



SHIRE OF MERREDIN

17 June 2014

Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting

Held in Council Chambers
Corner King & Barrack Street's, Merredin



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Shire of Merredin
Ordinary Meeting of Council Minutes
Tuesday 17 June 2014



1. Official Opening

The President welcomed those in attendance and declared the meeting open at 3.12pm.

2. Public Question Time

Nil

3. Record of Attendance / Apologies and Leave of Absence

3.1 Councillors:

Cr KA Hooper	Shire President
Cr RM Crees	Deputy President
Cr BJ Anderson	
Cr CA Blakers	
Cr JP Flockart	
Cr DN Hayes-Thompson	
Cr TS Thomas	
Cr MD Willis	
Cr ML Young	

3.2 Executive:

G Powell	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
V Green	Executive Assistant to CEO
S Lowe	Media & Communications Officer
R McCall	Deputy Chief Executive Officer

3.3 Members of the Gallery: M Gill, Merredin-Wheatbelt Mercury

3.4 Apologies: Nil

3.5 Approved Leave of Absence: Nil

4. Disclosure of Interest

Nil

5. Applications for Leave of Absence

Nil

6.	Petitions and Presentations
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Nil

7.	Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting
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- 7.1 Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 May 2014
[Attachment 7.1A](#)

A recent audit revealed that the following Minutes had not previously been recorded as having been presented to Council. To correct this omission, the following Minutes are submitted to Council for confirmation.

- 7.2 Budget Adoption Meeting held on 30 July 2012
[Attachment 7.2A](#)
- 7.3 Special Council Meeting held on 9 August 2012
[Attachment 7.3A](#)
- 7.4 Annual Electors Meeting held on 19 February 2013
[Attachment 7.4A](#)
- 7.5 Audit Committee Meeting held on 21 May 2013
[Attachment 7.5A](#)
- 7.6 Budget Adoption Meeting held on 19 July 2013
[Attachment 7.6A](#)
- 7.7 Annual Electors Meeting held on 6 February 2014
[Attachment 7.7A](#)

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution
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Moved: Cr Crees

Seconded: Cr Willis

81378 That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 May 2014, the Budget Adoption Meeting held on 30 July 2012, the Special Council Meeting held on 9 August 2012, the Annual Electors Meeting held on 19 February 2013, the Audit Committee Meeting held on 21 May 2103, the Budget Adoption Meeting held on 19 July 2013 and the Annual Electors Meeting held on 6 February 2014 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

CARRIED 9/0

8.	Announcement by the Person Presiding without discussion
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Nil

9.	Matters for which the Meeting may be closed to the public
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- 19.1 Staff – Appointment of Executive Manager of Development Services

10.	Receipt of Minutes of Committee Meetings
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10.1 Local Health Advisory Group meeting held 3 April 2014

[Attachment 10.1A](#)

10.2 Great Eastern Country Zone meeting held 8 May 2014

[Attachment 10.2A](#)

10.3 Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Executive meeting held 21 May 2014

[Attachment 10.3A](#)

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution
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Moved: Cr Young

Seconded: Cr Blakers

81379 That the minutes of the Local Health Advisory Group Meeting held 3 April 2014, the Great Eastern Country Zone Meeting held 8 May 2014 and the Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Executive Meeting held 21 May 2014 be received.

CARRIED 9/0

11.	Recommendations from Committee Meetings for Council consideration
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11.1 Great Eastern Country Zone meeting held 8 May 2014 - Item 7.2 2014/2015 Budget

[Attachment 11.1A](#)

Moved: Cr Storer

Seconded: Cr Waters

That the Great Eastern Country Zone adopt the Draft Budget for the year ending 30 June 2015, as circulated, with a general subscription for each Member Council set at \$4,120 (excluding GST).

CARRIED

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution
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Moved: Cr Crees

Seconded: Cr Anderson

81380 That \$4,120 (excluding GST) be allocated in the 2014/15 Budget for the Shire of Merredin's Western Australian Local Government Association Great Eastern Country Zone member subscription.

