



Council Meeting

Thursday 28 November 2019

Council Chambers, Shire of Merredin, commencing at 1.00pm

MINUTES

WEROC | Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils

Incorporating the Shires of Bruce Rock, Kellerberrin, Merredin, Westonia and Yilgarn

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WEROC

Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils

Shires of Bruce Rock, Kellerberrin, Merredin, Westonia, Yilgarn

An In-person Council Meeting held in the Shire of Merredin's Council Chambers, commencing at 1.00pm

MINUTES

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEROC Chair Cr Ram Rajagopalan opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

The Chair advised that the Executive Officer wished to make a statement before the presentation.

Mr Bruce Wittber, BHW Consulting, advised the meeting that BHW Consulting would be tendering its resignation from the WEROC Executive Officer role with effect from 29 February 2020. Mr Wittber then handed the resignation letter to WEROC CEO, Darren Mollenoyux.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

2.1 Attendance

Cr Ram Rajagopalan (Chair)	Deputy President, Shire of Bruce Rock
Cr Stephen Strange	President Shire of Bruce Rock
Mr Darren Mollenoyux	CEO, Shire of Bruce Rock
Cr Rod Forsyth	President, Shire of Kellerberrin
Mr Raymond Griffiths	CEO, Shire of Kellerberrin
Cr Julie Flockart	President, Shire of Merredin
Cr Roy Butler	Councillor, Shire of Merredin (left the meeting at 2.47pm)
Ms Kellie Bartley	A/CEO, Shire of Merredin
Cr Karin Day	President, Shire of Westonia
Cr Bill Huxtable	Deputy President, Shire of Westonia
Cr Wayne Della Bosca	President, Shire of Yilgarn
Cr Bryan Close	Deputy President, Shire if Yilgarn
Mr Peter Clarke	CEO, Shire of Yilgarn
Ms Helen Westcott	Joint Executive Officer
Mr Bruce Wittber	Joint Executive Officer

2.2 Apologies

Nil

2.3 Guests

Ms Ana Farla, Broker Channel Specialist (Electricity Generation), Synergy (left the meeting at 1.45pm)
Mr Patrick Whitfield, Energy Coordinator Synergy (left the meeting at 1.45pm)

3. PRESENTATIONS/MEETINGS

3.1 Presentation from Synergy – Reducing Power Costs (Attachment)

Ms Ana Farla, Broker Channel Specialist (Electricity Generation), Synergy and Mr Patrick Whitfield Energy Coordinator Synergy

1.20pm Meeting broke into groups.

1.42pm Meeting reconvened

1.45pm Ms Farla and Mr Whitfield retired from the meeting

A copy of the PowerPoint used during the presentation forms an attachment to the minutes of the meeting.

4. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

4.1 Minutes from the Council Meeting held Wednesday 30 October 2019 (Attachment)

Minutes of the Council Meeting held Wednesday 30 October 2019 have previously been circulated to Member Councils.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held Wednesday 30 October 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Day

Seconded: Cr Della Bosca

That the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held Wednesday 30 October 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

4.2 Business Arising – Status Report as at 21 November 2019

Executive Meeting Wednesday 25 September 2019

5.4 Participation by WEROC in Renewable Energy Projects

Following its meeting with Steve Mason, CEO Innovation Central Midlands WA Inc (ICM), on ICM's involvement with BSC Energy, Power Ledger and others in developing sources of renewable energy on Tuesday 27 August 2019, WEROC Council resolved as shown below:

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Rajagopalan

Seconded: Mr Criddle

That WEROC:

1. Initiate discussions with BSC Energy and Power Ledger seeking the conduct of a pre-feasibility study in respect to developing a micro-grid system across the WEROC geographic area; and
2. Extend an invitation to Steve Mason to meet with WEROC Council in 2020 to provide an update on Innovation Central Midlands WA Inc's renewable energy project.

CARRIED

Work on preparing a pre-feasibility study is underway, with the Member Councils providing information to BSC Solar.

As advised at the WEROC Council Meeting on Wednesday 30 October 2019, the Executive Officer has extended an invitation to Steve Mason to meet with WEROC Council next year.

Energy provider Synergy has also accepted an invitation to meet with WEROC to discuss ways in which it could work with Member Councils to reduce their power costs.

Ms Ana Farla, Broker Channel Specialist (Electricity Generation) at Synergy will meet with the WEROC Council (refer also to Agenda Item 3.1).

The Executive Officer advised the meeting that BSC had currently working on options for Member Councils to consider. Once this work was completed it would be forwarded to WEROC for consideration.

5.7 Funding to Support and Mentor Local Governments to Assist in the Development of Public Health Plans (Attachment)

RESOLUTION: Moved: Darren Mollenoyux Seconded: Greg Powell

That the WEROC Executive recommend to the WEROC Council that:

- 1. WEROC write to the WA Local Government Association (WALGA) requesting that it prepare a local health plan template based on the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal four band classification model to assist in the preparation of local health plans that meet the needs of small rural and remote local governments; and*
- 2. If WALGA is unable to assist in preparing a template to assist in the preparation of local health plans WEROC look to creating its own template from which Member Councils can prepare individual local health plans.*

CARRIED

A response from Mr Nick Sloan, CEO WALGA, has been received, with a copy of the letter forming an attachment to the meeting agenda.

Mr Sloan's letter advised that WALGA is unable to assist in the preparation of template local health plans as requested. This is disappointing as the Executive Officer does not believe that WACHS will provide any assistance other than data to be used in the preparation of the plans.

Even though invited, WACHS did not attend the WEROC Executive Meeting on Wednesday 25 September 2019 to participate in the discussions following the presentation by Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA.

The Executive Officer will now work to action Part 2 of the above resolution.

The Executive Officer advised the meeting that she envisaged a draft plan would be available for WEROC's consideration at the next meeting of the WEROC Council.

Council Meeting Wednesday 30 October 2019

8.1 The Future Governance for WEROC – Development of the WEROC Constitution

RESOLUTION: Moved: Mr Griffiths Seconded: Cr Della Bosca

That:

- 1. The WEROC Executive Officer prepare and arrange the audit of the final statements of account for WEROC in order that all funds can be transferred from WEROC to the revised entity WEROC Inc once established;*
- 2. WEROC determine how all projects currently being undertaken by WEROC will be continued/completed under WEROC Inc once established;*
- 3. A Special General Meeting of Wheatbelt Communities Inc be held, via teleconference, prior to Christmas for the purpose of adopting the new constitution; and*
- 4. WEROC write to the Shire of Tammin to seek feedback on whether or not the Shire was interested in re-joining WEROC following its incorporation.*

CARRIED

Work around finalising the constitution is underway.

