



UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

OF THE

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

25 JULY 2024

These minutes were confirmed at a meeting held Thursday 25 July 2024 and signed below by the Presiding Person, at the meeting these minutes were confirmed.

Signed:

SHIRE OF BROOME
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 25 JULY 2024

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**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE SHIRE OF BROOME,
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CORNER WELD AND HAAS STREETS, BROOME,
ON THURSDAY 25 JULY 2024, COMMENCING AT 5.00PM.**

1. OFFICIAL OPENING

The Chairperson welcomed Councillors, officers and members of the public and declared the meeting open at 5:02pm.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

ATTENDANCE

Councillors:	C Mitchell Cr D Male Cr J Lewis Cr J Mamid Cr P Matsumoto Cr E Smith Cr P Taylor Cr M Virgo	Shire President Deputy Shire President
Apologies:	Nil	
Leave of Absence:	Cr S Cooper	
Officers:	Mr S Mastrolembo Mr J Hall Ms K MacClure Mr K Williams Ms R Doyle Mr D Bonnici Mr A Clark-Hale Ms M Martin	Chief Executive Officer Director Infrastructure Acting Director Corporate Services Director Development Services Manager Governance, Strategy and Risk Marketing and Communications Coordinator Special Projects Coordinator Senior Administration and Governance Officer
Public Gallery:	D Oliver B Pennicuik K Simpson	

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDENT WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

FINANCIAL INTERESTS (s5.60A)			
Councillor	Item No	Item	Nature of Interest
Cr M Virgo	14.1	Tender for Design and Construct of 4 (3x2) dwellings	My son is an apprentice of H & M Tracey and lives with me at home.

IMPARTIALITY			
Councillor	Item No	Item	Nature of Interest
Shire President C Mitchell	14.1	Tender for Design and Construct of 4 (3x2) dwellings	I am a volunteer wildlife coordinator for Native Animal Rescue Broome. The successful tenderer is constructing the buildings for our group.
Cr M Virgo	9.4.2	Monthly Financial Report June 2024	I am a paid employee of the Broome Visitors Centre who leases premises and receives funding from the Shire of Broome.

5. PUBLIC TIME

5.1 RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM THE PUBLIC AT THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27 JUNE 2024

5.1.1 JOHN GEAPPEN

The following question was asked by John Geappen at the Ordinary Council Meeting held Thursday 27 June 2024. The question relates to the unsealed section of Fairway Drive between Lullfitz Drive and Buckleys Road. The question was taken on notice to allow officers sufficient time to collate the requested information.

Affirmation that the Shire will provide a water truck every day until the Shire comes up with a permanent resolution on a daily basis, because it is becoming a major health and traffic hazard.

The Director Infrastructure provides the following response:

Immediately following the Ordinary Council Meeting held Thursday 27 June 2024 the Shire commenced daily watering of the of unsealed section of Fairway Drive between Lullfitz Drive and Buckleys Road.

This was communicated to Mr John Geappen by telephone on Friday 28 June 2024.

5.2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil.

6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION: **Minute No. C/0724/081**

Moved: Cr E Smith **Seconded: Cr M Virgo**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Thursday 27 June 2024, as published and circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

**For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr M Virgo,
Cr P Taylor, Cr E Smith, Cr J Mamid.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8/0

8. PRESENTATIONS / PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS

Nil.

9. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

9.1 PEOPLE

9.1.1 REQUEST TO ENDORSE DRAFT ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Nil
APPLICANT:	Nil
FILE:	LAW002
AUTHOR:	Manager Community Engagement and Projects
CONTRIBUTOR/S:	Manager Health, Emergency and Rangers
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Acting Director Development Services
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil

SUMMARY:

This report provides Council with background on the Shire's development of the Animal Management Plan. The report includes an overview and update of the consultation and engagement process. It is recommended that Council endorse the draft Plan and call for public submissions to inform final adoption of the Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Shire of Broome's Corporate Business Plan 2023 – 2027 seeks to encourage responsible animal management and includes an action to:

Facilitate development of an Animal Management Plan that responds to the State Government's statutory review of the Cat Act 2011 and the Dog Amendment Act 2013 and addresses dog exercise areas, strays and feral animal management, off-leash pets, dog attacks, de-sexing and animal welfare.

COMMENT

In late 2023 the Shire engaged Catalyse to develop an Animal Management Plan. The Animal Management Plan focuses on pet ownership of dogs and cats in Broome, with considerations for interactions with people, horses and wildlife.

Extensive benchmarking, literature reviews, research and consultation have been completed in the development of the draft plan.

In December 2023 Catalyse visited Broome to meet one-on-one with key stakeholders including:

- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)
- SAFE Broome
- Broome Veterinary Hospital
- Broome Turf Club
- Broome Horse Riders Club Inc.
- Red Sun Camels
- Broome Camel Safaris
- Cable Beach Camels

- Paws and Effect Dog Training
- Broome Bird Observatory.

Information from the interviews was used to inform questions asked in the Animal Management Survey. The survey was open for 4 weeks from 29 January 2024 and received 1,002 responses.

This information was used to guide the development of the draft Animal Management Plan. Recommendations proposed in the draft Animal Management Plan were then workshopped with the community on the 4 and 5 June 2024. Meetings were also held with Broome Veterinary Hospital, SAFE Broome, Kimberley Port Authority and Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) to seek feedback. The full Community Report and all individual submissions can be found in **Attachments 1 and Attachment 2**.

All feedback has been considered and the draft Animal Management Plan is presented to Council for consideration of endorsement for a 4 week public comment period.

The Animal Management Plan seeks to achieve seven objectives:

1. Improve awareness and understanding of responsible and caring behaviour toward animals.
2. Increase adoption of responsible pet owner behaviours, related to registrations, microchipping, desexing, obedience training, excessive barking, and animal excreta.
3. Review animal access on local beaches to improve community safety and animal welfare.
4. Review dog access in local reserves, parks, playgrounds and outdoor sports facilities.
5. Improve the management of lost, stray and feral dogs and cats.
6. Minimise domestic animal impact on local wildlife.
7. Strengthen governance and enforcement.

There are a number of actions proposed in the Animal Management Plan relating to each of the objectives above. The Animal Management Plan proposes to implement these over a 5 year period.

A full copy of the Draft Animal Management Plan can be found in **Attachment 3**. Key components of the Animal Management Plan are outlined below.

Dog Exercise Areas

The Animal Management Plan has reviewed the dog exercise areas across the Broome townsite. It is important to note that most of Broome's beaches remain dog off-leash exercise areas. The following table details the current status and proposed changes to the dog exercise areas on beaches:

Area	Current Status	Proposed Changes
Gantheaume Point	Dogs are currently permitted to exercise off-leash at Gantheaume Point but must be on-leash in the Horse Exercise Area between 5.30am and 10am during the horseracing season.	Dogs to be on leash in the vehicle access area at Gantheaume Point at all times.

Gantheaume Point, north of vehicle access area.	Dogs allowed off-leash.	Dogs allowed off-leash however must be on leash in the Horse Exercise Area when being used by horses.
600m south of Surf Life Saving Club access stairs	Dogs on leash.	No changes.
In front of Surf Club	Dogs prohibited.	No changes.
Cable Beach north of vehicle access ramp (amphitheatre) – 'Camel Zone'	Dogs are prohibited for the first 1km unless transiting in a vehicle.	An extension of the dog prohibited zone to 2km north of the rocks to cover the full camel tours zone. Dogs permitted to be off-leash between 5am and 8am.