CARRIED 9/0

12.	Officer's Reports - Development Services
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Nil items to report

13. Officer's Reports - Engineering Services

13.1 Skip Bins - Fees and Charges - 2014/15 Budget

Engineering Services



Reporting Officers:	Executive Manager of Engineering Services Environmental Health & Compliance Officer
Authors:	Kevin Paust Rebecca Bowler
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995
File Reference:	CA/4; WM/5/1
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Nil
Maps / Diagrams:	Nil

Purpose of Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Background

Avon Waste introduced new bulk waste bins in early 2013. The provision of 1.5m³, 3.0m³ and 4.5m³ bins enabled businesses to access a more cost effective waste management option suited to their particular circumstances, instead of having to use a number of 1100 litre bins.

The introduction of the new 3.0m³ 'commercial capacity' bins resulted in conflicts between existing fees and the fees set to cover the cost of servicing the new 'commercial capacity' bins. The current annual fee for a weekly pick up of the new 3.0m³ bin is \$965.00, which equates to approximately \$18.60 per week (pre 2014/15 Budget). The current charge for a skip bin to drop any kind of waste is \$55 per cubic metre.

In response to the difference in methodology, the Shire of Merredin considered, in part, the fees and charges imposed on skip bins and sought comment from the operator of the commercial skip bin business.

At its January 2014 meeting Council resolved (CMRef 81285):

"That Merredin Skip Bins be requested to provide options for commercial fees and charges for Council's consideration and that staff provide advice on skip bin charges when preparing the 2014/15 Budget."

While Merredin Skip Bins have not yet provided an alternative option to staff at the time this agenda was prepared, staff sought further information on skip bin disposal fees during the preparation of the 2014/15 fees and charges.

Comment

Correspondence has been received from a local business owner over a period of 6 months regarding the discrepancies between these particular fees. This, as well as the general annual procedures, has prompted a review of the fees and charges in time for the new financial year. Two new fees are proposed to bring the skip bin fees in line with the rest of the commercial sector.

Research was undertaken by staff to determine the fee and charges structure of other local governments of a similar size. The following are fees for disposal (per cubic metre) of a skip bin containing commercial bulk waste (all 2013/14 fees):

1. Town of Narrogin: \$14 per m³
2. Shire of Moora: \$21 per m³
3. Shire of Dandaragan: \$72 per m³
4. Shire of Goomalling: \$50 per m³
5. Red Hill: \$46-\$57 per m³

As a result of this investigation, the fees and charges for disposal of skip bin contents within the Shire of Merredin have been reviewed and the following fee structure is recommended. This fee structure brings the disposal of skip bin waste in line with the rest of the Shire's commercial sector fees proposed for the 2014/15 year:

1. Skip Bins - unsorted per m³- \$58.00 (proposed fee for 2014/15)
2. Skip Bins - minimum charge - \$17.00 (new fee for 2014/15)
3. Skip Bins - sorted per m³- \$31.00 (new fee for 2014/15)
4. Skip Bins - green waste per m³- \$11.00 (new fee for 2014/15)

Policy Implications

Nil

Statutory Implications

The provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 are applicable.

Strategic Implications

Service Area: Engineering/Works Services & Development Services
Activities: Landfill and Resource Recovery Site & Environmental Health
Link to Vision: Liveable
Link to Strategic Priorities: Nil
Service Level: Not applicable
Service Level Change: No service level change

Sustainability Implications

The Shire of Merredin promotes and supports the sustainability of small businesses, which in turn promotes the sustainability of the region.

➤ **Asset Management Plan**

Nil

➤ **Long Term Financial Plan**

A minor decrease in revenue may result in that the overall charge per cubic metre for waste delivered in skip bins has decreased but in the interests of equity this should be supported.

➤ **Workforce Plan**

Nil

Financial Implications

Two new fees and charges are proposed to complement the existing 'skip bin' fees and charges:

1. Skip Bins- unsorted per m³- \$58.00 for 2014/15 (existing fee for 2013/14 - \$55.00)
2. Skip Bins – minimum charge - \$17.00 (new fee for 2014/15)
3. Skip Bins- sorted per m³- \$31.00 (new fee for 2014/15)
4. Skip Bins- green waste per m³- \$11.00 (new fee for 2014/15)

The new fees allow a commercial contractor/skip bin business operator to pay less for loads that are uniform and sorted in nature. The new fees and charges also encourage further sorting of waste material and diversion from landfill.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Moved: Cr Thomas

Seconded: Cr Crees

81381

1. That the fee for skip bin deliveries at the Chandler Road Landfill site be amended to provide for both sorted and unsorted loads and loads that contain green waste with this change bringing the charges in line with the commercial sector charges.
2. That the following changes are to apply:
 1. Skip Bins - unsorted per m³- \$58.00 (fee for 2014/15)
 2. Skip Bins - minimum charge - \$17.00 (new fee for 2014/15)
 3. Skip Bins - sorted per m³- \$31.00 (new fee for 2014/15)
 4. Skip Bins - green waste per m³- \$11.00 (new fee for 2014/15)

CARRIED 6/3

Councillor Anderson requested that all votes be recorded as specified in Section 5.21(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1995.