The Executive Officer spoke with the Shire of Tammin's CEO, Mr Neville Hale, on Wednesday 13 November 2019.

The Shire of Tammin is still to meet with members of SEAVROC, with a meeting not scheduled until February 2020. Until these discussions are held the Shire of Tammin is not in a position to make a decision on re-joining WEROC.

The Executive Officer advised Mr Hale that a copy of the new WEROC constitution would be sent to the Shire once it had been finalised.

Noted

6.2 Records Management in Local Government

RESOLUTION: Moved: Mr Clarke Seconded: Mr Mollenoyux

That the decision made by flying email on Thursday 10 October 2019 and detailed below be endorsed by the WEROC Council. That:

- 1. WEROC meet the costs associated with Enterprises Australia Pty Ltd undertaking the work detailed in Option 1 of its proposal to undertake a review of the record keeping policies for the Shires of Kellerberrin, Merredin, Westonia and Yilgarn, with travel and other costs associated with any onsite visits if required or requested to be covered by the Council being visited; and*
- 2. The Shire of Bruce Rock be given the opportunity to participate in any future records management projects should they be considered following the conclusion of the IAE's review of record keeping policies across the Shires of Kellerberrin, Merredin, Westonia and Yilgarn.*

CARRIED

At the time of preparing the meeting agenda, IEA had not received all responses to the second round of questions sent to the each of the four participating Councils. A preliminary report to WEROC will be provided once IEA has had an opportunity to review all the information received.

Noted

6.3 Ongoing Development of the WEROC App and Website

RESOLUTION: *Moved: Mr Mollenoyux* *Seconded: Cr Forsyth*

That WEROC:

1. Terminate its contract with go2GUIDES and in doing so seek clarification on ownership for both the WEROC App and website (including content and intellectual property); and
2. Seek quotations from suitably qualified organisations for the further development and management of the WEROC website.

CARRIED

The Executive Officer had a teleconference with Steven Peacock from go2GUIDES on Tuesday 19 November 2019 during which she advised him of WEROC's decision.

Written confirmation of the specifics around intellectual property etc has yet to be prepared but on the basis of the conversation with Steven Peacock it would appear that WEROC retains ownership of all pictures and information it provided during the establishment of both the App and website. It also owns the WEROC domain name and a number of other similarly sounding domain names purchased by go2GUIDES on WEROC's behalf to protect the "WEROC" name. All information relating to the domain names will be forwarded to WEROC by go2GUIDES. Everything else, including coding remains in the ownership of go2GUIDES.

This means that in establishing a new website WEROC will need to "start from scratch".

The Executive Officer will now seek quotes to undertake part 2 of the resolution.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Status Report for October 2019 be received.

RESOLUTION: *Moved: Mr Mollenoyux* *Seconded: Cr Forsyth*

That the Status Report for October 2019 be received.

CARRIED

4.3 **Matters for Noting**

▪ **The Country Ambulance Strategy**

The Minister for Health recently launched The Country Ambulance Strategy - Striving for Equity in Country WA. The Strategy is the culmination of work that commenced with the release of a draft strategy last year.

WEROC provided comment on the draft strategy during the public consultation period.

The Country Ambulance Strategy - Striving for Equity in Country WA can be downloaded by following the link shown below:

http://www.wacountry.health.wa.gov.au/fileadmin/sections/country_ambulance/The-Country-Ambulance-Strategy-Driving-Equity-for-Country-WA.pdf

Pages 10 and 11 outline the strategy's 19 recommendations, which are made in an effort to help strengthen country ambulance services, including:

1. measures to attract and support more ambulance volunteers;
2. greater investment in community paramedics;
3. improving coordination between hospitals and ambulance services; and
4. adopting new technologies to improve communication to and from every ambulance on the road.

The strategy also recognises the tremendous and valuable commitment of WA's ambulance volunteers.

The strategy also provides an outline of "Next Steps" which reads as follows:

Ambulance services are essential to all communities and are a critical service in the delivery of health care. As such, clear policy for ambulance services to support future service improvement of the country ambulance service in WA (Recommendation 1) and the transfer of the contract management to WACHS (Recommendation 5) should be viewed as the urgent first priorities.

Following in principle endorsement of the strategy by the WACHS Board, action will need to be taken on the recommendations required to improve country ambulance services in WA. Actioning these key recommendations requires the immediate the attention of WACHS, the Department of Health and SJA.

▪ **COAG Waste Export Ban**

Following a recent meeting of Environment Ministers an announcement was made relating to the phase out of problem waste exports from July next year. The information provided below is from a recent ALGA newsletter. It explains what has been agreed to and the timeframe for implementing the ban.

The Ministers agreed that waste plastic, paper, glass and tyres that have not been processed into a value-added material should be subject to the export ban. They further determined that the ban should commence on 1 July 2020 with a phased approach. Ministers agreed the phase out should be completed by the following dates:

- *All waste glass by July 2020.*
- *Mixed waste plastics by July 2021.*
- *All whole tyres including baled tyres by December 2021.*
- *Remaining waste products, including mixed paper and cardboard, by no later than 30 June 2022.*

This timetable reflects the unique challenges of each jurisdiction, and the preparedness of some jurisdictions to complete the phase out ahead of schedule.

Ministers will further test the timetable with industry and local government, while also developing response strategies and undertaking independent market analysis.

In early 2020 Ministers will provide further advice on final timetables, definitions and response strategies to First Ministers for their confirmation.

A Discussion Paper has been prepared and is now out for public comment. It can be viewed by following the link shown below:

<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/consultations/bf403fda-b6d7-4476-9c6f-5627502d52a4/files/waste-export-ban-discussion-paper-november-2019.pdf>

Individual Councils and local government associations are invited to comment before 3 December 2019 on the proposed timetable for the waste export ban.

- **Submissions on the Standards and Guidelines for CEO Recruitment and Selection, Performance Review and Termination and the Mandatory Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates** - the Shire of Kellerberrin considered WALGA's submissions on the Standards and Guidelines for CEO Recruitment and Selection, Performance Review and Termination and the Mandatory Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates at its November 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting, resolving as shown below:

MIN 211/19 MOTION - Moved Cr. O'Neill

2nd Cr. Talbot

That Council:

1. Endorse WALGA's Draft Submission – Standards and Guidelines for CEO Recruitment and Selection, Performance Review and Termination.
2. Endorse WALGA's Draft Submission - Mandatory Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates.
3. Provide additional submission on the Standards and Guidelines for CEO Recruitment and Selection, Performance Review and Termination.
 - a. Remove Wording in section S1.3 "The panel must include at least one independent person who is not a current elected member or staff member of the local government."
 - b. Remove Clause S1.11 - The local government must re-advertise the CEO position after each instance where a person has occupied the CEO position for ten (10) consecutive years.
4. Endorse the surveys for both submissions as presented, and
5. Instruct the Chief Executive Officer to provide these response to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and WALGA.