The Shire currently does not have any dog exercise areas that is not on a beach (meaning that a dog must be on leash in Shire managed reserves and parks at all times). The Animal Management Plan proposes a 12 month trial to make the following parks a dog exercise area, enabling dog owners to have dogs off leads in these locations:

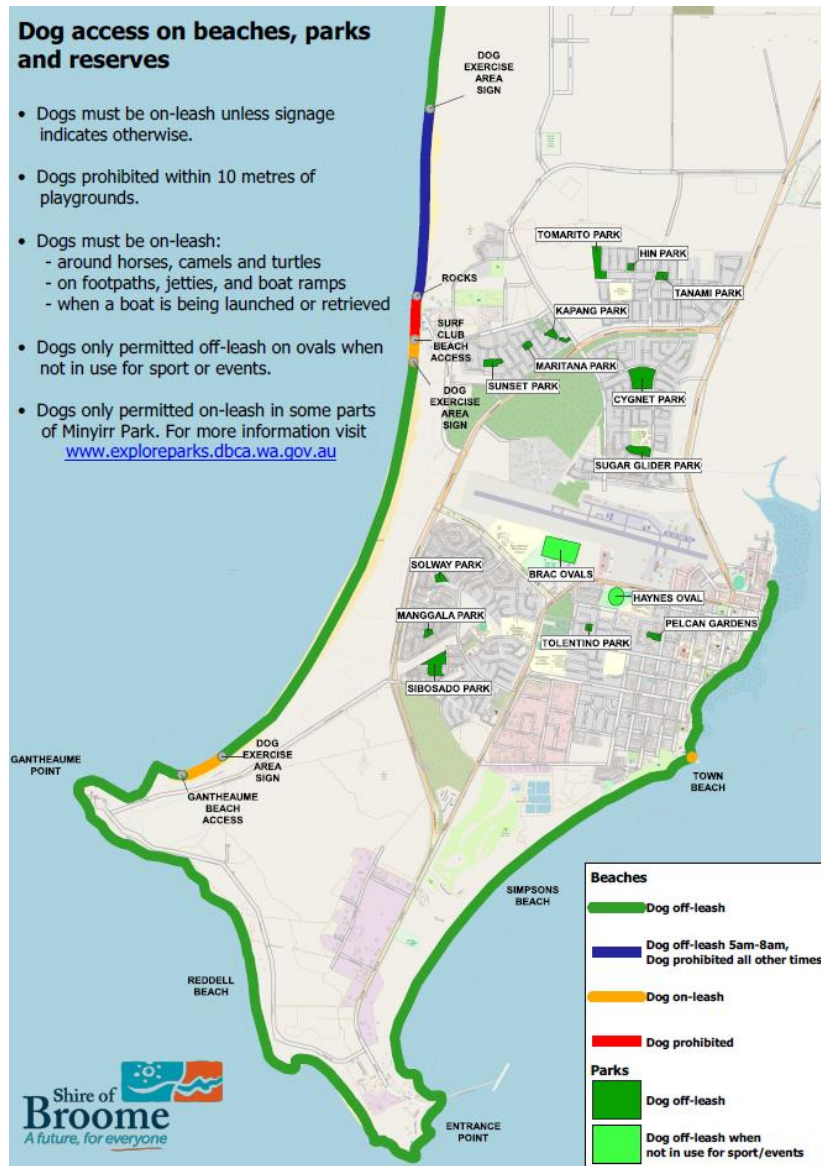
- Hin Park
- Tanami Park
- Tomarito Park
- Cygnet Park
- Sugar Glider Park
- Maritana Park
- Kapang Park
- Sunset Park
- Manggala Park
- Sibosado Park
- Solway Reserve
- Pelcan Gardens Park
- Tolentino Park.

It is also proposed to trial BRAC and Haynes Oval as a dog exercise area when they are not being used for organised sport or events. While these sporting fields are being used, dog will be required to be on leash.

It should be noted, that in all dog exercise areas, dog will not be permitted to be within 10m of a playground and must be on a leash in the following circumstances:

- around horses, camels and turtles;
- on footpaths, jetties, and boat ramps; and
- when a boat is being launched or retrieved on a beach.

The figure below visually displays the dog exercise areas and is also included as **Attachment 4**. Please note that this figure will be updated by a graphic designer prior to public comment period so there will be some graphic changes but the content will remain the same.



Minyirr Buru and Guniyan Bimba are jointly managed between the Shire of Broome, Nyamba Buru Yawuru and DBCA, with various management orders covering different parts of this extensive park. Management Plans for these parks require dogs to be on leash.

In public spaces, dogs are required to be on a leash at all times, except within a designated off leash dog exercise area. All dog owners must adhere to the following points in dog off leash areas:

- A person must be capable of controlling their dog and must be near the dog at all times.
- Carry a leash so it can be quickly attached to gain control of the dog.
- Remove any faeces (poo) left by the dog.
- The dog must not chase or harass any other person, animal or bird.
- Remember even if your dog is being playful, others may feel uneasy with its behaviour. Some people do not like to be approached by dogs.

Other key recommendations

Other key features of the Animal Management Plan include:

- Improve public awareness by implementing an awareness campaign on animal ownership responsibilities, improving signage, website updates and collaborating with key partners to educate the public on interaction with camels and horses.
- Prepare a business case to introduce a Pet Free Registration Program for up to a year.
- Review and update the Horses on Cable Beach Policy to provide clarity on which horses, the location and times beach access is permitted.
- Source funding and construct a dedicated regional animal management facility (pound)
- Advocate for the RSPCA to support the region with sufficient inspectors to address animal welfare issues.
- Introduce a new Cat Local Law to provide for cat containment and maximum number of cats per property.

Summary

The Animal Management Plan has been prepared with extensive community input and is considered to provide a comprehensive framework for addressing animal management issues for the Shire of Broome. As such it is recommended that Council adopt the draft Animal Management Plan for the purposes of seeking public comment. At the end of the public comment period submissions will be presented back to Council to consider prior to adopting a final Animal Management Plan.

CONSULTATION

Extensive consultation was completed during the development of the Animal Management Plan. Please see **Attachment 2** for a copy of the Community Engagement Plan.

Prior to the drafting of the Animal Management Plan, 1002 community members completed the 2024 Animal Management Survey. These responses were used to help inform key actions proposed in the Animal Management Plan. The survey was open for 4 weeks from 29 January 2024.

On 4 and 5 June 2024, two 90 minute community workshop were held. The attendees were given time to respond to the pre-prepared questions and indicate whether they supported, opposed or were unsure. The questions were under the Animal Management objectives, i.e.

- Improve awareness and understanding of responsible and caring behaviour towards animals where there was an overwhelming support;
- Increase the adoption of responsible pet owner behaviours related to registrations, microchipping, desexing, obedience training, excessive barking and animal excreta which was strongly supported;
- Improve the management of lost, stray and feral dogs and cats. Development of a business case for a dedicated regional animal management facility was strongly supported.
- Review dog access in local reserves, parks, playgrounds and outdoor sports facilities where they supported a 12 month trial of sporting reserves and ovals being dog exercise areas when not in use for sporting events or training. They also supported prohibiting dogs from playgrounds. They also supported rolling out a 12 month trial of dog exercise areas in designated local parks.

- Review animal access on local beaches to improve community and animal safety where they supported Gantheaume Point vehicle access area reverting from dog exercise area to dog on leash and beyond the vehicle access area retain as dog exercise area with requirement for dogs to be on leash in the Horse Exercise Area when used by horses from 7am-10am. There was almost an equal split when the question on prohibiting dogs in Camel Zone during tour operating hours.
- Minimise domestic animals impact on local wildlife. There was a proposal to introduce Cat Local Laws as well as employing other strategies to deal with this.

Focused consultation undertaken with key stakeholders like SAFE Broome, Broome Veterinary Hospital and Kimberley Ports Authority (KPA).

Additionally, Workshops were held with Councillors on the following dates and the elected members in attendance:

- 28 November 2023 – Cr Mitchell, Male, Lewis, Matsumoto, Smith and Virgo
- 9 April 2024 – Cr Mitchell, Male, Lweis, Matsumoto, Smith, Virgo, Taylor and Cooper
- 14 May 2024 – Cr Male, Lweis, Matsumoto, Smith, Virgo, Mamid and Cooper
- 9 July 2024 – Cr Male, Cooper, Lweis, Matsumoto, Virgo, Mamid and Taylor.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Administration of animal management within Western Australia is set out in legislation, predominantly the *Dog Act 1976* and the *Cat Act 2011*. This legislation authorises the Shire to enforce compliance and respond to or act on animal complaints and incidents, in a manner that is consistent with its powers as granted in legislation. This legislation also provides the mechanism for the Shire to recover costs through fee-based services such as animal registration and impounding.

