



2020/21

# ANNUAL **REPORT**

---

Shire of Mundaring



## Acknowledgement **OF COUNTRY**

Shire of Mundaring respectfully acknowledges the Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation, who are the traditional custodians of this land.

We acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the region.





# Contents

## Part 1

About this Annual Report 1

About Us 2

Community Vision 2

Shire President's Message 3

CEO's Message 5

Future Direction 7

Highlights of the Year 9

Key Projects 14

Key Achievements 16

Response to Crises 25

Our Council 31

Shire Wards 32

Statutory Reports 33

## Part 2

Annual Financial Statements 42



# About this **ANNUAL REPORT**

**Local governments are required, under the *Local Government Act 1995*, to produce an Annual Report before 31 December each year.**

While this report must meet certain statutory requirements, the 2020/21 Annual Report also highlights Shire of Mundaring's operational and financial performance for the past financial year and provides an overview of the Shire's future outlook.

This report informs the reader how the Shire is delivering on its vision to be 'the place for sustainable living'.

This vision was adopted in March 2020 following a major review of the Strategic Community Plan.

The review demonstrated a desire of the people within the Shire of Mundaring for sustainable living and a move towards a more community and business led approach where leadership, collaboration and inclusivity are embraced.

The Strategic Community Plan and its supporting Corporate Business Plan form the Shire's road map for the future and detail the community's aspirations for the Shire of Mundaring.

These two plans are part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, which is applied by all local governments in Western Australia.

If you would like to provide feedback on the Annual Report please email [shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au).

Alternative formats of this document are available upon request.

“ *This report informs the reader how the Shire is delivering on its vision to be the place for sustainable living.* ”

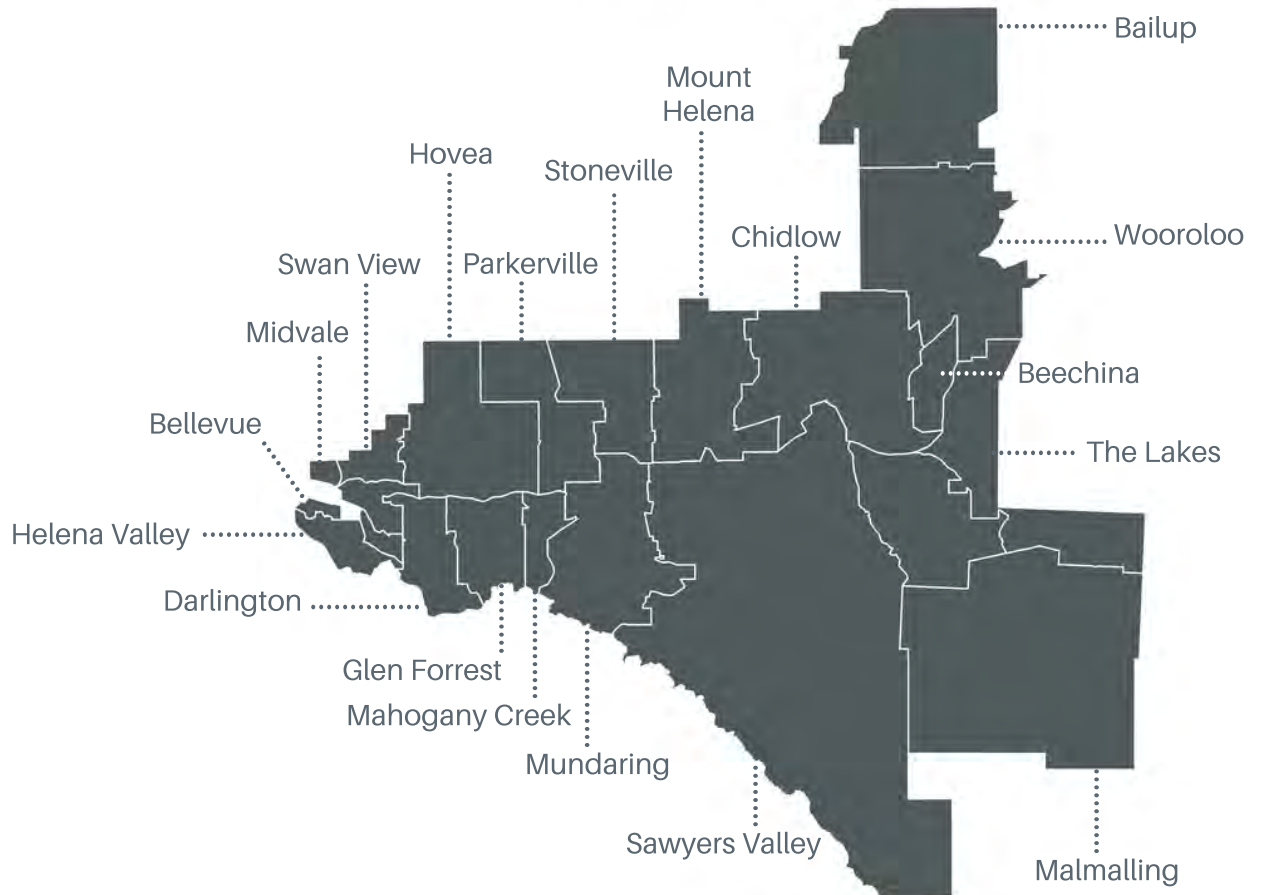


# About US

Shire of Mundaring is located on the eastern fringe of Perth, approximately 35 kilometres from the Perth CBD.

It encompasses a total land mass of 644sqkm, of which nearly half is National Park, State Forest or water catchments. The largest industries are construction, manufacturing, rental hiring and real estate services.

Townsites and locations include:



## Community VISION

*The place for sustainable living*

We value:

Protection of the natural environment

A peaceful lifestyle

A safe and inclusive community



# Shire President's **MESSAGE**

## **Welcome to the 2020/21 Annual Report.**

This year has presented the Shire with new challenges and achievements.