Councillors Hooper, Crees, Flockart, Hayes-Thompson, Thomas and Willis voted in favour of the motion

Councillors Anderson, Blakers and Young voted against the motion

14. Officer's Reports – Corporate and Community Services

14.1 List of Accounts Paid

Corporate and Community Services



Reporting Officer:	Greg Powell, Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Coco Shi, Finance Officer
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations
File Reference:	Nil
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	List of Accounts Paid
Maps / Diagrams:	Nil

Purpose of Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Background

The attached List of Accounts Paid ([Attachment 14.1A](#)) during the month under Delegated Authority is provided for Council's information.

Comment

Nil

Policy Implications

As outlined in the Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

Statutory Implications

As outlined in the Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

Strategic Implications

Nil

Sustainability Implications

- Asset Management Plan

Nil

- Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

- Workforce Plan

Nil

Financial Implications

All liabilities settled have been in accordance with the Annual Budget provisions. It should be noted that outstanding Creditors total \$592,397.49.

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Moved: Cr Crees

Seconded: Cr Willis

81382 That the schedule of accounts as listed, covering cheques, EFT's, bank charges, directly debited payments and wages, as numbered and totalling \$2,186,036.57 from Council's Municipal Fund Bank Account and \$121.50 from Council's Trust Account be received.

CARRIED 9/0

14.2 Monthly Finance Report

Corporate and Community Services



Reporting Officer:	Greg Powell, Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Coco Shi, Finance Officer
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations
File Reference:	Nil
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Monthly Finance Report
Maps / Diagrams:	Nil

Purpose of Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Background

The Monthly Finance Report is attached for Council's information ([Attachment 14.2A](#)).

Comment

Nil

Policy Implications

As outlined in the Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

Statutory Implications

As outlined in the Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

Strategic Implications

Service Area: 5.3 - Governance and Corporate Services
Activities: Finance and Asset Management
Link to Vision: Developing
Link to Strategic Priorities: Civic Leadership
Service Level: Financial management meets all legislated requirements
Service Level Change: No service level change

Sustainability Implications

- Asset Management Plan

Nil

- Long Term Financial Plan

Compliance with the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 and to also give Council some direction in regards to its management of finances over an extended period of time.

- Workforce Plan

Nil

Financial Implications

As outlined in [Attachment 14.2A](#).

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Moved: Cr Willis

Seconded: Cr Young

81383 That the Monthly Finance Report for May 2014 be received.

CARRIED 9/0

BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

14.3 Schedule of Fees and Charges 2014/15 Financial Year

Corporate and Community Services



Reporting Officer:	Greg Powell, Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Kim Chua, Executive Manager of Corporate Services Vanessa Green, Executive Assistant to CEO
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations
File Reference:	Nil
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Schedule of Fees and Charges
Maps / Diagrams:	Nil

Purpose of Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Background

Historically fees and charges are adopted as part of the budget process. However, this usually occurs after the new financial year has commenced. Reviewing the fees and charges for the new financial year now allows them to be ready for implementation on 1 July 2014 as occurred for the 2013/14 financial year.

Comment

The fees and charges have been reviewed not only on the basis of cost recovery but also to allow for clear application by staff and not to be cost prohibitive.

The proposed fees and charges for the 2014/15 financial year are included in [Attachment 14.3A](#). The attachment also details the 2013/14 financial year fees and charges for comparison purposes.

