



15 May 2019

NOTICE OF MEETING

Dear Committee Member,

The next Environmental Advisory Committee meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Wednesday, 22 May 2019 in the Committee Room, 7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring.

The attached agenda is presented for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Throssell".

Jonathan Throssell
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Please Note

If an Elected Member has a query regarding a report item or requires additional information in relation to a report item, please contact the senior employee (noted in the report) prior to the meeting.

AGENDA
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
22 MAY 2019

ATTENTION/DISCLAIMER

The purpose of this Committee Meeting is to discuss and make recommendations to Council about items appearing on the agenda and other matters for which the Committee is responsible. The Committee has no power to make any decisions which are binding on the Council or the Shire of Mundaring unless specific delegation of authority has been granted by Council. No person should rely on or act on the basis of any advice or information provided by a Member or Employee, or on the content of any discussion occurring, during the course of the Committee Meeting.

The Shire of Mundaring 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 advice or information provided by a Member or Employee, or the content of any discussion occurring during the course of the Committee Meeting.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
COMMITTEE ROOM, 7000 GREAT EASTERN HIGHWAY, MUNDARING – 6.00 PM**

1.0 OPENING PROCEDURES

Acknowledgement of Country

Shire of Mundaring respectfully acknowledges the Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation, who are the traditional custodians of this land. We wish to acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the region.

1.1 Announcement of Visitors

1.2 Attendance/Apologies

Staff Ruth Broz Minute Secretary

Apologies

Guests

2.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION

3.0 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

3.1 Declaration of Financial Interest and Proximity Interests

Elected Members must disclose the nature of their interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting (*Part 5 Division 6 of the Local Government Act 1995*).

Employees must disclose the nature of their interest in reports or advice when giving the report or advice to the meeting (*Sections 5.70 and 5.71 of the Local Government Act 1995*).

3.2 Declaration of Interest Affecting Impartiality

An Elected Member or an employee who has an interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting must disclose that interest (*Shire of Mundaring Code of Conduct, Local Government (Admin) Reg. 34C*).

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting held 20 February 2019 be confirmed.

5.0 PRESENTATIONS

5.1 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The Co-ordinator Environment and Sustainability will be giving a presentation on the above topic.

6.0 REPORTS OF EMPLOYEES

6.1 Encouraging Community Emissions Reduction

File Code	EV.PRG 3
Author	Briony Moran, Coordinator Environment and Sustainability
Senior Employee	Mark Luzi, Director Statutory Services
Disclosure of Any Interest	Nil
Attachments	1. Community Energy Survey Results

SUMMARY

At its meeting of 11 September 2018 Council adopted the Energy and Emissions Reduction Strategy (EERS). The EERS includes a target for reducing the Shire's corporate emissions, for which the Shire has the most accurate information, direct control and responsibility, and where future energy cost savings will be shared by all ratepayers.

Although Shire efforts are initially focussed on installing solar systems and reducing energy use at Shire facilities, there is also a need to make information available to schools, residents and local businesses to encourage voluntary action and behaviour changes to reduce community emissions.

This report requests that EAC:

1. Continues to assist with development of community energy and climate change education initiatives through the Energy and Emissions Working Group; and
2. Supports the theme of 'clean energy and smaller carbon footprints' for the 2020 Mundaring Environmental Art Project.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 22 May 2018 the EAC appointed five members to form an Energy and Emissions Working Group and invited two members from Mundaring in Transition. The Energy and Emissions Working Group initially assisted with the development of an emissions reduction target; and review of the draft EERS.

At its meeting of 11 September 2018, Council also decided to join the Climate Council's Cities Power Partnership (CPP) program. CPP activities includes lobbying of State and Commonwealth Governments for emissions reduction, on behalf of local governments.

Shire staff have formed an Energy Team to work towards the recently adopted emissions reduction target. The Energy Team selected the following five key actions from the CPP list that were consistent with the Energy and Emissions Reduction Strategy:

1. Install renewable energy (solar PV and battery storage) on council buildings.
2. Create a revolving green energy fund to finance renewable energy projects and receive energy cost savings.
3. Roll out energy efficient lighting (particularly street lighting) across the municipality.