As the global COVID-19 pandemic continued into its second year, the Shire rolled out its COVID-19 Recover Together Grant program.

Over the past financial year, 53 Recover Together Grants were awarded totalling \$248,581.53.

The funding has supported many local community groups and businesses with initiatives including workshops, community gardens, events, marketing collateral and equipment that address the impacts of the pandemic.

February saw the Shire impacted by the Woorloo bushfire. In the midst of the recovery, Shire of Mundaring supported a community-led recovery event called 'A Night Out of the Haze' at Woorloo Primary School.

Up to June 30, 2021 the Shire hosted 26 recovery events at Woorloo Hall, including community meetings, afternoon teas and mobile library visits.

His Excellency the Governor-General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and Her Excellency, Mrs Linda Hurley, delivered a message of hope when they visited Woorloo in April.

In June the hall opened its doors for weekly Winter Warmer community meals. The initiative has since become a monthly occurrence.



In 2020 Shire of Mundaring was recognised as a Gold status member of the 2020 Waterwise Council Program for a second year in a row.

This was a big achievement, as it rewarded us for demonstrating innovation and leadership in achieving sustainable water management.

Reducing our water usage is a key priority and we continue to set the example for our community and encourage Waterwise practices.

Following the local government elections in October 2021, six Councillors retired. I am grateful to have been elected as Shire President and to lead a strong Council for the next two years.

I welcome our newly-elected members Cr Paige McNeil, Cr Neridah Zlatnik, Cr Luke Ellery, Cr Trish Cook, Cr Jo Cicchini and Cr Karen Beale.



# Shire President's **MESSAGE**

I would also like to thank our outgoing Shire President, John Daw, Deputy Shire President, Jason Russell, Cr Toni Burbidge, Cr Kate Driver, Cr Ian Green, Cr Darrell Jones and Cr David Lavell. Your passion, hard work and commitment to the Shire is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to CEO Jonathan Throssell and his Executive Leadership Team who have successfully led Shire staff during this reporting period.

The Shire has a healthy schedule of projects planned for the 2021/22 financial year as forecast in the 10-year Long Term Financial Plan.

I look forward to seeing these projects come to fruition as we continue to make Shire of Mundaring a great place to live.

Cr James Martin  
Shire President

“*The Shire has a healthy schedule of projects planned for the 2021/22 financial year as forecast in the 10-year Strategic Community Plan.*”





# CEO's MESSAGE

**2021 has certainly shaped up to be a busy and unforgettable year, both on a global scale and at home.**

While we forged ahead with delivering our core services as identified in the Strategic Community Plan, we had to manage the significant ongoing impact of COVID-19, as well as a devastating bushfire in Wooroloo.

We have emerged stronger and more resilient with Council and staff working collaboratively for the betterment of the community.

A key objective has been our commitment to keeping costs and rates to a minimum. We continue to be a financially sustainable local government as measured by the State Government's Financial Health Index for local governments. This means that we live within our means while delivering the services our community requires.

At the heart of our operations is our core purpose, which is to improve the wellbeing of our community. Guided by the Strategic Community Plan, we remain in an optimal position to do this, regardless of the challenges we have faced, or are yet to face.

In addition to the Strategic Community Plan, we have a 10-year Financial Plan and four-year Corporate Business Plan to drive us towards our purpose and to achieve our goals.



We have a strong working relationship between our staff and Council. Together, we have worked hard to respond to the community's expectations, which are extensive and varied. You will read about many of our key achievements and highlights within this report including:

### **Mundaring Multi-purpose Community Facility**

The staged revitalisation of the Mundaring Town Centre will allow for construction of a new Multi-purpose Community Facility and create a new civic and cultural heart.

A spatial concept for the Mundaring Multi-purpose Community Facility was endorsed by Council at a Special Council Meeting in October. The option proposes co-locating the majority of existing community facilities and services while retaining or re-purposing nearby facilities.

# CEO's MESSAGE

## **Rebranding of the Perth Hills Tourism Precinct**

The Perth Hills Tourism Alliance is a marketing strategy between five local governments in the Perth Hills including Shire of Mundaring.

In 2020/21, the alliance developed the Perth Hills Tourism Marketing Plan and rebranded the City of Kalamunda's award winning "Experience Perth Hills" brand to encompass the whole Perth Hills region.

## **Morgan John Morgan Reserve upgrades**

Construction to upgrade the Morgan John Morgan Reserve (the "Train Park") began in April 2021. New concrete paths connecting to the park area, installation of a concrete pad for new seats and preparation works on the western end of the park (for a grassed area) were completed. The works will continue into the new financial year.

## **Containers for Change**

A Container for Change refund point was officially opened at the Coppin Road Community Recycling Centre in October 2020.

## **Lake Leschenaultia enhancements**

Our much loved Lake Leschenaultia received a \$205,744 makeover to enhance the capacity, increase shade and improve access for people with a disability.

Our commitment to exceptional customer service has not faltered, despite several lockdowns this financial year.

The Shire team has continued to adapt to a 'new normal' way of service delivery in a pandemic.

Staff adapted well while our IT department worked tirelessly to enable staff to work from home and for Councillors to adapt to live streaming of Council meetings.

Essential services, including childcare, continued to be delivered during lockdowns and enhanced hygiene and check in procedures are now part of our way of doing business.

The Wooroloo Bushfire in February 2021 had a major impact on our community, staff and Council. While operations were disrupted due to most staff working from home during a COVID lockdown, many Shire staff were unfortunately also personally impacted by the fire.

It has been inspiring to watch everyone support our community during the crisis and into the recovery.

Once again, I would like to thank Councillors and all of the wonderful staff at the Shire. I am proud of our team, who have taken this year's challenges in their stride. The collaboration demonstrated a willingness to adapt to do business differently when required and is highly appreciated.