Animal welfare is also a key concern for the community. In WA, animal welfare is legislated by the *Animal Welfare Act 2002* and administered by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) through its Inspectors.

All horse owners in Broome must submit an Application for Approval to Keep a Large Animal Within the Townsite, in accordance with the *Health Local Law 2006*, Part 5, Division 3.

Camel owners must complete an Application for Approval to Walk, Lead, Ride, Herd or Drive a Large Animal on Local Government Property and on Public Places issued pursuant to *Local Government Property and Public Places Local Law 2016* Clause 3.2(g).

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Shire governs responsible horse ownership through the Horses on Cable Beach Council Policy, Local Laws and State legislations. The Horses on Cable Beach Policy will be reviewed and updated to provide clarity when all types of horses are permitted at the beach and provide guidance on the mixed use of the beach to minimise conflict between horses and dogs.

The Shire's Compliance and Enforcement and Trading in Public Places Policy was also considered in the preparation of the draft Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$45,000 excluding GST was allocated in the 2023/24 budget for the development of the Animal Management Plan. These funds were utilised by a consultant to prepare the draft

Animal Management Plan. There was a \$15,000 carry over for this project to finalise the delivery of the plan.

While the Animal Management Plan has been developed to be implemented within current Shire staff resources, it is recommended that additional financial support is considered to deliver certain elements of the action plan.

Upon adoption of the Animal Management Plan, the Shire will be required to deliver some actions to operationalise it. Public education and awareness programmes as well as signage in public places will need to be reviewed and updated. Figures to address this are outlined in the draft Animal Management Plan all actions are expected to cost \$100,000 (\$40,000 of this expenditure if the pound business case). In year one of the Plan (24/25 Financial Year) the expenditure is estimated to be \$55,000 of which budget amendments will be proposed at time of adoption.

RISK

The following risks have been considered in the development of the Animal Management Plan:

Risk	Type (Health, Financial Impact, Service Interruption, Compliance, Reputational, Property Environment)	Rank (based on measures of consequence and likelihood)	Mitigation
Final Animal Management Plan not endorsed	Reputational	Medium	Extensive consultation has been completed in the development of the draft plan with Council and the community. Expectations have now been raised and once endorsed Officers will be able to commence implementing.
Recommendations in the Animal Management Plan not supported by the community	Reputational	Medium	Extensive consultation and benchmarking have been completed in the development of this plan to help ensure support of the final document. There may be some elements of the plan that are not supported by all members of the community and will require education / awareness and enforcement by Shire officers.

<p>Funding / internal resources to implement actions in the Animal Management Plan</p>	<p>Financial Reputational</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>The Animal Management Plan was developed to be delivered with current staff resources.</p> <p>Additional funding will be requested to implement elements of the plan through the Corporate Business Plan and the Shire's Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP).</p>
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STRATEGIC ASPIRATIONS

People We will continue to enjoy Broome-time, our special way of life. It's bursting with energy, inclusive, safe and healthy, for everyone

Outcome 1 A Safe Community

Objective 1.4 Encourage responsible animal management.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

<p><u>COUNCIL RESOLUTION:</u></p>	
<p>(REPORT RECOMMENDATION)</p>	<p>Minute No. C/0724/082</p>
<p>Moved: Cr E Smith</p>	<p>Seconded: Cr J Lewis</p>
<p>That Council adopts the Draft Animal Management Plan as set out in Attachment No 3 for the purposes of seeking public comment for a four (4) week period.</p>	
<p>For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr M Virgo, Cr P Taylor, Cr E Smith, Cr J Mamid.</p>	
<p>CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8/0</p>	

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 - Animal Management Plan Community Workshop Report
2. Attachment 2 - Animal Management Plan Community Submissions
3. Attachment 3 - Draft Animal Management Plan
4. Attachment 4 - Dog Exercise Area



Shire of Broome Animal Management Plan

Community Workshop Feedback

14 June 2024

1. Introduction

The Shire of Broome is developing an Animal Management Plan to facilitate responsible animal management.

It will support the achievement of the following outcome, objective and action in the Shire of Broome's Corporate Business Plan 2023-2027:

Outcome 1	A safe community
Objective 1.4	Encourage responsible animal management
Action 1.4.3	Facilitate development of an Animal Management Plan that responds to the State Government's statutory review of the Cat Act 2011 and the Dog Amendment Act 2013 and addresses dog exercise areas, strays and feral animal management, off-leash pets, dog attacks, de-sexing and animal welfare.

A community engagement plan is being implemented to co-design this plan with key stakeholders.

This report provides a summary of feedback provided in the community workshops.

2. Approach

Broome community members were invited to attend a 90-minute community workshop to learn about the draft Animal Management Plan and provide feedback. There were two sessions to choose from:

- 6.00-7.30pm, Tuesday 4 June
- 9.00-10.30am, Wednesday 5 June

In total, 40 people attended these workshops.

60% of participants were dog owners, 40% were non-dog owners. 13% of participants owned a cat, 13% owned another type of animal, 25% did not own any animals and 5% did not answer this question.

Most participants were from Cable Beach (58%), followed by Djugun (18%), Old Broome (15%), and Bilingurr (5%). Two participants did not provide their location.

Respondents were aged 18-54 (52%) and 55+ years (40%). Three participants did not provide their age.

Participants were informed about the draft objectives and priority projects in the Animal Management Plan and asked to provide feedback. Projects were prioritised for discussion in the Community Workshop with consideration for time constraints.

Objectives	Priority projects selected for testing in the Community Workshop
1. Raise awareness and understanding of responsible and caring behaviour toward animals.	a) Create and implement a public education program. b) Review and update signage. c) Facilitate the introduction of the RSPCA's AWARE Program in local schools.
2. Increase adoption of responsible pet owner behaviours, related to registrations, microchipping, desexing, obedience training, excessive barking, and animal excreta.	d) Provide a business case for Council to introduce a 1-Year Free Pet Registration Program
3. Review animal access on local beaches to improve community safety and animal welfare.	e) Prohibit dogs in the Camel Zone during camel tour operating hours f) Revert Gantheaume Point Vehicle Access Area from dog exercise area to dog on-leash. g) Retain Gantheaume Point beyond Vehicle Access Area as a dog exercise area, with a requirement for dogs to be on-leash in the Horse Exercise Area when used by horses from 7am to 10am.
4. Review dog access in local reserves, parks, playgrounds and outdoor sports facilities.	h) Collaborate with local sporting groups and the community to conduct a 12-month trial of sporting reserves and ovals being dog exercise areas when not in use for active sporting events or training. i) Prohibit dogs from playgrounds to improve health and safety for children. j) Roll out a 12-month trial of dog exercise areas in 13 local parks, supported with new signage, supporting communications, ranger surveillance and community engagement.
5. Improve the management of lost, stray and feral dogs and cats.	k) Develop a business case for a dedicated regional animal management facility (pound) l) Partner with key stakeholders (including universities, rescue organisations and veterinarians) to develop and trial new and innovative approaches to manage feral and stray animal populations, with consideration for an intensive sterilisation blitz program on an annual or as needed basis, to capture, desex and rehome stray and feral dogs and cats in the Broome township. m) Develop a campaign or run a 'best catio competition'. n) Procure extra feral cat traps for hire by community members.
6. Minimise domestic animal impact on local wildlife.	o) Collaborate with key partners to jointly provide new signage and communication materials to raise awareness about where turtles nest along the Broome coastline, increase compliance with the Turtle Watching Code of Conduct, and minimise the disturbance of endangered turtles and hatchlings by humans and domestic animals.
7. Strengthen governance and enforcement	p) Introduce a new Cat Local Law to provide for cat containment and maximum number of cats per household.

To support more informed decision-making, participants received an overview of key findings from the Shire of Broome's 2024 Animal Management Survey. This survey was completed by 1,002 community members in January and February.

On completion of the workshops, community members were given a hard copy of the draft Animal Management Plan or invited to download a digital copy to provide community members with more time to review the plan, consider the proposed actions, and submit feedback. The community feedback period was open until 17 June 2024.

This report describes the community's level of support for priority projects, along with their main concerns and recommendations for Council's consideration when finalising the Animal Management Plan.

3. Community education and signage

The community expressed strong support for more education and signage to improve awareness, behaviour and compliance among animal owners.