4. Lobby state and federal government to address barriers to the take up of renewable energy, energy efficiency and/or sustainable transport, and to support increased ambition.
5. Implement an education and behaviour change program to influence the behaviour of council officers, local residents and businesses within the municipality to drive the shift to renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport.

These five actions have been highlighted in the Energy and Emissions Reduction Plan as CPP pledge items, and forwarded to the CPP. The EAC can assist particularly with implementing the fifth action, as education and behaviour change programs need to be tailored to the local community to be effective.

An upcoming Living Smart course to be hosted by the Shire will have a focus on ways that residents can reduce their overall environmental footprint, but particularly carbon emissions. The Energy and Emissions Working Group has identified a number of opportunities for a range of energy and emissions related environmental education, noted in the comment section below.

STATUTORY / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Shire's Environmental Sustainability Policy includes the following relevant principles:

- 1.4 Human induced climate change is recognised as a key threat to biodiversity, requiring mitigation action to reduce carbon emissions at all levels of government, and adaptation to local impacts.*
- 2.1 The Shire will pursue and promote improved water and energy efficiency, reduced carbon emissions and sustainable use of natural resources.*
- 3.3 Information will be made available for schools and residents on sustainability and local environmental issues through publications, talks, workshops and other mediums.*
- 4.2 The Shire will remain agile; learning and collaborating with community groups, research institutions and relevant government agencies to adapt best practice environmental management to fit the Shire's context.*

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Mundaring 2026 Strategic Community Plan

Priority 3 - Natural environment

Objective 3.2 – A place where the environment is well managed

Strategy 3.2.4 – Encourage renewable energy use by residents and businesses

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Environmentally, climate change is recognised as a significant threat to species and ecosystems. There would be social and economic benefits to enhancing energy efficiency and reducing energy costs in schools, homes and businesses across the shire.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk: Reputational - community education initiatives on energy and emissions reduction that were developed elsewhere are ineffective if adopted without adapting to local circumstances.		
Likelihood	Consequence	Rating
Possible	Minor	Moderate
Action / Strategy		
Develop locally relevant material and ensure that materials or programs developed elsewhere can be adapted appropriately before use.		

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

EAC members surveyed Shire residents attending the Blue Sky Festival on 17 March 2019. Although 104 surveys were completed, the results should not be assumed to represent the whole of the community, as more environmentally aware residents may have been more motivated to attend a festival with sustainability themes and complete an energy survey at the EAC stall.

The survey results are shown in Attachment 1 and include:

1. Only 3% think that the State Government is taking sufficient action to prepare for climate change and reduce emissions.
2. The majority (93%) believe that anthropogenic (human caused) climate change is an important issue for the Shire.
3. 6% think that the Shire is taking sufficient action to increase energy efficiency and reduce emissions. 63% said they were not sure (which could be that they do not know what the Shire is doing, since the majority did not list any Shire actions that they were aware of).
4. Over 50% of respondents had installed solar panels, changed to LED lighting, purchased higher energy efficiency appliances, upgraded or installed roof insulation, or made behavioural changes like switching off lights. The most common reason given for making those changes was environmental reasons (89%) followed by saving money (69%).
5. The most common reason given for not reducing energy use or using more renewable energy was the cost of products and installation. Only one person said that they were not interested in reducing their energy use and emissions.
6. When asked which options might help to reduce energy use or install renewable energy, the strongest interest was in discounted pricing (eg bulk purchase) at 59%, followed by information on the Shire website (45%) and a list of pre-screened and accredited suppliers (38%).

COMMENT

The Energy and Emissions Working Group met twice to discuss the results of the Community Energy Survey and identify options to encourage community emissions

reduction. The dot point list below is from the second meeting and prioritises actions that can be completed soon and within existing budgets or resources.

- Shire hosting free or low cost talks and workshops on energy themes, such as upcoming Living Smart course focussed on reducing carbon footprint;
- Develop an energy and emissions display for libraries which could circulate other Shire facilities and be adapted for events such as Swan View Agricultural Show or Darlington Arts Festival;
- Have renewable energy as a theme for the next Mundaring Environmental Art Project (primary school drawing competition);
- Develop pledges for community groups including scouts, sports groups etc. noting need to engage with the groups and perhaps introduce the pledge via presentations;
- Sustainable design brochure for new buildings with locally relevant and easy to understand information (including orientation for passive solar design which is very difficult to retrospectively address); and
- Develop local information on retrofitting existing buildings to increase their energy efficiency - recognise local experts and champions, promote Sustainable House Day, consider case studies such as commercial rooftop solar (e.g. Mundaring Coles and Aldi) and retrofits of existing houses.