Jonathan Throssell  
Chief Executive Officer



# Future **DIRECTION**

**The ten-year Strategic Community Plan was adopted by Council in March 2020.**

The four-year Corporate Business Plan was amended in July 2021 as part of an annual review. Recovery from COVID-19 and the Wooroloo Bushfire 2021 and building resilience to future disasters were included in the four year priorities.

The development of the Reconciliation Action Plan was postponed due to the pandemic. Community consultation is underway and a draft plan will be submitted to Reconciliation Australia following Council consideration at the start of 2022.

Projects planned for the next 12 months include:

- Broz Park play equipment upgrade
- Byfield Road safety works
- Darlington Heritage Walkway
- Mundaring Cemetery Walkway
- Mundaring Cemetery upgrade works
- Mount Helena Oval subsoil drainage
- Replace the Bilgoman Aquatic Centre grandstand
- Lake Leschenaultia enhancements and western side toilet block
- Stoneville Bushfire Brigade Building
- Works to achieve Disability Access Programme
- Energy emission reduction works on Shire facilities

Other initiatives for the Shire include:

- Enhanced bushfire risk management
- Economic Development and Tourism Strategy
- Local Biodiversity Strategy
- Wooroloo Bushfire 2021 recovery activities
- Planning for the Mundaring Multi-purpose Community Facility





#australiaday  
#reflectrespectcelebrate



WE'RE ALL PART  
OF THE STORY.



# Highlights OF THE YEAR



This Annual Report details Shire of Mundaring's progress against the strategic objectives contained in the Strategic Community Plan 2020/30 and the Corporate Business Plan 2020/21.

Together these plans form the blueprint for the future across four aspirational objectives:

- Community
- Governance
- Built Environment
- Natural Environment

See the following pages for highlights from these areas for the reporting year.



## VOLUNTEERS

During the 2020/21 reporting year, there were **6725** volunteers in the shire. The monetary value of volunteers' time equates to **\$53m p.a.**

---

**125,000 hours**

contributed by Volunteer Bushfire Brigades. This represents a **\$6,001,250** replacement cost to the Shire.

---

**2124.25 hours**

Total annual hours across the Shire's libraries, Visitor Centre and Hub of the Hills. This equates to a **\$101,973.25** p.a. replacement cost to the Shire.

---

**3,964 hours**

contributed by **72** Friends of the Reserves Groups with a replacement cost of **\$190,311.64**.



# COMMUNITY

Healthy, safe, sustainable and resilient community, where businesses flourish and everyone belongs

100,532

Aquatic Centre entries

12,532

Camp visitor days at Lake Leschenaultia

97,491

Library visits

63

Media releases distributed

919,579

hits to the website

4

Major events





# GOVERNANCE

Trusted, leading and listening local government

2175

Jobs attended  
by Rangers

47

Council and  
committee meetings

600

Pool inspections

16,533

In person  
reception enquiries

\$3,566,137

Value of  
Capital Grants





# BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Transport, infrastructure and planning for liveable, connected communities

\$1,746,481

Property maintenance program

\$2,593,252

Civil works maintenance program

\$402,626,087

Total asset value managed

475

Development applications determined





# NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

A natural environment that is protected, sustainable and enjoyed

14,352

Recycling bins collected

\$4,148,181

Parks and maintenance program

229

Seedlings and Landcare program applications

296

Participants at environmental education workshops



# Key PROJECTS



## Morgan John Morgan Reserve upgrades on track

The Morgan John Morgan Reserve Park upgrade commenced during April 2021 following community consultation, with the assistance of the Glen Forrest Resident and Ratepayers Association.

The resulting Masterplan is now being implemented and is due for completion by December 2021. The works include construction of new concrete paths connecting each side of the park area; installation of new seats and shelters; a grassed area at the western end of the park and history information boards.

The \$200,000 project is funded by a grant from the Federal Government Community Development Grants Program.



## Hub-Plus option for Mundaring Multi-purpose Facility

Following feedback and input from community members and stakeholders, four conceptual options were prepared by a consultant for the Mundaring Multi-purpose Community Facility.

Option three - 'Hub-Plus', was endorsed by Council in October 2020. The option proposes co-locating the majority of existing community facilities and services while retaining or re-purposing nearby facilities. The staged revitalisation of the Centre will allow for construction of a new Multi-purpose Community Facility and create a new civic and cultural heart.

A framework and decision-making criteria to guide the next stage of the project, including preparation of a Property Strategy and Land Assembly Plan, was also adopted at the meeting.

The Property Strategy and Land Assembly Plan is a road map describing the logistics in a prioritised approach to retaining, acquiring, disposing or redevelopment of land within the town centre. Construction of the proposed Mundaring Multi-purpose Community Facility is anticipated to commence in 2025/26.

# Key PROJECTS



## Chidlow locals help shape design for new skate park

The Chidlow Village Green Skate Park project commenced in early 2021 following community consultation.

In March, the Shire commissioned construction drawings and technical specifications. The construction contract was awarded to Skate Sculpture in July and the project is expected to be finished in early 2022.

Designed in consultation with local residents, the skate park boasts a half bowl, moguls, stairs, ramps and kerbs.



