its potential business opportunities to facilitate targeted economic development.
Strategy 3.1.2	Fostering a community where local business is supported.
Title: Economy	3.2 Lifestyle and Vibrancy
Strategy 3.2.3	Revitalising the CBD through economic, social and cultural vibrancy.
Title: Governance	4.1 Community Engagement
Strategy 4.1.1	Continuing to engage broadly and proactively with the community.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

There are no impacts to regional outcomes.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

There are no consequential risks inherent in approving, or not approving, the recommendation.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

The following options were considered by City Officers:

An alternative option would be to support the Fusions Gelato to operate at the northern end or the Foreshore however this is not supported by City Officers due to the lease structures operating as café's in this area.

DCS482 REGIONAL RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY (TRANSFER STATION) – FUNDS TRANSFER FROM RESERVE
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-20-011018
AUTHOR:	B Robartson, Manager Land and Regulatory Services
EXECUTIVE:	P Melling, Director Development and Community Services
DATE OF REPORT:	20 January 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	PM/10/0009
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x1) Layout map of the proposed project – Regional Resource Recovery Facility (Transfer Station)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for the transfer of funds from Reserve to enable the commencement of the Regional Resource Recovery Facility (Transfer Station) in the 2020-21 financial year.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Absolute Majority pursuant to Section 6.8 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. APPROVE and AUTHORISE expenditure of \$2 million for the construction of a new Regional Resource Recovery Facility (Transfer Station) in the 2020-21 financial year. Project to be funded from an equivalent cash transfer from the Unexpended Capital Works and Restricted Grant Reserve.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

This project is listed for proposed delivery in the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) for 2021-22. The project is designed and the Procurement Plan and Request for Tender (RFT) are prepared ready to go to tender, however, it requires approval from Council to transfer the proposed budget of \$2 million from Reserve to enable the project to be released for tender.

Officers consider that as the project build is estimated as 6 months, it is considered timely to commence the project as soon as possible to enable best waste management practice and diversion to commence. It is noted that as part of the Deliberative Democracy exercise the project was listed as priority 1 ranking.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:**Community:**

The project was presented as part of the 10 Year Capital Works Plan Prioritisation to the Community Voice Project and received a high ranking in importance.

Environment:

The design of the transfer station will match the current and future throughput of materials and improve safety issues, environmental protection through improved waste diversion, better practice flexibility/adaptability for future expansion needs, and user friendliness.

Objective 3 of the State Waste Avoidance Strategy 2030 is to protect the environment by managing waste responsibly, with targets for achieving better practice, reducing litter and illegal dumping. By 2030 all waste is managed by and/or disposed to better practice facilities, by 2030 move towards zero illegal dumping and zero littering. Adoption of better practice approaches to waste management is an important way in which local government can better protect the environment from the impacts of waste, and contribute to achievement of the targets under Objective 3 of the Waste Strategy.

Economy:

There are no adverse economic impacts.

Governance:

There are no adverse governance impacts.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

Confidential Item DCS473 – Lot 25(54) Fitzgerald Street, Geraldton was considered by Council on 22 September 2020 – approved a budget amendment including transfer from reserve for this project.

Item CCS529 – Budget Amendments 2020-21 considered by Council on 25 August 2020 – approved \$2.06m of carryovers from 2019-20 supported by a transfer from reserves.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

This project was presented as part of the 10 Year Capital Works Plan Prioritisation to the Community Voice Project and received a high ranking of importance.

The project is also identified in the Geraldton *Strategic Waste Management and Recycling Action Plan 2020-2030* as an action to be delivered in the 2020-21 and 2021-22 capital budget years.

Councillors were also briefed at the Concept Forum on the 2 February 2021 on this matter and the pending Officer's report.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Section 6.8 – Local Government Act 1995 – Expenditure from municipal fund not included in annual budget. (*Absolute Majority Required).

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

This project is listed for proposed delivery in the LTFP for 2021-22. The funds are currently sitting in reserves as previously authorised by Council for the purpose of developing a new Regional Resource Recovery Facility (Transfer Station). There is no impact to the budget's bottom line.

The opinion of probable cost to implement the various upgrades at Meru recommended as part of the Meru Master Plan implementation are as follows:

- New Transfer Station: (includes associated road works) - \$2 Million;
- New Recycling shed: (includes associated road works) - \$1.2 Million; and
- Relocation and upgrade of the weigh bridge facility - \$0.8 million.

Officers will be asking Council to consider further contributions to this project as part of the 2021-22 capital works budget deliberations.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Environment	2.2 Sustainability
Strategy 2.2.1	Promoting, researching and implementing practices such as improved and innovative waste management, water reuse and renewable energy production.
Strategy 2.2.2	Researching, promoting and providing sustainable infrastructure, services and utilities.
Title: Governance	4.4 Financial Sustainability and Performance
Strategy 4.4.1	Preparing and implementing short to long term financial plans.
Strategy 4.4.2	Ensuring the City's long term financial planning delivers the community goals and aspirations in a sustainable and affordable manner.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

The commencement of the Regional Resource Recovery Facility (Transfer Station) in the 2020-21 year provides the opportunity for the delivery and alignment of improved and innovative municipal waste services for the region.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

Risks: low visitation rates, high contamination rates, higher than anticipated operational and capital costs, lack of contractor resources to implement and undertake construction of the project and project manage.

Mitigation: education and engagement of community, project incorporated in annual operational plans, whole of life costing undertaken for operation and management of facility and reflected in the City's long term financial plans financial plans.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

An alternative option for Council to consider is to decline the transfer of funds from Reserve and consider the Capital project in the 2021-22 deliberations as per the LTFP for 2021-22.

This option is not supported as the funds are secured and the project is procurement ready as indicated within the Officer's report.

DCS483 DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION (DWER) – WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2020-2025
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-010470
AUTHOR:	B Robartson, Manager Land and Regulatory Services
EXECUTIVE:	P Melling, Director Development and Community Services
DATE OF REPORT:	4 January 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	WM/7/0006
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x1) Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) Waste Management Plan 2020-2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to adopt the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) Waste Management Plan for the City of Greater Geraldton.

The plan outlines, in order to protect human health and the environment, how waste services provided by the City will be managed to achieve consistency with the State Waste Avoidance Strategy 2030.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 5.20 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. ADOPT the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) Waste Management Plan 2020-2025.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

Council at its meeting on the 24 November 2020 – Item DCS479 - City Of Greater Geraldton – Strategic Waste Management and Recycling Action Plan 2020-2030 resolved the following:

1. *ADOPT the City of Greater Geraldton Strategic Waste Management and Recycling Action Plan 2020-2030.*

The City engaged ASK Waste Management (ASK) to prepare a Strategic Waste Management and Recycling Action Plan 2020-2030 for the City. The adopted Plan was developed in line with the DWER Waste Plan Resource Kit, the State's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 (State Waste Strategy 2030), and relevant City strategic documents.

One of the headline strategies of the State Waste Strategy 2030 is the implementation of local government waste plans that will provide a link between the Waste Strategy and local government waste management activities. Local governments will determine the most appropriate waste management solutions for their local communities, whilst contributing to Waste Strategy targets and objectives.

Section 40(4) of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 gives the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) powers to require local governments to prepare and report on a waste plan. A waste plan outlines how, in order to protect human health and the environment, waste services provided by the local government will be managed to achieve consistency with the State Waste Strategy 2030.

Local governments in the Perth and Peel regions, together with major regional centres, such as Geraldton, are required to develop waste plans every financial year.

The City of *Greater Geraldton Strategic Waste Management and Recycling Action Plan 2020-2030* links the DWER waste plan requirements together with the City's needs and objectives to form an overarching strategic document to guide municipal waste services delivery for the City to 2030.

The DWER Waste Management Plan addresses the first 5 years of strategic actions on the City's *Strategic Waste Management and Recycling Action Plan 2020-2030*. The Plan is included as Attachment No. DCS483. The City has until the end of March 2021 to submit the DWER Waste Management Plan 2020-2025.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

There is a need to educate and involve the community (residential and commercial) about waste management issues and programmes. Unless the community understand the reasons for their actions, and can see genuine attainable results, there is little motivation for changes in behaviour. Without community involvement and participation (including residents, businesses and tourists) the success of any resource recovery actions will be limited.

Environment:

Objective 3 of the State Waste Avoidance Strategy 2030 is to protect the environment by managing waste responsibly, with targets for achieving better practice, reducing litter and illegal dumping. By 2030 all waste is managed by and/or disposed to better practice facilities, by 2030 move towards zero illegal dumping and zero littering. Adoption of better practice approaches to waste management is an important way in which local government can better protect the environment from the impacts of waste, and contribute to achievement of the targets under Objective 3 of the Waste Strategy.

Economy:

There are no adverse economic impacts.

Governance:

There are no adverse governance impacts.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

The City has a number of guiding strategic documents such as the City Community Strategic Plan (CSP) and more recently adoption on the 24 November 2020 Item No. DCS479 - City of Greater Geraldton Strategic Waste Management and Recycling Action Plan 2020-2030.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

To guide the actions and outcomes of the Strategic Waste Management and Recycling Action Plan 2020-2030 (SWMRP) a community survey was undertaken to better understand the community's knowledge and views on waste and recycling. It was structured to gain quantitative feedback and gave opportunity to provide qualitative feedback on the City's services and suggested changes for the future.

The survey received 750 respondents over the two-week period. This represents a response rate of approximately 2% of the City's population.

Council was provided with a presentation on the 15 September 2020 on the draft Strategic Waste Management and Recycling Action Plan 2020-2030 (SWMRP) by ASK Waste Management Consultancy Services and City Officers. A further final delivery of the SWMRP was presented to Council by ASK Waste Management Consultancy Services and City Officers at its Concept Forum on the 3 November 2020.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The City Community Strategic Plan (CSP) objectives are linked to operational functions through the Corporate Business Plan (CBP). The City's CBP 2017-2021 contains the following waste related priorities:

- Provide regional waste management services (2017-2021).
- Implement Waste Strategy Review and development of the Strategic Waste Management Framework Report 2017-2018.

Other strategies that influence and guide the City's strategic direction include the Midwest Regional Blueprint developed by the Mid West Development Commission (MWDC). As a strategic document it provides the basis for future growth and development.

Waste is highlighted as a key element under the Physical Infrastructure pillar, with the stated goal identified as: *‘Optimal diversion of regional waste from landfill and inherent emissions by 2025 including strategies to maximise the use of regional waste (water, agricultural, industrial and domestic) as a resource’.*

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The DWER Waste Plan 2020-2025 outlines the actions in which the City will take over the next 5 plus years to contribute to the achievement of relevant Waste Strategy targets and objectives. It lists the priorities and actions that will be included in the City’s Long Term Financial Plan and annual budgets as appropriate.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Environment	2.2 Sustainability
Strategy 2.2.1	Promoting, researching and implementing practices such as improved and innovative waste management, water reuse and renewable energy production.
Strategy 2.2.2	Researching, promoting and providing sustainable infrastructure, services and utilities.
Title: Governance	4.4 Financial Sustainability and Performance
Strategy 4.4.1	Preparing and implementing short to long term financial plans.
Strategy 4.4.2	Ensuring the City’s long term financial planning delivers the community goals and aspirations in a sustainable and affordable manner.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

The DWER Waste Management Plan 2020-2025 provides the opportunity for the delivery and alignment of improved and innovative municipal waste services for the region. Meru Waste Disposal Facility currently receives waste collections from surrounding shires of Northampton, Chapman Valley and Irwin.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The City is required under Section 40(4) of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 to submit to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) a waste plan outlining how, in order to protect human health and the environment, waste services provided by the local government will be managed to achieve consistency with the State Waste Strategy 2030.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

No alternative options were considered by officers as this is a requirement of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.

DCS484 ALIGNMENT SELECTION STUDY DONGARA-GERALDTON-NORTHAMPTON
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-013351
AUTHOR:	P Melling, Director Development and Community Services
EXECUTIVE:	P Melling, Director Development and Community Services
DATE OF REPORT:	5 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	TT/1/0013
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x2) 1 x Confidential A. Confidential - Schedule of Submissions B. Shire of Chapman Valley – Minutes of Meeting – 18 November 2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to consider the Draft Alignment Selection Report Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton (Draft August 2020) released by Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA). The draft alignment selection study is currently being advertised for community input. This report outlines key issues and recommends several actions to be included in the City of Greater Geraldton's submission.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 5.20 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to advise MRWA that the City has considered the draft Alignment Selection Report Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton (August 2020) and RESOLVE as follows:

1. REITERATE concerns that the State's focus on the Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton project has eclipsed the requirement for addressing more immediate road safety issues such as widening and passing lanes on the East-West corridor (Geraldton-Mt Magnet Road), and the construction of the inner by-pass; (Geraldton North-South Highway).
2. SUPPORT the need for a final and acquired heavy vehicle alignment from the Geraldton-Mount Magnet Road, Moonyoonooka, through to north of Northampton to provide access to the Oakajee Port and Industrial area, Geraldton Port, Narngulu Industrial area and the Geraldton-Mount Magnet Road. This strategic link needs to have a direct connection with the Geraldton-Mount Magnet Road and the associated expanding mineral provinces in the Murchison and Goldfields;
3. SUPPORT the short term high priority need to upgrade NWCH through Geraldton and request this funding is locked in with an annual funding commitment of at least \$10 million per year for ten years;
4. NOT SUPPORT the report's conclusion that the Geraldton North South Highway (GNSH) is 'not of state / federal strategic importance and therefore not a Main Roads priority' (page 34). The City's position is that the construction of this road would alleviate many of the immediate

- safety concerns used to justify the proposed new road for an affordable budget;
5. NOT SUPPORT the deferral of planning into medium term solutions to improve road safety in the Mid West such as the Bookara Bends, S-Bends (page 34);
 6. DEFER a decision on the draft alignment study from Moonyoonooka to the east of Dongara (at the Brand Highway), at this time, for the following reasons:
 - a. A number of Main Roads studies have yet to be undertaken making a decision on this section of the proposed corridor very difficult. These include:
 - i. Updated flood study analysis of the Main Roads preferred alignment based on more recent work by the Department of Water and being updated by MRWA;
 - ii. A Socio-Economic Impact analysis of the preferred alignment and alternative alignments that were dismissed (including examining the direct economic impact of the alignments on adjacent businesses e.g. horticultural areas, community severance and amenity impacts);
 - iii. Analysis provided for the justification of the need for the project that includes the projected number of truck movements and their origin / destination for the Carnarvon-Muchea route. This analysis to provide assessment of the apparent contrary statements issued by the State Government relating to a projected 20% drop in truck movements on North West Coastal Highway and Great Northern Highway due to direct shipping at Pilbara Ports;
 7. REQUEST a detailed investigation into the potential Brand Highway, Rudds Gully Road option including detailed costings and number of impacted properties;
 8. REQUEST Main Roads details a clear process for the acquisition of the land required well in advance of any future construction activities. This will give certainty to landowners and a certainty for the whole regional planning process, where experience has shown numerous lines are drawn on plans and then deleted for an alternate alignment in a later study that then impacts the strategic (and later constructed) planning on surrounding land areas / uses;
 9. OBJECT to the alignment configuration in the vicinity of the Geraldton Airport as the 500 metre wide corridor would directly impact on the adopted Airport Master Plan expansion requirements;
 10. REQUEST Main Roads put in writing verbal advice that sections of the by-passed Brand Highway will not become the property of the City of Greater Geraldton; and
 11. DIRECT the CEO to provide a further report and recommendation(s) thereto on the draft Alignment Selection Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton when the requested studies are received from Main Roads.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA).

BACKGROUND:

MRWA is seeking to identify the long-term future road corridor alignment between Dongara, Geraldton and Northampton. MRWA have identified a potential corridor and is currently seeking community comment. The comment period closes on 31 March 2021.

As part of the community comment process MRWA had developed a draft Alignment Selection Report Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton (Draft August 2020):

<https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/projects-initiatives/projects/regional/dongara-to-northampton/dgn-draft-alignment-selection-report-august-2020.pdf>

The alignment identified (and the report thereto) is the latest iteration of an issue that has not been resolved for over 40 years. The City has seen numerous alignment options that range from the Spine Road concept of 70/80's (which even had land acquisition underway) through to the Geraldton North South Highway Corridor Definition Study of 2012. There were other iterations in the intervening period, none of which were acted upon.

For context it also needs to be noted that there have been numerous other studies and options identified for particular sections of road alignments between Dongara/ Geraldton/ Northampton that were also not acted upon.

The current alignment study picks up from an alignment selection study process that commenced in 2015 which identified a number of road alignment options both north and south of Geraldton. Public consultation on these options took place in late 2015. From 2016 to 2020 the process was basically stalled and reactivated again in 2020.

For the City, it has seen this long list of numerous study options over this extended timeframe and has had to amend many of its strategic documents as each iteration has occurred. For the community, many landholders have been impacted with the various lines on a map that have been developed and affecting directly their investment and homes / businesses.

The City has supported many of these options over the years and has even assisted in the property acquisition process only to see no action take place and the only decision made to undertake yet another study. The one consistent element is that with each study the alignment has been moved further to the east because time and development has occurred as no commitments were made for the acquisition of the whole corridors. There are a large number of areas where there are now stranded corridor components that the City (in good faith) worked with developers / landowners to acquire for future road construction.

The City on numerous occasions has supported the need to move heavy freight vehicles away from the core urban areas of the City yet in 2021 they still utilise the Brand Highway / North West Coastal Highway through the City. It needs to be noted that over this period the City has seen heavy vehicle use

transition from a primarily north south orientation to an east west orientation and that all indications are showing this will increase due to the influence of the Geraldton Port. It is also noted that the Oakajee Port and Industrial Estate project also has a strong orientation for the inputs to come from the east of the City.

Over time the State has recognised the influence of the Ports (existing and proposed) by supporting such initiatives as the John Willcock Link / Geraldton Mount Magnet Road upgrade (to Narngulu) and the proposed Oakajee-Narngulu Infrastructure Corridor. This has recently been reinforced via the Mid West Ports Port Master Plan that has been formally adopted by Mid West Ports / State Government that has identified the need for a reinforced Geraldton- Narngulu Infrastructure Corridor. Mid West Ports identifying the need for an inland port at Narngulu to support the stockpiling / storage of products into and out of the Port. It is rather ironic that these links are predominately focussed on the east / west orientation. Private infrastructure providers are also focussed on this east / west alignment with gas, slurry and water pipelines, rail upgrades spending significant funds on east / west orientated infrastructure. As far as is known, none are looking at the north / south orientated connections which highlights again the focus on where the demand / needs really are.

MRWA released the draft Alignment Selection Report Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton for consultation in September 2020. Subsequently, Council has received two presentations by MRWA representatives on 7 October 2020 and 1 December 2020.

MRWA have identified three key components of the alignment:

1. Oakajee to just north of Northampton (including the Northampton Bypass).
2. The Oakajee to Narngulu Infrastructure Corridor (ONIC); and
3. Moonyoonooka south to the Brand Highway east of Dongara.