Members of the Energy and Emissions Working Group were keen to meet again and continue to assist with development of energy focussed environmental education material for community emissions reduction.

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

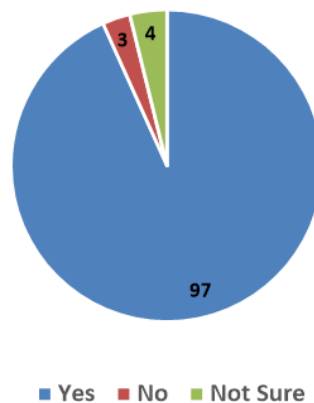
That the Committee:

1. Continues to assist with development of community energy and climate change education initiatives through the Energy and Emissions Working Group; and
2. Supports the theme of 'clean energy and smaller carbon footprints' for the 2020 Mundaring Environmental Art Project.

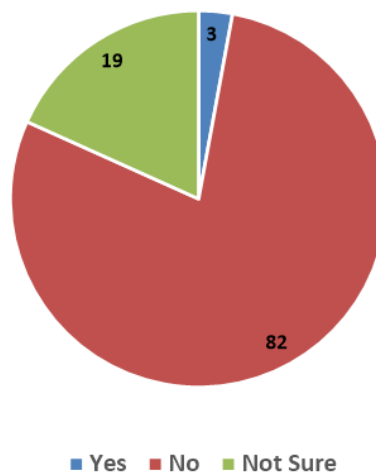
Community Energy Survey Results from EAC Stall at Blue Sky Festival 2019

Note that the labels on pie charts indicate number of responses, not percentage, of the 104 survey respondents.

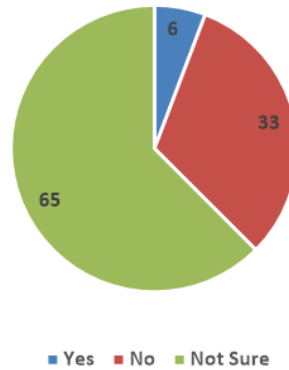
1. Do you think anthropogenic climate change (caused by human activity) is an important issue for the Shire of Mundaring?



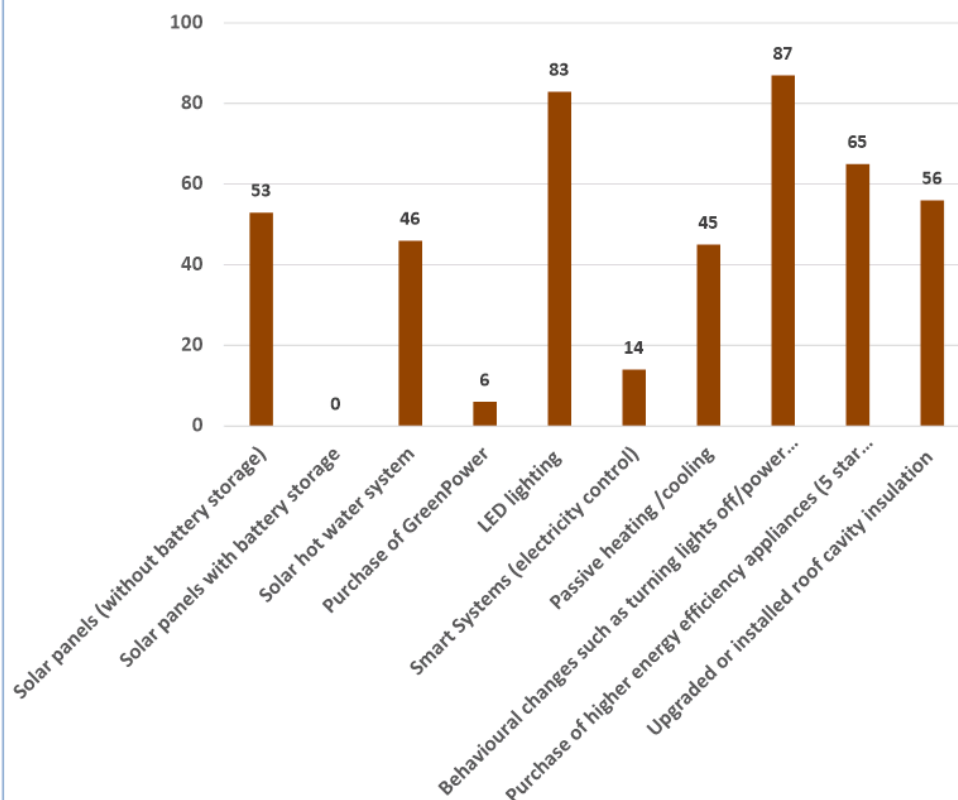
2. Is the State Government taking sufficient action to prepare for climate change and reduce carbon emissions?