A copy of the Shire's response forms an attachment to the meeting agenda.

The Shire of Kellerberrin has requested the matter be listed for noting and encourages Member Councils to make submissions on both issues.

- **Future Drought Fund and the National Drought Response Resilience Plan** – the Commonwealth recently released its consultation draft on the Drought Resilience Funding Plan.

WALGA has prepared an Infopage on the Plan providing advice on both the Plan and how Councils can make submissions. A copy of the Infopage forms an attachment to the meeting agenda.

Councils make can make submissions through the completion of an online survey. The survey can be accessed by following the link shown below:

haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/future-drought-fund.

The public consultation period closes on Friday 13 December 2019.

WALGA has requested copies of individual Council responses before Friday 6 December 2019.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the matters listed for noting be received.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Della Bosca

Seconded: Cr Rod Forsyth

That the matters listed for noting be received.

CARRIED

5. WEROC FINANCE

5.1 WEROC Finance Report as at 31 October 2019

Author: Helen Westcott, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: 18 November 2019

Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That the WEROC Financial Report for the period ending 31 October 2019 be received.

Executive Officer's Report:

Presenting the WEROC Statement of Receipts and Payments for the period ending 31 October 2019.

An explanation for each of the notes is provided below.

Note 1	All 2019/2020 annual subscriptions have been paid.
Note 2	WEROC interest to date
Note 3	This allocation covers the expenditure on Executive Services
Note 4	This allocation covers the expenditure on travel and accommodation
Note 5	This allocation covers the expenditure on Financial Services
Note 6	This allocation includes payment to Accingo for the Asset Management project, costs associated with Dr Andrew Harper for Curtin Wheatbelt Medical Project, Australian Golden Outback - contribution to Eastern Wheatbelt self-drive feature and Information Enterprises Australia - consulting services review of record keeping
Note 7	This allocation covers the costs incurred this financial year in respect to the WEROC app and website
Note 8	Food expenses for WEROC Meeting in Kellerberrin on 27 August 2019

Consultation: Nil

Financial Implications: WEROC adopted Budget for 2019/2020

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

RESOLUTION: Moved: Mr Mollenoyux Seconded: Cr Flockart

That the WEROC Financial Report for the period ending 31 October 2019 be received.

CARRIED

WEROC Council Meeting Thursday 28 November 2019 - Minutes

Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils (WEROC)				
ABN 28 416 957 824				
1 July 2019 to 31 October 2019				
		Budget 2019/2020	Actual to	Notes
	Income			
0501	General Subscriptions WEROC	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000.00	1
504.01	Consultancy & Project Reserve			
0575	WE-ROC Interest received	\$ 900	\$ 94.72	2
584	Other Income			
	GST Output Tax		\$ 6,000.00	
	GST Refunds		\$ 2,514.00	
	Total Receipts	\$ 60,900	\$ 68,608.72	
	Expenses			
1545	WEROC Bank Fees & Charges	\$ 100		
1661.01	WEROC Executive Services Professional Services	\$ 55,000	\$ 15,090.10	3
1661.02	WEROC Executive Officer Travel and Accommodation	\$ 8,000	\$ 1,446.11	4
1687	WEROC Financial Services Accounting	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,150.52	5
1687.03	WEROC Financial Services Audit	\$ 3,750	\$ 17.85	
1585	WEROC Consultant Expenses	\$ 30,000	\$ 23,011.89	6
1850	WEROC Management of WE-ROC App	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,021.92	7
1801	WEROC Meeting Expenses	\$ 500	\$ 212.73	8
1851	WEROC Insurance	\$ 5,000	\$ -	
1852	WEROC Legal Expenses	\$ 2,000	\$ -	
1853	WEROC Incorporation Expenses (including legal fees)	\$ 15,000	\$ -	
1930	WEROC Sundry	\$ 500	\$ 102.27	
3384	GST Input Tax		\$ 3,991.68	
	Ato Payments		\$ 2,515.00	
	Suspense Account		\$ -	
	Total Payments	\$ 131,850	\$ 48,560.07	
	Net Position	-\$ 70,950	\$ 20,048.65	
	OPENING CASH 1 July	\$ 160,927	\$ 150,919.05	
	CASH BALANCE 31 October 2019	\$ 89,977	\$ 170,967.70	
		Westpac One	\$ 1,075.40	
		Westpac Reserve	\$ 169,892.30	
			\$ 170,967.70	

5.2 List of Accounts

File Reference: 042-2
Author: Helen Westcott, Executive Officer
Disclosure of Interest: Nil
Date: 18 November 2019
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Accounts Paid for the period 1 October 2019 to 31 October 2019 totalling \$18,770.50 be approved.

Executive Officer's Report:

Accounts paid during the period 1 October 2019 to 31 October 2019.

The list of accounts paid is submitted to each WEROC Council Meeting.

Accounts Paid:

Cheque/EFT	Date	Payee	For	Amount incl GST
EFT	041019	Rural Health West	Ticket for WA Regional Achievement Awards	112.50
EFT	111019	Up to Date Accounting	Accounting Services September 2019	92.40
EFT	111019	Australian Golden Outback	Contribution to Eastern Wheatbelt Self Drive Feature	500.00
EFT	111019	Blakejewel Pty Ltd (Accingo)	Asset Audit Wheatbelt Communities Member Councils (final payment)	9,350.00
EFT	110191	BHW Consulting	Professional Services, Accommodation and Travel September 2019	4,953.58
EFT	291019	Information Enterprises Australia	Consulting Services Review of Record Keeping	3,762.00
Total				\$18,770.50

Consultation: Nil
Financial Implications: WEROC adopted a Budget for 2019/2020
Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Clarke** **Seconded: Cr Flockhart**

That the Accounts Paid for the period 1 October 2019 to 31 October 2019 totalling \$18,770.50 be approved.