For clarity, the Oakajee to Narngulu Infrastructure corridor alignment has been supported by the City for many years and is featured on the City's Geraldton Urban Area Strategy Plan of 2015 and within the adopted Local Planning Strategy.

The alignment from Oakajee to north of Northampton is outside of the City's boundaries. There has been a long-term recognition that the current North West Coastal Highway alignment through this area has a significant number of inadequacies and safety issues that need to be addressed. A bypass that avoids heavy vehicles travelling through the Northampton main street is also problematic for that community.

Attached for Councillors reference is the report and resolution of the Shire of Chapman Valley in December 2020 included as Attachment No. DCS484B. It gives an in-depth assessment and justification for the route alignment north of Moonyoonooka through to the north of Northampton and therefore not repeated in this report.

Primarily the City's focus is on the alignment south of Moonyoonooka to Dongara.

There are several key objectives that the City would like MRWA to consider including, but not limited to:

- There is a need to remove heavy vehicles from the inner core of the Geraldton urban area.
- The expanding Narngulu Industrial area needs to be directly linked with the Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton alignment to meet both the City and Mid West Ports' needs and with key linkages to Oakajee.
- The priority section of road is between Narngulu and Oakajee.
- The road needs to be of a higher standard than the existing that enhances the community and road users' safety.
- The road needs to be an enabler of the City's economy and finally be an alignment that MRWA and the State Government are committed to and that landowners are duly compensated in the near term rather than at the time of any construction.
- Minimise community severance associated with any alignment to ensure that residents and business can function effectively and efficiently.
- MRWA / State Government needs to place a significant emphasis on the East West road link to both Ports given its primary role in serving the resources and agricultural industries to the east of the City.

MRWA have been directly liaising with other Local Governments, landowners and residents on an individual basis, but have not supported a more general public information session. As a result, residents organised a Community meeting on 8 November 2020 at Walkaway with over one hundred attendees present. Local politicians, the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Director Development and Community Services attended and participated in this meeting but there were no MRWA representatives.

It has to be stated that the process has not been easy, with many questions asked in relation to the proposed alignment by both the City and impacted residents, especially around how the selection was made of the preferred corridor option. Additional information has subsequently been provided by MRWA and continues to be released. In addition, the need for further studies have also been identified by MRWA, but as yet are understood to have not been initiated:

- Updated flood study analysis of the preferred alignment based on more recent work by the Department of Water;
- A Socio Economic Impact analysis of the preferred alignment; and
- Analysis of the anticipated number of truck movements and their origin/destination for the Carnarvon-Muchea route.

MRWA have recently advised that they have additional information that could be made available on corridor impacts along a widened Brand Highway alignment option. At the time of writing this report, the additional information has just been received, however, MRWA has directed that it is confidential in nature.

The City acknowledges the need to lock in a preferred corridor around Geraldton for heavy freight vehicles but this needs to be undertaken in a transparent manner with both the City of Greater Geraldton and its residents. It appears on the information provided to date to the City that there are some significant gaps in the assessment criteria and a very singular focus on the needs of heavy freight vehicles between Carnarvon and Muchea.

The analysis undertaken to date could potentially have a number of fatal flaws that may have negative economic, amenity and accessibility issues especially for those businesses and community members accessing across and along the route identified. The potential impact on the businesses in the Moonyoonooka area are highlighted as a case in point (horticulture, Moonyoonooka store etc.).

From the information provided to date it is also apparent that there is no identified funding opportunity for the actual construction of the proposed road nor any framework for actual land acquisition. The City and surrounding Shires have all seen the negative impacts that are created by the "line" that gets drawn on a plan yet can effectively destroy a family's singular asset, stifle business growth and prevent long term economic objectives to be achieved.

Unfortunately, the current alignment identification process highlights the Regional and Perth Metropolitan area imbalance created with strategic infrastructure links. In the Perth Metropolitan area, a framework and funding mechanism exists for the acquisition of the land required for such links. This is an issue that needs to be addressed in this current process.

The City of Greater Geraldton has become increasingly concerned that the critical east west link utilising the Geraldton-Mount Magnet Road has not had the same priority and emphasis placed upon it as the north south road link identified in this report.

The City notes that MRWA approved the use of the longest road trains permitted on public roads (60 metre Super Quad road trains) with no upgrades undertaken on the Geraldton-Mount Magnet Road apart from road signage. Since that decision, several new mining projects have now come to fruition adding 2 million+ tonnes to the haulage task with several more projects at an advanced feasibility stage that are proposing to use heavy freight haulage.

In addition to the above, at least two downstream processing operations are proposing to utilise a local drive in / drive out workforce to service their needs introducing more light vehicles into the mix. It needs to be noted that the City fully supports these projects both regionally and for the State as they are of strategic importance to the continued economic development of Western Australia.

Given the above it should be apparent that the draft road alignment north of Moonyoonooka and the Geraldton-Mount Magnet Road are economically important to the State of Western Australia and the Mid West Region, hence the City's primary focus in this submission. A route alignment south of Geraldton is seen as the second phase behind the priorities given above.

The City of Greater Geraldton is becoming increasingly concerned that MRWA's primary focus is on the north south corridor route alignment that bypasses Geraldton and its key economic drivers (including Geraldton Port and the Narngulu Industrial area) whilst to the east of the City there are multiple projects that are already in operation, in detailed bankable feasibility study or proposed that use or identify the Geraldton-Mount Magnet Road as a key transport route. The identified tonnages using or proposed to use this route appear to totally eclipse the movements being outlined to justify the Draft Alignment Selection Report Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton route. Please note that this conclusion has been drawn based on the limited information provided to justify this route versus the known existing and proposed heavy vehicle movements on the Geraldton-Mount Magnet Road.

The Draft report (on what this report is heavily based upon) sections 4.1.2 and 4.1.3 (Page 44) states that although there are heavy vehicle volume counts for the existing Brand Highway / North West Coastal Highway the data has no origin / destination analysis hence the proportion of heavy vehicles travelling through the area versus local truck movements is unknown. Users of these roads know that there are significant volumes of minerals and agricultural products that are either delivered into or originate from Geraldton.

Overall traffic data on which it appears the forecasts are based are similarly of interest as the traffic levels show vehicle numbers increasing, the closer one gets to Geraldton. The proposed road will not assist in addressing the traffic demands of this "commuter" style local traffic.

The City was initially advised that the primary reason the Brand Highway alignment was not selected was the level and length of flooding that occurs in some storm events (noting, this is not as often as those in Carnarvon that cut the link on more occasions).

The reasoning behind not utilising the Brand Highway option has now morphed into the number of heritage buildings / other buildings that could be impacted if the Brand Highway alignment was selected and upgraded to a dual carriageway limited access highway. It was then revealed that the upgrade option would require a 200 metre wide road reserve for this option.

What also was clarified and advised was that the current preferred route alignment option requires a 500 metre wide corridor so that it gives MRWA enough room to avoid other localised obstructions / issues. The impact of a 500 metre wide corridor substantially increases its impact on adjoining land owners.

The other points clarified were that:

- The road would only be a single lane in either direction (not dual carriageway) between Dongara and Moonyoonooka.
- It is MRWA's intention that the Brand Highway and North West Coastal Highway that are "replaced" by the new highway would remain under MRWA's care and control and that there would likely be incremental upgrades as required. This is an important consideration for the City as these practices in the past have seen former main roads handed back (de-mained) to the City despite objection, with the then Minister's issuing the approvals to transfer. There are no funding commitments for upgrades to these roads.
- The North South Highway would cease to be a MRWA project and if the City wants to see this link built it would be at the City's cost. Again, this would leave linear parcels of land already acquired needing a decision on their future (many of these are already under the ownership of the Crown i.e. State Government). These areas join former Spine Road properties, Verita Road, (which the City has since partially constructed), Utaarra Bypass (through which Water Corporation of WA has constructed a water main), Chapman Valley Road bypass (mainly in private ownership now) that end up being problematic land legacy issues for the local communities (rubbish dumping, illegal access and bushfire management issues).
- That there is no timeline for the acquisition and construction of the preferred corridor. Of concern is that it will also mean that there are no forward commitments for already identified safety projects along the Brand Highway/ North West Coastal Highway and leading to a do nothing approach.

It is noted that these are only verbal comments received (as are many of the previous discussion points) and all of these aspects need further written confirmation clarity / commitment.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

The construction of the proposed outer by-pass will be one of the most significant infrastructure projects in the Mid West for some time. With any major road projects there will be winners and losers. The City has asked for a report to be undertaken to quantify its impacts on the community, particularly the tourism sector and the local Greenough community. Those that benefit from the project will be the motorists (business and private) who utilise the road. The losers will include land holders who will have land resumed and lifestyles disrupted, and businesses that are by-passed. A social economic report has not been received making it difficult for officers to provide advice to Council on potential impacts.

The Mid West has a history of 'lines' being drawn over locals' properties. It is felt that it is very important when the State selects the final corridor, they proceed immediately to purchase the land rather than just quarantining it so impacted land holders can determine their futures.

This will also give certainty in the planning process where experience has shown numerous lines are drawn on plans and then deleted for an alternate alignment in a later study that then impacts the strategic (and later constructed) planning on surrounding land areas / uses.

Environment:

Road projects have a number of significant environmental impacts that must be considered through the construction phase and then again when the road is functioning. Issues that will need to be addressed include the identification and preservation of rare fauna and flora, minimisation of land disturbance and sediment run-off, minimising impact on the City's water source (the bore fields). Officers have not received any information from the State on these matters. The City has written to Water Corporation of WA / Department of Water and Environmental Regulation regarding the impact of the road on the bore field and their responses sent to Councillors for their consideration.

Economy:

Reference is made to the State's report that provide their assessment of the economic justification for the project.

Governance:

This is a State Government initiative. The Council is a stakeholder in the process. The State has provided the Council and the community with an opportunity to respond to the proposed corridor alignment, but ultimately it will be a State decision.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

Reference is made to the Ordinary meeting of Council held on 12 October 2015 and Item No. DRS232 - Dongara to Northampton Coastal Route Corridor Alignment Selection Study.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

There have been several discussions with Councillors on this project along with two presentation sessions with MRWA on 7 October 2020 and 1 December 2020. There has also been a public meeting at Walkaway organised by the local community. The City has also been provided by residents copies of a number of submissions made to MRWA and these are summarised and included as Confidential Attachment No. DCS484A. This report, has utilised several key points from those submissions which have assisted in forming this report and the City's submission. These submissions are available to Councillors on request.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

There are no legislative issues however there are policy implications for the City relating to existing and proposed road network planning / construction. MRWA have the statutory mechanisms within its legislation the Main Roads Act 1930 (as amended) to plan and implement new roads. MRWA also have the authority to compulsory purchase any required land.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

As this is a MRWA project, its financing and construction do not have finance and resource implications for the City. It is noted however that should this road be constructed MRWA does have the authority (with the consent of the Minister) to hand current road assets (and liabilities to Local Governments). For the City, this could mean that sections of the existing Brand and North West Coastal Highways could be transferred (with the inherent issues that they bring with them). Any final submission to MRWA will need to address this issue.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Community	1.4 Emergency Management
Strategy 1.4.2	Undertaking a coordinated approach with relevant agencies to minimise the impact of disaster events.
Title: Environment	2.3 Built Environment
Strategy 2.3.3	Providing a fit for purpose, safe and efficient infrastructure network.
Title: Economy	3.1 Growth
Strategy 3.1.3	Developing and maintaining infrastructure that increases the potential for business and investment.
Title: Governance	4.1 Community Engagement
Strategy 4.1.1	Continuing to engage broadly and proactively with the community.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

The provision of well-planned and implemented infrastructure links have important social and economic outcomes that benefit the City of Greater Geraldton, the Mid West and the State of Western Australia.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

If a key infrastructure project is poorly planned and executed it can have significant economic, environmental and social impacts on the local community, the region and the State for the short and long term.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

The City does not have to lodge a submission. This approach would not allow the City to at least have its views considered especially where there are potentially impact(s) on areas of City responsibility. The following options were considered by City Officers:

The City could support the Draft Alignment Selection Report Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton as proposed by MRWA and places its trust in the process through to final delivery, will be one that fully considers and addresses the needs of all stakeholders. At this time, the City needs to have further critical information supplied with which to make an informed recommendation. This option is therefore not supported.

The City could recommend it does not support the total alignment outlined in the report and emphasis that the priority for the City is the East West (Geraldton-Mount Magnet Road) full upgrade. This option is not supported as there are elements of the Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton alignment that are strategically important for the ongoing development of the Geraldton and Mid West region.

12.2 REPORTS OF CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES**CCS565 AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL**

AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-005075
AUTHOR:	M Adam, Coordinator Governance
EXECUTIVE:	P Radalj, Director Corporate and Commercial Services
DATE OF REPORT:	25 November 2020
FILE REFERENCE:	GO/11/0020
ATTACHMENTS:	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is for the Council to review a summary of Audit Committee activities for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 - the Audit Committee Annual Report.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 5.20 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. RECEIVE the Audit Committee Annual Report for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* section 7.1A (1):

A local government is to establish an audit committee of 3 or more persons to exercise the powers and discharge the duties conferred on it.

Clause 5.2 of the City of Greater Geraldton Audit Committee charter requires:

5.2 The Committee shall report annually to the Council summarising its activities during the previous financial year.

At the Audit Committee meeting held on 27 January 2021 the Audit Committee resolved to:

1. ENDORSE the summary of Audit Committee activities for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.
2. SUBMIT the summary of Audit Committee activities for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 to Council as the Audit Committee annual report of activities.

Below is a summary of the activities of the Audit Committee for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 for the purposes of providing the above mentioned report to the Council:

Audit Committee Meeting – 2 December 2019

Report Number	Title	Decision
AC081	Audit Report 2018/2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt the Audit Report for the financial period ending 30 June 2019 2. Note that for the annual financial report for the year ended 30 June 2019 the Auditor has provided an unqualified audit opinion
AC082	Review of Audit Committee Charter	Endorse the Audit Committee Charter
AC083	Business Continuity Management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the status of the City of Greater Geraldton Business Continuity Management Plan 2. Require the CEO to report back to the Audit Committee the ongoing status of the program
AC084	Risk Management Profile	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the status of the City of Greater Geraldton risk management profile 2. Require the CEO to report back to the Audit Committee the ongoing status of the City's risk profile.
AC085	Audit Committee Annual Report to Council	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorse the summary of Audit Committee activities for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 2. Submit the summary of Audit Committee activities for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 to Council as the Audit Committee annual report of activities
AC086	Disaster Recovery Exercise ICT	Note the progress of the ICT business continuity and disaster recovery (ICT BCDR)
AC087	Fraud and Corruption Control Plan	Endorse the Fraud and Corruption Control Plan
AC088	Management Actions on Internal Audits	Receive the Progress Report on the current status of management actions related to Internal Audits
AC089	Compliance Management Plan	Note the completion and implementation of the Compliance Management Plan and processes

Audit Committee Meeting – 3 March 2020

Report Number	Title	Decision
AC090	ICT Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery	Note the successful testing of the ICT business continuity and disaster recovery (ICT BCDR) plan
AC091	Work Health and Safety Bill Update	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acknowledge receipt of the Work Health & Safety Bill report; 2. Endorse that the updated City of Greater Geraldton Safety Management System be included into CGG “rolling” internal audit program; and 3. Endorse that the Safety Management System audit report findings when completed be provided to the Audit Committee.
AC092	Compliance Audit Return	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the results of the Compliance Audit Return 2019. 2. Report to Council the results of the Audit Committee review of the Compliance Audit Return 2019, at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 24 March 2020. 3. Report to the Audit Committee at their next meeting on the instances of tendering non-compliance related to changes to recurrent supply arrangements, collective procurement values and actions taken to address this matter

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:**Community:**

There are no adverse community impacts.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts.

Economy:

There are no adverse economic impacts.

Governance:

Providing the Audit Committee Annual Report to the Council meets the governance provisions of clause 5.2 of the Audit Committee Charter.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

The Audit Committee Annual Report to the Council was last reviewed by the Committee on 2 December 2019, Item No. AC085, and reviewed by Council on 17 December 2019, Item No. CCS459 – Audit Committee Annual Report to Council.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

The Audit Committee at the Meeting on 27 January 2021 endorsed the summary of Audit Committee activities for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (AC099), and recommended that the summary be submitted to the Council as the Audit Committee Annual Report.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The Audit Committee Annual Report to Council is required under the provisions of the Audit Committee Charter.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial or resource implications.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Governance	4.5 Good Governance & Leadership
Strategy 4.5.2	Ensuring finance and governance policies, procedures and activities align with legislative requirements and best practice.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

There are no impacts to regional outcomes.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The provision of an annual report to the Council on the activities of the Audit Committee ensures that the committee meets compliance requirements of the *Audit Committee Charter s.5.2* and reporting recommendations of the Department of Local Government and Communities *Audit in Local Government Operational Guideline Number 09-2013*.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

There were no alternative options considered by City Officers.

CCS566 ORDINARY COUNCIL ELECTION 2021

AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-005078
AUTHOR:	M Adam, Coordinator Governance
EXECUTIVE:	P Radalj, Director Corporate and Commercial Services
DATE OF REPORT:	26 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	GO/8/0007 - 002
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x1) Estimate from Western Australian Electoral Commission

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to appoint the Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC) to carry out the 2021 ordinary elections by postal vote.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Absolute Majority pursuant to Section 4.20(4) and 4.61(2) of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. DECLARE, in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the Local Government Act 1995, the Electoral Commissioner to be responsible for the conduct of the 2021 ordinary elections together with any other elections or polls which may be required; and
2. DECIDE, in accordance with section 4.61(2) of the Local Government Act 1995, that the method of conducting the election will be as a postal election.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

The City has received advice that the Local Government ordinary elections are to be held on Saturday 16 October 2021.

Following the review of wards and representation in 2018 the Minister for Local Government approved the abolition of the City's Ward system and the reduction of the numbers of the office of Councillor from fourteen to twelve, with a popularly elected Mayor.

Subsequently at the 2019 ordinary election seven positions of council became vacant, and the position of Mayor. Five positions of the office of council, and the office of Mayor were filled for a four year term expiring in October 2023.

At the 2021 ordinary election seven positions for the office of council will become vacant. To enable an even division of the number of offices of council which become vacant every two years, the vacancies for the position of Councillor for the 2021 Local Government ordinary elections for the City of Greater Geraldton will be:

- Six (6) vacancies for the office of council – four year term - expiring in October 2025.
- One (1) vacancy for the office of council – two year term – expiring in October 2023.

Local government elections are conducted using the ‘first past the post’ system where candidates are elected in order according to the number of votes received by each. Of the seven candidates to be elected, the two year term of office will go to the candidate with the lowest number of votes.

Council is required to decide whether the ordinary election of local government council members on Saturday 16 October 2021 will be conducted by an In-Person vote method or by a Postal vote method.