They would like the focus to be on reaching people from lower socio-economic groups and transient populations who they believe need this information, education and support the most. To reach visitors, for example, more signage and information was requested in caravan parks.

When reviewing signage, consider the amount of signs and messages. For example, it is felt that there is too much, cluttered signage at the top of the vehicle access ramp at Cable Beach, making it difficult to read and absorb the key messages.

There was a request to consider signage in public places, such as the Broome Golf Club, and to raise awareness and understanding about where Assistance Dogs are permitted.

	Support	Oppose	Unsure
Create and implement a public education program .	100%	0%	0%
Review and update signage .	95%	3%	3%
Facilitate the introduction of the RSPCA's AWARE Program in local schools.	95%	5%	0%

Community comments

Community feedback and recommendations have been grouped by key themes. The points below are direct quotes from workshop participants.

Public education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of responsible pet ownership in Broome seems limited. Increased knowledge seems a high priority. • All three proposals will help remind people about dog ownership. Many people are responsible owners, but there are a percentage that aren't or unwilling to comply. • Suggest considering Local Councils across northern Australia ie NT/North Qld when designing the public education programme - more applicable than southern regions and Broome. Roper River/Gulf in NT have a good programme running to teach kids how to teach dog obedience. • I support a recurring program as opposed to a "one off". I understand that "responsible ownership" is still subjective. The question does not refer directly to the safe control of the animal in public . . . Please include this in the education and enforcement.
Targeted communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program needs to reach those in low socio-economic areas who are a large part of the problem for whatever reason. • Needs to be an ongoing awareness program due to the transient nature of people in Broome - working here for a couple of years, backpackers, tourists, Indigenous people visiting from communities. • I think the above is ok but not the priority. The above initiatives are likely to be missed by the cohort that needs it the most. • The RSPCA aware program will target only students at school. How do you educate the parents and the general public? You need to find more resources to extend education to the broad community - also we need to educate dog owners to keep the angry dogs behind gates!
Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any signage would be better than what exists in most parks - there is none! • Signs indicating where we CAN walk our dogs not just signs indicating where we CAN'T. Easier access to dog beach (not just access across the dunes) which is unfair to older people or people with disabilities. • Signage and info spread in every caravan park during the dry season due to pet owners from other regions/states. • Be wary of too much signage! Ramp to Cable Beach already has too much there that drivers don't have the opportunity to read being such a busy thoroughfare. Good idea to involve kids at a young age. But where is the RSPCA presence in Broome?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My opinion we do NOT need more signage. Education before the animal leaves the house.
Dog training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education on dog training to improve in reducing dog attacks. My dog has been attacked [in] Broome [especially] by owners who had no control over their animals.
Assistance Dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broome Golf Club membership T&C does [not] state any of dog's entry. Some old members or [] side dog walkers get their[s] welcomed. [identifying information removed] They yelled at us "we call police" "you remove" [about having an Assistance Dog on-site]!! [identifying information removed]. Do we have signage? Need.
School education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shouldn't be lumped on schools. It always is! And schools have too much to do as it is. • Good luck trying to add programs into an already crowded, pre-planned curriculum at school. It may be more enticing for the school to run it as a club. • Schools time poor.
Program evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program should be followed up or reviewed to see how successfully applied by the public.
Stray dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surprised that one of the key areas doesn't mention management of stray/neglected animals in Broome as this is a major area of concern. • All good initiatives, however, by supporting these suggestions does it take away from primarily what is needed firstly, an animal management facility. Much of the education and information could be run through this facility and delivered by the workers who then outreach to community schools. • This needs to include management of strays and wandering pets. Also the responsibility of rangers and where the public can take "found" animals if Broome vets are no longer accepting strays! Why are rangers never available to collect? Why are the public being told to release strays so rangers don't have to attend?!?! • Need to enforce homeowners to have secure fencing to ensure animals don't get out. • A follow up of strays and how they are being managed and handled. Making "owners" accountable for them, fined, imposing desexing, registering etc. • Access to ranger services, somewhere for animals to go. A lot of pressure falls on volunteer organisations to manage this issue, which isn't fair. This should be taken more seriously by the Shire. • I don't think we should start giving out fines for dogs not on leads etc. There needs to be a changeover period and also the behaviour of that dog off the lead. The facilitator mentioned a dog off lead and no signage but clearly there was no negative impact of that dog in that area as she didn't mention that the problem with dogs off lead is strays or owned dogs [identifying information removed] etc always out. • Another big issue is the safety of runners or bike riders in residential areas. I've been attacked twice while riding my bike in Cable Beach area because dogs leaving from properties with open gates.
Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support all of the above but I would also include policing of the regulations - all well and good having a "dogs on leash" sign, but if there is no penalty for disobeying sign, people will ignore it. Owners need to be made accountable for their actions. • Need ranger presence so that adherence to signage is monitored with repercussions for those not following the signs - this needs to happen early morning (5.30am) and sunset. • Town requires RSPCA officer. As shire rangers are reluctant to interact with First Nations dog owners who don't look after their pets. • Rangers to actually monitor progress, to actually monitor registrations, to actually follow up the phone calls - we need someone reliable to contact. • Rangers patrolling in areas that can enforce the rules on the people not following them. This must include weekends and out of office hours. • RSPCA's aware program might be a tall order since there's no inspector/representative in Broome. Rangers can't do this! They are already understaffed and busy. • Have had poor experience with RSPCA in previous locations.
Bins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need bins that are close to beach access where dog excreta can be disposed. Used to have at Surf Club access but not at Gantheaume Beach.

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4. Dog and cat registrations

There was strong support for offering free pet registration for up to one year to strengthen compliance and build a robust database of dog owners, however, there were many questions. For example, how will the Shire reach hard-to-reach groups, follow up after the one-year program, and enforce compliance?

To improve awareness and ease of registering details, the community suggests an online registration system, advertising QR codes in public places (dog parks, vets etc.), and considering how the Council can partner with service providers that have contact with animal owners (vets, stock feed providers, pet stores, dog trainers etc.) to promote the program and collect registration details.

To support people who are financially challenged, the community suggests payment plans.

To maintain contact with transient and itinerant populations, the community suggests collecting multiple points of contact (mobile phone, email etc.), plus a second or emergency point of contact.

	Support	Oppose	Unsure
Provide a business case for Council to introduce a 1-Year Free Pet Registration Program	92.5%	2.5%	5%

Community comments

Community feedback and recommendations have been grouped by key themes. The points below are direct quotes from workshop participants.