CARRIED

5.3 Audited Financial Statement for the year ending 30 June 2019 (Attachments)

Reporting Officer: Helen Westcott, Executive Officer
Disclosure of Interest: Nil
Date: 18 November 2019
Attachments: 2018/2019 Audited Financial Report

RECOMMENDATION:

That WE-ROC adopts the 2018/2019 Audited Financial Report.

Executive Officer's Report:

At the WEROC Council Meeting held on 30 October 2019 the Draft 2018/2019 Financial Report, Representation Letter and the Management Letter were considered, with the meeting resolving as follows:

RESOLUTION: *Moved: Cr Della Bosca* *Seconded: Mr Clarke*

That WEROC:

- 1. Approve the Draft Financial Report and Representation Letter and authorise the WEROC Chair and Executive Officer, as appropriate, to sign the documents; and*
- 2. Note the Management Letter.*

CARRIED

Following the WEROC Council Meeting the documents were signed and submitted to the auditors AMD Chartered Accountants for final approval and return to the Executive Officer.

The audited financial report is submitted for adoption.

RESOLUTION: *Moved: Cr Della Bosca* *Seconded: Mr Criddle*

That WE-ROC adopts the 2018/2019 Audited Financial Report.

CARRIED

6. MATTERS FOR DECISION

6.1 Future WEROC Projects – Asset Management Project

File Reference:	013-2 Strategic and Future Planning 135-5 Economic Sustainability
Author:	Helen Westcott, Executive Officer
Portfolio:	Shared Function (Economic Development)
Disclosure of Interest:	No interest to disclose
Date:	21 November 2019
Attachments:	WEROC Review Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION:

No recommendation is made – the matter is presented for discussion and decision by the WEROC Council.

Executive Officer's Report:

Representatives from Accingo, an asset management consultancy, first met with WEROC early in March 2018 to discuss its asset management concept and the potential value it may offer Member Councils.

Since that time Accingo developed a project brief and costing for WEROC's consideration, with approval for the project's "go ahead" being given at the WEROC Council Meeting held Wednesday 27 June 2018.

Work has been ongoing since that time, with a final report and final recommendations available for discussion at the WEROC Executive Committee held Wednesday 25 September 2019. At this time, it was resolved as shown below:

RESOLUTION: *Moved: Greg Powell* *Seconded: Jamie Criddle*

That the:

- 1. WEROC Executive be requested to table Accingo's report and recommendations on the review of mobile assets and plant across each Member Council for discussion at either their October or November round of Council meetings; and*
- 2. Executive Officer be provided with comments from these discussions to enable a report to be prepared for the WEROC Executive Meeting scheduled to be held Wednesday 27 November 2019.*

CARRIED

Comments have been received from all Member Councils, with the comments provided detailed below.

Shire of Bruce Rock

The Shire of Bruce Rock considered the Accingo Report at its November Council 2019 meeting, resolving as shown below:

- 1. That Council considered the WEROC Accingo Asset Management Report in major construction plant; and*
- 2. Provides the following comment on each recommendation to WEROC;*
Recommendation 1 - not support
Accingo's recommendation 2 - not support, however will be undertaking a review at individual level through Project Aware Program
Accingo's recommendation 3 - not support, will be reviewed internally
Accingo's recommendation 4 – not support, as Council is conducting an internal review of all large plant assets through Project Aware Program, in line with Council's philosophies and requirements.
- 3. Does not support recommendations 5 and 6 due to the cost implications and Council does not have a desire for centralisation as it would not be in the best interests of the Shire, workforce or community.*

4. That staff undertake a review of the major construction plant, including usage hours, data reporting to see if there is any value in reducing plant numbers, without restricting the operational capacity of Council and its roads program.
5. That WEROC Shires consider working collaboratively on specific adjoining roads when it comes to maintenance grading and/or encourage and be more open to potentially hiring major plant when it is not being utilised as opposed to hiring from outside the region.

Shire of Kellerberrin

As advised at the October WEROC Council Meeting, the Shire of Kellerberrin supports Recommendations 1,2,3 and 4 contained within the Accingo Report.

Shire of Merredin

The Shire of Merredin considered the Accingo Report at its November Council 2019 meeting, resolving as shown below:

Moved: Cr Willis **Seconded:** Cr Patron
82462 **That Council**

1. supports the recommendations 1 to 5 in principal advising the WEROC Executive Officer to progress discussions with regards to the implementation of these recommendations; and
2. requests for the WEROC Executive Officer to investigate the financial viability of a total hire model as detailed in recommendation 6.

CARRIED 8/0

Shire of Westonia

As advised at the October WEROC Council Meeting, the Shire of Westonia supports Recommendations 1,2,3 and 4 contained within the Accingo Report.

The Shire of Yilgarn

The CEO Shire of Yilgarn resolved at its October Council 2019 Meeting as shown below:

Moved Cr Della Bosca/Seconded Cr Guerini

That Council advises WEROC's Executive Officer that in respect to the Accingo Asset Management Report and associated recommendations, Council supports the implementation of recommendations 1 to 4 but does not see value in recommendations 5 and 6 due to the significant cost implications for all WEROC Member Councils if they were implemented.

CARRIED (7/0)

A copy of the recommendations document (and commented on above) forms an attachment to the meeting agenda.

Each of the recommendations is briefly outlined below.

1. Asset Identification Standardisation

In suggesting the adoption of a standard identification format Accingo also recommends that WEROC also agree on a standardize format which is backed up by an asset register policy, amending current system fields to provide such standardization.

The recommendation provided by Accingo provides an example of a standard code for use by WEROC's Member Councils.

Recommendation 1 is supported by all WEROC's Member Councils other than the Shire of Bruce Rock.

2. Purchase and Sale Process Review

Accingo has recommended that WEROC's Member Councils review of their current "Sale & Purchase of Asset" policy, checking for completeness and determine whether the policies are being followed. If such a policy is not in place then one should be prepared. In conjunction with this, Accingo also notes all associated risk management policies should be adhered to.

Recommendation 2 is supported by all WEROC's Member Councils other than the Shire of Bruce Rock.

3. Standardisation of Depreciation Rates and Useful Life

Accingo recommends that WEROC agree to a uniform set of depreciation rates which would be implemented via the asset management policy as detailed in Recommendation 2, with rates set either internally by Member Councils or provided by an external source.

Accingo also recommends WEROC look to reviewing maintenance costs so that they are captured and reported on down to machine level. Accingo notes that some but not all WEROC's Member Councils have this information captured effectively.

Recommendation 3 is supported by all WEROC's Member Councils other than the Shire of Bruce Rock.