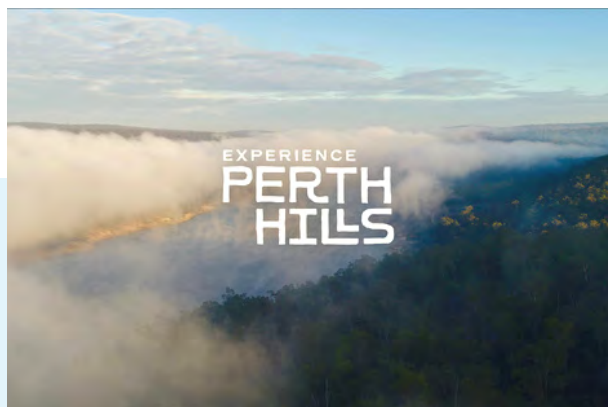
## Local Biodiversity Strategy consolidates older strategies into single document

Still in its draft stages, the Local Biodiversity Strategy will consolidate and update several older environmental strategies into one document. By the end of this reporting period, works on the Strategy have included:

- Exploring remote data collection options with neighbouring local governments to improve mapping and monitoring of watercourses and native vegetation
- Partnering with Landgate to pursue collection of detailed Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) mapping for the whole of the shire
- Mapping of dieback and identifying long-term protectable areas in high priority reserves
- Engaging consultants to prepare a dieback management plan to guide bushfire risk mitigation works on a high priority reserve
- Engaging consultants to prepare an ecological and bushfire management plan for a high priority reserve



# Key ACHIEVEMENTS



## New brand for Perth Hills Tourism

The Perth Hills Tourism Alliance is a collaboration of tourism marketing between the five local government authorities located along the metropolitan section of the Darling Scarp.

In 2020/21 the Alliance developed the Perth Hills Tourism Marketing Plan and rebranded the City of Kalamunda's award winning "Experience Perth Hills" brand to encompass the whole Perth Hills region.

Experience Perth Hills is now a cohesive, regional tourism brand. This revitalised brand is the cornerstone for all future regional tourism promotion and is set to compete with other strong regional brands such as Swan Valley, City of Perth and Margaret River.



## Skate Park designed for users of all ages and skating ability

A \$150,000 upgrade to the Mount Helena Skate Park was completed in February 2021.

A new skate bowl was installed following community consultation conducted in early 2020.

Measuring 15m long, the skate bowl interlinks with existing skate park facilities providing options for users of all ages and skateboarding abilities.

Maintenance and repairs were also undertaken on the existing skate park, which included adding stairs to ramps for greater accessibility.

The upgrade was made possible with the support of \$100,000 funding from the State Government's Local Projects and Local Jobs program and a \$50,000 contribution from the Shire.

# Key ACHIEVEMENTS



## Lake Leschenaultia makeover improves access for people with a disability

The picnic area at Lake Leschenaultia received a \$205,744 makeover to enhance the capacity, increase shade and improve access for people with a disability.

Improvements to the area include two new accessible car bays and accessible paths; increased number and larger picnic areas with accessible picnic tables; and another barbecue.

Landscaping upgrades included reparation of erosion and works to mitigate future erosion and mulching.

Over 1000 native shrubs were planted to improve visual aspects in coming years along with 14 shade trees. Once fully grown, the trees will provide welcome shade during summer.



## Coppin Road Container Deposit Scheme drop off a popular addition

A Containers for Change refund point was officially opened at the Coppin Road Community Recycling Centre in October 2020.

The Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) is a Western Australian scheme offering a 10 cent refund for every eligible empty beverage container.

An impressive 2,596,676 containers were received at the drop off point between October 2020 and 30 June 2021.

“ 2,596,676 containers were deposited at the Shire's container deposit point up to 30 June 2021. ”



# Key ACHIEVEMENTS



## Baby 365 project promotes social connection

The Child and Parent Centre in Clayton View launched the Baby 365 first 1000 Days Project in June 2020.

The project helps mentor young expectant mothers, offering them a space to connect, engage and access the necessary support services to aid early pregnancy.

Baby bathing facilities, washing machine, clothes dryer, baby cots and areas for the parent to rest and form social connections have been added to the site.

Mothers can also gain access to pre-natal care and up to six weeks post-natal care from allied health providers including: Child and Maternal Health Nurse, Moort Boojari Mia Aboriginal Pregnancy and Birth Service, two midwives, lactation specialist and baby and mother focused programs every day.

An expo was held in November 2020 to link local new mothers with babies born during the COVID-19 period to 30 local agencies including Midlas, Hearing Foundation, Ngala, Aboriginal Health and NDIS. Bounty packs, mother bags and clothing were available free for each family member.



## Nature playground a welcome addition

Installation of a nature play playground at the Midvale Early Childhood and Parenting Centre (MECPC) was completed in December 2020.

The \$122,000 upgrade to the 314.41m<sup>2</sup> playground included new fencing; shade sails; nature logs for risk play; nest swing installation; rock and water feature sandpits, along with a variety of plants.

Renovations inside the centre were also completed in November 2020.

Works included new wall panelling and vinyl wall plank flooring, internal paint and new blinds as well as two-child sized Marri tables with matching bench seats in the children's meals area.

MECPC operations, including these works, are funded through fees and charges and grants.

# Key ACHIEVEMENTS

## Community Health and Wellbeing Informing Strategy

The Shire's Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2020/2025 provides a framework for protecting and promoting the health of the community. Staying mentally and physically healthy are the key outcomes of the Strategy.

The first report since the Strategy was adopted in 2020, was presented to Council in May 2021.

Achievements for the first year include:

- Delivery of the Explore and Expose photography competition which saw 163 entries from 72 photographers
- Delivery of five mental health sessions including how to help children after a disaster, coping with stress and responding to children's anxiety at the Midvale Hub
- Celebrating our volunteers and the valuable contribution they make to our community

- Providing more than \$80,000 in funding to local groups to deliver community based events and activities with a health and wellbeing focus
- Delivery of a free falls prevention program for over 60s. Forty-five people attended workshops and activities between March and May 2021
- \$900,000 in funding was secured to make our roads safer through the Federal Government's Blackspot program
- Community education related to bushfire safety and firebreak management





# Key ACHIEVEMENTS



## Administration Centre solar panel expansion

One hundred and ninety solar panels were installed on the roof of the Shire Administration Building between April and May 2021. The panels are in addition to the existing 118 panels.

Together they cover 30 per cent of the building's total energy bills.

The target is part of Council's Emissions Reduction Target and the Shire's commitment to sustainability and environmental awareness in all of its buildings.

The new system is expected to pay for itself within five years.