Previously the WAEC has only conducted postal elections for the City and they are unable at this time to calculate costs for an In-Person election due to commitments for the State Election. However, they advise that costs would be dependent on the number of polling places and staff required to service the polling places. A cost comparison obtained from the Commission for the 2019 election for six vacancies was \$113,000 for a postal election and \$95,000 for an In-Person election, with the turnout rate for an In-Person election estimated as 15- 20%. Elector participation in the 2019 ordinary election of council, which was conducted as a postal election, was 34.98% against a state average of 29.1%.

General information from WAEC is as follows:

As voting is non-compulsory, electors are not required to attend and therefore, historically, response rates on In-Person voting have been low. The Electoral Commissioner is responsible for conducting all local government postal elections in Western Australia and can also conduct voting in person elections on request under the Local Government Act 1995. Whilst the Commission does conduct some voting in-person elections, they are only local governments that have a large number of electors living in remote communities with a spasmodic and reduced mail service that make postal elections not viable, such as the Shires of Broome, Derby-West Kimberley & Halls Creek.

By making the Electoral Commissioner responsible for these elections, the local governments concerned ensure that elections are conducted independently and with impartiality.

Postal elections for local government were first trialed by four local governments in 1995. This increased to eight in 1997, 34 in 1999, 47 in 2001, 55 in 2003, 50 in 2005, 64 in 2007, 69 in 2009, 74 in 2011, 76 in 2013, 82 in 2015, and 85 in 2017.

Postal elections are more convenient for many electors and typically result in a higher rate of voter participation than in person ballots.

In previous years ordinary elections for the City have been conducted using the postal voting method as this generates a greater participation rate amongst voters. Should the City choose this method for 2021, in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the Local Government Act 1995, it will appoint the Electoral Commissioner to be responsible for the process.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

The Community have previously participated in a postal election for the ordinary election of council in 2017 and 2019. Elector participation in 2017 was 33.5% against a state average of 34.50%, and in 2019 was 34.98% against a state average of 29.1%. There were no adverse impacts for the Community.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic situation, a postal election is the logical and preferred method for conducting the 2021 ordinary election in keeping with initiatives to lower any risk of COVID-19 spreading within the community.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts, ballot papers and election materials are required for an election held by either postal or in person voting methods.

Economy:

There are no adverse economic impacts from the WAEC running a Local Government Election as a postal election. The WAEC is required by the Local Government Act 1995 to conduct local government elections on a full cost recovery basis and the WAEC make every endeavour to keep future costs to a minimum.

Governance:

The WAEC City of Greater Geraldton Election Report for the Ordinary Election in 2019 reported compliance with Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government Election (Regulations) 1997 across all sections of the Act and Regulations including appointment of a Returning Officer, Statutory Advertising, Electoral rolls, Nominations, Issue and Counting of Votes and Declaration of the Poll.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

The 2019 ordinary election was conducted by the Western Australian Electoral Commission as a postal vote method (23 April 2019 – Item No. CCS412, Ordinary Council Election 2019).

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

There has been no community/councillor consultation.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Local Government Act 1995 - Section 4.20(4) and 4.61(2).

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The WAEC has advised that their estimate to undertake the 2021 postal elections will be approximately \$118,000 Inc. GST. Additional electoral expenditure of \$6,000 will also be set aside to cover any local advertising and promotion, hire costs and some staff costs. This will be budgeted for in the 2021-22 financial year.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Governance	4.5 Good Governance & Leadership
Strategy 4.5.1	Strengthening the governance role of Councillors by informing, resourcing, skilling and supporting their role.
Strategy 4.5.2	Ensuring finance and governance policies, procedures and activities align with legislative requirements and best practice.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

There are no impacts to regional outcomes.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

Should the Western Australian Electoral Commission be appointed, as per the executive recommendation, they will be responsible for the management of the risk of non-compliance with the Local Government Act 1995 and the Local Government Act (Elections) Regulations 1997 in relation to:

- The performance of duties by the Returning Officer (WAEC appointed);
- Nomination process;
- Issuing of Electoral rolls;
- Issue and collection of ballot papers;
- Statutory advertising; and
- Reporting to the Minister.

Any residual risk to the City will be mitigated through staff training, online systems, and the support of the Returning Officer, provided through the WAEC. Additional assistance, guidelines and support are also available through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and the Western Australian Local Government Association.

A decision by Council to conduct the election as a postal election will help to reduce the risks associated with the current COVID-19 pandemic. An In-Person election may not be able to proceed if there were further restrictions or a lock-down situation put in place by the State or Federal Governments. There is also a higher risk of COVID-19 spread amongst voters and election officials at polling locations required for an In-Person election.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

Previous years' Council decisions to appoint the Western Australian Electoral Commissioner to conduct postal elections have proven effective therefore, there were no alternative options considered by City Officers.

CCS567 COMPLIANCE AUDIT RETURN 2020

AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-005080
AUTHOR:	M Adam, Coordinator Governance
EXECUTIVE:	P Radalj, Director Corporate and Commercial Services
DATE OF REPORT:	3 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	RM/6/0020
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x1) Compliance Audit Return 2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's adoption of the Compliance Audit Return (CAR) 2020 as required under the *Local Government Act 1995*.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 7.13(1) of the Local Government Act and Regulations 14 and 15 of the Local Government (Audit) Regulations RESOLVES to:

1. ADOPT the 2020 Compliance Audit Return for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020; and
2. NOTE that the Compliance Audit Return for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020 will be submitted to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with section 7.13(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 and regulation 14 and 15 of the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996, a local government authority is required to carry out a compliance audit for the period 1 January to 31 December in each year and prepare a Compliance Audit Return in a form approved by the Minister.

Pursuant to regulation 14 (3A) of the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996:

(3A) The local government's audit committee is to review the compliance audit return and is to report to the council the results of that review.

The 2020 CAR was submitted to the Audit Committee Meeting on 27 January 2021 for the Committee to review and subsequently report the results of the review to Council.

The Audit Committee resolved to:

1. *REVIEW* the results of the Compliance Audit Return 2020.
2. *REPORT* to Council the results of the Audit Committee review of the Compliance Audit Return 2020, at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 23 February 2021.

The Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting 27 January 2021 are attached in Report to be Received No. CCS573.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

There are no adverse community impacts.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts.

Economy:

There are no adverse economic impacts.

Governance:

It is a legislative requirement under the provisions of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996* r. 14(3) that the Compliance Audit Return is presented to and adopted by the Council.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

Council adopts the Compliance Audit Return each year, prior to its submission to the Department. Compliance Audit Return 2019 was adopted on 24 March 2020 – Item No. CCS477.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

The CAR was submitted to the Audit Committee meeting on 27 January 2021 to review the results.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Section 7.13 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulation 13 and 14 of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996*.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial or resource implications.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Governance	4.5 Good Governance & Leadership
Strategy 4.5.2	Ensuring finance and governance policies, procedures and activities align with legislative requirements and best practice.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

There are no impacts to regional outcomes.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The Compliance Audit Return is a statutory compliance requirement for Local Governments and is subject to review first by the Audit Committee and then as a report to Council for adoption before being submitted to the Department of Local Government. The City is required to provide this to the Department no later than 31 March 2021. The City does not have the option to not adopt the CAR as it would result in non-compliance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996*.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

No alternative options were considered by City Officers.

CCS568 2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE CITY OF GREATER GERALDTON
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-009601
AUTHOR:	T Palmonari, Manager Strategic Planning and Economic Development
EXECUTIVE:	P Radalj, Director Corporate and Commercial Services
DATE OF REPORT:	2 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	GO/3/0002
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x1) 2019-20 Annual Report for the City of Greater Geraldton

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's adoption of the 2019-20 Annual Report for the City of Greater Geraldton.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Absolute Majority pursuant to Section 5.54 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. ADOPT the City of Greater Geraldton Annual Report (including Audited Annual General Purpose Financial Statements and Auditors Report) for the financial year ending 30 June 2020; and
2. REQUIRE the CEO to make the Annual Report publicly available and to give public notice of an Annual Electors Meeting to be held on 23 March 2021 pursuant to section 5.27(2) of the Act.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

The 2019-20 Annual Report (Attachment No. CCS568) has been prepared in accordance with Section 5.53 of the Local Government Act 1995 and includes the Audited Annual General Purpose Financial Statements.

The Annual Report highlights the City of Greater Geraldton's significant achievements in 2019-20 in relation to services delivered by each Directorate and major goal areas contained within the City's Strategic Community Plan, and related actions contained within the City's Corporate Business Plan.

The City continued its focus on being fiscally responsible in progressing towards and maintaining annual budgeted operating surpluses each year. However, the 2019-20 year was anything but 'normal', with the emergence of COVID-19 and government measures to contain the spread of the virus having an immediate and significant effect on reducing revenue streams for the organisation. In response, the City implemented measures to reduce expenditure where possible but still continue to deliver the majority our services to the community without any notable impact, apart from those

facilities that remained closed and/or under restrictions due to State Government's emergency declarations. Initiatives taken to reduce expenditure in the 4th quarter of 2019-20 enabled the City to still achieve an actual operating surplus from ordinary activities (per Statement of Comprehensive Income) of \$627,063 against the budgeted forecast of \$85,398.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

Annual reports provide the community with information on how the City has been performing over a financial year period in relation to financial performance and in the provision of services and infrastructure.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts.

Economy:

There are no adverse economic impacts.

Governance:

The Annual Report is part of good governance, ensuring that reporting aligns with legislative requirements and best practice.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

The acceptance of the Annual Report is a standard statutory requirement.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

Audit Committee has reviewed and recommended the adoption of the Audited Annual General Purpose Financial Statements at its meeting held on 27 January 2021. On adoption of the Annual Report by Council, the CEO will give local public notice of its availability to the public and will call an annual electors meeting.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Section 5.53 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires the preparation of an Annual Report and details what has to be contained within.

Section 5.54 requires that the Annual Report for a financial year be accepted no later than 31 December after that financial year or within 2 months of receiving the auditor's report. Council is required to hold an Annual Electors Meeting within 56 days of acceptance of the Annual Report. Pending adoption of the Annual Report, the Annual Electors Meeting will be scheduled for 23 March 2021.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial or resource implications.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Governance	4.5 Good Governance & Leadership
Strategy 4.5.2	Ensuring finance and governance policies, procedures and activities align with legislative requirements and best practice.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

There are no impacts to regional outcomes.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The related risk is associated with complying with the timelines identified within Section 5.54 of the Local Government Act 1995.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

No alternative options were considered by City Officers.

CCS569 PROPOSED BUSH FIRE BRIGADES LOCAL LAW 2021

AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-012633
AUTHOR:	M Adam, Coordinator Governance
EXECUTIVE:	P Radalj, Director Corporate and Commercial Services
DATE OF REPORT:	18 January 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	LE/5/0001-003
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x2)
	A. Draft City of Greater Geraldton Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2021
	B. City of Greater Geraldton Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for adoption of a draft new *City of Greater Geraldton Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2021* for public consultation.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 3.12 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. GIVE local public notice in accordance with sections 3.12(3)(a) and (3a) of the Local Government Act 1995 (the Act) stating that:
 - a. It is proposed to make a City of Greater Geraldton Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2021, and a summary of its purpose and effect;
 - b. Copies of the proposed local law may be inspected at the City offices;
 - c. Submissions about the proposed local law may be made to the City within a period of not less than six (6) weeks after the notice is given;
2. SEND a copy of the proposed local law to the Ministers for Local Government and Emergency Services as soon as notice is given in accordance with section 3.12(3)(b) of the Act;
3. SUPPLY a copy of the proposed local law to any person requesting it in accordance with section 3.12(3)(c) of the Act;
4. NOTE that the results of the public consultation be presented to the Council for consideration of any submissions received;
5. DELEGATE authority to the CEO to draft and conclude agreements with all brigades to cover issues such as:
 - a. The makeup of bush fire brigades (membership, structure, meetings, elections);
 - b. How funding, facilities and equipment provided by the City is to be dealt with and any associated requirements;
 - c. Record, bookkeeping, asset management and accounting requirements;
 - d. Office bearers such as a secretary, treasurer, training, and/or equipment officers;
 - e. Grievance processes and membership issues;

- f. How and with whom liaison with the City is to occur (day to day, longer term);
 - g. What reporting might be required in terms of brigade activities, membership lists, acquittal of funds provided;
 - h. Operational matters or standards; and
6. KEEP existing operational matters set out in the current City of Greater Geraldton Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2011 in place until new agreements are in place.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

The *City of Greater Geraldton Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2011* was gazetted on 13 July 2012.

It is based on a WALGA model which is appropriate but which also contains a significant amount of detail that can be dealt with in a more efficient way.

The overall objective of the proposed new local law is to remove a lot of red tape from the local law itself and put requirements about operating Bush Fire Brigades into a more flexible and easier to change framework. This will assist the City to be even more responsive to what is shaping up to be a more challenging environment in relation to bush fire management and control.

There are some matters that must be dealt with in a local law when a local government establishes a bush fire brigade, but almost all of the matters for which local governments may make bush fire local laws can be better dealt with without regulation – which is pointless anyway as there are no penalties under the local law.

Section 43 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 provides that a local government which establishes a bush fire brigade shall by its local laws:

... provide for the appointment or election of a captain, a first lieutenant, a second lieutenant, and such additional lieutenants as may be necessary as officers of the bush fire brigade, and prescribe their respective duties.

Sections of the Bush Fires Act 1954 where a local government may make local laws are:

- Under section 33(5a) to require land owners to make fire breaks. Section 33(1) though allows this to be done simply by publishing a notice in the Government Gazette or a newspaper circulating in the district; and where a local government does so the provisions of the notice override the local law.
- Under section 41(1), to establish and maintain one or more bush fire brigades and equip them with appliances, equipment and apparatus; and
- Under section 62, make local laws in relation to —

- the appointment, employment, payment, dismissal and duties of bush fire control officers; and
- the organisation, establishment, maintenance and equipment with appliances and apparatus of bush fire brigades to be established and maintained by the local government; and
- any other matters affecting the exercise of any powers or authorities conferred and the performance of any duties imposed upon the local government by this Act.

The use of a local law to deal with anything other than what is required under the Act is unnecessary - all critical matters are dealt with under the Bush Fires Act 1954 and Regulations. For example:

- Part 2 of the Bush Fires Act sets out the powers of the Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner, provides for the appointment of bush fire liaison officers, and sets out powers of police or authorised persons as well as providing for entry on to land or buildings for the purposes of the Act;
- Part 3 sets out measures to prevent bush fires, including restricted or prohibited burning times, fire bans, and provisions about burning of land or rubbish. Section 33 allows a local government to require occupiers of land to establish fire breaks by a notice in the Gazette and or public notice, or by local law;
- Part 4 deals with the control and extinguishment of bush fires. In particular:
 - Section 36 provides that a local government may expend funds to control and extinguish bush fires;
 - Under section 37 a local government must insure volunteer fire fighters and bush fire brigade equipment;
 - Section 38 provides that a local government may appoint a person as a bush fire control officer (and who does not necessarily have to be a local government employee), and of whom can be a Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy. Under section 38A the FES commissioner may appoint a person as a Chief Bush Fire Control officer if requested by a local government for its district;
 - Section 39 sets out the powers of bush fire control officers;
 - Section 40 sets out the powers and duties of local governments, brigades, and bush fire control officers in the event of a bush fire;
 - Section 41 provides that Act, a local government shall keep a register of bush fire brigades and their members in accordance with the regulations, and may at any time cancel the registration of a bush fire brigade;
 - Under section 42A, any group of persons, however constituted and whether incorporated or not, may be established as a bush fire brigade under section 41(1) or 42(1).
 - Section 43 is the only area of the Bush Fires Act that requires a local government to make a local law (discussed below); and
 - Sections 44–47 deal with fire-fighting by officers of bush fire brigades, 'CALM' and bush fire control officers.

- Part 5 deals with miscellaneous matters and among other things:
 - Allows a local government to delegate any of its powers and duties to its CEO; and
 - Provides for penalty and prosecution provisions.

Local laws are usually used to regulate activities in communities generally. They typically set out a set of requirements and include provisions for non-compliance such as notices, infringements or prosecution. Services run by volunteers are not usually 'regulated' by local laws.

The question here is the extent to which a local law is useful when it comes to assisting and encouraging a service provided by volunteers; and what could be better dealt with by agreement. In this regard the City is better able to manage its funding and/or support to volunteer brigades in a more flexible manner, not by use of a local law.

A draft new *City of Greater Geraldton Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2021* is attached. It deals only with those matters required by the Bush Fires Act 1954.

It also contains a number of notes and text boxes to assist readers to interpret what clauses mean, and what other legislation might apply, but which do not form part of the local law and will be deleted from the official version to be Gazetted.

Note that as required, it prescribes the duties of a captain of a bush fire brigade. Other matters are simply by agreement with a brigade. This could include:

- The make up of bush fire brigades (membership, structure, meetings, elections, etc.);
- How funding, facilities and equipment provided by the *City* is to be dealt with and any associated requirements;
- Record, bookkeeping, asset management and accounting requirements;
- Office bearers such as a secretary, treasurer, training, and/or equipment officers;
- Grievance processes and membership issues;
- How and with whom liaison with the *City* is to occur (day to day, longer term);
- What reporting might be required in terms of brigade activities, membership lists, acquittal of funds provided, etc; and
- Operational matters or standards.

These can be drafted by the *City* but can only be implemented in agreement with the brigades. They are not intended to be punitive or overly complex – brigade members are volunteers and should not be tied up with unnecessary regulation.

In addition the rules can be more easily changed than a local law - by council resolution and/or by the CEO acting under delegated authority from the Council.

In the unlikely event it became necessary for the City to take action in relation to a brigade, if all else fails it could:

- Withhold funding; and/ or
- Seek return of assets and/or equipment; and/ or
- Ultimately, deregister a brigade under section 41(3) of the Bush Fires Act. This provision is wide ranging and is used mainly when a brigade merges with another or disbands, but can be applied for any reason a local government see fit.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

The proposed local law provides clarification to the community on the matters that must be included in a Bush Fire Brigades Local Law, and those which are dealt with by, and in accordance with the provisions of the Bush Fire Act 1954.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts.

Economy:

There are no adverse economic impacts.

Governance:

In accordance with section 3.16 of the Local Government Act 1995, the City is required to review its local laws within a period of 8 years from the day when a local law commenced and determine whether or not it considers that the local law should be repealed or amended. On 26 May 2020 the Council determined that the Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2011 be amended or replaced – Item No. CCS487, Outcome of Statutory Review of Local Laws under s.3.16 of the Local Government Act 1995. The proposed local law progresses the outcome of the review.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

The City of Greater Geraldton Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2011 was endorsed by the Council on 12 October 2011 – Item No. CC017, City of Greater Geraldton Local Laws 2011.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

The City recently undertook a review of local laws as required under section 3.16 of the Local Government Act 1995.

