



COUNCIL BUZZ

SHIRE OF JERRAMUNGUP | JUNE 2020

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE SCORECARD

Dear residents,

The Shire of Jerramungup is participating in a MARKYT Community Resilience Scorecard survey with the aim of mapping community resilience, local government performance, and community needs in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This unique study sees the State Government and 139 Local Governments across Western Australia working and moving forward together. The study will gather and share baseline and informing data to help local communities like ours to recover and thrive following the COVID-19 outbreak in Australia.

This study will provide **direct benefit** to our community.

We will get **robust data** to share with you that lets us know how we're coping, as a community.

Results from the survey will help us prioritise our key focus areas to **decide on our next steps, together**.

With limited resources available to conduct studies like this, we are grateful to the following organisations for providing funding and pro-bono support to make this possible.



This is where we need your help.

1. Please complete a confidential **MARKYT Community Resilience Scorecard** by **3 July 2020**.
To care for the environment and manage costs, please submit your response online at www.research.net/r/MARKYT. Estimated completion time = 6-7 minutes.
2. Share with your family and friends. We'd like to hear from all residents aged 18+ years.

**“Progressive, Prosperous
and a Premium Place
to Live and Visit.”**

Welcome to the monthly edition of the Council BUZZ.

The Council Buzz aims to bring you the latest Shire information including; decisions of Council, current works and other news from the office and around town.

The Buzz can be sent straight to your inbox, if you would like a copy, please email - council@jerramungup.wa.gov.au.

Shire of Jerramungup
PO Box 92
Jerramungup WA 6337

Opening Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:30am - 4:00pm

Contact:
Phone - (08) 9835 1022
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SHIRE WORKS REPORT JUNE

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

This month the Construction crew finished upgrade works on Marnigarup East Road which had been postponed until the works in Bremer Bay that required sealing were completed prior to commencement of the sealing program. These works have significantly improved traffic safety with the worst of the clay sections being gravel sheeted. The crew also constructed the sand pad and improved truck access to the newly installed 130,000ltr tank on Millers Point Road that was installed by DWER to provide stock water to farmers as a result of the Water Deficiency Declaration for the area.

The crew then moved to Cowalellup Road where they commenced pruning vegetation, forming and gravel sheeting a 3km section that continually requires maintenance grading due to the lack of gravel pavement.

ROAD MAINTENANCE

Due to the very dry conditions, routine maintenance grading has consisted of cutting off the corrugations to make the running surface smoother. Once we receive winter rains a full winter grade can be undertaken.

At this time of year, please be aware of the ever changing road conditions and drive accordingly as the pavement can deteriorate very quickly.

TOWN SERVICES

The Town Services team have been undertaking preliminary site works prior to commencement of the rehabilitation project on the Meechi Road realignment. The revegetation works will commence next month if weather conditions are more favourable. They have also collected additional native seed from the site which will be direct seeded to complement the mosaic tube stock planting.

The crew has also undertaken seal edge repairs and patching pot holes in our older sealed roads where required prior to the onset of winter rains. Spraying and slashing weed infestations in both Bremer Bay and Jerramungup town sites has also kept the crew busy.



UPCOMING SHIRE WORKS

Look out for the Construction crew in the following areas:

- Gravel sheeting and trimming of vegetation on Rabbit Proof Fence Road between Jerramungup North Road and South Coast Highway
- Gravel sheeting of Carlawillup South Road

Please remember to drive to the road condition and help keep the roads safer for everyone

YOUR COUNCIL RATES EXPLAINED

HOW ARE MY RATES CALCULATED?

- The rates paid on residential property are calculated based on the operating requirements of the Local Government.
- The rates you pay are a proportionate share of what is needed by the Local Government to provide local services and facilities.
- That is, if your home has greater potential rental return than your neighbours, you will pay a higher share of the total rates budgeted by Council.

WHAT IS THE RATES FREEZE THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ARE TALKING ABOUT?

- The rates freeze adopted by many Councils in response to COVID-19 is about not increasing the total amount of rates received by Local Governments.
- The intent of the rates freeze was to help provide ratepayers with financial certainty – in effect one less surprise in what is a difficult time for many.
- However the periodic system of revaluations of properties undertaken by the Valuer General will result in some ratepayers paying more and some less than last year – while the revenue to Local Governments remains unchanged.