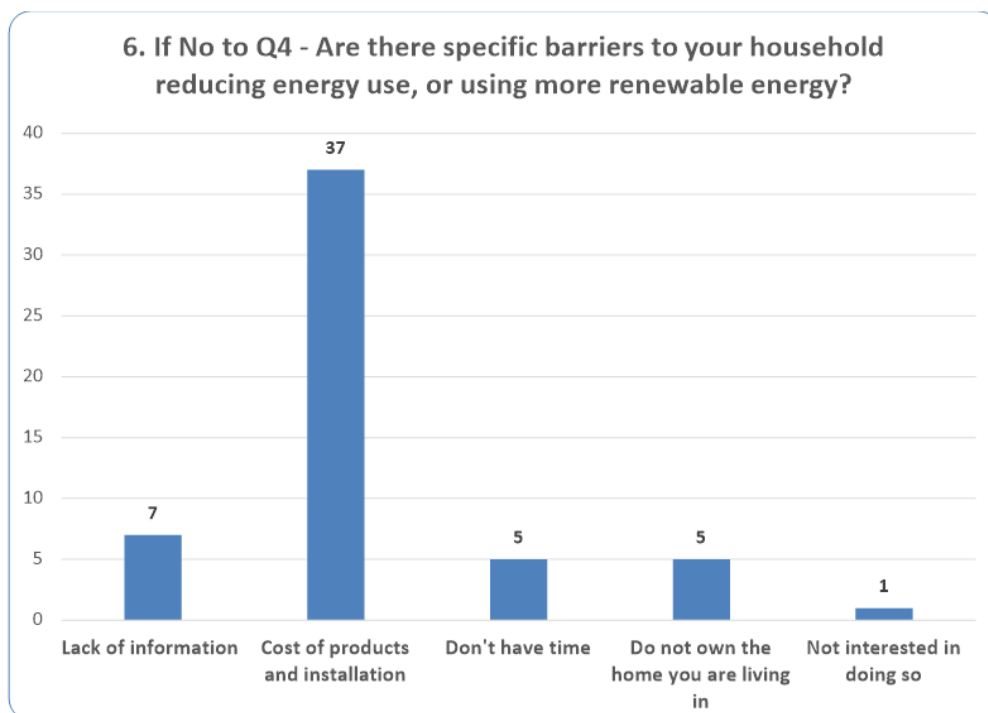
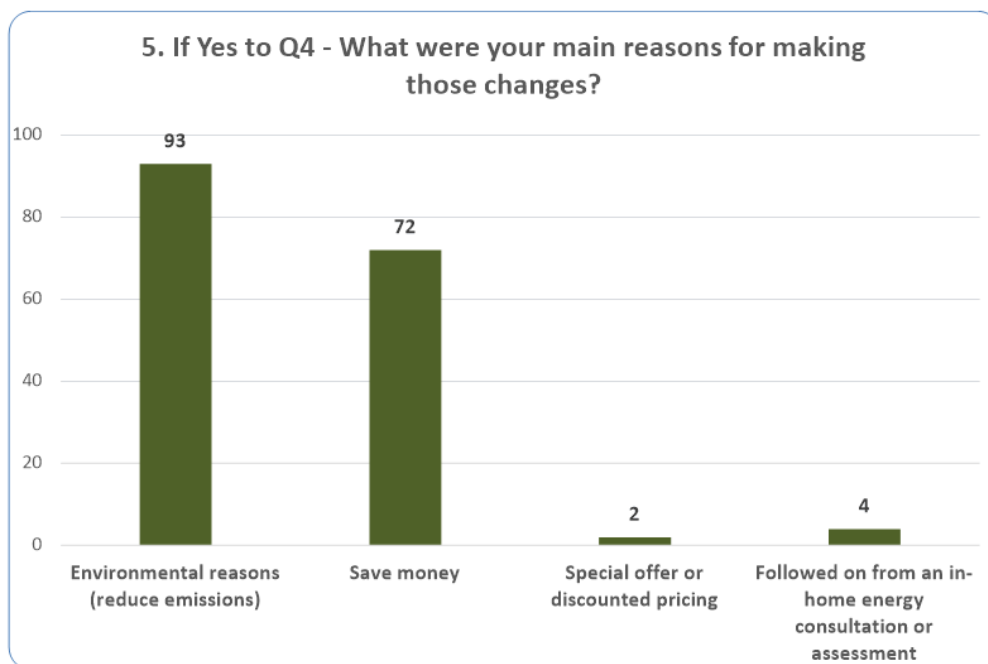