## Broz Park toilet block and lake enhancement

Works on a new \$150,000 universal toilet block were completed at Broz Park in Helena Valley in April 2021.

The toilet block sports two new universally accessible toilets with wheelchair accessible pathways, basins, taps, wide doorways and fall prevention handles.

The upgrades are part of ongoing Shire-wide inclusivity and accessibility projects. The toilet block is one component of an overall program of improvements at Broz Park which includes environmental enhancements for the lake and new play equipment.



# Key ACHIEVEMENTS



## Food for Thought explores food culture through art

A six-month collaborative project, Food for Thought, brought together local cultural groups and renowned WA artists.

Presented by Shire of Mundaring and Mundaring Arts Centre during the first half of 2021, the program offered over 88 workshops and events which explored food culture through art, attended by over 2000 people.

The program concluded in August 2021 with an exhibition of work created in the workshops.

The Food for Thought Project was made possible by funding from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' Outer Metro Arts Grant.



## Explore and Expose photo competition

For eight weeks amateur photographers in the shire and City of Swan were invited to explore their local area and expose what connects them to the Perth Hills through the camera lens.

Explore and Expose was designed to celebrate our beautiful spaces, promote positive mental health and engagement in the community.

Three photography workshops were also held in July 2020 as part of the competition thanks to the support of Mundaring Arts Centre, Mundaring Camera Club and Neami National.

Grant funding of \$1,500 was secured from Neami National to support the competition.

A total of 163 entries were received from 72 photographers. A variety of locations and subjects including landscapes, pets, loved ones, architecture and nature were captured.



# Key ACHIEVEMENTS



## Glen Road bridge replaced

The existing timber bridge on Glen Road in Darlington was replaced with concrete box culverts between January and March 2020.

The project cost \$536,380, with funding allocated in the 2020/21 financial year.

This included \$200,000 from the National Bridges Renewal R4 Funding with the balance co-funded by Main Roads for \$236,380 and the Shire for \$100,000.



## Public Open Space Strategy

The 2001 Public Open Space Strategy coordinates the allocation of Public Open Space (POS) under the Shire's former Town Planning Scheme 3.

An amendment to rescind the 2001 POS Strategy and create new provisions for use under Local Planning Scheme No. 4 was considered by Council in May 2021.

This amendment intends to:

- Complete missing links in the POS network
- Elevate the issue of bushfire risk management
- Strengthen environmental protection provisions
- Leverage underperforming POS to make improvements to areas that would yield greater environmental and public benefits and ensure sustainable management of POS into the future

The amendment was referred to the Western Australian Planning Commission for certification in May 2021. After certification, the amendment will be advertised for public comment before being referred back to Council for consideration and the Western Australian Planning Commission for a final decision.

# Key ACHIEVEMENTS



## Grand Arbour unveiled in Darlington

A unique partnership model between the Shire and Darlington Sports and Recreation Association (WA) Inc. (DaSRA), has brought two major projects to life.

DaSRA successfully secured a \$340,000 grant from the Department of Health as part of the Darlington Lower Recreation Area Master Plan.

The partnership saw DaSRA utilise community member expertise to prepare building plans for a 33 metre grand arbour at Darlington Oval, while the Shire worked with the community group to assist and implement the grant and approve plans.

Extensive volunteer hours helped bring this community vision to fruition.

The project was completed in June 2021.



## Riders pumped for new track at Darlington Oval

In partnership with DaSRA, a pump track was constructed as part of the Darlington Lower Recreation Area Master Plan at Darlington Oval.

The 150 metre long pump track was funded by a grant from the Federal Government through the Hon. Ken Wyatt, Minister for Indigenous Australians.

The track was designed in consultation with skateboard, scooter and bike riders. For the more advanced riders there are challenging blends of rollers and swerving, and banking berms. Meanwhile beginners can ride the more gentle terrain.

The pump track was completed in January 2021. The innovative partnership, which included the arbour and pump track, has led to cost-effective outcomes as well as building social capital in the Darlington community.

It also aligns with the Shire's Strategic Community Plan priorities to support community-led initiatives and to foster innovative partnerships with community groups to achieve community outcomes.





A spectacular dragon dance was one the highlights of the Food for Thought launch day at the Rotary Mundaring Sunday Markets in March 2021.



# Response to crises: **COVID-19**

## The Shire has continued to evolve to respond and adapt to the constraints of COVID-19.

In July 2020, a Shire of Mundaring tiered grant funding program was opened. Known as the Recover Together – COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Fund, it aimed to support community groups and businesses and boost community-led initiatives which addressed the impacts of the pandemic.

- **53** Recover Together Grants were awarded totalling **\$248,581.53**
- **11** Restart grants to the value of **\$5455** were awarded to **four** community groups and **seven** businesses
- **23** Reconnect grants to the value of **\$49,683.23** were awarded to **21** community groups and **two** businesses
- **14** Rebuild grants to the value of **\$99,026.50** were awarded to **nine** community groups and **five** businesses
- **Five** Resilience grants to the value of **\$94,416.80** were awarded to three community groups and **two** businesses



## Economic relief and recovery measures

As part of its strategy to lessen the economic impact of the pandemic on the community, the Shire provided economic relief and recovery measures to assist community groups and the local business community.

These initiatives included:

- **25** per cent of Shire facility hire fees for community and commercial bookings waived
- **27** community groups had **\$21,288** of lease payments waived
- **\$88,530** in facility hire fees for community and commercial bookings waived
- **32** community groups had insurance payments of **\$7562** waived
- **1 commercial** lease provided six months' rent relief in line with Commercial Tenancies (COVID-19 Response) Act 24 April 2020

Increased flexibility in payment options for all accounts receivable including rates, was provided.

- **8.2** per cent of ratepayers had payment plans
- **43** per cent of ratepayers elected to pay via instalments during the year, compared to 42 per cent last year
- **326** ratepayers had new flexible repayment options
- **49** ratepayers requested flexible payment options due to hardship



# Response to crises: **COVID-19**

## Tourism Marketing draws visitors to the region

Four separate marketing campaigns to draw visitors to the region, to the value of \$24,500, ran from mid-October 2020 to June 2021.