The appointed Captains for each Bush Fire Brigade were provided with a copy of the proposed Bush Fire Brigades Local Law for comment. All Bush Fire Captains were satisfied with the contents of the proposed Bush Fire Brigades Local Law.

The Chairperson of each Bush Fire Advisory Committee was provided with a copy of the proposed Bush Fire Brigades Local Law for comment. The Chairpersons were satisfied with the contents of the proposed Bush Fire Brigades Local Law.

Section 62 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 provides that a local government may make local laws using the process set out in section 3.12 of the Local Government Act 1995. Amongst other things this requires a local government to give local public notice stating that it proposes to make a local law, the purpose and effect of which is summarised in the notice for a period of six (6) weeks after it first appears.

The purpose and effect of the proposed City of Greater Geraldton Bush Fire Brigades Local Law is:

Purpose

To provide for the appointment or election of a captain, a first lieutenant, a second lieutenant, and such additional lieutenants as may be necessary as officers of bush fire brigades in the district, and prescribe their respective duties.

Effect

The appointment or election of a captain, a first lieutenant, a second lieutenant, and such additional lieutenants as may be necessary as officers of bush fire brigades in the district is prescribed, as are their respective duties.

As part of the process, local governments are also required to send a copy of the proposed local law to the Ministers for Local Government and Emergency Services. The results of the community consultation and feedback from the Minister(s) are to be considered by Council before it makes the local law.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

As noted above, section 62 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 provides that a local government may make local laws using the process set out in section 3.12 of the Local Government Act 1995.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial or resource implications associated with the advertisement, processing of the local law, and its eventual Gazettal on final adoption.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Community	1.4 Emergency Management
Strategy 1.4.1	Building resilience and capacity to manage natural and man-made emergency events.
Title: Governance	4.5 Good Governance & Leadership
Strategy 4.5.2	Ensuring finance and governance policies, procedures and activities align with legislative requirements and best practice.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

There are no impacts to regional outcomes.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

Until any new agreements are in place the requirements of the current *City of Greater Geraldton Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2011* that relate to operational matters not dealt with when the new local law is made and promulgated should apply.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

The local law could simply be left 'as is' as it is used (in essence) as a procedure or process rather than a typical local law with associated penalties and other measures to ensure compliance. Future amendments do though require the local law itself to be changed, which is drawn-out. Matters where change may be needed in a more expeditious manner due to changing circumstances are better dealt with by agreement.

CCS570 APPOINTMENT OF COMPLAINTS OFFICER AND ADOPTION OF COMPLAINT FORM – MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-014159
AUTHOR:	M Adam, Coordinator Governance
EXECUTIVE:	P Radalj, Director Corporate and Commercial Services
DATE OF REPORT:	9 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	GO/7/0001
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x3)
	A. Complaints Form
	B. Model Code of Conduct Information sheet
	C. Model Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer as the Complaints Officer and to adopt the complaint form (Attachment No. CCS570A) in accordance with the *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021*.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 5.103 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. APPOINT the Chief Executive Officer as the Complaints Officer; and
2. AUTHORISE the adoption of the complaint form – Attachment No. CCS570A.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

On 3 February 2021, sections 48 to 51 of the *Local Government Legislation Amendment Act 2019* came into effect amending the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) to introduce model standards of conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates.

By 3 May 2021, Local Governments must prepare and adopt a code of conduct that incorporates the model code contained in the *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021*. Section 5.104(5) of the Act provides that the model code of conduct is taken to be the City's adopted code of conduct until the local government adopts a code of conduct.

Pursuant to clause 11 of the Model Code of Conduct a person may make a complaint alleging a breach of Division 3, Behaviour and:

- (2) *A complaint must be made -*
 (a) *in writing in the form approved by the local government;*
(3) *The local government must, in writing, authorise 1 or more persons to receive complaints and withdrawals of complaints.*

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (the Department) requires all local governments to appoint a Complaints Officer and approve a complaint form by 24 February 2021.

Complaints Officer

The CEO is currently the Complaints Officer appointed under the provisions of section 5.120(2) of the Act for the receipt of complaints of minor breaches under section 5.105, Division 4, *Rules of Conduct*, of the Model Code of Conduct.

Therefore, it is suggested for Council consideration that the Chief Executive Officer is appointed as the Complaints Officer for the purposes of Division 3, *Behaviour*.

Complaint Form

The Department has provided a template complaint form which may be used by local governments, Attachment No. CCS570A, and it is suggested that this template is used as the City's complaint form.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

The Model Code of Conduct was developed in response to a need for governance reforms to reflect community expectations of behaviour, and to support consistency between local governments.

The Model Code of Conduct provides for:

- overarching principles to guide behaviour;
- behaviours and complaints which are managed by local governments;
and
- rules of conduct, contraventions of which are considered by the independent Local Government Standards Panel (Standards Panel) where appropriate.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts.

Economy:

There are no adverse economic impacts.

Governance:

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries requires all local governments to appoint a Complaints Officer and adopt a complaint form under clause 11 of the *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021* by 24 February 2021.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

There are no relevant precedents.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

Council members were advised of the proposed mandatory Model Code of Conduct by Briefing Note on 1 November 2019.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Local Government Act 1995

Local Government Legislation Amendment Act 2019

Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial or resource implications.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Governance	4.5 Good Governance & Leadership
Strategy 4.5.2	Ensuring finance and governance policies, procedures and activities align with legislative requirements and best practice.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

There are no impacts to regional outcomes.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

Local Governments are required to adopt a code of conduct incorporating the model code of conduct within three months of 3 February 2021. The Department have advised that a Complaints Officer must be appointed and a complaint form endorsed by 24 February 2021. Adoption of the template complaint form and appointment of the Chief Executive Officer as the Complaints Officer presents a low risk for the City.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

As the requirement to appoint a Complaints Officer and approve a complaints form are mandatory there were no alternative options considered by City Officers.

CCS571 MID YEAR BUDGET REVIEW 2020-21

AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-011963
AUTHOR:	N Jane, Acting Chief Financial Officer
EXECUTIVE:	P Radalj, Director Corporate and Commercial Services
DATE OF REPORT:	3 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	FM/6/0034
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x1) Statement of Financial Activity 2020-21 Mid-Year Budget Review

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of proposed budget amendments following the 2020-21 Mid-Year Review.

When adopting the budget for 2020-21 Council implemented a number of actions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on our community, in order to provide assistance to the community whilst preserving the City's cash position. This included modified service levels to reduce operating expenditure and the provision of community support initiatives. It was also Council's intent to undertake periodical reviews to assess, and if necessary, adjust budget forecasts, initiatives and cash flow settings to manage changes that continue to evolve from the impacts of COVID-19.

In line with this intent, Council conducted a first assessment at the end of September 2020 and approved a series of budget amendments and changes to service delivery levels.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Absolute Majority pursuant to Section 6.8 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. APPROVE the proposed budget amendments, including revised transfers to/from Cash Reserves and AUTHORISE any unauthorised expenditure and revenue detailed in the attached Statement of Financial Activity (Attachment No. CCS571).

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

In response to COVID-19 impacts, the City was required to adopt a budget in 2020-21 that included relief to the community, whilst also taking measures to preserve the City's cash position. In order to reduce operating expenditure, Council modified service levels, and determined that periodical reviews to assess, and if necessary, adjust budget forecasts, initiatives and cash flow setting to manage changes that continue to evolve from the impacts of COVID-19.

In line with this intent, Council conducted a first assessment at the end of September 2020 and approved a series of budget amendments and changes to service delivery levels on 27 October 2020 – Item No. CCS543, Quarter One Budget & Service Level Assessment 2020-21. These included:

- Airport – efforts to build capacity back into the Perth-Geraldton regular passenger route;
- Meru – impacts of new contract;
- Aquarena – change to opening hours;
- Art Gallery/Visitor Centre – colocation and change to opening hours;
- Additional initiatives:
 - Reactivation of Rocks Laneway;
 - Chapman Road (CBD revitalisation) streetscaping;
 - Cathedral Avenue (CBD revitalisation) streetscaping; and
 - Art Gallery Park upgrade (including toilets) & Durlacher Street streetscaping.

The approach taken to this budget review has been similar to what occurs each year in the annual mid-year review. Some minor housekeeping is undertaken which overall is immaterial in nature. What is captured in this report are any significant movements.

Rates

The original budget was prepared on the basis of:

- A zero rates increase for all rating categories;
- The introduction of a discount on rates paid in full by the due date;
- Removal of instalment and payment plan interest and charges; and
- Changes to the application of interest on overdue rates.

For the first time a discount on rates was offered to encourage ratepayers to pay in full by the due date, given that interest charge disincentives had been removed. The response was very positive and saw higher than usual recovery to the end of August, however in the ensuing months recovery has slowed and is now on par with previous years. With property sales currently being strong, some long term debts have been cleared as part of the settlement process. The final (4th) instalment is due 3 March 2021, after which penalty interest will start to be applied. Final notices will be issued at the end of March 2021 to any ratepayers who have made no payments this financial year.

Fees and Charges

As part of the relief package to the community, no increases were applied to fees and charges, and the following additional changes were made:

- Free parking including at the Airport precinct;
- No charging of swimming pool inspection fees;
- No charging of Sporting Ground user fees;
- No charging for Environmental Health premises inspections and sampling;
- No charging annual Health license fees for food premises, lodging houses and caravan parks; and

- No charging of annual lease fees for Community Groups.

This review does not give consideration to any change or reintroduction of fees and charges previously adopted by Council for the 2020-21 financial year.

Airport fees and charges have recovered more quickly than expected and government building incentives have seen an increase in activity for building and town planning.

Service Delivery – Airport

Discussions with major stakeholders in an effort to rebuild capacity in the Perth-Geraldton route has seen an increase in flight numbers up to 11 services per week and a steady increase in passenger numbers from a low in May 2020 of 1,109 to 6,037 in December 2020. Costs associated with security screening are currently more than the associated fees and charges. Amendments are proposed to revenue and expenditure in this budget review.

Service Delivery – Meru

The adopted budget remained effectively unchanged from the previous financial year. Additional expenditure is proposed in order to crush the full 20,000 metres of construction and demolition waste (C&D) allowed under the licence. Revenue streams have seen an upward trend.

Service Delivery – Aquarena

As part of the Q1 assessment the following services were reintroduced:

- Outdoor pool reopened
- Reintroduction of pool programs to 60% of previous service levels
- Operating hours for the summer period:
 - Mon to Fri – 6am to 7pm (7.5 hours weekday reduction compared to previous summer period).
 - Weekend – 9am to 6pm (no change in hours compared to previous summer period).

No further changes to service levels are proposed at this time.

Service Delivery – QPT and Events

Extensions to state government restrictions has resulted in the extended closure of the auditorium for any shows and events. It is proposed that the QPT will reopen with the Midwest Economic Summit and Opera in the Park simulcast scheduled in February and Tourism Conference in May. Other ticketed events are planned in late May 2021. The current budget allows for the reopening of the QPT as planned.

The following events have not proceeded this year:

- Seniors Weeks.
- Outback Bloom.
- Morning Melodies.
- Christmas on the Terrace.

Other events have been delivered in a modified format:

- HMAS Sydney II Memorial Service.
- Australia Day.

Savings identified from events not delivered have been redirected to Sundays by the Sea and Films on the Foreshore.

Geraldton Regional Art Gallery/Visitor Centre

The Gallery reopened on 21 August 2020 in conjunction with the launch of the Visitor Centre colocation. Opening hours were changed to being closed on Monday, however the Library is now open all day Monday.

The new service delivery model for the Visitor Centre has seen the cessation of the retail side of operations, however still providing an accommodation booking service that has seen higher activity levels than expected.

Big Sky Readers and Writers Festival

This event was delivered on 1-4 October 2020. Additional revenue streams were achieved and are reflected in the proposed amendments.

Service Delivery – Works and Parks

In line with the direction given when adopting the budget, a focus has been directed to undertaking renewal works. This review has seen a further reallocation from operating to renewal work for footpaths, and is expected to continue in the new financial year.

Service Delivery – QEII

No changes are proposed at this time. Continue with current service delivery and staffing.

Proposed Amendments 2020-21 budget (Current budget to Q2 review)

Since the Q1 assessment, some items have been approved by Council which has further amended the budget. This report recognises those amendments as part of this review.

Operating Income:

Total operating income forecast for this financial year has increased by \$1,686,589. The more significant and material movements as per nature and type include:

Rates (net positive movement \$57,720)

- *Interim Rates and Back Rates – increase by \$60,000 based on actuals*

Operating Grants & Subsidies (net positive movement of \$108,189)

- *NRM funding application unsuccessful -\$25,000*
- *REDS funding for tourism conference +\$40,000*
- *National Australia Day Council grant +\$55,000*

Fees and Charges (net positive movement of \$1,339,837)

- *Airport Passenger Service Fees – RPT & Charter +\$310,000*
- *Airport Weight Landing Fees – RPT & Charter +\$335,000*
- *Airport GA Weight Landing Fees +\$60,000*
- *Airport Security Screening Fees and Charges +\$55,000*
- *Building Services +\$107,000*
- *Fines and Penalties – Fire Prevention +\$25,000*
- *GMC Fees and Charges +\$25,000*
- *Festival and Events -\$63,233*
- *Mullewa Caravan Park +\$35,000*
- *Rates Enquiries +\$40,000*
- *Visitor Centre – Accommodation and Tour Receipts +\$131,000*
- *Meru Waste Fees and Charges +\$251,000*

Interest Earnings (no change)Other Revenue (net positive movement of \$38,068)

- *Big Sky Writers – contributions received +\$12,000*

Operating Expenditure:

Total operating expenditure forecast for this financial year has increased by \$1,123,235. The significant and material movements include:

Employment Expenses (no change)Materials and Contractors (net negative movement of \$909,482)

- *Airport security screening – increased activity +\$105,000*
- *Asset Management Improvement Program including Land and Building Asset Revaluation +\$200,000*
- *Corporate Energy Plan +\$30,000*
- *Rio Tinto COVID-19 relief funding and My Geraldton app – expended +\$69,000*
- *Visitor guide and map (partially offset by \$41,000 income) +\$51,000*
- *Tourism conference (expenditure of REDS grant funding) +\$40,000*
- *Rocks Laneway activation further extension to program +\$40,000*
- *Fire prevention – clearing of infringed properties (offset by income) +\$20,000*
- *Expenditure of NDRP funds -\$38,000*
- *Allocation of design contract works to capital -\$55,000*
- *Australia Day (expenditure of grant funding) +\$21,000*
- *Mullewa Rodeo +\$30,000*
- *Expenditure of LGIS experience account contribution +\$127,000*
- *Expenditure of Big Sky Writers grant +\$14,000*
- *MWIRSA expenditure of funds held in trust +\$55,000*
- *Animal Control - Additional allocation for Corella control +\$20,000*
- *CCTV Maintenance – aging infrastructure requiring urgent maintenance work +\$30,000*

-
- *Transfer from Materials & Contractors to Other Expenditure for Festival and Event Program -\$100,000*
 - *Reduction in Sanitation costs for provision of residential bins -\$15,000*
 - *Visitor Centre – Accommodation and Tours (offset to income) +\$100,000*
 - *Crushing of C&D 20,000 cubic metres – additional funds required to crush full allowance +\$220,000*
 - *Design works for BBRF Meru application +\$25,000*
 - *Mullewa Landfill site +\$44,000*
 - *Works – reallocation from operating to renewal works in line with Councils original intent to focus on renewal works -\$175,000*

Utility Charges (no change)

Insurance (no change)

Interest Charges (net positive movement of \$100,000)

- *Removal of short term facility of \$10m with associated interest charges of \$100,000*

Other Expenditure (net negative movement of \$124,142)

- *Transfer from Materials & Contractors to Other Expenditure for Festival and Event Program +\$100,000*
- *Reallocation of overheads and plant costs from operating to capital - \$52,858*
- *Rates Written Off +\$12,000*

Depreciation (no change)

Loss on Disposal of Assets (net negative movement of \$189,611)

- *Recognition of prior year disposals +\$189,611*

The overall impact of the Operating Income and Expenditure changes is an improvement in the operating deficit position by \$563,354.

Capital Revenue:

The budget allocation associated with this revenue stream has decreased by \$7,442,888 based on the following significant and material movements:

Non-Operating Grants & Subsidies (net positive movement of \$2,298,112)

- *DFES funding for Cape Burney Fire Station Roof and water tanks at 4 sites +\$157,340*
- *WA Waste Authority funding for expansion of FOGO program +\$196,000*
- *LRCIP Phase 2 +\$1,888,638*
- *Additional MRWA funding for Durlacher/Maitland St roundabout +\$90,000*

Proceeds of Loans (net negative movement of \$10,000,000)

- *Removal of short term facility -\$10,000,000*

Proceeds from Disposal of Assets (net positive movement of \$259,000)

- *Cape Burney property sales – additional \$233,000*
- *Disposal of vehicles has achieved more than predicted – additional \$26,000*

Reserve Transfers (net negative movement of \$0.5m)

- *Transfer from Reserve*
 - *Remove \$1.5m transfer from Major Initiatives Reserve for CBD revitalisation.*
 - *Add \$2m transfer from funds held in the Unexpended Capital Works Reserve for Meru Transfer Station.*
- *Transfer to Reserve*
 - *Increase of \$1m transfer to Major Initiatives Reserve due to improved opening position, savings and improved forecast revenues.*

Capital Expenditure:

The overall decrease to capital expenditure of \$6,768,668 is impacted mainly by the following significant and material movements:

Purchase Land (net negative movement of \$64,500)

- *Additional costs incurred to finalise freeholding of Cape Burney properties and complete sales +\$53,500*
- *Final costs to complete Airport Technology Park lots ready for sale +\$11,000*

Purchase Buildings (net negative movement of \$198,540)

- *Completion of Art Gallery renovations -\$40,000*
- *Expenditure of DFES funding for Cape Burney fire station roof -\$92,000*
- *Expenditure of DFES funding for 4 x water tanks at fire stations - \$27,340*
- *HMAS Sydney Memorial toilets – removal of old ablutions and variations to new project costs -\$25,000*
- *Demolition of 7 Padbury Street, Mullewa -\$25,200*
- *CCTV cameras for Mullewa Swimming Pool moved from Buildings to Furniture & equipment +\$11,000*

Purchase Plant & Equipment (no change)Purchase Furniture & Equipment (net negative movement of \$11,000)

- *CCTV cameras for Mullewa Swimming Pool moved from Buildings to Furniture & equipment -\$11,000*

Roads (net negative movement of \$584,602)

- *Renewal -\$506,602*
 - *Allocation of LRCIP (Commonwealth funding) phase 1 and 2 to Cathedral Avenue and Foreshore Plaza CBD revitalisation works (rather than reserve funds) -\$388,638. Note: this could be subject to change depending on outcome of tender process.*
- *New -\$78,000*
 - *Expenditure of additional Main Roads funding for Durlacher/Maitland Roundabout*

Footpaths (net negative movement of \$360,300)

- *Renewal -347,300*
 - *Reallocation from operating to renewal works in line with Councils original intent to focus on renewal works -\$280,000*
 - *Anzac Terrace – concrete path and hardstand for bus shelters - \$66,000*
- *New -\$13,000*
 - *Hardman St additional amount required to complete project -\$50,000*
 - *Fourth Street savings on completed job +\$16,000*
 - *Strathalbyn savings on completed job +\$21,000*

Parks (net negative movement of \$50,326)

- *Mullewa Pioneer Cemetery works in readiness for 125 year celebrations -\$30,000*
- *Reallocation from other Heritage projects to above +\$22,500*
- *Foreshore Pontoon resurfacing -\$14,000*
- *Separation Point lookout savings on completed project +\$14,000*
- *Aquarena Outdoor Pool – design work (transfer from operations) - \$40,000*

Carparks (net positive movement of \$75,000)

- *Renewals +\$90,000*
 - *Savings on Tarcoola Tennis Club carpark project +\$90,000*
- *New -\$15,000*
 - *Design work for Geraldton Basketball Association carpark -\$15,000*

Meru Landfill (net negative movement of \$2,031,000)

- *Meru Transfer Station (funded from reserve) -\$2,000,000*
- *Roadworks – additional access road for processing shed -\$31,000*

Drainage – Renewal (net negative movement of \$5,862)

- *Wittenoom Street – minor works -\$5,862*

Airport (no change)Sewerage (no change)Intangible Assets (no change)

Repayment of Debentures (positive movement of \$10m)

- *Removal of short term credit facility*

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:**Community:**

Various initiatives were included in the budget and provided support to the community during the COVID-19 crisis. These initiatives have been further expanded through additional expenditure.

