



ANNUAL REPORT

2019/
2020



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

Contact us

8 Vasey Street
PO Box 92
Jerramungup WA 6337

Phone: 9835 1022

Fax: 9835 1161

Email: council@jerramungup.wa.gov.au

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About this Report

Welcome!

Every year the Shire provides vital community services and our Annual Report is where we can highlight our achievements and the progress we've made towards realising the strategic goals identified in our 2016 – 2026 Community Plan.

The Annual Report is one of our key reporting devices providing information to the Community on the work completed in the past financial year. The Reports details our operational performance and outlines the achievements and challenges we experience throughout the year.

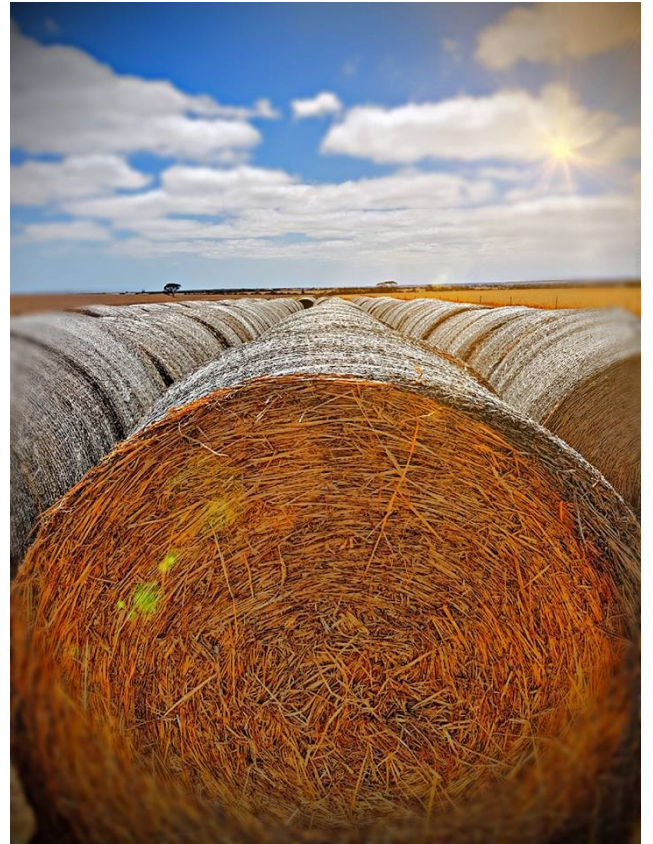
Where to find this Report

Copies can be obtained in hard copy from the Shire Administration Office, Libraries or Online:

<https://www.jerramungup.wa.gov.au>

Email: council@jerramungup.wa.gov.au

Feedback on the report can be provided at the Shire Administration Office or emailed to the Shire at council@jerramungup.wa.gov.au



Shire President's Report

As the President of the Shire of Jerramungup and on behalf of my fellow Councillors, it's my pleasure to introduce the Council's 2019-20 Annual Report.

Each year the Shire of Jerramungup staff and Council work hard to deliver the projects and services as set out in the 2016 – 2026 Community Plan and this report reflects another very busy and productive year for Council. Many important projects and long-term goals were achieved however it ended as no one could have predicted with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our Council is committed to supporting our local residents and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic and well beyond. Through these challenging times, our communities have pulled together and I have no doubt we will come out of this pandemic stronger and more resilient than ever.

2019/20 also represented another year of well-below average annual rain fall. As a consequence the issue of water became a very high priority with many farmers struggling to cart water for stock. Through consultation with local farmers the Shire formally requested a water deficiency be declared through the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). Mobile water tanks were installed to allow for easier water carting and I would like to extend my thanks to our dedicated Executive team who worked tirelessly to achieve this outcome for our farmers.

Another significant project was a major upgrade of the Bremer Bay Paperbarks toilet facilities which was completed in October 2019. This project was funded by the Shire and consisted of a complete renovation of the existing toilet facilities and the

construction of a new Universal Access toilet facility and car park.

I am also pleased to say that the final improvements at the Water Bomber Turnaround at the Bremer Bay Airstrip were also completed. This project stemmed from suggestions made to the Shire after the 2018 Bremer Bay fire event. These improvements to the water bomber turnaround have vastly improved the efficiency and safety of the water bomber service.