This included a three-minute story on attractions in Mundaring which aired on Destination WA on Channel 9, a Seasonal Marketing Program via Influencer websites and blogs, seasonal Facebook and Instagram advertising and a social media program.

## Economic Stimulus Projects - Infrastructure and Local Roads

The Federal Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications provided three rounds of grant funding.

The funding aims to stimulate additional infrastructure construction activities to protect and create short-term employment opportunities and to deliver benefits to communities.

Shire of Mundaring received **\$3,610,950** in funding for a range of projects.



# Response to crises: **WOOROLOO BUSHFIRE**

## **In response to the Wooroloo bushfire on 1 February, the Shire mobilised its Incident Management Team.**

The team liaised with City of Swan (who were also affected by the fire), held daily incident meetings and monitored the impact to prepare for recovery.

An evacuation centre was opened at Brown Park in Swan View. Two additional centres were opened within the City of Swan. Across the three centres 906 people registered as evacuees and 230 people slept overnight.

Mundaring Arena was transformed into a Level 3 Incident Control Centre, opening its doors to 25 agencies.

Adopting a whole of organisation response, service areas provided the following assistance:

**Community Engagement** provided support to impacted residents and liaised with support and referral agencies, secured funding through the Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Arrangements for the Wooroloo Bushfire Recovery Program.

**Communications** disseminated up-to-date information.

**Information Technology** expanded Mundaring Arena's internet service and provided GIS mapping for agencies.

**Community Safety** activation of the State of Emergency Animal Welfare Plan to coordinate the animal welfare response. It was the first time the plan had been activated with 11 per cent of animals in the affected area requiring treatment.





# Response to crises: **WOOROLOO BUSHFIRE**

**Finance and a range of other Shire services** collaborated to co-ordinate the disbursement of the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Bushfire Relief Fund and the Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund to eligible residents.

A 100 per cent concession on all rates penalty interest was given to residents who lost, or had significantly damaged properties. Fees for planning, building and other charges were also waived for eligible residents, including visits to the Shire's transfer stations.

**Building Services** inspected approximately 50 properties. Twelve demolition permits were issued for houses that had been lost, structures containing asbestos and large sheds.

**Health Services** inspected damaged properties for health hazards and ensured hazards were addressed in a timely manner. Staff also liaised with the City of Swan on a joint application for Minderoo pods to assist residents who had lost their homes. Meanwhile staff provided health management services and liaised with the community and agencies at the Brown Park Evacuation Centre.

The **Environment and Planning** team co-ordinated environmental programs including Seedlings for Landcare, erosion control and site visits for sediment affected dams. They provided access to free herbicide and tree poppers for removing eastern states wattles.

Free environmental asset inspections were also offered to residents as they rebuilt.

**Infrastructure Services** assisted property owners with the disposal of fire damaged items, cleared dangerous and fallen trees from roadways, repaired damaged road pavements, bridge crossing guard rails and reinstated damaged guide posts.

The **Shire's Local Recovery Coordinator - Bushfire Clean-up**, contacted, visited and met with 13 affected Mundaring residents to assist them with completing their Authority To Act forms. The forms authorised the state government, their employees and contractors to enter properties to carry out works related to the clean-up of fire debris and contaminants.

The Shire also attended affected residents' site scoping meetings between the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER), GHD and McMahon contractors to ensure the residents' interests were considered and protected. It also followed up with DWER and Department of Fire and Emergency Services officers on subsequent clean-up issues.





In April 2021, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and Shire President, John Daw, chatted with and thanked, volunteers at Wooroloo Hall.



# Response to crises: **WOOROLOO BUSHFIRE**

## Focus on community-led recovery

On Thursday 11 February, the Shire moved from a response to recovery phase, with a focus on the recovery being community driven and led.

Recovery networks including the Local Recovery Co-ordinating Committee; the Infrastructure and Finance Sub-committee; and Community and Environment Sub-committee, were formed to provide advice on recovery initiatives.

Disaster Relief Australia (DRA), in collaboration with the Minderoo Foundation's Fire and Flood Resilience initiative, deployed 249 volunteers to assist with the clean-up.

To acknowledge the community impact of the fire and to thank those involved in the recovery, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, and Her Excellency, Mrs Linda Hurley, were guests of honour at an afternoon tea at Wooroloo Hall on 19 April 2021.

The Recovery has been funded by an \$18.1 million Commonwealth and State Government Community Recovery Fund.



From craft afternoons to dinners, soccer workshops to yoga, there has been a hive of activity at Wooroloo Hall during 2021 as community members reconnected and began to recover from the bushfire.

## From response to recovery

13

Property owners in the shire received assistance to complete Authority to Act forms.

\$1,341,952

was disbursed from the Lord Mayors' Distress Relief Fund to Shire residents.

38

applications were approved for the Lord Mayors' Distress Relief Fund

\$60,000

was disbursed on behalf of the State and the Department of Premier and Cabinet Bushfire Relief Fund.

11,064

Disaster Relief Australia completed **103** work orders over **11,064** volunteer hours. Their assistance saved **\$545,497** in community costs.

# Our COUNCIL

## **Council generally holds one Ordinary Council Meeting each month.**

These meetings are open to the public with the Shire's Meeting Procedures Local Law guiding how the meetings are conducted. During 2020/21 Council held 12 Ordinary Council Meetings, five Special Council Meetings and one annual Electors Meeting.

Our Shire comprises four wards with 12 Elected Members. Three members represent each ward. Following each local government election, Council elects a Shire President and Deputy Shire President.

While each Elected Member represents a particular ward (see ward map and an image of each Councillor on page 32), their role is to consider the current and future interests of the entire district.