Excluding private works for the Grain Freight Network and maintenance contract, the fees and charges are expected to account for 15% (\$1.7M) of the Shire's total revenue. In reviewing the fees and charges for 2014/15, the following procedures and processes have been taken into consideration:

1. Input has been sought from all Managers and key members of staff
2. Comparison made with other Shires
3. Actual cost a service delivery
4. CPI increases and
5. Statutory charges which remain the same

As a result the following changes have been made:

1. Most fees have been increased by 5% (rounded to the nearest dollar) which is consistent with assumptions made in the Long Term Financial Strategic Plan.
2. Photocopy charges are now uniform in all Shire locations.
3. Some new fees have been introduced including:
 1. Reprint of rate notices \$10
 2. Cat registration fees – various
 3. Local Law fees – various
 4. Netta per participant \$10
 5. Line marking \$54 per hour plus paint (cost +10%)
 6. Lawn Mowing at Courses - \$182 per hour
 7. Several other fees at cost recovery plus a modest percentage

The membership fees for clubs have been abolished and this will be replaced by an Association Club Annual User Fee which will be considered by Council separately.

Policy Implications

Nil

Statutory Implications

As outlined in the Section 6.16 and 6.17 of the Local Government Act 1995.

Strategic Implications

Service Area: 5.3 - Governance and Corporate Services
Activities: Finance and Asset Management
Link to Vision: Developing
Link to Strategic Priorities: Civic Leadership
Service Level: Financial management meets all legislated requirements
Service Level Change: No service level change

Sustainability Implications

- [Asset Management Plan](#)

Nil

- [Long Term Financial Plan](#)

It has been forecast that Council's fees and charges will increase by 3-5% per annum.

- [Workforce Plan](#)

Nil

Financial Implications

Any increase in funds will be reflected in budgeted revenue.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

The Chief Executive Officer advised Council that since the Agenda had been distributed staff had continued to review the Schedule of Fees and Charges with further additions made. These additions were explained to Council and the revised Schedule tabled for consideration.

Officer's Recommendation

That the Schedule of Fees and Charges for the 2014/15 financial year, as presented in [Attachment 14.3A](#), be adopted effective from 1 July 2014 and advertised in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995.

Resolution

Moved: Cr Crees

Seconded: Cr Thomas

81384 That the revised Schedule of Fees and Charges for the 2014/15 financial year, as tabled and attached, be adopted effective from 1 July 2014 and advertised in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995.

**CARRIED 6/3
BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

14.4 Write-Off of Small Balances

Corporate and Community Services



Reporting Officer:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Rebecca McCall
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995
File Reference:	Nil
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	List of Assessments and Amounts
Maps / Diagrams:	Nil

Purpose of Report

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

Background

A standard process in maintaining an accurate and clean Rates database is the regular write-off of small balances (each less than \$5) which can sometimes occur and are clearly not economically viable nor practical to collect. The Local Government Act 1995 requires that these adjustments are approved by Council.

Comment

[Attachment 14.4A](#) itemises the individual assessment numbers and corresponding amounts where adjustments are required. There are 4 assessments in total with the largest individual amount being \$3.70 and the smallest amount being \$0.23c. The request to write-off the interest has been received from the ratepayers concerned.

These write-offs are additional to those authorised at Council's April and May 2014 meetings.

Policy Implications

As outlined in the Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations.

Statutory Implications

S6.12(1)(c) of Local Government Act 1995 '*Power to defer, grant discounts, waive or write off debts*'.

Strategic Implications

Service Area: 5.3 - Governance and Corporate Services
Activities: Finance and Asset Management
Link to Vision: Developing
Link to Strategic Priorities: Civic Leadership
Service Level: Financial management meets all legislated requirements
Service Level Change: No service level change

Sustainability Implications

➤ Asset Management Plan

Nil

➤ Long Term Financial Plan

Rate revenue within the Long Term Financial Plan has been forecasted to increase by 7.5% each year over the next 10 years. It has been forecast that by the end of the Plan Council's greatest source of revenue will be rates revenue. The write-off of small balances will have very little impact of Council's forecasted rate revenue.

➤ Workforce Plan

Nil

Financial Implications

This write-off of small balances will result in a reduction of the revenue by \$8.73.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Moved: Cr Crees

Seconded: Cr Young

81385 That Council approves the write-off of \$8.73 being various small balances as included in [Attachment 14.4A](#).

**CARRIED 9/0
BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

15. Officer's Reports – Administration

15.1 Local Government Financial Assistance Grants – Request for Restoration of Indexation

Administration



Reporting Officer:	Greg Powell, Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Vanessa Green, Executive Assistant to CEO
Legislation:	Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995
File Reference:	GR/05/06
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Correspondence from Australian Local Government Association; Implications Spreadsheet
Maps / Diagrams:	Nil

Purpose of Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Background

Correspondence has been received from the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) outlining the impacts of the decision of the Federal Government to freeze the indexation of the local government Financial Assistance Grants until 2017/18. The correspondence is included as [Attachment 15.1A](#).