2019 was also the year for Local Government elections. There were four (4) vacancies in the Shire this election and we received four (4) nominations therefore each was elected unopposed. Congratulations to our returning Councillors, Cr Rex Parsons, Cr Andrew Price and myself and a warm welcome to our new Councillor Drew Dawson from Bremer Bay. All newly elected Councillors were sworn in to a four (4) year term at our Ordinary Council Meeting on 20 November 2019.

As always it has been my privilege to attend various engagements, functions and meetings of the community and volunteer services throughout the past year. I would like to thank Councillors and Shire staff for their commitment to the community and I look forward to continuing to work together developing and improving this fantastic place in which we choose to live.



Cr Robert Lester
Shire President



Chief Executive Officer's Report

It is with great pride that I present to you the Shire of Jerramungup Annual Report for 2019/20. It has been a challenging year, however once again the Shire has been able to deliver significant projects and services for the community, some of which are documented in this report.

2019/20 was a year which was dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been a time of uncertainty for us all and a time of considerable stress and pressure for many in our community - individuals, families and businesses. Restrictions were put in place, borders shut and businesses forced to close which resulted in a loss of income for many businesses throughout the Shire.

To ensure that we offer fair, equitable, consistent and dignified support to those suffering hardship, while treating all members of the community with respect and understanding at this difficult time, Council adopted a Financial Hardship During a Declared State of Emergency policy. It allows flexible payment arrangements for businesses and community organisations experiencing difficulty making required payments to Council.

I am extremely proud of our local communities who have shown strength and resilience in the face of the pandemic. We've all had to make sacrifices and I once again thank the community for their support during this time.

The Great Southern agricultural region continued to experience extremely dry conditions following two years of well-below average annual rainfall. The Official Bureau of Meteorology rainfall analysis data demonstrates that 100 percent of the Shire of Jerramungup Local Government Area (LGA) has experienced the lowest 5 percent of rainfall for the

last 24 months. This is a significant decline (also classed as a severe deficiency) in rainfall over an extended period. The Shire proactively assisted our farmers during this time with water deficiency declarations put in place in 3 areas, being Jerramungup North, Jerramungup East and Gairdner. Mobile water tanks were placed on site in Jerramungup and Gairdner which significantly reduced the distance farmers needed to travel to source emergency livestock water.

In brighter news a number of large projects were completed in the 2019/20 year. The Jacup Bushfire Shed was constructed with the official opening held in February 2020. The ablution block at Paperbark's Park was upgraded and refurbished and an additional tank was installed at the Water Bomber Turnaround at the Bremer Bay Airstrip. Works also commenced on the Independent Living Units in Bremer Bay and key worker accommodation in Jerramungup and Bremer Bay with the project expected to be completed early in the new financial year.

The Shire's infrastructure department has had another extraordinary year delivering \$2.7 million of road construction projects throughout the Shire. A major project undertaken was the Meechi Road upgrade which saw the crew work tirelessly cutting 2 metres off the hill to the south of the creek crossing and filling this over the famous culvert. This work has significantly improved the vertical alignment of the road and combined with the curve re-alignment to the north of the crossing, has dramatically improved traffic safety for motorists. Our works team should be commended on their expertise and skills to once again deliver a complex transport network.

From a financial perspective the organisation has again delivered a fiscally responsible program of operations and capital investment sourcing external funding wherever possible to deliver projects. The budget is derived from the information and consultation contained within our Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan highlighting the importance of these strategic documents

In 2019/20 we welcomed our new Manager of Development Noel Myers and also farewelled a number of works crew members and administration staff including Phil Polain who was our longest serving Shire employee having been with us for 19 years. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our departed staff for their hard work, commitment and dedication to the Jerramungup community.

In conclusion I would like to thank Council and Staff for their dedication and support and I look forward to continuing to deliver real benefits to our community and the major projects identified in the 2020/2021 budget.

I hope you enjoy reading this annual report.