Environment:

Opportunities to support environmental initiatives and activities are actively sought. This item consolidates previous decisions with the inclusion of successful funding for the expansion of the FOGO program and reserve transfers to enable the commencement of a Regional Resource Recovery facility (Transfer Station) project.

Economy:

Initiatives to support the local economy include expanded renewal works that will support local businesses and provide employment opportunities.

Governance:

Undertaking an assessment and review of the budget and service levels allows Council to continue monitoring and measuring the impacts of COVID-19 and make adjustments in response.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

Each year Council undertakes a mid-year budget review in line with the requirements of legislation. This year Council determined that quarterly budget assessments would be undertaken in order to manage and respond to COVID-19 impacts.

- The Q1 budget assessment was considered at the 27 October 2020 Ordinary Meeting of Council – CCS543, Quarter One Budget & Service Level Assessment 2020-21.
- The mid-year budget review last year was considered at the 25 February 2020 Ordinary Meeting of Council – CCS472, Mid Year Budget Review 2019-20.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

Councillors were provided a Briefing Note outlining the review of actions, initiatives, service levels and budget movements and impacts at Concept Forum held on 2 February 2021.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Section 6.8 of the *Local Government Act 1995* requires any expenditure not included in the annual budget to be authorised by Absolute Majority.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, regulation 33A requires that Council between 1 January and 31 March in each financial year, carry out a review of its annual budget for that year.

33A. Review of budget

- (1) *Between 1 January and 31 March in each financial year a local government is to carry out a review of its annual budget for that year.*
- (2A) *The review of an annual budget for a financial year must —*
- (a) *consider the local government's financial performance in the period beginning on 1 July and ending no earlier than 31 December in that financial year; and*
 - (b) *consider the local government's financial position as at the date of the review; and*
 - (c) *review the outcomes for the end of that financial year that are forecast in the budget.*
- (2) *Within 30 days after a review of the annual budget of a local government is carried out it is to be submitted to the council.*
- (3) *A council is to consider a review submitted to it and is to determine* whether or not to adopt the review, any parts of the review or any recommendations made in the review.*
- *Absolute majority required.*
- (4) *Within 30 days after a council has made a determination, a copy of the review and determination is to be provided to the Department.*

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

As shown in the Statement of Financial Activity (Attachment No. CCS571), there has been a decrease in the operating deficit from \$6,141,267 to \$5,577,913 in this review. The most significant proposed adjustments are outlined above.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Governance	4.4 Financial Sustainability and Performance
Strategy 4.4.1	Preparing and implementing short to long term financial plans.
Title: Governance	4.5 Good Governance & Leadership
Strategy 4.5.2	Ensuring finance and governance policies, procedures and activities align with legislative requirements and best practice.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

Delivery of programs and projects continue to deliver benefits for the region through capital expenditure, business support, employment opportunities and encouraging tourism.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

Undertaking this budget review meets the regulatory requirement to do so and thereby mitigates the risk of non-compliance. In addition, regular assessment of the budget and service levels assists with mitigating the risks associated with the financial impacts of COVID-19 on the Council budget, whilst also addressing impacts on the community. This review enables Council opportunity to formulate actions in response to identified impacts, thereby reducing the risk of an increase in the forecast deficit position.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

Alternative options for adjustments to budget forecasts were considered by Directors and Managers across all areas of the operations and wherever possible have offset expenditure increases with reductions or additional revenue.

Alternative Option One:

1. APPROVE the proposed budget amendments and AUTHORISE any unauthorised expenditure and revenue detailed in the attached Statement of Financial Activity but with the following changes:
 - a. To be determined by Council; and
2. MAKE the determination based on the following reason/s:
 - a. To be determined by Council.

CCS572 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY TO 31 JANUARY 2021

AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-013369
AUTHOR:	N Jane, Acting Chief Financial Officer
EXECUTIVE:	P Radalj, Director Corporate and Commercial Services
DATE OF REPORT:	5 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	FM/17/0004
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x1) Monthly Management Report for period ended 31 January 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a comprehensive report on the City's finances to 31 January 2021.

The statements in this report include no matters of variance considered to be of concern for the current budgeted end of year position. Presented to this meeting is a separate item for consideration of the Mid-Year Budget Review which outlines proposed budget amendments – Item No. CCS571.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Regulation 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 RESOLVES to:

1. RECEIVE the monthly financial statement of activity for the period dated 31 January 2021, as attached.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

The financial position at the end of January 2021 is detailed in the attached report and summarised as follows. The variances are between Year-To-Date (YTD) budgeted forecasts and actuals (including commitments).

Operating Income	\$ 1,046,852	1.7%	over YTD Budget	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Operating Expenditure	\$ 592,725	1.3%	under YTD Budget	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Net Operating	\$ 1,639,577	10.9%	over YTD Surplus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Capital Expenditure	\$ 127,116	0.8%	under YTD Budget	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Capital Revenue	\$ 94,342	2.9%	over YTD Budget	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cash at Bank – Municipal	\$		32,954,397	
Cash at Bank – Reserve	\$		23,008,955	
Total Funds Invested	\$		51,393,148	

Current Rates Collected	87.69%
Current Rates Collected to December 2019	86.00%
Rates Arrears Collected	38.83%
Rates Arrears Collected to December 2019	38.84%

The attached report provides explanatory notes for items greater than 10% or \$50,000. This commentary provides Council with an overall understanding of how the finances are progressing in relation to the budget. The financial position presented in the January financials show a YTD positive variance of \$1,639,577.85 in the net operating surplus (deficit) result (this takes into account commitments).

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

There are no adverse community impacts.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts.

Economy:

There are no adverse economic impacts.

Governance:

The Financial Management Regulations require presentation each month of a Statement of Financial Activity accompanied by other supporting information that is considered relevant. In addition to the compliance requirements, the purpose of regularly reporting on the financial activities of the City is to enable Elected Members to monitor and review the allocation of financial and other resources against the budget. Reporting on a regular basis evidences ongoing financial management and the performance of the accounting systems. The monthly report provides a summary of the organisation's liquidity and going concern status.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

Council is provided with financial reports each month.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

There has been no community/councillor consultation.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Section 6.4 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 require the local government to prepare a statement of financial activity each month, reporting on the source and application of funds as set out in the adopted annual budget.

A statement of financial activity and any accompanying documents are to be presented at an Ordinary Meeting of the Council within two months after the end of the month to which the statement relates.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

As disclosed in the attached report.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Governance	4.4 Financial Sustainability and Performance
Strategy 4.4.1	Preparing and implementing short to long term financial plans.
Strategy 4.4.3	Delivering and ensuring business systems and services support cost effective Council operations and service delivery.
Title: Governance	4.5 Good Governance & Leadership
Strategy 4.5.2	Ensuring finance and governance policies, procedures and activities align with legislative requirements and best practice.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

There are no impacts to regional outcomes.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

Provision of monthly financial reports to Council fulfils relevant statutory requirements and is consistent with good financial governance.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

There are no alternative options to consider.

12.3 REPORTS OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

IS227	SELF-SUPPORTING LOAN APPLICATION – GERALDTON AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (GABA)
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-006109
AUTHOR:	D Emery, Manager Sport and Leisure
EXECUTIVE:	C Lee, Director Infrastructure Services
DATE OF REPORT:	03 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	RC/12/0006-004
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x6) Confidential
	A. Confidential – Self Supporting Loan Application
	B. Confidential – Business Case
	C. Confidential – Facility Management Plan
	D. Confidential – Balance Sheet
	E. Confidential – Profit and Loss
	F. Confidential – 10 year Long Term Tenure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek a Council determination on an application from the Geraldton Amateur Basketball Association (GABA) for a Self-Supporting Loan (SSL) of \$550,000 to be paid over ten years.

The GABA propose to construct a four-court basketball stadium extension including a kiosk upgrade, additional storage and increased ventilation. This extension is to be located adjacent to the established 'Activewest Stadium' and within the perimeter of the current GABA land lease.

The total project cost is estimated at \$2.6 to \$3 million and proposed to be funded by \$2 million from the State Government if re-elected, a SSL from the City of up to \$550,000 and \$350,000 - \$550,000 as a cash contribution from the GABA dependant on final costs.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Absolute Majority pursuant to Section 6.8(1) and Section 6.20(1)-(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995* RESOLVES to:

1. APPROVE a Self-Supporting Loan of up to \$550,000 to the Geraldton Amateur Basketball Association subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Receipt of State Government funding;
 - b. Self supporting loan be repaid over ten years; and
2. DIRECT the CEO to include the provision of this Self-Supporting Loan in the 2021-22 budget.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is Geraldton Amateur Basketball Association.

BACKGROUND:

The GABA's current stadium is located on Eighth Street, Wonthella with the current land being leased from the City until 2035. The stadium is owned by the GABA who self-funded the construction of the facility in 1974.

The GABA recently applied via the 'Community Sporting Recreation Facilities Fund' (CSRFF) to construct a four court basketball stadium extension to its existing stadium. (Item No. IS218 CSRFF Forward Planning Grant - Geraldton Amateur Basketball Association). However, the result of their application was unsuccessful due to the high volume of quality applications subscribing to the fund.

Subsequent to the unsuccessful CSRFF application, GABA delegates began conversation with Local and State members who formed a petition for the local community. This action ultimately generated interest from the State Government who confirmed an election commitment of \$2 million towards the basketball stadium project in January 2021.

In addition, the GABA have requested the City review current car parking facilities and capacity within the Eighth Street sporting precinct. A proposal was placed forward by GABA delegates to transform the land adjacent to 'Activewest Stadium' into a car parking facility.

City Officers have since conducted multiple site visits and developed a community needs survey. Over 300 responses were received with 90% indicating that additional parking is required for the area.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:**Community:**

Additional basketball courts will assist the GABA to increase participation levels and expand on current programs. Provisions have been made to accommodate additional sporting codes on the new surfaces.

The project may support COVID-19 recovery plans through employment opportunities for local contractors and increased sporting participation.

Community confidence is also likely to increase with the visible injection of funding into an infrastructure project, signalling a willingness to invest in Geraldton and its people.

Environment:

Constructing additional indoor courts will provide increased opportunities to play and train year round in fit for purpose facilities.

The proposed basketball stadium extensions are within the perimeter of the GABA current leased land.

Economy:

Increased infrastructure can provide opportunity for the GABA to host significant state and national events. These events increase the economic sporting tourism and financial benefits to the City, as well as the association income.

Construction of this project is likely to inject approx. \$2.6 to \$3 million into the local Geraldton economy.

Governance:

A self-supporting loan is a debt facility where Council takes out a loan with WA Treasury Corporation on behalf of the approved applicant. Council then establishes an individual agreement with the approved applicant to service these borrowings, based on the term and payment schedule of the loan. Effectively, Council acts as a guarantor for the loan with the applicant responsible to service and pay the scheduled payments as per the terms of the loan.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

Council has previously supported community and sporting organisations through the provision of a SSL facility.

Currently there are three active self-supporting loans:

Wonthella Bowling Club

Item No. CCS551 Approved – 24 November 2020 – \$200,000 over 5 years, final payment due January 2026.

Geraldton Yacht Club

Item No. CCS296 Approved – 28 November 2017 - \$250,000 over 10 years, final payment due May 2028.

Geraldton Hockey Association

Item No. CCS021 Approved – 14 September 2011 – \$250,000 over 10 years, final payment due November 2021.

In 1998 the GABA sought assistance from Council in the form of a SSL to the amount of \$115,300. The ten year term was serviced and paid off in 2008.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

An online petition to support the construction of the GABA's basketball project was launched by local State member candidate - Lara Dalton. The petition ultimately resulted in the association receiving confirmation of \$2 million State Government commitment if re-elected.

The GABA's delegates have met with City Officers on a number of occasions to discuss the project, financial capacity and associated infrastructure required to facilitate the stadium extension i.e. land surveying, additional car parking etc.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Council Policy 1.8 – Community Funding Programs provides the following guidance:

Council will consider providing self-supporting loans to incorporated clubs or organisations based in the City who undertake to meet the capital, interest and loan guarantee payments, for the purpose of capital improvements to land or buildings.

The term will be limited to a maximum of 10 years, and organisations may have only one active self-supporting loan at any given time.

The application will be required to demonstrate capacity to fund the replacement or renewal of the improvements through a reserve or sinking fund, whilst servicing the loan. Approval will only be considered where this can be adequately demonstrated through a forward financial plan.

Applications will be assessed by the City administration, with recommendations presented to Council for their endorsement.

The association's application meets the requirements of the current policy.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The City's finance team has reviewed the financial statements provided by the association and confirmed it is in a stable financial position and will be able to proceed with the project as long as funding from the state and SSL are secured.

The total project is estimated at \$2.6 to \$3 million, with GABA seeking up to \$550,000 in the form of a SSL from the City to supplement their cash contribution. The loan would be provided in the 2021-22 financial year.

City Officers have also submitted a capital nomination for the additional carpark project within the 2021-22 FY capital works program for approximately \$300,000 pending Council approval. The City will be required to remove four mature Tuart trees on the roadway adjacent to the proposed new stadium to allow construction access and to allow pedestrian access to the new stadium when it is completed. The estimated cost for the tree removal is \$15,000.

As per the City's Council Policy 1.8 Community Funding Program specifically:

- Self-Supporting Loans are for community and sporting groups for the purposes of capital asset acquisition or development.

The GABA has no current self-supporting loans outstanding with the City. Council previously supported the association via a self-supporting loan of \$115,300 in 1998 which was satisfactorily serviced and paid off in 2008.

As part of the SSL application, GABA have provided their ten year projection figures (Attachment No. IS227F), Officers have analysed the detail and based on the forecast assumptions and cash flows, there is no evidence to suggest that the association would not have the capacity to service and repay the loan from its operations.

The current level of exposure (principal outstanding) as at 1 January 2021 the Council has on all SSL amounts to:

- Wonthella Bowling Club - \$200,000
- Geraldton Hockey Association - \$30,675
- Geraldton Yacht Club - \$194,645

As per the City's 2019-20 audited financial statements the Debt Service Ratio result of 3.79:1 was well within the target of >2.00:1. The City's total borrowings as at 30 June 2020 is \$33,079,049, an additional \$550,000 will have an immaterial impact on the Debt Service Ratio or debt capacity going forward.

In summary of the above, provided the applicant receives the election commitment funding, the City would be providing up to \$550,000 in the form of a self-supporting loan which has no net cost to the City in 2021-22.

The below table represents the most recent financial support from the City. The minimal support provided indicates the GABA are a self-sufficient association as they have required little funding from the City to successfully operate:

2019-20 Mayoral Support Program (19-20 MSP027)	Basketball Court feasibility and needs assessment	\$5,000
2017-20	Buccs Bus Sponsorship	\$4,000
2015-16	Buccs Bus Sponsorship	\$1,000

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Community	1.2 Recreation and Sport
Strategy 1.2.1	Supporting the strong sporting culture that has shaped the City of Greater Geraldton's identity and lifestyle.
Title: Environment	2.3 Built Environment
Strategy 2.3.1	Promoting a built environment that is well planned and meets the current and future needs of the community.
Strategy 2.3.2	Providing accessible community spaces, parks, natural areas, sport and recreational facilities that equitably service the whole community.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

Construction of four new basketball courts will improve current playing and training capacities thus providing the ability for GABA to meet current community demands and provide more opportunities for their members.

Having additional courts will also allow the Association to host state and national level events, these events can bring many visitors to the region. This project is likely to inject approximately \$2.6 to \$3 million into the local Geraldton economy.

RISK MANAGEMENT

City Officers have undertaken a thorough review of past, current and future projections on the revenue and expenditure trends of the GABA, including cash flow projects and current balance sheet position, to determine the financial capacity of the applicant to service this commitment.

Clauses and/or conditions contained within the SSL Agreement between the City and approved applicant will provide default powers.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

- **REDUCE** the self-supporting loan value to lower the financial risk exposure to City borrowings. Officers do not support this option as the application indicates the loan would have an immaterial impact on the City's Debt Service Ratio or debt capacity going forward. It would also impact the association's ability to carry out the construction of the project or at the least significantly impart the deliverable outcomes.
- **DECLINE APPLICATION** - this option is likely to result in ongoing and increasing demand for indoor court space in Geraldton that cannot be met. This option is not seen to increase participation in basketball or any other sport or recreational activity requiring indoor court usage in the Mid-West region and Geraldton. Without the City's support for the project, could also impact on the outcome of funding support committed by the State Government. This option is not preferred.

IS228	GERALDTON HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (INC) REQUEST FOR SELF SUPPORTING LOAN
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-007296
AUTHOR:	D Emery, Manager Sport and Leisure
EXECUTIVE:	C Lee, Director Infrastructure Service
DATE OF REPORT:	8 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	RC/12/0006-004
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x6) Confidential
	A. Confidential – Self Supporting Loan Application
	B. Confidential – Strategic Plan 2020-22
	C. Confidential – Financial Statements (December 2020)
	D. Confidential – Briefing Paper & Management Plan
	E. Confidential – 10 year LTFP - Submitted by Geraldton Hockey Association
	F. Confidential – 10 year LTFP - Executive Recommendation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek a Council resolution on Geraldton Hockey Association's (GHA) request for a cash contribution (\$160,000) plus a Self-Supporting Loan (\$300,000) for the following items:

- Renew the synthetic surface on Turf 1.
- Recommission Turf 2.
- Renewal of associated infrastructure surrounding Turf 2 inclusive of perimeter fencing, grand stand and retaining wall works.