Supporting comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I think is a great idea!</i> • <i>Getting more dogs registered should result in better outcomes.</i> • <i>Worth looking at.</i> • <i>This will create awareness that pets need to be registered.</i> • <i>Great opportunity to target dog/cat owners for education programmes. Must educate not to breed/backyards breeding and why.</i> • <i>Please increase education to the members of the community to understand the importance on pet registration.</i>
Suggestions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>An online registration system with QR codes that can be advertised in public places/dog parks/vets etc. Free registration for the first year as desex ages are increasing especially large breeds.</i> • <i>A great initiative, however a commitment to having the man power/employees to follow up and continue managing the situation. Follow through of fines if registration lapse etc.</i> • <i>Is there support provided for families to keep pets and register them? (for families that cannot afford it but deserve to keep pets) eg payment plans.</i> • <i>With this there should be some recourse if there is irresponsible ownership. Please pay attention to collection of personal details which change a lot in Broome. Having a second person or back up contact person on the record could help mitigate the chance of phone number being "out of service"</i> • <i>Ensure you have an email contact as residents are itinerant. Have the information at point of contact with the pet owners - vet, stock feed, pet stores etc.</i> • <i>Should make dog registration free for lifetime to encourage this past the first year. The proposal doesn't address the problem past the first year.</i> • <i>This this has been done before but worth another try - perhaps do this with microchipping as well?</i> • <i>Whilst I believe this is a good idea, I also feel that as a responsible dog owner who has paid a lifetime registration that doing the right thing should also receive some benefit or compensation. If animal owners take up a 12 month registration then I would like to see enforcement of a renewal or a lifetime registration.</i> • <i>Requires to be followed up after expiry and also once expired the address at the property be registered for future checks.</i> • <i>In annual community surveys, section on animal pet ownership to get a better idea of how many cats/dogs are actually in town. . . Like census. That will assist with how many people have rego'd and ranger service requirements.</i>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need govt funding for cat legislation. Need funding to assist with cat sterilisation. Possible "free" microchipping.
Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If owners can't afford registration can they afford a pet? The question must be asked. • Yes but what is the long term plan to stay on top of registrations. Massive job!! • I think it is going to be a huge challenge, especially for itinerant community members. We almost need a check point before coming to town (like quarantine at WA/NT border) • How will you engage with people who will struggle with the process and won't afford fees after the "free" year. • I don't think it would make any difference. People won't do it knowing they would then have to pay. I'm not totally against this it needs to be something done, do I know what - no! • I thought this was trialled maybe 18 months ago? A friend utilised that at a market stall. While I am in agreeance it fosters a culture of "someone else will fix it". That culture is already too prevalent in the community and doesn't encourage people to help themselves. • Interested in more information on consequences of the spot checks and how that might be managed and implemented. Concern that this won't impact/affect key areas of the community that need this the most. • Support however you need to ensure accessibility for all for registering. Currently rangers are not available to conduct their day to day duties how will this be able to be achieved without resource? • Will encourage registration of puppies before sterilisation. Puppies need to be focus [] for early training and sterilisation. Adoption of owner education as to their pets' requirements for proper education at this stage. • Great idea but I can't see it being a success in the Indigenous sections of the community • Sure you can try but you're not going to reach those who need reaching [identifying information removed] etc. Also, owners who don't want to continue to pay can say their animal is deceased and is council really going to go around to everyone's house - NO! • What happens if your dog has a lifetime registration in another LGA?
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backyard breeders need to be under the spotlight and managed as I know for a fact in my suburb that many puppies were left to wander. Get an RSPCA officer . . . Again!! We need people who have authority to remove dangerous dogs and fine owners. • My view point: dogs have rights to play with other dogs, decent meals, get outside 2 times/day (in German legislation). Here Broome these guard dogs for Buzz site have no wellbeing sufficiently (though the dogs never complained) • Please send tags to correct address. It took over 12 months for us to received our dog's tags after going through the rego process with the Broome Shire.

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5. A dedicated regional animal management facility

There is strong community support for a pound to be built and operated in Broome, for the Broome community.

The community would like further information about the scope, funding, management, staffing, location, noise management, and whether it will service the broader region.

	Support	Oppose	Unsure
Develop a business case for a dedicated regional animal management facility (pound).	97.5%	2.5%	0%

Community comments

Community feedback and recommendations have been grouped by key themes. The points below are direct quotes from workshop participants.

Supportive comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Can't believe there isn't one already.</i> • <i>Desperately needed facility.</i> • <i>There definitely needs to be one! Time to put resources into place and not ONLY rely on goodwill of SAFE volunteers/community members. Commit to funding ASAP.</i> • <i>Needs to be expedited as a matter of priority! This is desperately needed.</i> • <i>A requirement to help SAFE and Broome Shire would be a fantastic start.</i> • <i>"SAFE" have provided an excellent service. Funds are desperately needed for an extended facility. This must include more dog rangers to respond to animal management within the community. A viable business plan is required.</i> • <i>Need to build a purpose-built animal pound/shelter that "could be" run by a NFP or other entity.</i> • <i>Broome vet is incredibly too small to house all the strays - a dedicated pound is a must. We were just informed that our rates have gone to businesses such as Nexus which no one was informed about. The Broome community have voiced many other areas such as management of strays over flight/new Cable Beach developments.</i>
Fast-track this facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I support going straight to build not just planning.</i> • <i>There definitely needs to be a dedicated building and to be fully staffed for the good of the animal.</i> • <i>The Shire should commit to building the actual facility rather than committing to building a business case.</i> • <i>Need to go direct to funding and build, not just business case. This has been going round in circles for years. Shire found \$1.3m to fund Nexus without community consultation. Enough is enough. Action now please. Shire has relied for too long on community organisations doing their work for them, however, doesn't even compensate for their efforts.</i> • <i>Why not go straight to tenders and skip paying for development of business case. Seek grants from . . .</i>
Define the scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>There's a lot to consider for this - ie town planning, noise/location/funds/managing the facility. Need to consider all options. Extend current facility?</i> • <i>Strongly working with SAFE. It would need to be a minimum of 100 holding space facility especially if accepting from other regions.</i> • <i>Needs to be based in Broome.</i> • <i>Concerning for local volunteer groups if this is going to significantly result in increased numbers from other regions as there already aren't enough foster carers for the numbers here.</i> • <i>How will you manage the influx of stray animals in one facility if you are planning on assisting other Kimberley council pounds?</i> • <i>I support the concept as long as it is acknowledged that it is not a standalone solution. Also I am cautious that we should focus on the problem rather than a bandaid fix - which</i>

	<p>is what a pound is. We need a community that is educated in animal ownership so that we do not need a pound.</p>
<p>Facility management and resourcing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the business case support sustainability of SAFE? Where does the funding come from? What % of total ask will be provided by the Shire? • As a rate payer and non-pet owners, I feel some resentment towards potentially paying more in my rates towards supporting people who do not care for their animals, or take responsibility for their animal owning decisions. • Definitely a huge area of need however need more information on how this will be accessed and managed and staff. • Again, a major issue of who will run and will there be enough constant, stable employees. How large a facility should it be? Where should it be located? • Not RSPCA. Would need a vet to oversee welfare and make sensible decisions regarding suitability of rehoming pets v euthanasia. • Would need staffing. Who is picking up animals? Rangers say they don't do dogs. . . • The vet said they only "sometimes" don't have space, so is more budget available to use them more? Questions: location, operations, dedicated vet onsite (consistency!), timeframe, budget. • Why is a large amount of money being put into concreting the carpark at Gantheaume Point when it could go towards the new facility (pound). *Possibly a different \$\$ pool. • The funding for this project shouldn't be from the Broome rate payers, this should be a government payment. The areas for this facility need to be correctly staffed also and have hours that are not just Mon-Fri! • Transparent funding and not another consultancy firm • Already provided by Broome Vets - access to professional help if required, again professional advice available to owner at this point. Strict control on non-registered, non-microchipped animals.
<p>Animal welfare</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strongly support on the provision that these are suitable staff that have sufficient training to maintain the welfare requirements of the animals housed there. • Rehoming engagement: would there be time frames on animals residing if not adopted etc (high kill?). • Not pro euthanasia, ie rehoming is better.
<p>Other comments:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rangers need to react quickly when called about an unattended dog in the community. • I would like to see how, as a rate payer, I could be in better control of where my rates go (do I need to attend the Council ordinary meetings?). (See comment from lady re \$1.3m to Nexus airlines). • [Identifying information removed] pound is full of doggos whose owners are totally irresponsible to let the strayed, I suppose. • Reactive currently, Shire/Council need to be proactive with sterilisation in 2 years, only registered breeders, stop puppy farms and unregistered breeders follow Dept of local government docs on addressing these issues. Council are part of the problem not going into these problem homes.

6. Animal access at Gantheaume Point

There was majority support for the vehicle access area at Gantheaume Point to become a dog on-leash area, and for the area beyond the vehicle access area to remain a dog exercise area, with a requirement for dogs to be on-leash in the Horse Exercise Area when used by horses from 7am to 10am.

	Support	Oppose	Unsure
Gantheaume Point Vehicle Access Area: revert from dog exercise area to dog on-leash.	62.5%	27.5%	10%
Gantheaume Point beyond Vehicle Access Area: retain as dog exercise area, with requirement for dogs to be on-leash in the Horse Exercise Area when used by horses from 7am to 10am.	87.5%	7.5%	5%

Community comments

Community feedback and recommendations have been grouped by key themes. The points below are direct quotes from workshop participants.