Martin Cuthbert
Chief Executive Officer



Elected Members



Shire President

Cr Robert Lester

Elected: 2010

Term Expires: 2023



Deputy Shire President

Cr Joanne Iffla

Elected: 2008

Term Expires: 2021



Member

Cr Rex Parsons

Elected: 2011

Term Expires: 2023



Member

Cr Bill Bailey

Elected: 2004

Term Expires: 2021



Member

Cr Julie Leenhouders

Elected: 2013

Term Expires: 2021



Member

Cr Andrew Price

Elected: 2017

Term Expires: 2023



Member

Cr Drew Dawson

Elected: 2019

Term Expires: 2023

Council Meetings:

Council decisions are made by resolution of Council either at Ordinary Council Meetings or at Special Council Meetings. Ordinary Meetings of Council are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month in the Jerramungup Council Chambers or the Bremer Bay Emergency Services Shed. A schedule of Council meeting dates is available on our website and at the Shire Administration office.

All Council meetings are open to the public, except for matters raised by Council under "confidential items". Community members are encouraged to attend and participate in the meetings.

Community Plan

The Shire of Jerramungup's direction during 2019/2020 was guided by the 2016 - 2026 Community Plan. This Plan was developed through extensive consultation with community members and key stakeholders during March 2016. It identifies 11 aspirations, for each of these aspirations the Shire has identified actions to work towards throughout the next 10+ years.

The Aspirations have been grouped into three main directions, as outlined below;

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1: ENVIRONMENT

The key aspirations within this area reflect the Shire's ongoing recognition of the environmental value of the region. The Shire's location is recognised internationally for its biodiversity, pristine ocean, coastal environment and human interaction with the landscape. Land use planning, land capability and natural resource management are addressed in this area.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2: COMMUNITY

This group of aspirations refers to the capacity of society to provide for the wellbeing of all residents and to do so in a fair and equitable way. This includes good governance and civic leadership, provision of adequate income, feeling safe, good health, food and nutrition, adequate housing, employment opportunities and high standards of education.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3: ECONOMY

The key themes relating to this aspiration are based on responsible fiscal policy, asset management and the provision of good quality and well utilised infrastructure. The continuation of broad hectare agriculture as a key industry and the improvement of road infrastructure are addressed under this theme.



Strategic Direction 1: Environment

Aspiration 1.1 - Environmental Stewardship

To be an industry leader in implementing new technology and initiatives which deliver environmental benefits to the region.

- a) Road reserves are an integral component of the Shire road network, providing space for the road surface, road shoulder and drainage network. In addition to providing a transport service, rural road reserves are an environmental asset, they are often covered with native vegetation providing an attractive, natural space and a habitat for animals.

Finding a balance of developing and maintaining road infrastructure while maintaining the natural environment has been problematic at times and has led to the Shire investing heavily in training and environmental assessments over the past 2 years.

The Rural Road Verge Vegetation Management Policy defines the road construction and maintenance boundary, outlines the Shire's rural road verge management strategies and provides sound guidance for organisational implementation. The Policy also recognises the importance of protecting and conserving native vegetation.

- b) The Shire of Jerramungup Town Services team completed a rehabilitation project on the section of old farmland where Meechi Road was realigned. They planted 1500+ trees which consisted of native seed from the site which was direct seeded to complement the mosaic tube stock planting. Pruned vegetation was also used to provide a natural habitat for the local fauna.

Aspiration 1.2 - Environmental Planning and Restoration

To facilitate community programs and initiatives that deliver best practice environmental planning, management and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

- a) Council adopted a revised Local Planning Policy 18 – Point Henry Fire Management Strategy in June 2019. The revised policy is applied to all development applications and recognises the specific local conditions that apply.
- b) To improve energy efficiency at the Jerramungup Entertainment Centre 30 old lights were replaced with new LED lights. LED lights have a low power consumption and longer life span which will deliver long term savings to the Shire.



Meechi Road rehabilitation project

Strategic Direction 2: Community

Aspiration 2.1 - Community Sport and Recreation

To recognise that sport and recreation is a significant part of the community network and support its growth and development.

- a) The Fitzgerald Biosphere Group, with assistance from the Shire and various other funding contributors held its first 'Dancing in the Dirt' event on October 12 2019. This black tie event was organised by a driven committee after a number of difficult farming seasons complete with wind storms, water shortages, frost events and low rainfall. This ball was a opportunity to unite our small community and bring people together to reconnect socially, laugh, enjoy local produce and boost community moral. This event was a huge success and the Shire looks forward to continuing to support this event in years to come.
- b) The Shire contributed \$214,680 towards a major upgrade of the Bremer Bay Paperbarks toilet facilities which was completed in October 2019. These works included building a new retaining wall, upgrading existing plumbing, rendering the outside façade whilst retaining the existing artwork, installing new outdoor showers and beautiful landscaping and formalised carpark to finish it off. A new universal access toilet block was also installed which allows people with disabilities or activity limitations to enjoy the park facilities. These works complement the recent upgrade of the Paperbarks Park.