The GHA estimates the total cost of the project to be \$840,000 with their proposed and preferred funding model being as follows:

- \$220,000 cash contribution from the State Government.
- \$300,000 Council self-supporting loan.
- \$160,000 cash contribution from the City.
- \$160,000 cash contribution from GHA.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Absolute Majority pursuant to Section 6.8(1) and Section 6.20(1)-(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995* RESOLVES to:

1. SUPPORT the provision of a Self-Supporting Loan (SSL) up to \$600,000 over 10 years subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Undertake the project as outlined in the SSL application, being renewal of Turf 1 and recommissioning of Turf 2, and associated infrastructure;
 - b. Current Lease for premises at 286 Eighth Street to be successfully registered with Landgate;
 - c. Payment of all outstanding amounts for existing self-support loan;

- d. Provision of audited financial statements to 31 December 2020;
 - e. Confirmation and receipt of State Government funding of \$220,000 is approved for the project;
 - f. Any additional costs associated with the project are the responsibility of the club;
 - g. The club makes an undertaking to implement a sinking fund in line with the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) so that future renewal projects will not require City of Greater Geraldton (the City) support;
 - h. Any significant changes to the scope of the project are to be approved by the City;
 - i. Audited financial statements for each year during the term of the loan are provided to the City evidencing the sinking fund value;
2. DECLINE the request for \$160,000 Cash contribution; and
 3. DIRECT the CEO to include provision of this Self-Supporting Loan in the 2021-22 budget.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is Geraldton Hockey Association (Inc.).

BACKGROUND:

The Geraldton Hockey Association (GHA) applied via the 2020 Community Sporting Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) to undertake the following works:

- Recommission Turf 2.
- Renew associated infrastructure surrounding turf 2 inclusive of perimeter fencing, grand stand and retaining wall works.

Reference is made to Item No. IS219 CSRFF Forward Planning Grant – Geraldton Hockey Association. The Council supported this GHA application. However, the State Government did not and so the grant application was ultimately unsuccessful. In a visit to Geraldton, Minister Mick Murray advised local sporting groups that renewal projects were not a high priority for the CSRFF program and he expected sporting organisations to create sinking funds to maintain their assets into the future.

GHA delegates met with State Government members to discuss alternative funding solutions. The GHA have advised the City that the State Government will provide \$220,000 as an election commitment for the project. At the time of writing this report, written evidence of this commitment and any associated conditions has not been provided. However verbal communications between Officers and the State Government have indicated that an announcement is forthcoming.

The City have previously provided the GHA with considerable financial assistance including \$575,000 in cash and a further \$1,085,000 in loans as illustrated in the following table:

Year	Project	Estimated Project Value	CSRFF Contribution	City Contribution	Self-Supporting Loan Value	Outcome
1987	Establishment of Turf 1	\$320,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$110,000	Paid in Full
1998	Establishment of Turf 2	\$750,000	Nil	Nil	\$475,000	Paid in Full
2009	Turf 1 Maintenance & renewal	\$765,000	\$270,000	\$245,000	\$250,000	Paid in Full (September 2019)
2011	Establishment of Club Rooms	\$799,000	\$230,000	\$230,000	\$250,000	\$31,786.64 Outstanding (Due by 11/2021)
Total			\$600,000	\$575,000	\$1,085,000	

Specific details of the GHA application are provided in the attachment to this report.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

There is no doubt that Geraldton is a sports oriented community. Sporting Groups contribute significantly to the social fabric of the Midwest. They are generally run by volunteers and provide an opportunity to local people to participate in a variety of sporting activities.

Geraldton Hockey Association (GHA) is aligned with HockeyWA (HWA) and Hockey Australia (HA). GHA is ranked as the top performing association for regional WA by Hockey WA for on-field performance. GHA also has the current winner of the HockeyWA Ambassador for Regional Hockey (2019) for off field efforts.

Prior to COVID-19 the GHA had 927 members playing within the 2019-20 season, with a total of 7 clubs participating in a variety of competitions that included junior and senior ages groups. It is projected that with the installation of two turfs will enable the GHA to offer the community further opportunities to play hockey.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts.

Economy:

The resurfacing components will need to be completed by specialised contractors. Where possible local contractors will be utilised for the other aspects of the project.

Governance:

The Geraldton Iluka Hockey stadium is located at 286 Eighth Street, Wonthella. This is Crown Land vested to the City by management order for the purpose of recreation. In turn, the GHA historically has had a lease from the City to use the land. The GHA lease expired on 29 November 2020.

Council approved renewing the GHA lease at its September 2020 Ordinary meeting (Item No. DCS471 Lease Portion Reserve 21146 – The Geraldton Hockey Association Incorporated). Information required from GHA to finalise the renewed lease is yet to be received. A condition of any City funding will need to include finalisation of the lease.

A self-supporting loan is a debt facility where Council takes out a loan with WA Treasury Corporation on behalf of the approved applicant. Council then establishes an individual agreement with the approved applicant to service these borrowings, based on the term and payment schedule of the loan. Effectively, Council acts as a guarantor for the loan with the applicant responsible to service and pay the scheduled payments as per the terms of the loan.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

Council has previously supported community and sporting organisations through the provision of a SSL facility. GHA currently have one active SSL with the City. The balance (principal and interest) of that loan is \$31,786.64 plus the applicable government guarantee fee. This loan falls due on 28 November 2021. The four (4) SSL provided to GHA from the City does demonstrate their capacity to pay off their loans, but not their capacity to establish a sinking fund capable of sustaining their infrastructure without further support.

Following are the details of the City's current self-supporting loans:

Wonthella Bowling Club

Item No. CCS551 Approved – 24 November 2020 – \$200,000 over 5 years, final payment due January 2026.

Geraldton Yacht Club

Item No. CCS296 Approved – 28 November 2017 - \$250,000 over 10 years, final payment due May 2028.

Geraldton Hockey Association

Item No. CS021 Approved – 14 September 2011 – \$250,000 over 10 years, final payment due November 2021.

An application has also been received from Geraldton Basketball Association for a self-supporting loan of \$550,000. This request is contained within this current Council Agenda.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

To facilitate the preparation of this report, Officers have exchanged correspondence and held meetings with GHA representatives. GHA have also petitioned the State Government to secure funds for the project. The Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries (DGLSC) officers are aware of the project.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The City's Community Funding Policy does not provide for a cash contribution of \$160,000. The current policy only makes provision of grants up to \$20,000 under the Community Grant Program. The only provision within the policy that would enable a higher cash contribution would be as part of an approved CSRFF project.

The provision of a SSL does fall within the provisions of the Community Funding Policy and guidelines, provided that the current loan is paid out prior to the provision of a new loan.

Council Policy 1.8 – Community Funding Programs provides the following guidelines (extract 5 and 6):

5. Self-Supporting Loan

Council will consider providing self-supporting loans to incorporated clubs or organisations based in the City who undertake to meet the capital, interest and loan guarantee payments, for the purpose of capital improvements to land or buildings.

The term will be limited to a maximum of 10 years, and organisations may have only one active self-supporting loan at any given time.

The application will be required to demonstrate capacity to fund the replacement or renewal of the improvements through a reserve or sinking fund, whilst servicing the loan. Approval will only be considered where this can be adequately demonstrated through a forward financial plan.

Applications will be assessed by the City administration, with recommendations presented to Council for their endorsement.

6. CSRFF

CSRFF Funding: The City will accept applications as part of the CSRFF program and process applications in line with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries guidelines. Each eligible application will be assessed by the City administration. Recommendations and priority listings will be presented to Council for consideration.

Council could argue that the GHA situation is unique and equivalent to a CSRFF scenario as they have received a commitment from the State Government for funding that may be lost if the City does not provide assistance.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

GHA has provided the City with four estimates for the work (two from Polytan, one from Tiger Turf and one from Synergy Turf). The lowest quote was \$775,967. No quotations have been provided for the additional infrastructure works proposed, with the GHA estimate being \$60,000. The funding breakdown proposed by GHA is as follows:

- \$220,000 cash contribution from the State Government;
- \$300,000 Council self-supporting loan;
- \$160,000 cash contribution from the City; and
- \$160,000 cash contribution from GHA.

A cash contribution of \$160,000 by GHA, given the requirement to pay out the existing self-supporting loan, would leave the club with limited cash which would put them in a poor liquidity position.

As outlined above, Council Policy (CP1.8) does not support the provision of a cash contribution of an amount over \$20,000. In addition, the City in 2021-22 is already faced with a \$750,000 increase to existing operational costs due to regulatory and mandatory requirements related to property and infrastructure revaluations and election costs. If you add the requested cash contribution to this known cost increase, it would equate to a 2% increase in rates revenue to meet these new operational commitments. In addition, the financial impacts of COVID-19 have resulted in the City being in a significant deficit operating position and disciplined planning in the short to medium term will be required to bring the City back to a financially sustainable position.

As part of the SSL application, GHA have provided their ten year LTFP. Officers have held discussions with representatives of the club and carefully analysed the LTFP provided. It is the opinion of Officers that it would be better for the club to preserve some of the current cash held rather than investing it all into the proposed project. By providing a loan of \$600,000 the club would be enabled to reduce their contribution, facilitating capacity to undertake other renewals as required and commence implementation of a sinking fund.

In 2012, Turf 2 was decommissioned by the GHA due to significant safety issues. The sinking fund identified in the 2011 CSRFF application had not been correctly established and the GHA were left with no choice but to decommission the field.

In 2013 and 2014 the GHA applied for CSRFF funding for the resurfacing of Turf 2. The applications were endorsed by Council with Council noting in the Meeting Minutes "the club is reminded of its requirements to have a sinking fund to replace the turf when required."

GHA have a current Self-Supporting Loan outstanding with the City. In line with Council Policy CP1.8, only one current loan can be provided to a club, therefore GHA would need to pay out the outstanding balance (31,786.64 plus applicable government guarantee fee) on the loan, prior to the provision of another one.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Community	1.2 Recreation and Sport
Strategy 1.2.1	Supporting the strong sporting culture that has shaped the City of Greater Geraldton's identity and lifestyle.
Title: Environment	2.3 Built Environment
Strategy 2.3.1	Promoting a built environment that is well planned and meets the current and future needs of the community.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

The GHA provide the only synthetic hockey surface in the Mid-West region. The nearest synthetic hockey turf stadium is within the Perth metropolitan area.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

Officers have a requirement to assess SSL applications to enable them to provide advice to Council on the applicant's capacity to repay the loan. This assessment includes reviewing the applicant's current financial position and the current condition of their other infrastructure. In this case, Officers identified a potential renewal issue with the club's lighting infrastructure.

The Geraldton Iluka Hockey Stadium lighting Infrastructure was included in the Sports Lighting Audit undertaken by the City in 2017 and 2020. The report findings indicate the current lighting fails to meet AS 2560.2.7 (all levels of play) due to the pole heights and locations. The lighting consultant commented that the maintenance cost on the lighting infrastructure on Turf 2 will exceed replacement costs. Based on recent City projects, the estimated cost to renew this lighting infrastructure would be approximately \$300,000 per turf. GHA board members advised that maintenance works were undertaken on the lighting infrastructure on both turfs in 2020. The GHA indicated that they are confident the infrastructure will not require the above level of renewal or maintenance. As such, no costs associated with this work were included in the GHA LTFP.

There is a risk that by undertaking the renewal works on both turfs simultaneously, GHA will not be able to sustain a significant sinking fund and will again require funding assistance in eight to ten years to renew their turfs. Officers discussed with GHA the option of only undertaking the renewal/recommissioning of one of the turfs at this time rather than both. This option was not accepted.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

The following options were considered by City Officers:

- NOT SUPPORT funding of the project in any form.
- Support the full project scope and approve the requested cash contribution (\$160,000) and Self-Supporting Loan (\$300,000).

- Support a reduced project scope approving the self-supporting loan (\$300,000) but not the request for a cash contribution (\$160,000).
- Support a reduced project scope not approving the self-supporting loan but approving the request for a cash contribution (\$160,000).
- Support a different level of cash and self supporting loan options.

IS229	LIST OF SIGNATURES – FENCING & SHADE REQUEST FOR THE FORESHORE WATERPARK AND PLAYGROUND
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-011431
AUTHOR:	D Emery, Manager Sport and Leisure
EXECUTIVE:	C Lee, Director Infrastructure Services
DATE OF REPORT:	2 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	GO/15/0013
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x1) List of Signatures

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to advise Council a list of signatures was sent to the City of Greater Geraldton on 30 January 2021, requesting fencing around the foreshore waterpark, adjacent to playground equipment, and provide shade over the waterpark pad.

The purpose of the submission is to make these amenities more child friendly and improve the safety for small children due to the proximity of roadways and cycle/footpaths.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 5.20 of the *Local Government Act 1995* RESOLVES to:

1. RECEIVE the list of signatures requesting fencing and shade upgrades to the foreshore waterpark and playground;
2. NOTE that Councillors have reviewed the list of signatures and concerns raised within Attachment No. IS229A; and
3. DIRECT the Chief Executive Officer to complete a capital nomination for the project to be considered in the draft 2021-22 capital works program.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is Christi Jerovich as the promoter of the list of signatures.

BACKGROUND:

On 30 January 2021, a list of signatures was submitted to the City requesting additional fencing and shade sails at the foreshore waterpark and adjacent playground.

The submission was promoted through 'change.org' Australian petitions that requests a need for two capital infrastructure improvements:

1. Shade over the foreshore waterpark 'pad'; and
2. Fencing around the waterpark and adjacent playground equipment.

The intention from the proponent is to make the area more child friendly and improve safety related to small children having close proximity access to roadways and/or cycle paths.

There are 713 names provided on the list of signatures, with the majority indicated that they reside within the Geraldton region.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

There are no adverse community impacts to receiving the list of signatures. The request may enhance the utilisation of the foreshore waterpark and adjacent playground equipment.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts to receiving the list of signatures.

Additional shade is likely to provide increased protection from ultraviolet radiation.

Economy:

There are no adverse economic impacts to receiving the list of signatures.

Governance:

There are no adverse governance impacts to receiving the list of signatures.

The requests for shade and fencing are both capital infrastructure and could be considered within the City's capital works nomination process.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

Fencing around the Foreshore Waterpark was previously extended in May 2017 following a Facebook campaign on the 'Help a Sister Out' Facebook page that gathered more than 700 supporters.

Council has previously received lists of signatures on:

- 15 December 2020 – Item No. IS225. List of Signatures – Barrett Drive and Brand Highway intersection; and
- 26 June 2018 – Item No. CCS338. List of Signatures – Rates Freeze.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

The petition indicates the view of community, by presenting Council with a list of 713 signatures that support the project.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The City of Greater Geraldton Governance team reviewed the list of signatures and advised that the list does not comply with the City of Greater Geraldton petition requirements as per Meeting Procedure Local Law 2011 s5.10 – Petitions.

The Law requires:**5.10 Petitions****(1) A petition is to—**

- (a) be addressed to the Mayor or CEO;*
- (b) be made by at least 50 electors of the district;*
- (c) state the request on each page of the petition;*
- (d) contain the name, address and signature of each elector making the request, and the date each elector signed;*
- (e) contain a summary of the reasons for the request; and*
- (f) state the name of the person to whom, and an address at which, notice to the petitioners can be given.*

The list of signatures received does not comply with these requirements because it does not meet criteria (c), (d) or (f).

Consideration was given to requesting the contact person to ask residents to re-sign a compliant document, however, the Executive determined to present the document to Council as a list of signatures.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no Financial or resource implications associated with receiving the list of signatures. A detailed design and cost estimate is yet to be completed for the requested works. However, based upon a similar size installation of fencing and shade at the Midalia Beach playground, costs could be in the order of \$100,000.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Community	1.2 Recreation and Sport
Strategy 1.2.2	Encouraging informal recreation through well planned and developed public open space, cycle/walk paths and green streetscapes.
Title: Community	1.3 Community Health and Safety
Strategy 1.3.1	Encouraging the improvement of health services and facilities for the community.
Title: Environment	2.3 Built Environment
Strategy 2.3.1	Promoting a built environment that is well planned and meets the current and future needs of the community.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

There are no impacts to regional outcomes to receiving the list of signatures.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

City Officers recognise enclosing the waterpark and adjacent playground with a fence is likely to improve risks associated to small children gaining access to the adjacent roadway, however direct parental supervision of small children is essential.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

There were no alternative options considered by City Officers.

12.4 REPORTS OF OFFICE THE CEO**CEO070 SHORE LEAVE SUPPORT REQUEST**

AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-006196
AUTHOR:	R McKim, Chief Executive Officer
EXECUTIVE:	R McKim, Chief Executive Officer
DATE OF REPORT:	21 January 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	GO/6/0012-007
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x6) 2x Confidential
	A. State Government Announcement
	B. Confidential - Tourism Geraldton Midwest letter
	C. Confidential - Event Concept Outline
	D. CGG letter of Support
	E. Queens Park Garden of Light Installation Pitch
	F. Community Grants Committee Meeting Minutes – 10 February 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to join the State Government, the Geraldton Fisherman's Co-operative and Mid West Ports in providing financial support for a new Event for Geraldton and the Mid West to be known as 'Shore Leave'.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Absolute Majority pursuant to Section 6.8 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. APPROVE and AUTHORISE the budget transfer of \$60,000 in existing funds allocated in the 2020-21 Current Budget from the WoW Festival to the proposed Festival and Event in Geraldton (Shore Leave), subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Provision of a minimum of one COVID-19 compliant free family friendly event per day for the community;
 - b. Provision of evidence demonstrating approval of all required applications and permits;
 - c. Provision of final Program of Events and Budget;
 - d. Review of the annual acquittal to be endorsed by the Committee prior to subsequent years funding being issued. Acquittal to include evidence demonstrating economic impact, financial sustainability and community benefit;
 - e. Review of the annual budget and event program to be endorsed by the Committee prior to subsequent years funding being committed. Information is to include evidence demonstrating increased economic impact, financial sustainability and community benefit;
2. APPROVE and AUTHORISE the integration of the \$40,000 Night Laser Show to include integration of elements in the WA Regional Tourism Conference and the Shore Leave Festival to be delivered by the

- applicant in line with the REDS funding guidelines and conditions under an MOU with the City;
3. DELEGATE approval to the CEO for in kind support to the value of \$20,000 for venue hire;
 4. MAKE PROVISION in the 2021-22 to 2030-31 Long Term Financial Plan to conditionally allocate \$100,000 in Year 1 and Year 2 of the plan (being Year 2 and Year 3 of the event), subject to 1 (d) and (e) above;
 5. DELEGATE authority to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate an Agreement with Tourism Geraldton Midwest regarding expenditure of the above funds; and
 6. DETERMINE future funding of the Wind on Water (WoW) Festival as part of the 2021-22 budget deliberations.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is Geraldton Fisherman's Co-operative.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Greater Geraldton has been searching for an iconic event for the region for many years. At its Ordinary meeting of 5 April 2017, the Council approved the establishment of a new event, the 'Wind on Water (WoW) Festival' (Item No. DCS327). The WoW Festival replaced the 'Festivals on the Foreshore' event (established in 2014) which in turn replaced the 'G-Fest' (established in 2011). As part of this quest, the City also supported the recent 'Balayi' event marking a significant milestone in our maritime history. The WoW Festival has been held twice with the third event, scheduled for 2020 delayed to a date yet to be confirmed due to the pandemic and associated restrictions as well as availability of the headline performers.