HOW ARE RATES APPLIED?

- The Local Government applies a rate in the dollar that is multiplied by the valuation to obtain the rate amount for each property.
- Please note that a Gross Rental Valuation (GRV) is applied generally in town sites and suburbs and an Unimproved Valuation (UV) is applied in rural areas.

WHAT CAN MAKE MY RATES GO UP?

- Rates can also increase if your property increases in potential rental value faster than others in your area. For example if you make improvements to your home that increase its rental value then your share of rates will increase.
- However changes to property values that affect the whole market – such as times of boom and recession – do not directly affect rates as the comparative value between neighbouring properties remains the same.
- Your rates can increase if the Local Government requires more funds to provide local services and facilities. For example increases to wages and materials costs or if it builds new facilities or adds new services.
- Local Governments budgets and consequently funds required through rates are also affected by changes to charges by other sectors of Government such as electricity pricing.

WHY DON'T MY RATES GO DOWN WHEN THERE IS A DROP IN THE PROPERTY MARKET?

- This is because your rates are not directly linked to movements in the property market – only the value of your property in comparison with your neighbours.
- If rates were directly linked to the property market then rates would be far greater than currently.
- Using each Local Government's budget as the starting point for setting the amount of rates required, protects ratepayers from increases that are not directly aligned with the provision of services.



To find out more, visit
www.walga.asn.au/rates



WALGA

WORKING FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH MY RATES?

There are two options to object or appeal your rates:

- Under the *Local Government Act 1995* you have 42 days from the time the rates notice is issued to appeal your rates if you believe there is an error with the rate record. If you do decide to query your rates you must still pay the full amount while it is being reviewed.
- You can also appeal how the value of your property was calculated. This is against the Gross Rental Value (GRV), generally for suburbs or town sites, or the Unimproved Value (UV) for rural properties, determined by the Valuer General and as mentioned previously sets your share of what the Council requires. Your annual valuation is included on the rates notice. If you believe this is too high you can challenge this, for further information go to: www.landgate.wa.gov.au/for-individuals/property-valuations/lodging-an-objection

WHAT IS THE EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY?

- The State Government requires Councils to collect the Emergency Services Levy from ratepayers.
- The funds raised go to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. The funds do not go to Councils and the rate charged is not set by Councils.

DO PENSIONERS GET A DISCOUNT ON RATES?

- Pensioners with a valid seniors' or concession card are entitled to rates reductions depending on their status on Council rates, water charges and the Emergency Services Levy.
- The State Government caps the rebate to pensioners at 50 per cent of their rates up to \$750.

DO I HAVE TO PAY MY RATES ALL AT ONCE?

- Councils understand that sometimes people experience financial hardship which makes it difficult to meet all of their financial commitments when they are due.
- Please contact a Council Rates Officer to arrange a suitable payment arrangement to settle the rates debt by the end of the financial year.



To find out more, visit
www.walga.asn.au/rates



WALGA

WORKING FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

PLANNING NEWS

HEALTH & PLANNING APPROVALS

Do you run a business from home? Catering, beauty therapy, hairdressing, nail salon, holiday accommodation etc.?

Did you know that some businesses, including ones run from your home, may require Shire planning approval as well as some requiring Health Inspections and approval?

With the COVID-19 restrictions easing you may be reopening a business, or thinking about starting a new venture and it is important to ensure that you have all the correct approvals in place to operate. This is particularly important as COVID-19 health regulations are changing the way many businesses operate.

If you are unsure if your business is correctly approved please contact the Shire Development Team on 08 9837 4070 or via email to planning@jerramungup.wa.gov.au.

Let's work together to ensure we are all safe & healthy in business.



RURAL STREET NUMBERS

Are you living on, or developing, a property on a rural or rural residential block? Do you have a rural street number?

It is extremely important that every house in rural and rural residential areas, including Point Henry, is allocated a rural street number. These are used by emergency services to locate you in the case of an emergency. The sign is green with white numbers, located at your main driveway entrance to your property. Only one number can be allocated per house, even if there are multiple driveways to access. Please ensure that your main driveway is the one allocated the number.