4. Review of Underperforming Assets

The Accingo report recommends that a review of underperforming assets be undertaken to:

- a) understand why this is happening; and
- b) determine whether a piece of equipment is actually required.

Recommendation 4 is supported by all WEROC's Member Councils other than the Shire of Bruce Rock.

5. Implementation of Technology Solutions

This recommendation is self-explanatory in that it proposes that WEROC, either as a group or at individual Council level, look to purchase software to aid in the implementation of Recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Only the Shire of Merredin at this point supports the adoption of this recommendation. The Shire of Yilgarn has indicated that it considers the cost implications too large for it to be considered. Cost may be a factor in the rejection of Recommendation 5 by other Member Councils.

6. Centralisation of Asset/Asset Management

Again, this recommendation is self-explanatory but has been rejected at this point by all Member Councils other than the Shire of Merredin.

Whilst Recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 4 are supported by all Member Councils, except the Shire of Bruce Rock, what needs to be determined by WEROC is whether implementation of all four recommendations will be undertaken by WEROC jointly or whether some will be done jointly whilst others will be implemented at individual Council level.

This needs to be determined and if a joint approach is agreed to how will the work be undertaken and by whom?

In terms of Recommendations 5 and 6 only the Shire of Merredin supports further work on either recommendation.

With respect to the use of software to manage Member Councils' assets there may be benefit to seek costings around the purchase and ongoing use of such software. Obtaining a costing would not imply any commitment to purchasing any software but rather allow the opportunity for Member Councils to evaluate the benefits of such software against the costs, both in purchasing the software and the ongoing costs required to maintain and upgrade over time.

Similarly, with Recommendation 6. In accepting Recommendation 6 the Shire of Merredin has not committed to the use of a centralised asset management system but rather believes that investigations around the adoption of a centralised asset management system should be investigated by WEROC.

Undertaking a cost benefits analysis would not signify intent to undertake this action but merely show the costs required to do so and the benefits gained from undertaking such an action.

If a costs benefits analysis was agreed to by WEROC the costs associated with looking at the use of technology in managing WEROC's assets could be included in project's scope.

The matter is presented for discussion and decision by the WEROC Council.

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Consultation: Nil

Financial Implications: As yet unknown

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Griffiths** **Seconded: Mr Clarke**

That the Shires of Kellerberrin, Merredin, Westonia and Yilgarn work collaboratively to consider and progress Recommendations 1 to 4 made by asset management consultant Accingo following a review of WEROC Member Councils asset management practices.

CARRIED

6.2 Wheatbelt Medical Students Immersion Project (WMSIP)

File Reference:	013-2 Strategic and Future Planning
Author:	Helen Westcott, Executive Officer
Portfolio:	Social (Kellerberrin) and Environment (Merredin) Shared Function (Advocacy)
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Date:	20 November 2019
Attachments:	Student Allocations (Draft) WMSIP Transport Plan (Draft) Agenda for Team Building Day on Monday 2 December 2019

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive Officer's report be received.

Executive Officer's Report:

At the WEROC Executive Meeting held Wednesday 13 April 2016 the Shire of Kellerberrin raised the issue of the cessation of visits to the Wheatbelt by first year medical students from the University of Notre Dame Australia's Fremantle Campus. At that time the Executive resolved as shown below:

RESOLUTION: Moved: Raymond Griffiths Seconded: Greg Powell

That the Executive Officer prepare a report on the cessation of visits to the Wheatbelt by first year medical students from the University of Notre Dame Australia's Fremantle Campus.

CARRIED

Following considerable effort, the program was introduced across all of WEROC's communities in March 2018, with medical students from Notre Dame and Curtin Universities participating in what has become known as the "Wheatbelt Medical Student Immersion Program" (WMSIP).

Agencies involved in re-establishing the WMSIP include:

- Rural Health West;
- WA Primary Health Network (WAPHA);
- Notre Dame University Australia;
- Curtin University; and
- WEROC.

A second group of students visited the region during the week commencing Monday 12 March 2019.

The Executive Officer attended a meeting of the WMSIP Planning Group on Thursday 7 November 2019. At the time of preparing the WEROC Council Meeting Agenda an action sheet from the meeting had not been distributed.

Further work around the travel times and student allocations across participating towns has been done, with a revised table for student numbers in each town forming an attachment to the meeting agenda. Following discussion on travel times and the need to get students to their host families as soon as possible will see further revision to the attached travel times being undertaken.

An agenda for the team building day to be held at Curtin University has also been prepared, with a copy of the agenda forming an attachment to the meeting agenda.

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This year it is hoped to expand the number of participants in the exercise, to be held on Monday 2 December 2019, to include staff and other people involved in the visits program, with invitations sent to participating Councils.

The WEROC Chair has received a letter of agreement between all WMSIP members for signing. The letter of agreement covers the visits to be conducted during March 2020.

The WMSIP Planning Group's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 19 December 2019.

Comment is sought from Member Councils on the information provided and any other issues considered relevant for discussion at the next meeting of the Planning Group.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Della Bosca** **Seconded: Mr Mollenoyux**

That the Executive Officer's report be received.

CARRIED

6.3 Curtin Wheatbelt Community Health Study

File Reference:	075-1 Local Hospitals 013-2 Strategic and Future Planning
Author:	Helen Westcott, Executive Officer
Portfolio:	Social (Shire of Kellerberrin) Advocacy (Shared Portfolio)
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Date:	18 November 2019
Attachments:	Curtin Wheatbelt Community Health Pilot Study Verso Report

RECOMMENDATION:

No recommendation is made – the matter is presented for discussion and decision by the WEROC Council.

Executive Officer's Report:

At the WEROC Executive Meeting held Wednesday 29 May 2019 a request for assistance from Dr Andrew Harper, Adjunct Clinical Professor at the Curtin Medical School was considered. Specifically, Dr Harper sought support for a research project developed as a direct result of Curtin student involvement in the Wheatbelt Medical Students Immersion Program this year and last.

Following consideration of the request, it was resolved as shown below:

RESOLUTION: Moved: Jamie Criddle Seconded: Greg Powell

- 1. That WEROC provide in-kind and financial support to a maximum of \$5,000 to Dr Andrew Harper, Adjunct Clinical Professor at the Curtin Medical School, to assist in the conduct of the "Curtin Wheatbelt Community Health Study: An exploratory research proposal".*
- 2. That the Executive Officer provide Dr Andrew Harper with a copy of the Verso Report.*

CARRIED

The Executive Officer advised Dr Harper of WEROC's decision, providing him with a copy of the Verso Report as requested.