Vehicle access area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dogs on Ganth cause mayhem, on lead is the minimum level of management</i> • <i>Dogs on lead in the vehicle area of Ganth.</i> • <i>I would like to be vocal on the issue of the vehicle as well! Gantheaume Point is becoming a circus with so much activity and safety issue with so many cars - often I saw cars driving along because no rangers would stop them to do so - therefore, if you put in place a regulation that should work for everyone make sure rangers are there working and controlling unmindful behaviours.</i> • <i>[Vehicle access area] is a key social area for Broome locals and would impact our ability to enjoy the area with our dogs.</i>
Horse Exercise Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Supported race season and dog on-leash.</i> • <i>On leash near horses.</i> • <i>Past the vehicle signs, behaved dogs off lead. Dogs on lead around horses and camels.</i> • <i>Keep the horses at the race areas. Not the beach.</i> • <i>Horses to exercise on race track only!</i>
Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>As long as it will be enforced!! To cater for human use of beach this would be beneficial OR keep dogs under control. 1/2 and 1/2 would work well.</i> • <i>But the question is: Are you going to implement the number of rangers aimed to make rules/regulations respected? After many years from the closure of a section of Cable Beach to vehicles, I can still experience cars passage from Gantheaume Beach to the old "Zanders" area.</i>
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I feel we need to address the areas of Entrance Point boat ramps and Simpson Beach as well. There have been lots of attacks in these areas too.</i>

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7. Animal access on Cable Beach

Views were divided on proposed changes to dog access in the Camel Zone.

When asked about restricting dog access in the Camel Zone to improve safety for camel riders and camels, 50% of participants supported changing the Camel Zone to a 'dogs prohibited' area during camel tour operating hours before 10am and after 2.30pm, while 47.5% of participants opposed this proposal. 2.5% were unsure or did not respond.

Some participants felt the proposal did not go far enough to cater for people in the community who do not want to be around dogs for phobias, fear, health reasons or personal choice. They want the 2km stretch of Cable Beach beyond the rocks and vehicle access ramp to be dog-free, at all times. A point was made in discussions that there are limited dog-free areas along the Broome coastline. Currently only around 1.3km of Cable Beach is "dogs prohibited" and a large section of this area has the rocks and vehicle access area onto Cable Beach. The 300m stretch of dog-free beach south of the rocks up to the Surf Club has heavy usage.

Others felt the proposed times will prevent people who work from being able to exercise their dog outside of work hours, and rangers would be unlikely to be able to govern the new requirements. They would like a common-sense approach that permits dogs on-leash at all times with good owner-control, and for dogs to be allowed to exercise off-leash prior to 8am before work and the heat of the day.

	Support	Oppose	Unsure
Prohibit dogs in the Camel Zone during camel tour operating hours (before 10am and after 2.30pm) to improve community safety and animal welfare. Dogs permitted to exercise off-leash between 10am and 2.30pm	50%	47.5%	2.5%

Later in the workshop, participants were asked to reconsider this proposal with consideration for restricting dog access to protect endangered turtles during the nesting and hatchling season. Support for dog restrictions increased marginally to 57.5%, with opposition falling to 35%. 7.5% of participants were unsure or did not respond.

	Support	Oppose	Unsure
Prohibit dogs in the Camel Zone [includes 2km of turtle zone] during camel tour operating hours (before 10am and after 2.30pm) to improve community safety and animal welfare. Dogs permitted to exercise off-leash between 10am and 2.30pm.	57.5%	35%	7.5%

Community comments

Community feedback and recommendations have been grouped by key themes. The points below are direct quotes from workshop participants.

Supporting comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Totally agree. Makes sense not to mix dogs and other animals. I support the above points unconditionally. I definitely agree on every plan proposed above. These suggestions are valid and dog owners need to consider space, place and times in amalgamation of other animals utilising the same area.
Dog free	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turtle nest zone closure must be the 1st priority. Protection of turtles should be in line with vehicle access restrictions in nesting times. Messaging is lost and appears tourist operations are prioritised over protection of turtles. DBCA cat traps in coastal reserves. No dogs 24/7. Needs to be "no" dogs 24/7 - many people don't follow rules. No dogs at any time (mentioned by two participants). Double up this zone with a no dog rule for south end of surf club to 2km. Need options for walkers - not everyone drives to Cable Beach. Need to target NO dogs in 2km area.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan seems very confusing - no one reads the signs at the moment - more signs will not help. As far as the camel zone is concerned, please consider making 2.5 - 4km of Cable Beach (north of the rocks) a NO dog zone, the only stretch of beach in the town where humans come before dogs. I feel there are plenty of beaches to exercise dogs, but nowhere where a person who feels unsafe around dogs, or small children can safely walk or swim. The other consideration for this would be the turtles in the nesting season, on my morning walks I have seen more than 1 dog digging on the turtle nests. • Re-write as no dogs from Cable Beach and 2km north. Too many variables of time. There should be an area where there are no dogs and 2km from Cable Beach north is the minimum. We need to keep Cable Beach pristine and free of parasites in the sand, as this is a world-renowned location, one of the jewels of Broome. We must give the tourist what they came for - a pristine piece of beach, where tourists can relax. Make some dedicated access areas to the beach so animals do not have to move through prohibited areas. • Needs no dogs 24/7. Keep the camel zone as no dogs full stop! There is an extremely small area of the beach that is no dog area. For people who are afraid or with disabilities where a 'friendly' dog may cause a fall, there is a very small area for these people to enjoy the beach. The beach is 22km long. It is not too much to ask that 1km be reserved as no dogs ever. Introducing times of dogs/no dogs makes interpretation of the rules too ambiguous. If it is no dogs all the time then it is easy to know the rules, I feel very unsafe in Broome when I can't be sure whether there may/may not be dogs around. Unfortunately, many people with dogs are cheeky about not following rules - rangers need to police this all year, early morning and sunset. • Does this include off the beach where they walk along? Does this also mean after dark? For safety - dogs need to be not on main area at all. • Please compare the "human vs horse" statistics to the "human vs dogs" negative outcomes. The risk of dog attack is embarrassingly high, especially around the streets as well as the beach. Social selfishness/attachment to lifestyle outweighs safety compromise. Unlikely I would be allowed to practice my archery or eg axe throwing in public with the same disregard for others like the small but catastrophic possibility of a mauling from a dog.
Dogs on-leash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep it simple - dogs on lead at all times in camel zone. Enables people to walk from Cable Beach ramp up the beach with dog and then let off once past camel/turtle zone. • Support for turtle season to be on leash. • Just on leash in all areas with turtles. • NO. Dogs on leash. • Disagree with the dogs prohibited area in the camel zone. This should be dogs on lead areas but not when you could be 2kms from a camel! Let's have some common sense here please. • On lead within camel zone ok. • Dogs should be permitted on leash in camel zone at any time of day, under firm control of owner. However they should only be transiting through that zone, not allowed to stay in the area (camel zone). • If walking dog through camel area must be on leash until outside of camel area. • Dogs on leash should be allowed in all areas of the beach. A complete "dogs prohibited" would never be completely abided by. • Do not prohibit dogs anywhere on leash at maximum. Dogs on leash in turtle zone below high tide line in daylight hours. • Dogs on leash when camels present should be obvious, mandatory. • Dogs allowed on leash. • The Shire cannot bring turtles into consideration here when they can't even keep the beaches closed for the whole turtle season. What about people who work? 1 issue in how many years with dog and camel! Camel could be 2km away in camel zone. So no one who works can exercise their dog off leash on a beach before work? DOGS ALLOWED EVERYWHERE ON LEASH NO DOGS PROHIBITED ANYWHERE! They reduce crime which Council does nothing about.
Dog exercise area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More signs!! Hope they get read. Instead of prohibiting dogs altogether - have people undertake training to obtain a licence to exercise their dogs off lead in turtle zone? I don't believe this is a significant issue - turtles nest above the high tide line at night, very few people exercise dogs in the dark.