Dancing in the Dirt
'Biosphere Brew - Bay to
Bush' and the FBG
organising committee



Renovated Paperbarks
ablution block and new
Universal Access Facility



Aspiration 2.2 - Improved Livability

To develop initiatives and programs, supported by high quality infrastructure that improves lifestyle outcomes and makes the Shire of Jerramungup an attractive place to live.

a) To address the shortage of quality and affordable housing across the upper Great Southern region, nine local governments of the area developed the Great Southern Housing Initiative (GSHI).

The GSHI aims to deliver independent living aged accommodation units and key worker housing in the participating local government areas in response to a critical shortage of quality, affordable and dedicated housing across the local government area.

The total budget allocation for this project is \$3.486 million with \$2.175 million in funding contributing to this project through the Regional Aged Accommodation Program (RAAP) and Building Better Regions Funding (BBRF). The Shire's contribution of \$1.310 million will be made up of reserve funds, in-kind works, proceeds from the sale of 3 Shire houses and a \$500,000 loan through Treasury to go towards the Seniors Independent Living Units.

In August 2019 the Shire awarded the tenders for the Independent Living Units in Bremer Bay to Wauters Construction and the Key Worker Accommodation in Jerramungup and Bremer Bay to Pindan Homes. Works on both projects is progressing well and estimated for completion early in the new financial year.

b) The 19/20 construction program saw upgrade works undertaken on the following roads.

- Minor curve realignment to improve visibility on Stock Road
- Second coat seals and pavement repairs on Needilup North, Gairdner South and Devils Creek Road
- Major works to Jacup North, Jerramungup North, Brook, Rabbit Proof Fence Road and Cowalellup Roads
- Townsite reseals in Bremer Bay on various sections
- Footpath maintenance in Bremer Bay
- The Shire also purchased a new John Deere 672g grader and UD Prime Mover.



Shire of Jerramungup new John Deere grader



New residential house in Bremer Bay under construction

Aspiration 2.3 - Healthy and Happy Community

To promote and deliver programs, initiatives and infrastructure that contribute to a healthier, happier community.

- a) 2019 Citizen of the Year award was awarded to Charmaine Solomon for her many years volunteering in the Jerramungup Community on various community groups and sporting committees.
- b) 2019 Community Group/Event award went to St John Ambulance Jerramungup. It was a difficult year for their volunteers however they remained dedicated to providing critical first aid services to our community.
- c) 2019 Senior Sports Person award went to Shane Edmonds for his outstanding cricket achievements while the Junior Sports Person award was presented to Charlie McKinlay for his remarkable seasons in Junior Football, Hockey and Basketball.
- d) The Shire has been involved with sponsoring the Jerramungup Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Project since 2015 and Council has committed to supporting the program until 2022. This scholarship, which is co-funded with the Jerramungup Lions Club and High School, is awarded annually to a selected student from years 9–10 who displays active engagement with their school studies. A number of positive outcomes have resulted from this scholarship including building resilience, leadership and social skills in participants, building on the values and aspirations of our youth as a whole and providing a unique opportunity to geographically disadvantaged students in our Shire.
- e) A Citizenship Ceremony was held at the Shire Ordinary Council meeting on 19 February 2020 for Nathalia Crabtree. Originally from Sweden Nathalia moved to Australia 10 years ago and now lives in Gairdner with her husband and 2 daughters.



2019 Community Group/Event award recipient: St John Ambulance



Aspiration 2.4 - Emergency Management

To ensure that the Shire of Jerramungup is seen as an industry leader in emergency management and preparedness.

a) The Shire of Jerramungup Bushfire Risk Management Plan (BRMP) is a strategic document that identifies assets at risk from bushfire and their priority for treatment. It is a 5 year plan. Council adopted the BRMP at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 21 June 2017.

In 2019/20 the Shire was once again successful in receiving funds from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services to complete mitigation activities as identified in the BRMP.

b) The Bremer Bay fire event in December 2018 showed a number of improvements that were required to the existing Water Bomber Turnaround infrastructure at the Bremer Bay Airstrip to improve its efficiency and effectiveness in a bushfire event.