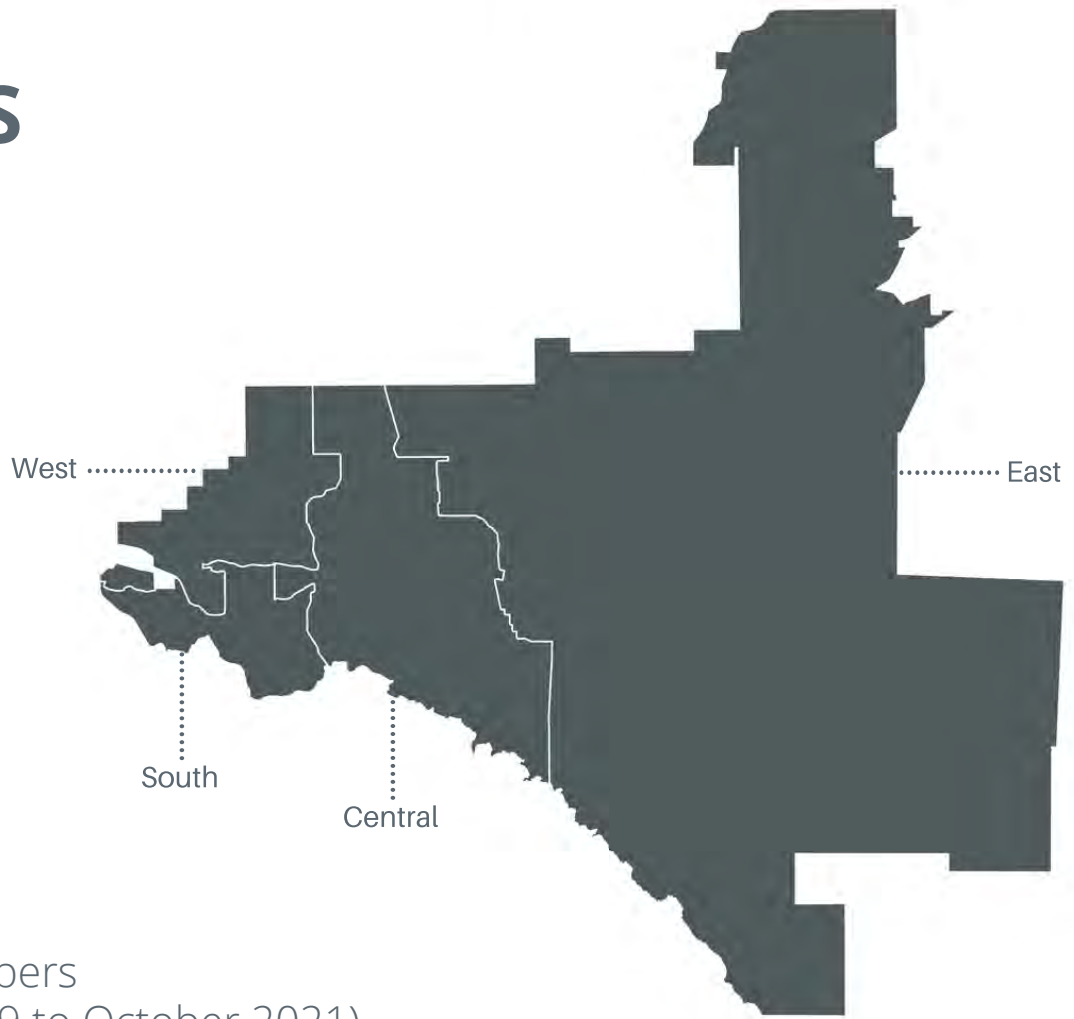
A general election was held on 16 October 2021 with six new Councillors elected. Their terms run until 2025.

On 19 October 2021, Cr James Martin was sworn in as Shire President and Cr Paige McNeil as Deputy President.





# Shire WARDS



Elected Members  
(October 2019 to October 2021)

## Central Ward



Cr Toni Burbidge      Cr Amy Collins      Cr Doug Jeans

## South Ward



Cr Darrell Jones      Cr David Lavell      Cr James Martin

## East Ward



Cr Simon Cuthbert      Cr John Daw  
Shire President      Cr Kate Driver

## West Ward



Cr Matthew Corica      Cr Ian Green      Cr Jason Russell  
Deputy Shire President

# Statutory **REPORTS**



Number of Council meetings attended (1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021)

<b>Elected Member</b>	<b>Ordinary (12)</b>	<b>Special (4)</b>	<b>Electors (1)</b>
Cr John Daw	12	4	1
Cr Jason Russell	11	2	0
Cr Toni Burbidge	10	4	1
Cr Amy Collins	12	4	1
Cr Doug Jeans	12	4	1
Cr James Martin	11	4	1
Cr David Lavell	10	3	0
Cr Darrell Jones	8	4	1
Cr Matthew Corica	7	3	0
Cr Kate Driver	10	3	0
Cr Simon Cuthbert	10	4	1
Cr Ian Green	12	3	1





# Statutory REPORTS

Number of committee meetings attended (1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021)

As well as attending Council meetings, Elected Members participate in standard Council committees whose purpose is to provide advice and/or make decisions on behalf of Council under delegated authority. The number of Councillors required for each committee varies.