Visits to both Merredin and Westonia took place during the last weekend in August.

Since the visit a report has been prepared.

All expenses claimed by Dr Harper and his student team have been paid.

A copy of the report was circulated to all Member Councils ahead of the WEROC Council Meeting. A copy of the report, with the Verso Report, also forms attachments to the meeting agenda.

The Verso Report has been provided because some of WEROC's new delegates may not have a copy of the report.

The question Andrew Harper seeks advice from WEROC on is whether this type of data gathering and analysis is of value to the shires in promoting rural health.

The Executive Officer believes that such research has a valid role to play and Member Councils are in a unique position to assist help in advocating for greater access to health services both in type and method of delivery. In terms of the

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work undertaken in the pilot study this would have budget implications for WEROC because if the study was expanded to take in all five Member Councils it would be necessary for WEROC to contribute financially to the expanded project.

Consultation: Nil

Financial Implications: As yet unknown

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Day** **Seconded: Cr Forsyth**

That WEROC agree to participate in any project that looks to extend the pilot study entitled "Curtin Wheatbelt Community Health Study: An exploratory research proposal" across all five WEROC Councils, utilising existing WEROC project funds to facilitate funding for the project.

CARRIED

6.4 Request for a Letter of Support from Crisp Wireless for a Digital Farm Grants Application

File Reference:	013-2 Strategic and Future Planning 135-5 Economic Sustainability
Author:	Helen Westcott, Executive Officer
Portfolio:	CEO/Governance – IT (Shire of Bruce Rock) Advocacy (Shared Portfolio)
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Date:	19 November 2019
Attachments:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That WEROC provide a letter of support to Crisp Wireless for its application to the Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development's Digital Farm Grant Round 2.

Executive Officer's Report:

The Executive Officer received an email from Ms Kim Every of Crisp Wireless seeking WEROC's support for its application for funding through the Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development's Digital Farm Grant Round 2. To quote from Ms Every's email:

"... The focus of the grant is to provide solutions to Western Australian farming region's current sub-optimal internet connectivity and capacity issues. Reliable and faster internet will enable agri-businesses opportunities for improvement and growth through digitisation of production and supply chain processes.

Following successful application of similar projects in multiple WA regions, CRISP Wireless are submitting two applications for the Wheat-belt region - including four of the WEROC shires, in this round – Merredin, Bruce Rock and Narembeen shires and Kondinin, Corrigin and Kulin shires. The WA Government is offering up to \$500,000 per project with funding to be matched. Each shire has expressed cash and in-kind support and CRISP Wireless are committing more than 50% cost supporting to each project.

We would be most grateful if you would be able to provide the LOS on WEROC letterhead by Monday 25/11/2019 please (the grant closes on 4th December 2019)."

The Executive Officer has replied to Ms Every's email explaining that the earliest a decision on providing support would be after the WEROC Council Meeting.

The request for a letter of support seems reasonable because it in the first instance does not require any financial commitment from WEROC and if successful will benefit some within the Bruce Rock and Merredin communities.

In reviewing the meeting agenda, the CEO Shire of Bruce Rock advised that Council had considered the Crisp Wireless proposal and has resolved to support the proposal at an individual Council level and therefore would support WEROC's proposed letter of support.

The Shire of Merredin may wish to provide further comment about its possible involvement in this current project proposal by Crisp Wireless. As Member Councils are aware, the Shire of Merredin is a participant in the Crisp Wireless/NEWROC internet connectivity project.

The only disappointing aspect to the proposal is that the benefit of increased digital access may not be extended to all the two Shires' residents.

Consultation: Nil

Financial Implications: As yet unknown

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

RESOLUTION: Moved: Mr Mollenoyux Seconded: Cr Della Bosca

That WEROC provide a letter of support to Crisp Wireless for its application to the Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development's Digital Farm Grant Round 2.

CARRIED

7. EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Western Australia's Native Vegetation – Release of an Issues Paper by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

The State Government is developing four initiatives to improve the consistency, transparency and information base to enable better management of the State's native vegetation. The initiatives to achieve this are outlined in an issues paper for public consultation, *Native Vegetation in Western Australia* prepared by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the Department).

The discussion paper along with other information relating to the review can be accessed by following the link shown below:

<https://dwer.wa.gov.au/consultation/nativeveg>

A period of public consultation has commenced, closing Monday 10 February 2020. The Department is seeking feedback online and via community consultation workshops in Perth and regional locations.

Given the consultation period is outside the framework for inclusion in the WALGA Zone Meeting process WEROC may wish to consider preparing a submission.

Cr Strange undertook to find out what WALGA was doing with respect to preparing a submission to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation on the recently released issues paper *Native Vegetation in Western Australia*.

Cr Butler left the meeting at 2.47pm and did not return

8. OTHER MATTERS

8.1 Resignation of Executive Officer

BHW Consulting provided a letter informing WEROC that W Squared Pty Ltd t/a BHW Consulting submits its resignation from the Executive Officer role to the Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils (WEROC) and Wheatbelt Communities Inc effective from 29 February 2020.

RESOLUTION: Moved: Mr Mollenoyux Seconded: Cr Della Bosca

That WEROC accepts the resignation from BHW Consulting as the Executive Officer effective from 29 February 2020.
CARRIED

RESOLUTION: Moved: Cr Day Seconded: Cr Della Bosca

That the Shire of Bruce Rock, as current Chair of WEROC, prepare a position description, information package and commence the advertising process for the recruitment of Executive Officer services for WEROC, with applications closing 2 January 2020.

CARRIED

9. FUTURE MEETINGS

Currently meetings for both the Executive and Council are scheduled for early 2020, with the dates for each meeting shown below:

WEROC Executive	Wednesday 5 February 2020 (Shire of Kellerberrin)
WEROC Council	Wednesday 26 February 2020 (Shire of Yilgarn)

A decision on whether a meeting of the WEROC Executive should be held is required. If the decision is that only a meeting of WEROC Council is needed then Member Councils will need to determine when WEROC Council should meet.

The Executive Officer is not available to meet on Thursday 27 February 2020 (the likely date for a meeting of the Great Eastern Country Zone) as she has other commitments that day.

RESOLUTION: _____ **Moved: Mr Mollenoyux** **Seconded: Cr Day**

That WEROC Council meet in Kellerberrin on Wednesday 26 February 2020, with the meeting to commence at 1.30pm
CARRIED

Note: It was agreed that a meeting of the WEROC Executive would only be called if required.

Ms Westcott and Mr Wittber left the meeting at 2.49pm and did not return.