The Shire was successful in receiving funding through the Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP) for this project which was costed to be \$100,345.

The improvements to the Water Bomber Turnaround infrastructure at the Bremer Bay Airstrip which were completed in 2019/20 include;

- Bitumen sealing the take-off area between tank and runway, to protect volunteers and planes from debris and to reduce wear and tear on water bombers when taking off full.

- Construction of a wider entry point for planes to allow planes to stack and manoeuvre effectively;
- Construction of a small patio for shade and shelter adjacent to the water tank for volunteers to shelter and rest in;
- Adding a 3inch stand pipe adjacent to the water tank for easier refilling by lay flat hoses for the Bremer Bay airfield and Jerramungup airfield;
- Creation of a a small vehicle access road along the existing fence so trucks and cars are further away from landing planes and to separate cars and planes at all times making the whole space more legible and safer

A variation request was submitted and approved by the Department to purchase a second water tank. This meant that a diesel generator to run the bore overnight to refill the existing rainwater tank wasn't required given the additional storage capacity.

These upgrades to the water bomber turn around at the Bremer Bay Airstrip have decreased the turnaround times for water bombers, reduced wear and tear on planes and increased the capacity of the Bremer Bay Airfield to respond to bushfires in the surrounding district and most importantly in the Fitzgerald River National Park.



Bremer Bay Airstrip water bomber turn around

- c) On the 21 February 2020 the new Jacup Fire Shed was officially opened. This was a historic event as it is the first official headquarters for the Brigade in almost 60 years of existence.

Previously Brigade volunteers trained, conducted meetings and stored the Brigade appliance at members homes. Now they finally have a facility to call home complete with a two-appliance bay and equipment cleaning area, toilets, showers and a new water tank that can hold up to 135,000 litres of water.

The construction of this shed was made possible by the Shire successfully obtaining a capital grant from DFES of \$290,000 in 2019 and the land being kindly donated by Lawson Grains. Jacup volunteers also held various busy bees to erect fencing, install bollards, put furniture together and many other jobs while the Shire workforce constructed the laneway access and gravel sheeted the area.



Opening of the Jacup Fire Shed

Aspiration 2.5 - Civic Leadership

To provide strong civic leadership and governance systems that are open and transparent and ethical.

- a) In April Council adopted a new policy FP11 – Financial Hardship During a Declared State of Emergency Policy. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on the local economy as the measures implemented to stop the spread of the virus have resulted in closures of businesses, community facilities and recreational areas. As such, a large number of job losses, significant financial hardship on business and uncertainty around the future have hit the local economy hard.

In recognition of the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic is having, there has been a number of economic stimulus packages announced by both Federal and State Governments to assist individuals and business. These packages were developed for the purpose of protecting individual income, job retention and business support.

In addition to the Federal and State packages, the Shire also investigated ways of assisting our residents and ratepayers to deal with the economic and community fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic. This Financial Hardship During a Declared State of Emergency Policy ensures we offer support to those suffering hardship at this difficult time and allows flexible payment arrangements for businesses and community organisations experiencing difficulty.

Strategic Direction 3: Economy

Aspiration 3.1 - Industry Development

To provide an attractive environment for industry development and expansion.

- a) The Great Southern agricultural region continued to experience extremely dry conditions following two years of well-below average annual rainfall.

The Shire of Jerramungup contacted the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on behalf of local farmers to formally request a water deficiency declaration. A water deficiency declaration is made by the State Government as a last resort after continued dry conditions have depleted on-farm and local community water supplies.

In December 2019 a water deficiency was declared in Jerramungup North followed by Gairdner in June 2020. Farmers had been reliant on standpipes that had insufficient flows, and some had to travel more than 40km from their farms in order to source a water supply adequate to meet their livestock needs.

Mobile water tanks were placed in Jerramungup townsite and at the Co-operative Bulk Handling's (CBH) site in Gairdner. These significantly reduced the distance farmers needed to travel to source emergency livestock water.



8 mobile water tanks installed at Jerramungup town site.

Aspiration 3.2 - Economic Diversity

To support initiatives which develop strong, diverse and resilient local businesses.

- a) City of Albany and Shire's of Denmark and Plantagenet formed an economic alliance focussed on the economic development of the Lower Great Southern region. This alliance started with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and the engagement of a jointly funded Executive Support Officer to guide and facilitate its implementation.