Shire of Mundaring is required to report on the following:

<b>Elected Member</b>	<b>Audit &amp; Risk Committee (5)</b>	<b>Grants Selection Committee (6)</b>	<b>CEO Performance Review Committee (4)</b>	<b>Environmental Advisory Committee (4)</b>
Cr John Daw	5	6	4	n/a
Cr Jason Russell	2	n/a	3	n/a
Cr Toni Burbidge	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cr Amy Collins	n/a	n/a	n/a	3
Cr Doug Jeans	n/a	4	4	n/a
Cr James Martin	5	5	n/a	n/a
Cr David Lavell	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cr Darrell Jones	4	n/a	2	n/a
Cr Matthew Corica	3	4	n/a	n/a
Cr Kate Driver	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cr Simon Cuthbert	3	4	n/a	3
Cr Ian Green	n/a	n/a	4	n/a

# Statutory REPORTS

Number of committee meetings attended (continued)

<b>Elected Member</b>	<b>Australia Day Citizenship Awards (1)</b>	<b>Bush Fire Advisory Committee (5)</b>	<b>Local Emergency Management Committee (3)</b>
Cr John Daw	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cr Jason Russell	1	n/a	n/a
Cr Toni Burbidge	n/a	4	2
Cr Amy Collins	1	n/a	n/a
Cr Doug Jeans	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cr James Martin	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cr David Lavell	1	n/a	n/a
Cr Darrell Jones	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cr Matthew Corica	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cr Kate Driver	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cr Simon Cuthbert	1	1	1
Cr Ian Green	n/a	n/a	n/a





# Statutory REPORTS

## Diversity Data - Councillors

Eleven out of 12 elected members provided the diversity data detailed in *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 regulation 19B*. One Councillor did not respond.

Shire of Mundaring comparison percentages are based on 2016 Census data.

Statistic	Council (11 Councillors responded)	Shire of Mundaring residents (38,164 residents)
Gender	75% male 25% female	52% male 48% female
Linguistic background	91% (10 Councillors) speak only English at home 9% (1 Councillor) speaks French at home	84% speak only English at home 16% speak a language other than English at home
Country of birth	82% (9 Councillors) born in Australia 18% (2 Councillors) born in the United Kingdom (England, Wales)	70% born in Australia 30% born overseas, of which 41% born in England
Councillors aged between 18 and 24	9% (1 Councillor)	6%
Councillors aged between 25 and 34	0	11%
Councillors aged between 35 and 44	18% (2 Councillors)	13%
Councillors aged between 45 and 54	27% (3 Councillors)	16%
Councillors aged between 55 and 64	27% (3 Councillors)	17%
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	0	1.9%





# Statutory **REPORTS**

## Breaches (Standard Panel)

There were no breaches reported during the reporting period.

## Freedom of Information

The Shire's Freedom of Information statement is available on the Shire website and outlines the Shire's functions, the kind of records we keep and how these records can be accessed.

We received nine Freedom of Information applications during the financial year 2020/21.

## Public Disclosures

Shire of Mundaring is committed to the aims and objectives of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003 (PID Act)*.

The Act aims to ensure openness and accountability in government by encouraging people to make disclosures and protecting them when they do. It facilitates the disclosure of public interest information and provides protection for those making such disclosures, and those who are the subject of disclosures. The Act also provides a process for the matters disclosed to be investigated and for appropriate action to be taken.

The Shire did not receive any public interest disclosure reports during the reporting year.



# Statutory REPORTS

## Standards Panels Costs

The Shire did not pay any Standards Panel costs for hearing a complaint regarding an elected member nor did the Standards Panel order any funds be reimbursed to the Shire by an elected member.

## Employee Salaries

The *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* require local governments to state in their Annual Report the number of employees with a salary of more than \$130,000. During 2020/21, 14 Shire of Mundaring employees were entitled to an annual cash salary of \$130,000 or more in the following categories:

Salary Range \$	Number of Employees
130,000 to 140,000	5
140,000 to 150,000	3
150,000 to 160,000	1
160,000 to 170,000	0
170,000 to 180,000	0
180,000 to 190,000	2
190,000 to 200,000	2
200,000 to 210,000	0
210,000 to 220,000	0
220,000 to 230,000	0
230,000 to 240,000	0
240,000 to 250,000	0
260,000 to 270,000	1*

\* Total remuneration package for CEO is \$311,591.





# Statutory REPORTS

## Disability Access and Inclusion

**The Shire promoted the ACROD Parking Bay campaign initiated by National Disability Services (NDS), 'This Bay is Someone's Day' from 3 December 2020.**

The campaign aimed to address the issue of inappropriate use of ACROD parking bays. Decal stickers displaying the key message were displayed on five ACROD parking bays within the Shire. Promotion of 10 campaign story videos provided by NDS were posted on Shire's social media over the 10 week period of the campaign.

This initiative was supported by the Shire Inclusion and Disability Access Advisory Group (IDAAG).

Following community demand, an accessible family change room at Bilgoman Aquatic Centre was developed in December 2020 (see photo on next page).

This project addresses inclusivity as parents expressed concerns around compliance with age and gender regulations which saw parents having to send their children into change rooms unaccompanied.



# Statutory REPORTS

## Disability Access and Inclusion (continued)

The Lake Leschenaultia Enhancement Project was implemented as part of the Shire's corporate planning.

This involved provision of a range of upgrades to the main picnic area at the lake including: the creation of two new accessible parking bays; an accessible path from the parking bays through to the picnic area; installation of a two-plate accessible barbecue and accessible picnic tables.

To meet community demand for accessible park amenities, the Shire constructed a Universal Accessible Toilet at Broz Park in Helena Valley.

This initiative was listed as a priority by the Shire's IDAAG and has been well received by community.

As part of The Lighthouse Project, the CEO has signed a pledge to increase employment within the Shire for people with disability, with a target of 5% by 2025.

The Lighthouse Project is a partnership project between the Disability Services Commission and Local Government Managers Australia WA to increase the employment of people with disability in local government.

“*...the CEO has signed a pledge to increase employment within the Shire for people with disability, with a target of 5 per cent by 2025.*”

The Shire has partnered with Eastern Hills Senior High School to create opportunities for students with special needs and those struggling with school retention to participate in community work with an aim to achieving a Community Services Certificate.

Students are required to complete a set number of community services hours to achieve the certificate, which goes towards a student achieving their WACE Certificate.

It is anticipated students gain a sense of purpose and develop practical skills. Examples include gardening duties within Mundaring Cemetery and assisting local Friends Groups with vegetation programs.