At this point the meeting returned to Agenda Item 8.1.

For ease of reading Agenda Item 8.1 is recorded in chronological order.

10. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 2.59pm

DECLARATION

These minutes were confirmed by the WE-ROC Council at the meeting held Wednesday 26 February 2020

Signed _____
Person presiding at the meeting at which these minutes were confirmed

A photograph of a smiling man with a white mustache, wearing a wide-brimmed straw hat and a striped long-sleeved shirt, kneeling in a garden. The background is filled with various green plants and a wooden trellis. A large teal diagonal shape is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing white text.

Partnering with the community to transition to a new energy future



Agenda...

1	Introductions	Anazia	5 mins
2	Transitioning to a new energy future	Anazia	5 mins
3	Partnering with the community	Patrick	5 mins
4	Group activity: Understanding your energy challenges	All	15 mins
5	Group activity: Solving for the future together	All	15 mins
6	Q&A	All	10 mins
7	What happens next...	Anazia	5 mins

Remember the good old days...

In the past, our relationship with customers was a simple one-way transaction.

Transformation was focused on reducing operational costs or sending customers an electronic copy of their bill.

Customers didn't have much choice over where, when or how they sourced their energy needs.

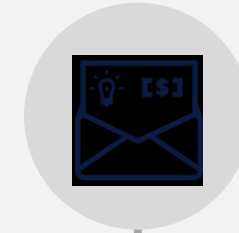
Energy demand was easy to manage and steadily increasing.



We generated the power



You used it



We sent you a bill



Costs were recovered

An aerial photograph of a beach with waves crashing onto the shore. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, and the sand is a light beige. Several people are visible on the beach, and their long shadows are cast across the sand. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**But as energy prices
continued to rise**

**New technologies enabled
innovation & choice**

**Setting a new benchmark for
customer expectations**

So households and businesses started switching to something better

More than 1 in 4 homes now generate their own energy during the day (in the SWIS)



And we're only in the early days of disruption

As the transition to something very different, very fast accelerates.

EY's recent global study on the utilities sector has calculated the **3 critical tipping points** that underpin this paradigm shift to a decentralised energy future across Australia:

1. Decarbonisation & decentralisation of energy assets
2. Electrification of transport
3. Digitisation and democratisation of data

* Source: EY Countdown clock - Oceania

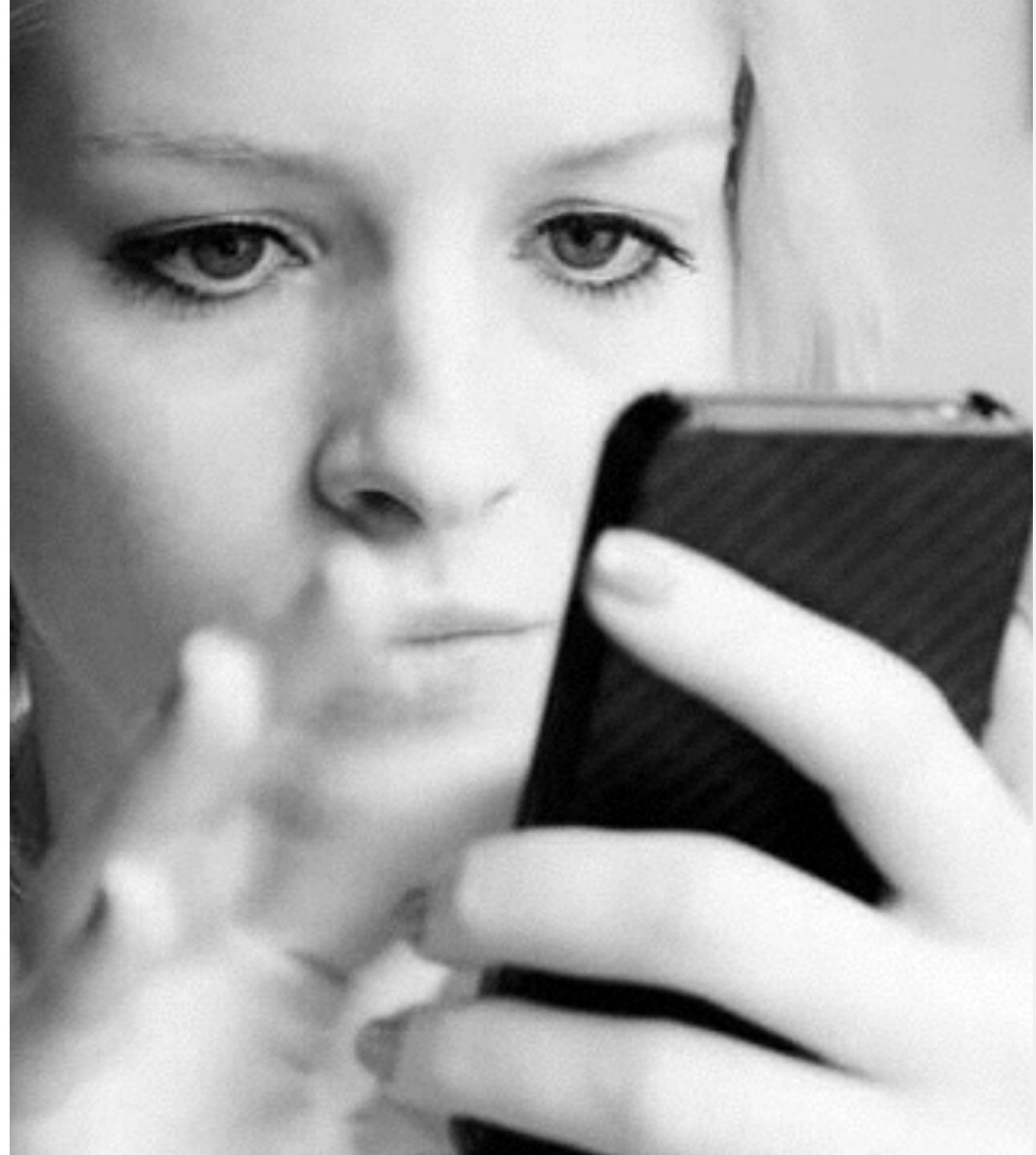


That's why we've had to flip our thinking

By putting the customer and WA community at the heart of everything we design, deliver, do.

Because at its core, disruption isn't about technology - it's about people and businesses choosing a better experience.

Technology just enables their choice.



**Driving our imperative to test
innovative solutions and
explore new ways of working...**



Working together today to pioneer better alternatives for the future

Trialing new technologies to understand which ones will create the most viable energy solutions for WA tomorrow.