If you do not have a number, or are unsure, please contact the Shire Development Team on 08 9837 4070 or via email at planning@jerramungup.wa.gov.au. There is a fee of \$66 which covers the cost of the sign and the installation by Shire staff at your driveway.



DROUGHT: WE ARE WITH YOU

Up to \$3,000 per household is available to farmers, farm workers and farm suppliers/contractors who are over 18 years of age, are Australian citizens or permanent residents, and who live or work in an eligible Local Government Area.

This is funded by the Australian Government's Drought Community Support Initiative (Round 2).

The drought helpline is open from 6am - 6pm, Monday to Friday.

The online application process is quick and simple.



Australian Government
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Cities and Regional Development



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

To find out more please call **1300 846 643**
www.vinnies.org.au/drougthelp

COMMUNITY NEWS

STAFF FAREWELL

In June we said another sad farewell to a member of staff, Holly Bingham.

Many of you would have seen Holly's friendly face at the front counter over the past year and she will be very much missed. Thank you for your hard work and amazing service you provided to everyone, we wish you all the best for the future!

To fill this vacancy we have welcomed Nic Hollis back from maternity leave. It's great to have you back Nic!

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ROAD SAFETY

After a challenging and different school term, students and teachers are looking forward to the School Holidays that will start on Friday 3 July 2020.

This means for the first 2 weeks of July there will be more children, walking, riding and scooting around local streets as well as more people travelling long distances for their holidays. Therefore the Shire of Jerramungup is asking all drivers to take extra care during this period.

CEO Martin Cuthbert said "All drivers on local roads are encouraged to slow down especially around areas like playgrounds and skate parks where children are likely to congregate. Also drivers heading off on a long trip are reminded to ensure they are well rested and take regular breaks to avoid the dangers of driving tired"

In addition given the likelihood of wet weather during the holidays drivers are also reminded to help keep everyone safe on the roads by driving with their lights on at all times, slowing down if necessary, driving to the conditions and leaving extra distance between themselves and the vehicle in front.

PLEASE NOTE REVISED DATES!

BreastScreen WA
coming soon to
Jerramungup

If you're a woman aged 50 years and over, make your appointment now for a **FREE** screening mammogram.

(All women 40 years and over are eligible)

14 - 16 July 2020

(Dates may be subject to change)

Bookings open now!



BreastScreen WA's mobile will be at:

Jerramungup Health Centre
nurses post, Kokoda Road



Book your free screening mammogram online
www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au
or phone 13 20 50

Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries

Take it easy

Be sport smart when you get back to training — don't risk an injury.



dlgsc.wa.gov.au

Keep your
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Visit health.gov.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

GAIRDNER DECLARED WATER DEFICIENT

Earlier this month the Shire of Jerramungup contacted the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on behalf of Gairdner farmers to formally request a Water Deficiency Declaration. Farmers have been reliant on standpipes that have had insufficient flows, and some have had to travel more than 40km from their farms in order to source a water supply adequate to meet their livestock needs.

On June 10 DWER declared the Gairdner area water deficient. The declaration will initially see up to 660 kilolitres of water carted each week to two 75,000 litre mobile water tanks at the Co-operative Bulk Handling's (CBH) site on South Coast Highway, Gairdner while a longer-term site is prepared. This will significantly reduce the distance farmers need to travel to source emergency livestock water.

Water carting arrangements are being managed by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, with support from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the Water Corporation.

Water will be sourced from the Great Southern Towns Water Supply Scheme and from the Water Corporation's Bolganup Dam.

If you wish to cart water from the Gairdner water tanks you MUST contact the Shire first on 9835 1022.



COUNCIL MATTERS

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING
15 JULY 2020

An Ordinary Meeting of Council is to be held on 15 July 2020 at 2:00pm in the Council Chambers, Jerramungup.

A full copy of the meeting's Agenda can be viewed at the Shire office, or downloaded from the Shire website

<https://www.jerramungup.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/> 72 hours prior to the meeting.

MINUTES FROM LAST COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes from the last council meetings held 17 June 2020 can be found
on the Shire's website

<https://www.jerramungup.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/past>