In August 2020, Minister for Tourism, the Hon Paul Papalia, visited Geraldton and indicated that he believed Geraldton needed a new Event. In October 2020, the State launched its 2021-2022 Regional Events Scheme funding round. In November, the City was approached by Tourism Geraldton Midwest who had engaged Claire Brand (Project3) to develop a concept for a new Event for Geraldton. Ms Brand is involved in managing and running events across Western Australia. Ms Brand believed the State would contribute \$300-500,000 to an event in Geraldton and asked for support of \$100,000 from the City. Knowing that funds were in the current budget to hold the WoW Festival, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) provided the requested letter of support (Attachment No. CEO070D) to assist their application subject to a Council decision being required to formalise.

On Friday 20 January 2021, Minister Tinley visited Geraldton and announced the State's support for the proposed new event with a \$300,000 contribution. The City has been advised that the Port Authority is contributing \$100,000 and the Geraldton fisherman's Cooperation a further \$50,000.

The objectives of the four (4) day festival are to:

- To raise the awareness of Geraldton and the Midwest region as a desirable holiday destination.

- To showcase and increase awareness of the unique food offerings in the Midwest with crayfish being the iconic (hero) product.
- To drive short and extended stay visitation to Geraldton and the Midwest region.
- To deliver direct and in-direct positive economic impact to local businesses.
- To support the development and promotion of new and existing tourism activities and tour content in the region.
- To support and partner with the Geraldton and Midwest tourism industry.
- To drive sustainable tourism focused activation of the Abrolhos Islands.
- To leverage state and local government investment in priority locations such as the Geraldton Port & Fisherman's Wharf, the Geraldton City Centre and Foreshore.

Priority locations to showcase include the Fisherman's Wharf and the Geraldton Port area; the Geraldton Foreshore and City Centre; and the Abrolhos Islands.

A draft outline of the Festival is as follows:

Thursday 6 May

- Smoking Ceremony in the Festival Hub Rocks Laneway.

Friday 7 May

- Marine Terrace Street Party.

Saturday 8 May

- Ticketed events at the St Francis Xavier Cathedral and WA Museum.

Sunday 9 May

- Seafood Feast on the Foreshore (2 giant tepees on the northern end of the foreshore).

The Event Outline indicates a wide range of activities, predominantly seafood-themed, catering for both visitors and the local community. It is noted that the proposed Event Outline contains a number of elements which are ticketed events and the City may choose to seek to influence an appropriate balance of free events should this request to provide financial support be endorsed.

The proposed event presents an exciting opportunity to capitalise on the unique strengths of the region whilst delivering an event with significant potential for benefit to the regional economy and Geraldton's profile as a destination.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:**Community:**

Regional Events provide the opportunity to bring communities together in a fun and friendly atmosphere. In what has been a very stressful twelve months, the opportunity to hold a major event in Geraldton will help the local community recover and re-engage in social participation and entertainment.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts.

Economy:

Regional tourism and events play an important part in supporting local jobs. Regional events provide the opportunity to promote the region through the associated marketing and to attract visitors to the area. With people not being able to travel overseas, they present an opportunity to capture the market that is looking for alternative holiday opportunities.

A regional event of the iconic nature of this proposed seafood festival also provides the opportunity to market and raise the profile of Geraldton to visitors across the state and more broadly in the longer term, with significant local economic benefits, particularly for the tourism, hospitality and retail/services sectors.

Governance:

The ownership and responsibility for the Event will sit with Tourism Geraldton Midwest (TGMW). TGMW commenced as the 'Tourism Cluster' established under the Progress Midwest board. Officers recognised that economic development initiatives, where possible, should be led by industry representatives rather than government representatives. TGMW is in the process of becoming incorporated. Until this is finalised, the Geraldton Fisherman's Co-operative will work in partnership with TGMW and act as the contracting party.

TGMW has commissioned Claire Brand (Project3) to deliver the event. Project3 recently delivered Broome's 50th Shinju Matsuri event. Not being a City owned event greatly reduces governance issues and staff resource commitments.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

On a regular basis, the Council is asked to consider support for various local events. The Council approved its Event Strategy at its October 2020 Ordinary meeting and its Community Funding Policy at its November 2020 meeting.

At its Ordinary meeting held on 26 June 2018, Council approved a contribution of \$20,000 for the proposed Valley View Air Display (Item No. DCS372). At its Ordinary meeting held on 2 October 2018, Council approved funding for the Balayi Event (Item No. NM05) marking the four hundredth anniversary of Commander Frederick de Houtman discovering the coast line of Southwest Western Australia and the Abrolhos Islands (\$100,000 in total was contributed to the event by Council).

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

A briefing on the event was given to Councillors at the February 2021 Concept forum.

As per Council's Community Funding Program Policy (CP1.8) applications (above \$20,000) will be initially assessed and prioritised by the Community Grants Committee, in line with the guidelines and Event Strategy. The prioritised list will then be submitted to Council for budgetary consideration and final endorsement.

Festival and Event funding may be provided for up to a three (3) year term, with phased reduction of the funding considered to encourage financial sustainability of the applicant.

The Community Grants Committee convened on 10 February 2021 and assessed the festival and event proposal. The following is the Committee's recommendation to Council:

1. *APPROVE and AUTHORISE the budget transfer of \$60,000 in existing funds allocated in the 2020-21 Current Budget from the WoW Festival to the proposed Festival and Event in Geraldton (Shore Leave), subject to the following conditions:*
 - a. *Provision of a minimum of one COVID compliant free family friendly event per day for the community.*
 - b. *Provision of evidence demonstrating approval of all required applications and permits.*
 - c. *Provision of final Program of Events and Budget.*
 - d. *Review of the annual acquittal to be endorsed by the Committee prior to subsequent years funding being issued. Acquittal to include evidence demonstrating economic impact, financial sustainability and community benefit.*
 - e. *Review of the annual budget and event program to be endorsed by the Committee prior to subsequent years funding being committed. Information is to include evidence demonstrating increased economic impact, financial sustainability and community benefit.*
2. *APPROVE and AUTHORISE the integration of the \$40,000 Night Laser Show to include integration of elements in the WA Regional Tourism Conference and the Shore Leave Festival to be delivered by the applicant in line with the REDS funding guidelines and conditions under an MOU with the City.*
3. *DELEGATE approval to the CEO for in kind support to the value of \$20,000 for venue hire.*
4. *MAKE PROVISION in the 2021-22 to 2030-31 Long Term Financial Plan to conditionally allocate \$100,000 in Year 1 and Year 2 of the plan (being Year 2 and Year 3 of the event), subject to 1 (d) and (e) above.*

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

This report's recommendation is in accordance with the City's Community Strategic Plan (Strategy 3.2.1 and 3.2.2). By approving support for this event, the Council will be promoting the City as a destination of choice for regional events and promoting visitors and investment in the region.

The report's recommendation is in keeping with the City of Greater Geraldton's Events Strategy 2020-2025 approved at Council's October 2020 Ordinary meeting (Item No. DCS474). This strategy's guiding principles and specifically Action 2.5 – "Identify, attract and support new major events aligned to the City's strengths". The Events Strategy highlights the City's role in supporting and encouraging events that "celebrate and capitalise on our unique assets and strengths" including local food/produce to deliver a diverse mix of events conducted annually, capitalising on the regions unique assets and strengths. It also outlines a number of roles for the City in delivery of events, one of which is the potential provision of sponsorship and funding for externally delivered events.

The report's recommendations is in keeping with the Progress Midwest Jobs and Growth plan specifically:

- 8.5.2. Focus area: Strong heart – City Centre revitalisation;
- 8.5.3. Focus area: Healthy circulation; and
- 8.5.8. Platform: Positive reputation.

The recommendations is also in keeping with the region's Destination Management Plan (2017) and CBD revitalisation plan.

Late in 2020, the Council approved its Community Funding Policy. Under section 4 of this policy titled Festival and Event Program, the policy states:

"Applications (above \$20,000) will be initially assessed and prioritised by the Community Grants Committee, in line with the guidelines and Event Strategy."

The Shore Leave event organisers have submitted an application into the Committee for consideration.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Through their community grant application, the Shore Leave event organisers have asked the City for the following funding:

- 2021 - \$100,000
- 2022 - \$125,000
- 2023 - \$150,000

Initial estimates indicate an overall budget of around \$900,000 to stage the festival and event. Funding for the festival and event is based primarily on the following revenue model:

- Direct grants/contributions.
- Corporate & local sponsorship.
- Ticket sales.

The event organisers have also advised that they have secured the following funding for the initial event:

- State Government \$300,000
- Midwest Ports \$100,000
- Geraldton fisherman's Co-op \$50,000

In the current 2020-21 Council budget, \$126,000 has been provided to hold the WoW Festival. Due to the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions, the Wow Festival will not be held prior to the end of this financial year. For these reasons, Officers are recommending that a portion of these funds be transferred to support the new Event which is planned to be held in May 2021. This means support for the event can be provided within the current budget. By way of a comparison, the net cost of running each of the two WoW Festivals has been between \$200-300,000. Mid West Ports have supported the original WoW festival with sponsoring to the value of \$10,000.

City Officers have discussed synergies with the WA Regional Tourism Conference (3 May-5 May) with the Shore Leave event manager. Potential synergies could enhance both events and reduce costs. Of particular interest is the Queens Park Light Installation Project (attached) developed by Events using the Regional Economic Development Scheme (REDS) grant funding (\$40,000) that was to be a part of the Tourism Conference program. These elements could be managed by City Officers and incorporated into the Shore Leave Festival as follows:

Friday 7 May

- Marine Terrace Street Party - to include a Community Lantern Project component of the Queens Park Garden of Lights; and

Sunday 9 May

- Seafood Feast on the Foreshore (2 giant tepees on the northern end of the foreshore) - incorporating elements of the Queens Park Garden of Light Installation including the Puppets and Laser Aerial Performance.

The City's REDS grant obligation is to make the project accessible to the community as well as conference delegates, so inclusion in the Shore Leave Festival would fulfil this obligation.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Community	1.5 Recognise, value and support everyone
Strategy 1.5.1	Supporting and strengthening community groups, organisations and volunteer services.
Title: Economy	3.1 Growth
Strategy 3.1.1	Promoting Greater Geraldton and its potential business opportunities to facilitate targeted economic development.
Title: Economy	3.2 Lifestyle and Vibrancy
Strategy 3.2.1	Continuing to promote the City as the destination of choice for regional events.

Strategy 3.2.2	Promoting events and unique tourism experiences that aid in attracting visitors and investment.
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REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

There are no impacts to regional outcomes.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

As has been highlighted through the COVID-19 pandemic, there are numerous risks associated with Event Management. The option to support an event that is being run and managed separately to Council reduces some of those risks significantly. The major event risks include COVID-19 restrictions, not meeting budget, safety related incidents, and risks to corporate image if the event is not well received by the community. The short time frame within which the organisers have to run the event will be challenging.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

There are a number of options open to Council. The Council may choose to not support the event, to offer a different level of funding as per the application or to support the event for one year only.

CEO071 CITY OF GREATER GERALDTON – 150 YEARS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-010143
AUTHOR:	L Cox, Coordinator Heritage Services
EXECUTIVE:	R McKim, Chief Executive Officer
DATE OF REPORT:	8 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	RC/8/0011-02
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x1) Supporting Historical Material

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to provide a brief history of the Municipality of Geraldton as a background to and acknowledgement of the City's Sesquicentenary (150 years of Local Government) on the 21 February 2021.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 5.20 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. NOTE the City's Sesquicentenary (150th Anniversary) since Geraldton formed as a "Municipal Institution" under the Municipal Institutions Act on 21 February 1871;
2. ACKNOWLEDGE all former Mayors, Presidents, Chairpersons, Councillors, Board Members and staff who have served the community over the 150 years; and
3. NOTE that the occasion will be marked with the creation of a time capsule to be placed at a location to be determined.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

The Sesquicentenary (150 years) of Local Government in Western Australia celebrations provide an opportune time to reflect on the milestones which have shaped the City of Greater Geraldton. The first major step towards Geraldton becoming a Municipality was the commencement of both the Geraldton District Road Board (of which Charles Crowther was the first Chairman) and the Greenough Road Board on 25 January 1871 (*The Western Australian Government Gazette*). Shortly following this milestone the Municipality of Geraldton was declared on the 21 February 1871. The first President was Captain Daniel H. Scott, proceeded in 1874 by Charles Crowther.

There was much legislative movement throughout the State at this time which preceded Geraldton becoming a Municipality, most notably the Municipal Institutions Act which gained Royal assent on 02 January 1871 which resulted in the creation of Perth. The District Roads Act and Municipal Institutions Act, both of 1871 allowed for the establishment of Roads Boards and Municipal Corporations. Municipal Corporations had the capacity to levy property taxes,

pass municipal by-laws and undertake various local regulatory services previously carried out by colonial officials and other central bodies. Corporations could also establish civic institutions and facilities with the governors' consent, including libraries and botanical gardens.

Road Boards were strictly limited to the construction of roads, could not levy property taxes and depended on colonial government grants for any expenditures.

Historically, the local community have celebrated the anniversary of this important occasion in a number of ways. In May 1921, present and past members of the Council gathered at a celebration held at the Council Chambers on Eleanor Street (Chapman Road), adjacent to the Town Hall to commemorate 50 years of local government.

On Saturday 20 February 1971 a Centenary Parade and Formal Dinner were organised by the City, along with the installation of a Time Capsule to be opened 21 February 2071. The Time Capsule along with a brass plaque was installed in the footpath outside the Civic Centre by Mayor Askew. Two more time capsules and plaques lie nearby commemorating the proclamation of the City of Geraldton in 1988 and the amalgamation of Geraldton-Greenough in 2007.

Alterations to the geographical boundaries of the local government area have led to a number of name changes in recent history. The amalgamation with the substantial Shire of Greenough in 2007 saw the Local Government area renamed to City of Geraldton-Greenough. Just a few short years later in 2011, the Shire of Mullewa with its strong, passionate community amalgamated with the City to create the City of Greater Geraldton.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

Failing to acknowledge this historical milestone would leave the City open to criticism as the community would be deprived of an opportunity to celebrate a milestone in Geraldton's history and the people who have contributed over the past 150 years.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts.

Economy:

Although planning for an event to accompany the installation of the time capsule, at a location to be determined, is yet to commence, it is anticipated this will be a smaller scale occasion, due to gathering restrictions in place due to COVID-19. Therefore the impact on the local economy will be slight.

Governance:

There are no adverse governance impacts.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

On 25 August 2020 Council approved Item No. DCS460 Mullewa 125 Years Celebration. Previous milestone celebrations have been important civic and community events.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) had advised late in 2020 that Sesquicentenary of Local Government celebrations were planned for February 2021. However, these have since been postponed to be incorporated into the 2021 WA Local Government Convention taking place in September.

During the recent unearthing of the Marine Terrace Mall time capsule, public sentiment was expressed with regard to the reinstallation of something similar, at a location to be determined. The installation of Sesquicentenary time capsule will address this. It has been proposed that the new time capsule will include interesting ephemera and photographs from 2021, plus letters from current Councillors and community members. It has also been proposed that the time capsule be reopened on 21 February 2071 (200th year of Local Government).

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

There are no legislative or policy implications.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Resourcing would include the cost of the time capsule container, its preparation and installation costs. There is the possibility of recycling the previous time capsule cylinder from Marine Terrace, as it proved to keep contents safe from the elements. Heritage Services can contribute polypropylene archival quality sleeves for standard sized photographs and A4 documents. Upon retrieval, consideration may be required regarding staffing and storage capacity.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Community	1.1 Our Heritage and the Art
Strategy 1.1.1	Recording, recognising and preserving our social, environmental and built heritage.
Title: Governance	4.1 Community Engagement
Strategy 4.1.1	Continuing to engage broadly and proactively with the community.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

While the contents of the capsule will be specific to the City of Greater Geraldton it is noted that other local government authorities in the regional may also share this 150th anniversary.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

Ensure inclusivity in relation to time capsule contents and ensure that where possible a broad representation of the community is commemorated.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

There were no alternative options considered.

12.5 REPORTS TO BE RECEIVED

RR22 REPORTS TO BE RECEIVED - FEBRUARY	
AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-015425
AUTHOR:	R McKim, Chief Executive Officer
EXECUTIVE:	R McKim, Chief Executive Officer
DATE OF REPORT:	12 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	GO/6/0012-007
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x5) 1 x Confidential
	A. DCSDD167 – Delegated Determinations and Subdivision Applications for Planning Approval
	B. CCS573 – Audit Committee Meeting Minutes – 27 January 2021
	C. CCS574 – 2020-21 Corporate Business Plan - Quarter Two Report
	D. CEO072 – WALGA State Council Agenda – 3 March 2021
	E. Confidential – CCS575 - List of Accounts Paid Under Delegation January 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to receive the Reports of the City of Greater Geraldton.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:**PART A**

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 5.22 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. RECEIVE the following appended reports:
 - a. Reports – Development and Community Services:
 - i. DCSDD167 – Delegated Determinations and Subdivision Applications for Planning Approval;
 - b. Reports – Corporate and Commercial Services:
 - i. CCS573 – Audit Committee Meeting Minutes – 27 January 2021;
 - ii. CCS574 – 2020-21 Corporate Business Plan - Quarter Two Report; and
 - c. Reports – Office of the CEO:
 - i. CEO072 – WALGA State Council Agenda – 3 March 2021.

PART B

That Council by Simple Majority, pursuant to Sections 5.13 and 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 RESOLVES to:

1. RECEIVE the following appended reports:
 - a. Reports – Corporate and Commercial Services:
 - i. CCS575 – Confidential Report – List of Accounts Paid Under Delegation January 2021.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

Information and items for noting or receiving (i.e. periodic reports, minutes of other meetings) are to be included in an appendix attached to the Council agenda.

Any reports received under this Agenda are considered received only. Any recommendations or proposals contained within the "Reports (including Minutes) to be Received" are not approved or endorsed by Council in any way. Any outcomes or recommendations requiring Council approval must be presented separately to Council as a Report for consideration at an Ordinary Meeting of Council.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:**Community:**

There are no adverse community impacts.

Environment:

There are no adverse environmental impacts.

Economy:

There are no adverse economic impacts.