Time zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The timing needs refining. - people walk early before camels. • Cable Beach area: oppose prohibited dogs as only times available will not be accessible to majority of rate payers as we have to work to pay rates). • Camel Zone - dogs prohibited before 10am? • Allow dogs off lead up to 8am. Before camel tours begin. Who wants to exercise their dog between 10am and 2.30pm in the wet season. Too hot. Most owners want to exercise their dogs before work. ie 5.00am - 8.00am. • The hours allowed to exercise off leash are when the normal home owner is working and the dog is at home. The times working people walk their dogs are before work 4am - 8am and 3pm - 6pm. • This does not allow for people who work full time to exercise their dog during a reasonable time. • Allow dogs to be at all beaches between 5am - 7.30am when there are no others there apart from dog walkers. The wet season - let dogs off lead on all of Cable Beach (also no-one there apart from dog owners anyway). • dogs on lead between 10am - 2.30pm. Timings again are an issue - I think dogs on leash during turtle season is important. We have other beaches dog owners can go to. • Consider restriction areas from access points - e.g. when path hits beach: L dogs permitted; R no dogs. Need some areas: no dogs ever; on lead; exercise. Cover all and keep it simple, not specific hours open/closed/allowed/not allowed as it's too confusing. • What times do camels access and leave the beach? Before 10am is when most people walk • dogs (5-8am). How do people walking dogs access north of the rocks if dogs are prohibited from the rocks? Consider people who work? • Dogs should be allowed to access north of the rocks "off lead" before 8am, when there are no camels, on the beach. Access should be given from ramp onwards. • The time frame of walking between 10am - 2.30pm doesn't allow some of the community who have what is considered normal working hours. The time gives the impression only tourist have been considered. How do dog owners get to Cable Beach at all? Rangers should maybe focus on the lunatics that don't drive the right speed on Ganth. • Dogs on leash in any zone where there are camels/horses/turtles active. 10am - 2.30pm is not a practical time to exercise a dog in Broome due to temperature. • 5am/6am/7am/8am/9am are ok for dogs off leads (how about impact on turtles?) after 2.30pm.
Beach access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking dogs through restricted areas to get to other areas is problematic. • Access with dogs should be retained from the surf club ramp following the Cable Beach redevelopment. • Need alternative access approaches to dog exercise areas not having to go through restricted areas to reach exercise areas, esp around Cable Beach. • I strongly propose a "dogs this way" access to the beach from the surf club car park: this would need a new pathway, south end with an area to wash and gather.
Camels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This would limit the use of the beach north of the rocks to those that have a 4WD that can cross the "camel zone". Why don't the camels operate in the area where dogs are already not permitted? Tour operators should not be privileged over rate payers. • Perhaps a closed dedicated walk area for camels to both protect the camels/dogs and allow dog owners who might not be able to drive that 2km to then be able to walk their dog on the beach. • Get rid of this requirement - support locals. Consider alternatives to manage camel movements rather than restrict locals walking dogs.
Vehicle access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cars are biggest issue. • Close access north of rocks to all vehicles during turtle nesting and hatching. Dec - March/Feb?

Cable Beach option for Council’s consideration

In response to lower levels of support for proposed changes to Cable Beach, the Council may like to consider the following proposal.

This proposal aims to balance community need along Cable Beach for:

- Dogs prohibited areas
- Dog on-leash areas
- Dog exercise areas

While this proposal has not been tested with the community, it does respond to community suggestions, including:

“After hearing everything tonight I feel more unsafe than ever regarding safety with dogs....Very sad right now!

My wish - that a grassed foreshore area with a large safe nice carpark is built south of surf club (halfway to Gantheume Point) and dedicated as a "dog beach". Coffee vans could provide refreshments, this would encourage dog owners to take their dog there rather than the main beach and camel area. Keep it to dog off lead at least 100m south of surf club.”

“Please investigate the Yarawu/Shire relationship. Please ask Yawaru Parks Council to commit to better animal control and extra south-end surf club carpark dog pathway. Thankyou for thinking of our safety and for the future.”

“Need to promote beach access tracks through Minyirr Park.”

The proposal is described below and illustrated overleaf.

Cable Beach North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the vehicle access ramp to the northern point of the rocks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dogs would be permitted on-leash from 5am-8am to access the dog exercise area. • North of the rocks for 2km: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dogs would be permitted to exercise <u>off-leash from 5am-8am</u>. ○ Dogs would be prohibited within 20 metres of turtles, turtle nests or turtle hatchlings at all times ○ Dogs would be prohibited above the high-tide mark at all times to protect turtle nesting areas. ○ For turtle conservation, the beach will be closed to dogs during the turtle nesting and hatchling season to coincide with vehicle access closures. • At all other times, dogs would be prohibited for 2km north of the rocks (8am until 5am the next day) for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improved beach access, health and safety for people with dog phobias, fear, health concerns or preferences to be in a no dog area. ○ To reduce a severe risk of injury to camel riders and camels from dog attacks. ○ To protect endangered turtles, turtle nests and hatchlings. • Note that dogs would be permitted in a vehicle that is passing between the rocks and the 2km marker. • Beyond the 2km marker to Coconut Wells: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dogs would be permitted to exercise off-leash. ○ Dogs would be prohibited within 20 metres of turtles, turtle nests or turtle hatchlings.
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<p>Cable Beach South</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend the dogs prohibited area from south of the vehicle access ramp/rocks to the Wanbiny Trail beach access point. This increases the dogs prohibited area by approximately 700m to provide options for residents and visitors who cannot be around dogs or do not want to be around dogs. In support of this proposal, consider options to improve safety, ease of access, parking and amenities to access the dog exercise area. This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directional signage at Cable Beach carpark to direct dog owners to use nature trails to access the Dog Exercise Beach, highlighting that it is around 600m / a 8 minute walk via the Minyirr Walk Trail. Improved parking and signage at the intersection of Cable Beach Road and Murray Rd to access the Dog Exercise Beach via the Wanbiny Trail, highlighting that it is around 350m / a 5 minute walk. Improved parking and signage at the intersection of Cable Beach Road and De Marchi Rd to access the Dog Exercise Beach via the Vine Thicket Walk Trail, highlighting that it is around 350m / a 5 minute walk. Improved parking and signage at the intersection of Gubinge Road and Wandanyjirr Trail to access the Dog Exercise Beach, highlighting that it is around 300m / a 4 minute walk.
<p>Cable Beach access points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforce the need for dogs to be on leash when travelling to or from a dog off-leash exercise area, including the use of beach access points. This includes the vehicle access ramp and trails through nature reserves and across the sand dunes.



Possible scenarios for community members who want to use Cable Beach with the new proposal

Scenarios	Beach user options
<p>1. A child or adult who has been attacked by a dog previously and now has a phobia of dogs and, to feel safe, wants to be in a dog free area.</p>	<p>Option 1 (outside of turtle season, 5am to 8am): Dog free zone from the rocks south to Wanbiny Trail access point. Approximately 1km of coastline. Note: this excludes the turtle nesting and hatchling season.</p> <p>Option 2 (all other times): Dog free zone from 2km north of the rocks to 1km south of the rocks at the Wanbiny Trail access point. Approximately 3km of coastline.</p>
<p>2. Dog owner <u>without</u> a 4WD who likes to access the beach on foot to exercise their dog.</p>	<p>Option 1 (outside of turtle season, 5am to 8am): Access Cable Beach at the vehicle access ramp and cross the rocks dog on-leash to access the dog exercise area.</p> <p>Option 2 (anytime): Access Cable Beach via Wanbiny Trail with dog on-leash to access dog exercise area south of the trail towards Gantheaume Point.</p> <p>Option 3 (anytime): Park at Gantheaume Point Rd parking area and access the beach via the trail with dog on-leash, continue on-leash in the Vehicle Access Area (approx. 700m) to the dog exercise area.</p>
<p>3. Dog owner with a 4WD who likes to access the beach to exercise their dog.</p>	<p>Option 1 (outside of turtle season, 5am to 8am): Drive north of the rocks to access the dog exercise area.</p> <p>Option 2 (outside of turtle season, before 5am and after 8am): Drive 2km north of the rocks to access the dog exercise area.</p> <p>Option 3 (anytime): Access Cable Beach on foot via Wanbiny Trail with dog on-leash to access dog exercise area south of the trail towards Gantheaume Point.</p> <p>Option 4 (anytime): Exercise dog on-leash in the Gantheaume Point Vehicle Access Area (first 700m), then access the dog exercise area beyond the vehicle access area.</p>

Please note that dog owners will continue to have access to other beaches to exercise dogs off-leash and will have new options to exercise dogs off-leash in parks and sporting reserves across the Broome township.