Last year the Lower Great Southern Economic Alliance formed an incorporated association and is now called the South Coast Alliance Inc (the Alliance).

The Alliance is focused on three pillars to deliver economic advantage to the sub-region:

- Advocacy
- Economic Development and Tourism
- Efficiency and Consistency

The 'guiding principles' for the Alliance include:

- *Always ask, 'can we do this better together?'*
- *Exercise 'co-opetition' - co-operate to compete with the rest of the world, not each other or our neighbours in the wider region or State*
- *Respect our differences and refrain from involvement in each other's governance*
- *Only act where there is a clear, net benefit, and no harm or undue risk*
- *Be open and transparent to our communities.*

The Alliance has adopted a Strategic Plan and has a rolling 'priority action list'. The Shire of Jerramungup formally requested to join the Alliance in May 2019. Membership of the Alliance will provide greater political weight to the Shire's effort's at advocacy for various regional matters such as improvements to South Coast Highway, sealing of the road to Point Anne and better health services. There may be greater economic gains as well through joining future waste management solutions, joint tourism promotion and coordinated responses to future economic opportunities.

Lastly, working with larger local governments may provide support for staff, additional resources and opportunities for collaboration between administrations leading to efficiencies.

Aspiration 3.3 - Tourism Promotion and Development

To assist local business and community groups to expand a year round resilient tourism and service industry.

- a) The Shire continues to work with Department Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions and lobby State and Federal Government to seal the road to Point Ann. This will provide significant economic opportunities in Bremer Bay as it will allow tours to be undertaken into the area. At present all businesses which have attempted to leverage this product have been set back by the implications of road closures after rain and the uncertainty as to whether reliable access to the area can be achieved. There has also been heavy criticism from travellers who have had their vehicles damaged or experienced such rough conditions that it has ruined their experience of the park.

Aspiration 3.4 - Service and Infrastructure Provision

To lobby, advocate for and deliver a first class transport and telecommunications network.

a) The Shire continues to lobby the State Government for much needed improvements to South Coast Highway. The Shire's main concerns with the road are as follows:

- Narrow road width with edge lines only present on small sections of the highway.
- The road has a number of rough sections from Jerramungup to Manypeaks.
- There are significant drop-offs in the drains and embankments.
- Significant volumes of Grain Trucks, Woodchip Trucks, Caravans, Campervans and Passenger Vehicles.
- Trucks drive on the white centreline most of the time due to the road width.
- Two passing trucks will often result in trailers going off the edge of the road further damaging and reducing the edge of the road.
- No passing lanes exist and there are few safe stretches of straight road to safely overtake.
- South Coast Highway is a primary ambulance route servicing patients from Ravensthorpe, Jerramungup and Bremer Bay. The local Ambulance Brigade has expressed concerns about the condition and their ability to safely carry out patient treatment en-route to Albany

b) The Shire also continues to lobby the State and Federal Government to seal the road to Point Ann. To date the section of Swamp Road to Doubtful Islands Road has been sealed along with 5km of internal park roads from the park boundary towards Point Anne. The Shire has also sealed Devils Creek Road which leads to the Fitzgerald River National Park boundary. The day facilities and campsites at Point Anne have had a major upgrade and are a major attraction for local, state and international visitors even more so since the successful UNESCO renomination. Point Anne is one of the best land based whale watching locations in the State.

What is left to do is upgrade a 27km section of gravel road which is in poor, narrow and corrugated condition which requires closure whenever there is rain due to Dieback risk management. The road does not need to be built to full Main Roads standard as it will never carry heavy vehicles and estimates are that the road can be completed for \$25 million. This would also provide the second coat seal on Swamp Road and provide sealed access via Doubtful Islands Road and Murray Road. Sealing this road will have sound environmental outcomes and provide safer access into and out of the park.



Statutory Statements

Record Keeping Policy

The Shire of Jerramungup and all of its employees are committed to efficient and compliant record keeping practices. Internal review and training strategies have been developed and implemented to ensure that all are aware of their compliance responsibilities and that the Information Management System is operating in accordance with the Shire's 2019 Record Keeping Plan.

As part of staff induction, the role and responsibilities of every employee, in relation to compliance with the record-keeping plan, are addressed. Ongoing training sessions are conducted where appropriate and additional training is provided to ensure the operation of our Information Management System is effective and compliant.