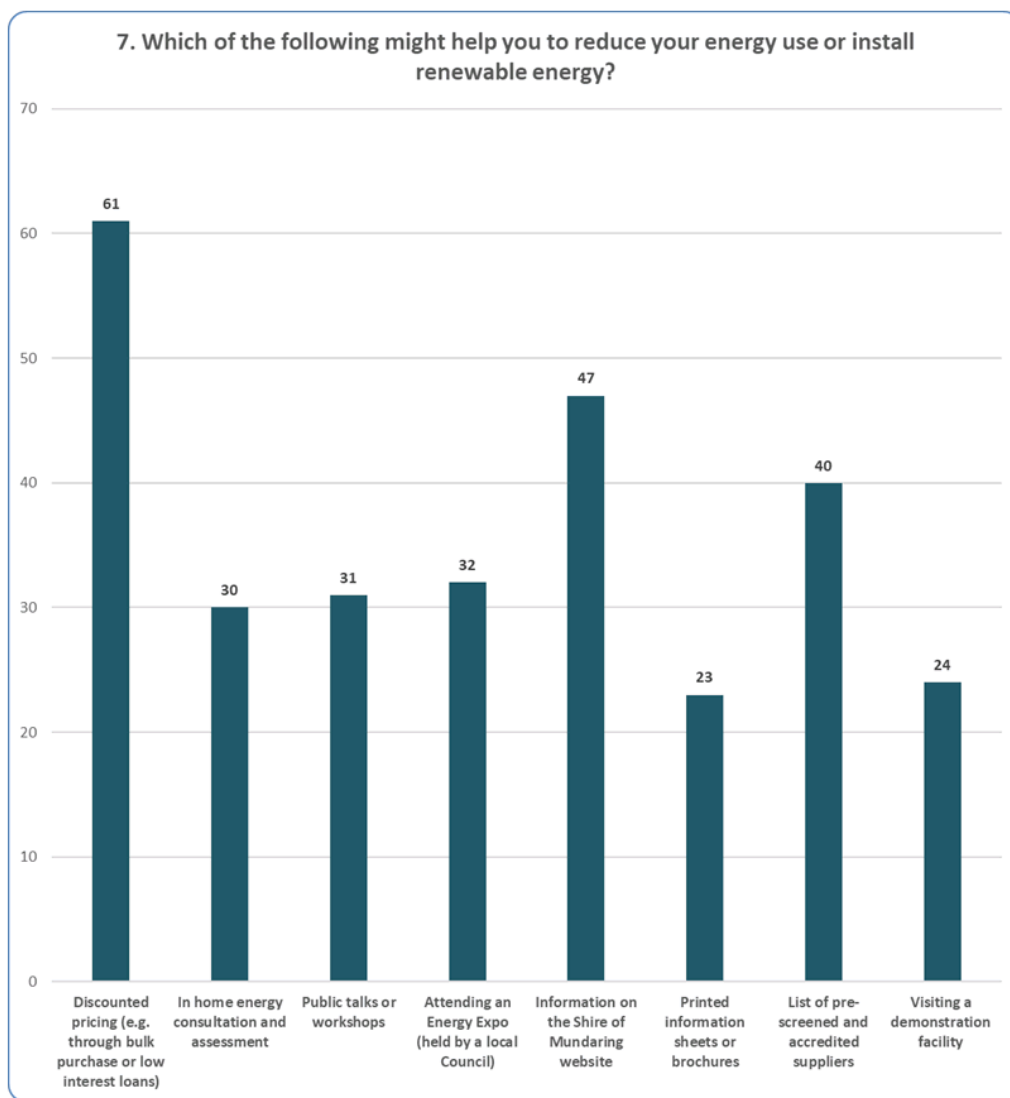
3. Is the Shire of Mundaring taking sufficient action to increase energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions?