Comment

The correspondence is self-explanatory however the impacts on the Shire of Merredin are significant. [Attachment 15.1B](#) contains a spreadsheet outlining the estimated financial loss over the next 3 financial years resulting in an approximate deficit of \$635,099 compared with previous arrangements.

ALGA suggests local governments write to their Federal Government representatives highlighting the implications of the decision for local services and asking Coalition representatives whether they continue to support the decision.

Policy Implications

Nil

Statutory Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

There will be implications across a number of Service Area's within the Corporate Business Plan, most notably 2.1 through to 2.4 as road services. Depending on the exclusions required to future budgets other areas of the Plan could also be affected.

Sustainability Implications

➤ Asset Management Plan

The loss of \$635,099 in funding will have a significant effect on various maintenance and capital services Council could be expected to provide. Decisions on what to exclude or postpone from future budgets as a result of the funding loss will need to be made when adopting future Budgets.

➤ Long Term Financial Plan

The Plan has been adopted using certain assumptions based on the receipt of grant funding. As mentioned in the Plan's Financial Overview, any reduction in external grant funding will have an impact with a possible rise in rates required to fund any shortfall, or alternatively, there will be a decline in service delivery.

➤ Workforce Plan

There could be implications for the workforce should there be a decline in Service Area activity.

Financial Implications

As indicated in [Attachment 15.1B](#) there is a loss of approximately \$635,099 in funding.

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Moved: Cr Thomas

Seconded: Cr Hayes-Thompson

81386 That correspondence be sent to all Western Australian Commonwealth politicians outlining the expected detrimental implications to services within the Shire of Merredin as a result of the indexation freeze of the local government Financial Assistance Grants, requesting a review of the Commonwealth's decision.

CARRIED 9/0

15.2 Wheatbelt Aged Support and Care Solutions(s) Report

Administration



Reporting Officer:	Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Greg Powell
Legislation:	Nil
File Reference:	GR/9/13
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Wheatbelt Aged Support and Care Solution/s Report
Maps / Diagrams:	Nil

Purpose of Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Background

The Wheatbelt Aged Support and Care Solution(s) Report (WASCS) summarises the outcomes of two major projects; the Central East Aged Care Alliance (CEACA) aged care report and WASCS project which aimed to develop and implement a holistic Wheatbelt regional solution to allow ageing residents to remain in their communities for as long as possible.

In 2012 CEACA, which covers 11 local governments, undertook a study through Verso Consulting to determine aged care needs in the Central East Wheatbelt and the development of an Age Care Solution at a local and sub-regional level. This report was launched in April 2013.

The primary aim of the WASCS is to develop tailored solutions and action plans that deliver improved future delivery of aged support and care across the whole Wheatbelt. In this report the solutions were developed for each identified sub-region of the Wheatbelt in a way which reflected a consistent region-wide approach.

Comment

The WASCS Report ([Attachment 15.2A](#)), prepared by Verso Consulting, has been developed through consultation with the remaining 32 Shires in the Wheatbelt over the past 12 months. The Wheatbelt Development Commission (WDC) has requested that all Wheatbelt Councils, including CEACA, endorse the document prior to the document's launch.

The CEO has taken the opportunity to read the full report and commends the work that Verso Consulting has done in the development of the plan. This plan is intended to drive aged care for the whole of Wheatbelt including assessing funding requirements. The CEACA report forms part of the document and it is no doubt necessary that it be endorsed although somewhat disappointing in that it has been subsumed into a larger approach. It is noteworthy that the Wheatbelt report is providing a model for State-wide aged care solutions.

At the time of writing this agenda item there was a couple of areas of concern that have been communicated to the WDC and rectified, which included:

1. The CEACA Shire logos have not been included in the Executive Summary.
2. There is inconsistency throughout the Report in relation to the number of Shires involved in the project i.e. sometimes including the CEACA Shires and other times not including them.
3. The CEACA demographic data was excluded from the report and a reference to the CEACA Aged Care Needs Study was made.