Alkimos Energy Storage Trial
 Trialling how community scale batteries combined with energy efficiency incentives may help reduce household energy costs.

1 key insight so far...
 The community has saved a total of \$31,384 off their collective energy bills since the trial started in April 2016.[^]

Partners

- Western Power, Landcorp, Lendlease



VPP technology trial
 Testing the functionality of 6 different VPP providers - coordinating an aggregated demand response to a planned/unplanned event schedule event

1 key insight so far...
 Batteries can respond to peak afternoon demand load faster and cheaper than traditional assets (on sunny days).

Participants + partners
 10 participants, 1 year trial



Powerbank
 Australian-first utility scale battery trial in established network – incentivising customers to maximise their solar PV investment via a virtual storage solution.

1 key insight so far...
 Since the trial started, participating households have saved on average \$111.97 per household.*

Participants + partners

- 49 customers, 2 year trial
- Western Power



RENeW Nexus
 Peer to Peer trading trial using blockchain technology to support local communities to leverage data to become more efficient and sustainable.

1 key insight so far...
 Limited ability to deliver more affordable energy in WA's capacity market (higher fixed costs). May be more suited to microgrids or more volatile markets.

Participants + partners

- 14 customers, 6 month trial
- Powerledger, Western Power, EnergyOS, Curtin, City of Freo



EV Home Plan
 Simple tariff that seeks to encourage the adoption of EVs whilst shifting consumption away from peak periods.

1 key insight so far...
 Customers are willing to shift more of their consumption to off peak times (11pm – 4am) peak to off peak - 37% compared to 17% for A1 REBS/FIT customers.

Participants + partners

- 110 customers, ongoing

[^]Savings are approximate and calculated by applying the Peak Demand Saver Plan rates to average historic consumption, usage pattern and generation based on previous 12 months up to 5 July 2018 – compared to charges that would have been incurred at the standard A1 (Home plan) rates.
 *Average Estimated savings only calculated by comparing consumption and costs incurred by trial participants on the PowerBank Trial and the A1 Home Plan over the same period (for the period between 07/11/2018 to 30/04/2019).

To safely transition Western Australians to **THEIR** new energy future (not ours)

Delivering affordable, cleaner energy – no matter where it takes us.

Smart energy services

- Real-time alerts and price signals to customers will help reduce inefficiencies and identify faulty plant earlier
- Demand response enabled plant and equipment shed load from the grid and may help consumers save money during peak demand times

Electric Vehicles

- Public car parks and on street parking will provide electric vehicle charging facilities
- Owners of these car parks and chargers will be earning commissions from charging and encouraging longer dwell times in their facilities

Embedded networks billing

- Smart sub-metering & billing solutions allows landlords to on-sell electricity easier and more fairly in a way that can both maximises profits and drive efficiencies at the tenant level
- Sharing of solar and storage infrastructure will help embedded customers have more control over their energy needs and improve business cases for renewables in tenanted premises



Microgrids

- Precinct energy solutions will emerge to power whole industrial parks where diversified load profiles and greater economies of scale contribute to the accelerated uptake of renewables, supplemented by geothermal, biomass, or traditional grid supply
- These new parks will emerge in areas where previously large network augmentations were required to drive economic growth, resulting in a more efficient grid

Power purchase agreements

- PPAs allow customers to purchase their energy from a Synergy owned solar PV array on the customers premise, or another location within the SWIS
- This is an option for customers who do not have access to, or are unwilling to own solar PV themselves

MW Solar panels

- As the cost of solar PV continues to decrease, and efficiencies continue to increase, more commercial and industrial customers will take advantage of available roof space and land holdings (car parks, etc) to install solar PV to reduce energy costs during business hours

Community storage & Backup

- Backup supply in the form of battery storage will become more common to ensure business continuity in response to any supply issues instead of traditional diesel generators
- Precinct energy solutions will also use battery storage to manage peak requirements and store excess generation at quiet times such as weekends

Cocreating solutions with customers, other utilities and a broader range of community organisations on a regular basis

To find more holistic solutions for the future and to ensure no one is left behind.



Let's work

Group activities



Your energy needs, challenges and pain (15mins)

What are all the energy pain points your community faces at the moment?

What impacts do these create in your community?

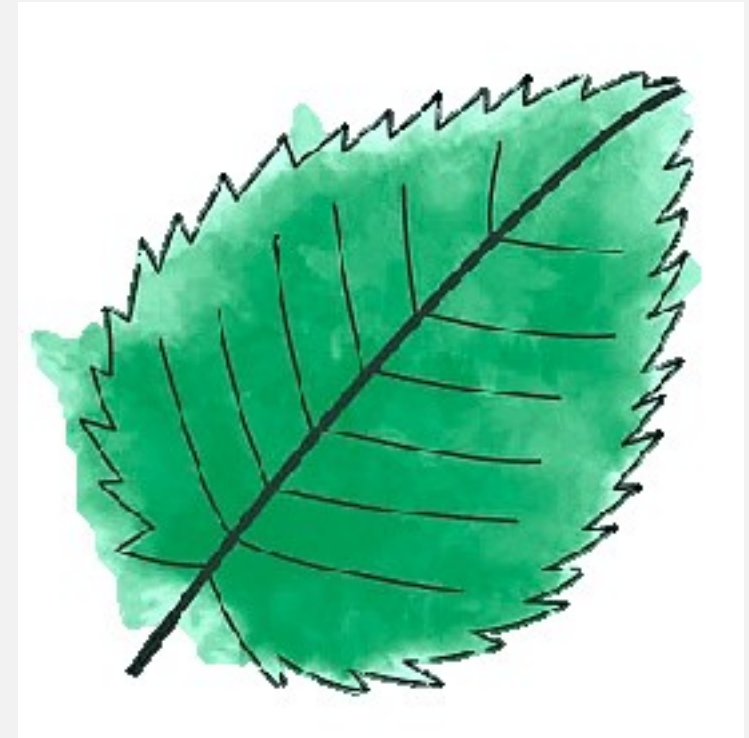
What does sustainability mean to your community?



Solving for the future together (15 mins)

Thinking about your energy challenges today and your community's vision of the future...

What energy awareness, knowledge, idea or object could help solve for this or realise your vision?



Q&A session



What happens next?

We'll be running a similar session with metropolitan councils
(6 December)

We'll take the outputs from today's session to
design a range of energy solutions to
support your community needs
today and tomorrow
and present back
(January)

Thank you for today