Annual Salaries

The *Local Government Act 1995* requires the Annual Report to detail the number of employees who are entitled to an annual salary of \$100,000 or more and to break those employees down into bands of \$10,000.

At 30 June 2020 the Shire of Jerramungup had two employees whose salary fell between \$110,000 and \$119,999, one other between \$120,000 and \$129,999 and one employee whose salary falls between \$160,000 and \$169,999.

Register of Financial Interests for Elected Members and Senior Staff

In accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1995*, this register is held in the Administration office and is available for viewing by the public.

National Competition Policy

Competitive Neutrality Policy and Principles;

The Shire of Jerramungup has not identified any business that would be classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as either a "Public Financial Enterprise" or "Public Trading Enterprise".

Competitive Neutrality Policy and Principle CN5;

The Shire of Jerramungup has not identified any part of its business as "Significant Business Activity" in 2019/2020.

Structural Reform of Public Monopolies, Principles SR2, SR3 AND SR4 ;

The Shire of Jerramungup acknowledges the principles of structural reform under the National Competition Policy.

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

The Shire of Jerramungup Disability Access and Inclusion Plan was reviewed in 2019. The purpose of the DAIP is to set out strategies that a local government will undertake to ensure that people with disability can access its services, and that the services provided will facilitate increased independence, opportunities and inclusion for people with disability in the community.

The Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2018-2023 will continue to guide the Shire's efforts to make the Shire of Jerramungup community a more friendly and inclusive place for people with disabilities and has resulted in a number of improvements being made throughout the Shire.

The upgrade of our shared path network, installation of a Universal Access toilet facility at Paperbarks Park, planning for disabled access in the Bremer Bay Town Centre, further footpath

modifications to allow for wheelchair access into Roe Park and regular updates of our website are all means by which the Shire has improved services for disabled persons this year. As our community infrastructure develops we will continue to design for disabled access.

Public Interest Disclosure

In accordance with the requirements of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003*, the Shire of Jerramungup has established procedures to facilitate the making of disclosures under the Act. These procedures set out the processes in place in respect to protected disclosures generally, to protect people from reprisal for making protected disclosures, and to provide guidance on investigations. No disclosures relating to improper conduct were made to the Shire during the 2019/2020 financial year, therefore no disclosures were referred to the ombudsman.

Freedom of Information Act 1992

The Shire of Jerramungup is subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1992*, which gives individuals and organisations a general right of access to information held by the Shire. The Act also provides the right of appeal in relation to decisions made by the Shire to refuse access to information applied for under the Act. The Shire received no requests for information during 2019/2020.

Sewerage Scheme and Customer Service Charter

This charter sets out the broad philosophy of the Shire in supplying sewerage services to the Jerramungup town site in accordance with the License issued to the Shire by the Economic Regulation Authority under the *Water Services*

Licensing Act 1995. Copies of the charter are available at the Shire of Jerramungup administration office.

The charter informs the customers of the Shire of their rights in accordance with the provisions of the license, including service interruptions, levels of service and complaints procedures. The Shire will provide its sewerage services in a manner that is fair, courteous and, timely with a focus on consultation with our customers, respecting their rights, and meeting their reasonable expectations.

Report on Complaints made against Councillors

In accordance with section 5.121 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the Shire maintains a register of complaints of minor breaches which details:

Name of council member about whom the complaint is made.

Name of person who makes the complaint.

Description of the minor breach that the standards panel finds has occurred.

Details of action taken.

The Shire received no complaints of minor breaches in 2019/20. The Shire also received no complaints of alleged breaches of the Shire Code of Conduct in 2019/20.

Significance of Federal Government Financial Assistance Grants

The Shire received \$1,335,300 in Financial Assistance Grants in 2019/2020 which contributes to annual maintenance of the communities infrastructure and general operations of the local government.

Audit Reports and Financial Statements

The following pages contain the Shire of Jerramungup annual audit report and financial report. The Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 and *Local Government Financial Management Regulations 1996* for the 2019/2020 financial year.

These statements provide an insight into the financial position of the Shire of Jerramungup and are audited by Lincolns Accountants and Business Advisors. Clarification and further information on the annual financial statements can be obtained by contacting the Deputy Chief Executive Officer at dceo@jerramungup.wa.gov.au.