The Report suggests the way forward to be:

Step 1:

That Local Governments continue to work in sub-regional groups to ensure the successful implementation of the WASCs Report.

Step 2:

That all Councils formally adopt the WASCs Report and Needs Studies relating to the sub region and their individual Shire.

Step 3:

That the Boards of WDC and Regional Development Australia WA (RDAWA) formally accept the Reports.

Step 4:

WDC and RDAWA coordinate responses from the below key stakeholders on behalf of Local Governments;

1. Department of Social Services
2. Western Australian Country Health Service
3. Home and Community Care
4. Department of Housing
5. Department of Transport

Step 5:

The WASCs Report is publicly released with a launch.

The suggested WDC recommendations for Local Government Councils to endorse the report are:

1. That the five steps for adoption and implementation of the WASCs be endorsed;
2. That Council adopts the WASCs Report.

Policy Implications

Nil

Statutory Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Nil

Sustainability Implications

- Asset Management Plan

Nil

- Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

- Workforce Plan

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Moved: Cr Thomas

Seconded: Cr Blakers

81387

That the Wheatbelt Aged Support and Care Solution(s) Report, and Needs Studies relating to the sub region and the Shire of Merredin, as included in [Attachment 15.2A](#), and the 5 five steps for adoption and implementation of the Wheatbelt Aged Support and Care Solution(s) Report being:

Step 1:

That Local Governments continue to work in sub-regional groups to ensure the successful implementation of the WASCS Report

Step 2:

That all Councils formally adopt the WASCS Report and Needs Studies relating to the sub region and their individual Shire

Step 3:

That the Boards of WDC and Regional Development Australia WA (RDAWA) formally accept the Reports

Step 4:

WDC and RDAWA coordinate responses from the below key stakeholders on behalf of Local Governments;

- 1. Department of Social Services**
- 2. Western Australian Country Health Service**
- 3. Home and Community Care**
- 4. Department of Housing**
- 5. Department of Transport**

Step 5:
**The WASCS Report is publicly released with a launch
be endorsed.**

CARRIED 9/0

15.3 **Review of Policies**

Administration



Reporting Officer:	Greg Powell, Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Vanessa Green, Executive Assistant to CEO
Legislation:	Nil
File Reference:	Policy Manual
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Amended Policies
Maps / Diagrams:	Nil

Purpose of Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Background

To reflect the changes in the Administration's organisational structure and the correct titling of Executive positions a number of policies have been reviewed and amended. The amended policies, with tracked changes, are included in [Attachment 15.3A](#).

Comment

The amended policies are:

- 2.3 Staff Telephones and Allowances
- 3.5 Investment Policy
- 3.20 Disposal of Assets
- 3.22 Credit Card Policy
- 5.4 Establishment & Maintenance of Playground Equipment
- 7.7 Provision of Vehicles to Council Employees
- 8.16 Graffiti Removal & Prevention

The only amendments to the policies are the addition or alteration of position titles to reflect the current staffing structure within the Administration Office.

Policy Implications

An update to the Policy Manual as indicated in [Attachment 15.3A](#).

Statutory Implications

Local Government Act 1995

Strategic Implications

Nil

Sustainability Implications

- Asset Management Plan

Nil

- Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

- Workforce Plan

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Moved: Cr Young

Seconded: Cr Blakers

81388 That the amendments, as indicated in [Attachment 15.3A](#), to Policies:

- 2.3** Staff Telephones and Allowances
- 3.5** Investment Policy
- 3.20** Disposal of Assets
- 3.22** Credit Card Policy
- 5.4** Establishment & Maintenance of Playground Equipment
- 7.7** Provision of Vehicles to Council Employees
- 8.16** Graffiti Removal & Prevention

be adopted and the Policy Manual be updated.

CARRIED 9/0

15.4 Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan – 2014/15 Programme

Administration



Reporting Officer:	Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Greg Powell
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995
File Reference:	GR/9/7
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan
Maps / Diagrams:	Nil

Purpose of Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Background

The Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils (WEROC) Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan (the Plan) is an overarching document detailing major activity in the sport and recreation area of the respective WEROC Councils. It is reviewed annually to maintain its currency.