Governance:

There are no adverse governance impacts.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

Reports to be received by Council at each Ordinary Meeting of Council.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

There has been no community/councillor consultation.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

There are no legislative or policy implications.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial or resource implications.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Governance	4.5 Good Governance & Leadership
Strategy 4.5.2	Ensuring finance and governance policies, procedures and activities align with legislative requirements and best practice.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

There are no impacts to regional outcomes.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

There are no risks to be considered.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

No alternative options were considered by City Officers.

13 MOTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**14 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN****15 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE MEETING****16 MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC**

Pursuant to Section 5.2 (i) of the Meeting Procedures Local Law February 2011, please note this part of the meeting *may* need to be closed to the public, *if* confidential discussion is required.

Livestreaming will be turned off if required.

CCS576 RFT 2021 16 SUPPLY INSTALL REPAIR & MAINTAIN FENCING & BOLLARDS
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-011424
AUTHOR:	C Bryant, Coordinator Procurement
EXECUTIVE:	P Radalj, Director Corporate and Commercial Services
DATE OF REPORT:	18 January 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	FM/25/0216
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x1) Confidential Confidential – Evaluation Report and Workbook

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to award tender RFT 2021 16 Supply Install Repair & Maintain Fencing & Bollards to the preferred tenderer. The contract is to run for a period of two years to complete budgeted fencing renewals and repair works. The initial contract will be in place from 9 April 2021 to 8 April 2023 with the option for a one year extension exercisable at the discretion of the Principal.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 5.20 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. AWARD the contract RFT 2021 16 Supply Install Repair & Maintain Fencing & Bollards to the preferred tenderer; and
2. RECORD the estimated annual contract value in the minutes.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

Tender RFT 2021 16 Supply Install Repair & Maintain Fencing & Bollards (RFT) was advertised in The West Australian on 21 November 2020 and in the Geraldton Guardian on 20 November 2020. The tender was also advertised on the City's TenderLink e-Tendering Portal. The RFT closed on 14 December 2020.

Seven suppliers registered to receive copies of the tender and one submission was received. The tender assessment was undertaken by a panel of five Officers with three voting and two non-voting. The tenderer has an operation based locally.

The RFT has a two year duration commencing from the date of award and has a one year extension option at the absolute discretion of the City. The City has adopted a two year supply contract period for a variety of goods and services used in the maintenance programs. There has previously been a two year contract for Fence Installation, Repair, and Maintenance Services which proved successful. These services can also be used in the Mullewa District.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:**Community:**

Well maintained fencing and bollards reduces the likelihood of accidents or injury caused to members of the public and property.

Environment:

All proposed fence and bollard replacement and repair works will be undertaken with care for the environment in mind. Environmental controls are implemented as part of the individual maintenance programs.

Economy:

Awarding of this tender will result in City funds flowing into the local economy through the employment of local community members such as labourers, truck drivers, and traffic controllers, supporting local businesses.

A two year supply contract also allows Maintenance Operations to carry out fence and bollard replacement and repair works from proven suppliers with planned costs.

Governance:

There are no adverse governance impacts.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

Council has previously awarded a two year supply contract RFT 15 1718 Fence Installation, Repair and Maintenance Services on 27 March 2018 – Item No. IS170. The initial contract was in place from 9 April 2018 to 8 April 2020, with an extension to contract approved until 8 April 2021.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

Community and Councillor consultation does not occur with the award of the two year supply contracts for essential services. Consultation relating to these activities takes place when Council confirms the annual budget for such essential services.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The Local Government Act 1995 and Council Policy 4.9 Procurement of Goods and Services were observed when preparing and recommending the award of this tender. Safe work methods and environmental management in line with legislative requirements will be observed as part of the delivery of the contract.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The submitted price (including traffic management) is based on an estimated annual usage scenario. This is close to the procurement plan estimate of \$700,000 excluding GST per annum. These works were calculated based on the 2020-21 forecast City fencing renewals and repairs program, and calculated on line items from the Tenderers rates supplied.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Community	1.2 Recreation and Sport
Strategy 1.2.2	Encouraging informal recreation through well planned and developed public open space, cycle/walk paths and green streetscapes.
Title: Environment	2.3 Built Environment
Strategy 2.3.2	Providing accessible community spaces, parks, natural areas, sport and recreational facilities that equitably service the whole community.
Title: Environment	2.3. Built Environment
Strategy 2.3.3	Providing a fit for purpose, safe and efficient infrastructure network.
Title: Asset Management	2.4 Asset Management
Strategy 2.4.1	Applying financial sustainability principles to ensure a coordinated and integrated approach to infrastructure planning, implementation, maintenance and renewal.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

To facilitate well maintained fencing and bollards throughout the City of Greater Geraldton which enhances the comfort and safety of the community.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The works carried out under this contract will allow the fencing and bollards throughout the City to be maintained at their optimal standard, reducing accidents and risk of injury to members of the public and property. In addition the successful tenderer as detailed above shall have documented management plans in place to ensure the safety and protection of workers and the community in relation to this service.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

This RFT was called to ensure compliance with the legislative procurement requirements of the Local Government Act 1995. The following alternatives were considered in the procurement planning phase prior to calling this tender:

1. Call for individual quotations and tenders for specific fence and bollard replacement and repair works. This option is not supported and was discounted due to the volume of administrative effort required, and the potential to have higher costs through multiple small purchases.
2. Use the WALGA Preferred Suppliers Panel. Currently there are no local suppliers available on the WALGA Preferred Suppliers Panel. The use of the WALGA Preferred Suppliers Panel would limit opportunities for local suppliers and is not supported.

CCS577 RFT 2021 26 MOWING, SLASHING, MULCHING & FIREBREAK SERVICES

AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-012103
AUTHOR:	C Bryant, Coordinator Procurement
EXECUTIVE:	P Radalj, Director Corporate and Commercial Services
DATE OF REPORT:	29 January 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	FM/25/0216
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x2) Confidential
	A. Confidential – Evaluation Report and Workbook
	B. Confidential – Briefing Note – RFT 2021 26 Mowing, Slashing, Mulching & Firebreak Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to award tender RFT 2021 26 Mowing, Slashing, Mulching & Firebreak Services separable portions to the preferred tenderers. The contract is to run for a period of two years to complete budgeted mowing, slashing, mulching & firebreak services works. The initial contract will be in place from 9 April 2021 to 8 April 2023 with the option for a one year extension exercisable at the discretion of the Principal.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 5.20 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. AWARD the contract RFT 2021 26 Mowing, Slashing, Mulching & Firebreak Services separable portions to the preferred tenderers; and
2. RECORD the estimated annual contract values in the minutes.

PROponent:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

Tender RFT 2021 26 Mowing, Slashing, Mulching & Firebreak Services (RFT) was advertised in The West Australian on 21 November 2020 and in the Geraldton Guardian on 20 November 2020. The tender was also advertised on the City's TenderLink e-Tendering Portal. The RFT closed on 14 December 2020.

Sixteen suppliers registered to receive copies of the tender and two submissions were received. The tender assessment was undertaken by a panel of six Officers with three voting and three non-voting. Both tenderers have an operation based locally.

The RFT has a two year duration commencing from the date of award and has a one year extension option at the absolute discretion of the City. The City has adopted a two year supply contract period for a variety of goods and services used in the maintenance programs. There has previously been a two year contract for Slashing / Mowing & Firebreak Services which proved successful in the City achieving its annual budgeted slashing, mowing & firebreak services works.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

Well maintained parks, reserves, verges, and firebreak hazard mitigation works reduces the likelihood of accidents or injury caused to members of the public and property.

Environment:

All proposed mowing, slashing, mulching & firebreak services will be undertaken with care for the environment in mind. Environmental controls are implemented as part of the individual maintenance programs.

Economy:

Awarding of this tender will result in City funds flowing into the local economy through the employment of local community members such as labourers, truck drivers, and traffic controllers, supporting local businesses.

A two year supply contract also allows Maintenance Operations to carry out mowing, slashing, mulching, and firebreak services works from proven suppliers with planned costs.

Governance:

There are no adverse governance impacts.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

Council has previously awarded a two year supply contract RFT 04 1617 Slashing, Mowing, Mulching & Firebreak Services for four separable portions on 28 March 2017 – Item No. IS142. The initial contract was in place from 9 April 2018 to 8 April 2020, with an extension to two of the portions contracts approved until 8 April 2021.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

Community and Councillor consultation does not occur with the award of the two year supply contracts for essential services. Consultation relating to these activities takes place when Council confirms the annual budget for such essential services.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The Local Government Act 1995 and Council Policy 4.9 Procurement of Goods and Services were observed when preparing and recommending the award of this tender. Safe work methods and environmental management in line with legislative requirements will be observed as part of the delivery of the contract.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Historically, the value of this contract was approximately \$1,540,000 plus GST per annum. The City used this figure in the procurement plan for forecasting potential budgets.

The total estimated contract price, based on the 2020-21 forecast for these services including extension options is \$4,620,000 plus GST over a three year period. The submitted tender prices are in line with the forecast estimates for these services.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Community	1.2 Recreation and Sport
Strategy 1.2.2	Encouraging informal recreation through well planned and developed public open space, cycle/walk paths and green streetscapes.
Title: Environment	2.1 Revegetation-Rehabilitation-Preservation
Strategy 2.1.2	Sustainably maintaining public open spaces and recreation areas.
Title: Environment	2.3 Built Environment
Strategy 2.3.2	Providing accessible community spaces, parks, natural areas, sport and recreational facilities that equitably service the whole community.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

To facilitate well maintained parks, reserves, verges, and firebreak hazard mitigation works throughout the City of Greater Geraldton which enhances the comfort and safety of the community.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The works carried out under this contract will allow the parks, reserves, verges, and firebreak hazard mitigation works throughout the City to be maintained at their optimal standard, reducing accidents and risk of injury to members of the public and property. In addition the successful tenderer as detailed above shall have documented management plans in place to ensure the safety and protection of workers and the community in relation to this service.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

This RFT was called to ensure compliance with the legislative procurement requirements of the Local Government Act 1995. The following alternatives were considered in the procurement planning phase prior to calling this tender:

1. Call for individual quotations and tenders for specific mowing, slashing, mulching and firebreak services works. This option is not supported and was discounted due to the volume of administrative effort required, and the potential to have higher costs through multiple small purchases.
2. Use the WALGA Preferred Suppliers Panel. Currently there are local suppliers available on the WALGA Preferred Suppliers Panel. The use of the WALGA Preferred Suppliers Panel would limit opportunities for local suppliers and is not supported.

IS226	RFT 2021 27 CATHEDRAL AVENUE AND SANFORD STREET ROUNDAABOUT CONSTRUCTION
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AGENDA REFERENCE:	D-21-010267
AUTHOR:	P Neethling, Manager Project Delivery
EXECUTIVE:	C Lee, Director Infrastructure Services
DATE OF REPORT:	23 February 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	FM/25/0197
ATTACHMENTS:	Yes (x2) 1 x Confidential
	A. Confidential Attachment – RFT 2021 27 Tender Evaluation Report
	B. Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of the Executive Recommendation for RFT 2021 27 Cathedral Avenue and Sanford Street Roundabout Construction.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council by Absolute Majority pursuant to Section 6.8 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:

1. REJECT the tender for RFT 2021 27 Cathedral Avenue and Sanford Street Roundabout Construction on the basis of value for money (Separable portions 1 and 2);
2. APPROVE construction of the Sanford Street roundabout (Separable Portion 1) to be delivered by the City through existing local supply contracts (City as Project Manager);
3. APPROVE inclusion of the Cathedral Avenue upgrade project on the Capital Works program for completion at a later date (Separable Portion 2); and
4. ENDORSE the proposed LRCIP 1 & 2 Footpath Construction Program to be completed as far as practicable within the associated grant funding timelines.

PROPONENT:

The proponent is the City of Greater Geraldton.

BACKGROUND:

RFT 2021 27 sought tender pricing for the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Sanford Street and Cathedral Avenue, including street scaping work from Chapman Road to Foreshore Drive, along Cathedral Avenue in Geraldton, Western Australia.

The City successfully obtained Federal Blackspot Funding (Blackspot) towards design and construction of a new roundabout based upon historical data at the intersection of Sanford Street and Cathedral Avenue in the City of Geraldton.

The intersection has been the subject of a number of accidents and near accidents in recent years. This is mostly due to significant traffic volumes and poor intersection geometry.

In addition to the Federal Government Blackspot grant, the City successfully obtained two packages of Federal Government Funds (Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP)).

The Australian Government has committed \$500 million to the Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI Program) to support jobs, businesses and the resilience of local economies.

Funding is available for local road and community infrastructure projects that involve the construction, maintenance and/or improvements to council-owned assets (including natural assets) that are generally accessible to the public. Projects will need to deliver benefits to the community, such as improved accessibility, visual amenity and safety benefits. (LRCI fact sheet)

Officer's intentions were to use LRCIP funds to extend the improvement works from the proposed roundabout through to the foreshore.

Detailed design and pre tender cost estimates for the project were completed by the City's lead consultants, Porter Consulting Engineers.

RFT 2021 27 was advertised in the Geraldton Guardian on Friday, 4 December 2020 and The West Australian on Saturday 5 December 2020. The RFT was also advertised on the City's TenderLink e-Tendering Portal.

The RFT closing time and date was 12pm Friday, 22 January 2021. Fifteen (15) suppliers registered to receive copies of the tender. One (1) tender submission was received and processed through to qualitative/price evaluation.

The tender was progressed for assessment against the following key criteria:

- a) Demonstrated company experience and suitability of key personnel and sub-contractors in delivering road construction and street scaping projects of a similar scope, specification, size and complexity (15%)
- b) Demonstrated understanding of the methodology (including detailed construction program) required to deliver the project on time and mitigate impacts to all affected stakeholders (35%)
- c) Price (50%)

RFT 2021 27 was offered as a Lump Sum Contract. The estimated construction duration was six months with an estimated construction completion date by mid-September 2021.

Subject to Council approval, Officer's recommend funding from the Federal Government's LRCIP would be redirected to previously prioritised projects that can be completed within the grant timeframes. Typically projects that would fit into the grant conditions and timelines would include new concrete footpaths, renewal of concrete footpaths, and road overlays. Time constraints have not allowed Officers to detail these alternative projects as yet. If Council

approves the Officer's recommendation, work on developing these alternative projects will be commenced.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES:

Community:

A significant number of incidents that have occurred at the intersection of Cathedral and Sanford due to issues with the current configuration of the intersection. Construction of the roundabout will increase community safety by providing improved safety for both vehicles and pedestrians.

Construction of a good footpath network, designed with suitable materials and furniture, provides continuous pedestrian connections which are critical to facilitate walking by children, parents, seniors and others with limited mobility.

Environment:

In order to undertake the works, existing utility services have been relocated or undergrounded and a small number of trees are required to be removed. However; the loss of these trees will be offset by the significant increase in tree planting associated with future streetscape upgrades in alignment with the CBD Revitalisation Plan.

Economy:

There are positive economic outcomes of the Officer recommendation that align with the requirements and intentions of the LRCIP funding. Eligible projects will be undertaken by 100% local contractors utilising the City's Annual Supply Contracts, which will inject significant funding into the local community.

Governance:

The Executive Recommendation is in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* section 6.8 and Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996 section 18(5) *enables rejection of tenders*.

Additionally, Council Delegation 1.1.14 Tender for Goods and Services, function 12 enables rejection of tenders.

Disclosure of Interest:

No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.

RELEVANT PRECEDENTS:

The City has developed an extensive number of Annual Supply Contracts with local suppliers and contractors that are heavily utilised for the successful completion of the majority of the annual Renewal and Capital Works Program each year.

COMMUNITY/COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION:

There has been extensive consultation with the Community and Council during the development of the Renewal and Capital Works program each year with no negative feedback or response received.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The *Local Government Act 1985* and the City's Procurement Policy CP4.9 were observed during the tender process. Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental management of the project will be in line with legislative requirements and implemented during delivery of the contract.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The City received one tender submission for the project and a detailed review of the submission pricing was undertaken by the lead engineering consultant, landscape architect consultants and the City tender evaluation panel. The review concluded that the submission failed to provide good value for money and recommended that the tender be rejected on this basis.

The funding available for the roundabout and the streetscape works are as follows:

- Federal Blackspot funding \$1,270,000
- LRCIP round 1 \$1,323,252
- LRCIP round 2 \$1,888,638
- City CBD 2020-21 \$1,500,000
- **Total \$5,981,890**

The estimated cost of proceeding with construction of the roundabout from Blackspot funding only is in the order of \$1,100,000. Note that the residual Blackspot funding amount has been utilised for early works associated with services relocations in preparation for the main contract works.

The City CBD Revitalisation funds will be retained for their intended purpose. The remaining funds (approximately \$4,431,890) will be allocated to civil projects that can be completed within the grant timelines. These projects are those that require little or no design, no further tendering and are labour intensive. Likely projects would include new concrete footpaths and further road overlays.

The Grant deadlines are as follows:

- Federal Blackspot funding June 2021
- LRCIP round 1 June 2021
- LRCIP round 2 December 2021

City Officers allocated to manage the works in accordance with the Executive Recommendation are available, well versed in the management of the City's Annual Supply Contracts and successfully complete an annual program of works which includes projects of a similar size, scope and complexity.

INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:

Title: Environment	2.3 Built Environment
Strategy 2.3.3	Providing a fit for purpose, safe and efficient infrastructure network.
Title: Economy	3.1 Growth
Strategy 3.1.3	Developing and maintaining infrastructure that increases the potential for business and investment.
Title: Economy	3.2 Lifestyle and Vibrancy
Strategy 3.2.3	Revitalising the CBD through economic, social and cultural vibrancy.
Title: Governance	4.1 Community Engagement
Strategy 4.1.1	Continuing to engage broadly and proactively with the community.

REGIONAL OUTCOMES:

The construction of appropriate community infrastructure will further demonstrate the City's commitment to providing high quality, safe and well managed roads to cater for residents and tourists visiting the region.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

Eligible capital works projects will be delivered by senior City staff with the relevant skills, experience and qualifications to deliver the projects utilising City Annual Supply Contracts. These staff will be supported by Officers from Procurement & Risk to ensure that all procurement is in accordance with Council Policy 4.9 Procurement of Goods and Services.

Safety management support will be provided to the delivery team by the City safety team as required.

The engineering consultant team remain engaged to provide technical and quality assurance support as required for the duration of the project(s).

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY CITY OFFICERS:

The following options were considered by City Officers:

1. ACCEPT the tender submission received and proceed with the scope of works as planned. This option is not supported by the evaluation panel as it fails to provide a value for money outcome and would need further City funding to be contributed.
2. REJECT the tender submission and readvertise the tender in an attempt to attract a more competitive tender response. This option is not supported by the evaluation panel due to the risk of losing both the LRCIP and Blackspot funding due to the associated project delays.

17 CLOSURE

APPENDIX 1 – ATTACHMENTS AND REPORTS TO BE RECEIVED

Attachments and Reports to be Received are available on the City of Greater Geraldton website at: <https://www.cgg.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/>