4. Has your household made any changes to reduce your energy use, or use more renewable energy?







8. Other suggestions about what the Shire, households, local schools, businesses or community organisations could do to reduce emissions

Better storage solutions for solar energy
Cheaper batteries
Email information sheets/brochures
Energy innovation
Home solar battery and/or electric vehicle.
Possibility of private wind power
Trial electric vehicle
Banning plastic straws
Better planning to protect water and bushland
Better Public Transport (x2)
Commitment to a major reduction in energy use by changing behaviour
Community events with local providers
Community recycling for not-for-profit organisations
Control on waste
Education aimed specifically to inform all listed above
Electric council vehicles
Electric vehicle for public transport ie shuttle Mundaring- Midland
Elimination of power buy back subsidies.
Emission reduction target- other than low Commonwealth one- specific to Mundaring- make a statement - back up the existing info & other mechanisms already here.
Encourage more cycling- better bike paths etc
Encourage sustainable & energy wise level?
Energy efficiency infrastructure installed on all Mundaring buildings

Ensure by law all households newly built are solar passive, have deciduous shade on the northern side at least, eastern side too. Plant trees wherever possible in town (deciduous- less fire prone), revegetate unused bushland.
Fix solar panels on shire building
Increase connectivity (buses, walking)
Increase solar panels on all old houses and ALL new houses to have solar panels and water tanks underground
Lobby federal government to create national strategies and solutions
Lobby for increased public transport
Look at the Life Cycle Assessment of the use of carbon in true assessment of emissions including the volume of water used in processing and the fate of heavy metal toxic waste.
Make frequent / reliable public transport a mandatory condition for any new development eg North Stoneville, North Parkerville.
Make PV a mandatory condition for new build estates eg Stoneville Nth, Parkerville Nth.
More education at schools
More info to residents re waste management (attached to rates assessment
More information and education on emissions and environment in general including education on recycling and the dos/don'ts / cans /can'ts.
More solar panels on public buildings.
More talks and consultation
Need to publicise intentions and performance. Reliance on website many not be enough to stimulate interest and action.
New housing developments should require a 50% renewable energy component. Rebated if early adopter.
No plastic- glass bond system for shops/stalls
Plug in station for electric vehicle
Prevent mass clearing
Recycle green scraps
Recycling facilities in town
Recycling info at schools

Reduce the number of sporting ovals and replant with natives
Require all new houses to install solar electricity
Safe to cycle- footpath/traffic calming measures
School education
See all of the above. Think Question 7 all makes sense.
Shire buildings lighting at night. After hours turn the lights off.
Shire should reduce light waste / pollution at night. Reduce light pollution through smarter lighting of facilities, car parks and streets. Also not lighting areas it is not necessary.
Shire: Street lighting controls: reduced number of lights and duration
Solar panels on more businesses
Stiffer building regulations
Street lighting is on the increase instead of reducing it
Subsidise PV systems
Subsidise solar panels for people on low income
Subsidise water storage
Support initiatives for solar power
The Government needs to get their act together
Third recycle bin
Walking & cycling- encouraging people
Weed control, especially for the summer
Workshops and comprehensive info is important. People should be well studied in the entire issue.
Would be good to be able to pick up stuff from the recycling centre at Coppin Rd. Like they have at Chidlow.
Would like to see weekly recycling pick-up

7.0 URGENT BUSINESS (LATE REPORTS)

8.0 CLOSING PROCEDURES

8.1 Date, Time and Place of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on 20 August 2019 at 6.00pm in the Committee Room, 7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring.

8.2 Closure of the Meeting