Comment

The Plan was last reviewed by Council in early 2013 and subsequently updated by all WEROC Councils. Initially it was disappointing that the Plan was not seen as a consolidated and adopted planning document for the region but rather an informing document. It was believed it loses some strength as a lobbying tool because of this in that it does not send a message of regional planning and consolidation. However, the Plan has some value in demonstrating that the region has attempted to look at the regional requirements and some sort of priority for the provision of new and refurbished facilities.

A summary of the Plan can be found at [Attachment 15.4A](#). It is opportune to review the projects and priorities at this point in time and update the Plan. The pool project attracted funding and was completed by the end of the 2012/13 financial year.

Policy Implications

Nil

Statutory Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Service Area: 1.2 Merredin Regional Community & Leisure Centre

Activities: 2 synthetic bowling greens, multi-functional sports stadium

Link to Vision: Liveable, Community Spirit

Link to Strategic Priorities: Key assets; recreational/sporting facilities, Community Spirit; events and activities

Service Level: Open 7 days a week for up to 18 hours a day as applicable

Service Level Change: No service level change but move towards increasing the ratio of user contribution to rates contribution

Service Area: 1.3 Merredin District Olympic Swimming Pool

Activities: Open from November to March catering for various swimming activities

Link to Vision: Liveable, Inclusive

Link to Strategic Priorities: Key Assets; recreational/sporting facilities, Community Spirit; events and activities

Service Level: Open 7 days a week from November to March

Service Level Change: No service level charge

Service Area: 3.4 Property Management

Activities: Building maintenance

Link to Vision: Nil

Link to Strategic Priorities: Nil

Service Level: Scheduled maintenance of the Shire's built structures as per the Asset Management Plan

Service Level Change: No service level charge

Sustainability Implications

➤ Asset Management Plan

The upgrading to community sport and recreational facilities will assist in complying with the Key Performance Measures and Performance Targets.

➤ Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

➤ Workforce Plan

Nil

Financial Implications

There are significant financial implications in that Department of Sport and Recreation funding will provide only a third of the cost with the balance being found at the local level.

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation

Moved: Cr Crees

Seconded: Cr Blakers

81389

That Council review the Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan, as included in [Attachment 15.4A](#), and advise the Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Executive Officer as follows:

- 1. Replacement of the bowls playing surface at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre in 2014/15;**
- 2. Further refurbishment of the Merredin District Olympic Swimming Pool in 2015/16;**
- 3. Resurfacing/reconstruction of the outdoor basketball/netball courts at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre in 2016/17; and**
- 4. Replace lighting at the Oval at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre in 2018/19.**

CARRIED 9/0

16. Motions of which Previous Notice has been given

Nil

17. Questions by Members of which Due Notice has been given

Nil

18. Urgent Business Approved by the Person Presiding or by Decision

18.1 Recycling Services in Merredin

Further to Items 13.1 Skip Bins Fees and Charges 2014/15 Budget (Page 8) and 14.3 Schedule of Fees and Charges 2014/15 Financial Year (Page 15), Cr Young indicated her intention to move a motion regarding the Avon Waste recycling service in Merredin.

Resolution

Moved: Cr Young

Seconded: Cr Blakers

81390 That staff look into the Avon Waste recycling contract with a view to rescinding the contract altogether, or not renewing the contract as the case may be, or failing that, reducing the cost to the ratepayer by about 80% of the current rate.

LOST 2/7

19. Matters Behind Closed Doors

19.1 Staff – Appointment of Executive Manager of Development Services

M Gill left the meeting at 4.21pm and did not return.

Resolution

Moved: Cr Crees

Seconded: Cr Young

81391 That Council proceed Behind Closed Doors at 4.27pm.

CARRIED 9/0

S Lowe and R McCall left the meeting at 4.28pm and did not return.

Councillor Anderson left the meeting at 4.30pm.

Councillor Anderson entered the meeting at 4.32pm.

Resolution

Moved: Cr Crees

Seconded: Cr Young

81392 That Council continues in open session at 4.35pm.

CARRIED 9/0

Officer's Recommendation / Resolution

Moved: Cr Crees

Seconded: Cr Young

81393 That Mr John Mitchell be confirmed as the Executive Manager of Development Services.

CARRIED 9/0

20. Closure

There being no further business the President declared the meeting closed at 4.49pm.