8. Animal access at sporting reserves

There was majority support for a 12-month trial of dogs being permitted to exercise off-leash on sporting reserves when not being used for organised activities, including games, training and events.

	Support	Oppose	Unsure
Collaborate with local sporting groups and the community to conduct a 12-month trial of sporting reserves and ovals being dog exercise areas when not in use for active sporting events or training. Dogs to be permitted on leash at all other times.	82.5%	10%	7.5%

Community comments

Community feedback and recommendations have been grouped by key themes. The points below are direct quotes from workshop participants.

Owner behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dogs should not be able to use sporting areas. There are too many people that don't do the right thing.
Dog excreta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure "poop" bags are available at ovals. Supply and install poo bags. Dog clean-up on ovals is an issue that is not worth risking - kids playing sport in dog mess. Poo to be picked up Sporting clubs will have the onus of cleaning up all the animal faeces prior to training and playing. Fitness and personal practice should be allowed on the sporting areas and ovals at any time, without animals. Training times and playing times can change seasonally and there can be special carnivals etc. Changing signs and times and rules is too much. Keep animals out of sporting ovals and reserves.
Choice of ovals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This could be allowed at suburban ovals but not BRAC ovals. Shire facilities only. When ovals aren't in use (ie Broome North Primary School Oval) let dogs play/run there.
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to be on leash at all times.

9. Animal access in playgrounds

There was majority support for dogs to be prohibited in playgrounds.

	Support	Oppose	Unsure
Prohibit dogs from playgrounds to improve health and safety for children. In support of this change, provide new signage and community education, and consider the need to fence playgrounds where viable.	75%	17.5%	7.5%

Community comments

Community feedback and recommendations have been grouped by key themes. The points below are direct quotes from workshop participants.

Fencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Are the playground areas able to be fenced separately to make this happen. Other Councils over east have fenced off dog areas.</i> • <i>Will playgrounds be fenced to keep dogs out of playgrounds?</i> • <i>Would definitely need fencing and which part to fence. May be easier to fence playground and by doing this will keep smaller children from wandering off.</i> • <i>Low impact fencing around playgrounds.</i>
Allow dogs on-leash in or around playgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>If trial is successful for these parks, need somewhere to put dog if you're with kids/pram at playground. What about a dog playground?</i> • <i>Support dogs on leads at playgrounds. Support a trial for 12 months. Follow up consultation should be expedited once trial completed to either confirm continuation. Not have it drag on.</i> • <i>Dogs on leash in parks with playgrounds should be an option.</i> • <i>Dogs not allowed on soft fall or sand but leashed around. If not but your own family dogs off leash outside sand/soft fall ok. How about doing more on needles and galss if you're worried about child safety in playgrounds. Local govt to work with state govt on alcohol and drug usage.</i> • <i>However, dogs on lead allowed on boundary, just not in the sandpit.</i> • <i>As long as it's not the whole park and only the playground/surrounding few metres.</i> • <i>Only in the swing/sand area, not around the entire park/grass areas.</i>
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Owners have known whether their doggos are aggressive (nasty) or gentle (mild, amicable, timid, skittish etc). If aggressive these owners must own up to the consequences and pay fine/ban/no entry to playgrounds if cases occur.</i> • <i>Dealing with dog excreta (urination unclear) means hygiene in sandy areas is a risk to health.</i> • <i>In areas where dog exercise area is, do not mix with playgrounds.</i>

10. Animal access in local parks

There was majority support for dogs to be permitted to exercise off-leash in the selected parks. Comments mainly related to fencing, the number and selection of parks, and ranger surveillance.

	Support	Oppose	Unsure
Roll out a 12-month trial of dog exercise areas in 13 local parks , supported with new signage, supporting communications, ranger surveillance and community engagement.	85%	12.5%	2.5%

Community feedback and recommendations have been grouped by key themes. The points below are direct quotes from workshop participants.

Fencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Will these be fenced?</i> • <i>Exercise areas must be fenced and gated (see Cygnet Park attacks . . .).</i> • <i>There are footpaths and roads alongside the parks, the majority of dog owners in Broome cannot control their dogs off leash. How do you mitigate the risk to pedestrians and road users. Fenced exercise areas would be preferable.</i> • <i>Fencing parks to keep dogs in specified area not desirable aesthetically as is excess signage.</i> • <i>Dog park areas should be fenced appropriately so it's clear and safe for users and pets and easily avoided by people/users who don't want to be around dogs.</i> • <i>Will these parks be fenced? I've had dogs cross the road to attack me and my dog who was on the path and on leash.</i> • <i>I would not be keen to see fencing of areas - again if owners are responsible, we don't need the fences.</i>
Number and choice of parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I would support fewer parks, say half of them.</i> • <i>Too many! which parks? I want to walk around my neighbourhood on footpaths and feel safe from dog attacks/off leash dogs - this isn't possible if parks are all off leash. Also, if parks become off leash, then some parts of the beach need. Too many parks - Cygnet and Sugar Glider - one or the other. Not both. I still won't be able to safely walk around Roebuck and avoid these parks if they aren't fenced. The playground in Cygnet Park is well used! Avoid having dogs off leash here. Sugar Glider has NO playground.</i> • <i>But possibly needs more than 13.</i> • <i>Consider including Bedford Park as a dog exercise area.</i> • <i>Over 80% of residents exercise their dogs on the beach. If you don't limit use and access to the beach then you wouldn't need to consider opening up parks as off lead areas.</i> • <i>Other states do allow dogs in reserves or have dedicated dog park but the current statistics of Broome do show how many dog bites occur - dog breeds are very different in Broome / no owner responsibility of ensuring dog is trained/vaccinated etc. Broome needs the option for park exercise and for those that may not have ability to use the beaches. Parks need to be cleaned for all of us - no more needles around Solway or new Warnangarri (near Palmer Rd).</i>
Ranger services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I strongly dislike dog parks, however, recognise that other people prefer to exercise their dogs in parks. Ranger services (current levels) cannot possibly successfully monitor this. There is an inability to adequately police the current situation and requirements of the town.</i> • <i>Accountability and KPIs for rangers to be present and effective.</i> • <i>Resourcing is needed. Who will enforce these? Currently, existing rules are NOT enforced. This needs to change.</i> • <i>Education and enforcement. A ranger on [...] for regular sessions. Any dog off a lead is a risk to a person/cyclist/child who still needs to approach any fenced-off area. Pet dingo/bear/snake etc in the playground. Nobody has died from a needlestick injury in a playground, but a dog mauling is irreversible. Cross off an area in the mangroves across from the airport, and selected parks.</i>

Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>There will be no areas for people to exercise on their own without dogs around (if not with a group).</i>• <i>After the trial period: I'd suggest fines on site to dogs owners not respecting rules and not carrying bags for poo. Moreover, ignorance is not a justification: if someone refuses to pay a fine or take responsibilities on behalf of his/her dog, a ranger should underline the running new plan of the local shire aimed to acknowledge everybody on new solutions and regulations.</i>
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11. Trial evaluation criteria for reserves, parks and playgrounds

Community members were asked: *What should the Council measure and report on to decide if the 12-month trial of dog exercise areas in sporting reserves and local parks has been successful or not?*

Suggestions included:

- Usage:
 - Dog count
 - Frequency of use
- Compliance: type and number of breaches / complaints, either observed by rangers or reported by users:
 - Dogs present in dogs prohibited areas (on-leash or off-leash with owner in attendance vs stray)
 - Dogs off-leash in on-leash areas (owner in attendance vs stray)
 - Dog attacks (on children, adults, other animals)
 - Dog excrement
 - General waste
 - Traffic / parking
- Hospital statistics:
 - Dog bites
- Community engagement:
 - Participation in community events (training, talks, surveys, etc)
- Key stakeholder experiences (residents, dog owners, non-dog owners, sporting groups, schools etc)
 - Awareness of key messages
 - Performance / satisfaction
 - Concerns and suggestions

Community comments

Community feedback and recommendations have been grouped by key themes. The points below are direct quotes from workshop participants.

Usage and behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>measure : how many dogs in exercise area, how often being used, if owners are leaving pet excrement behind.</i> • <i>Are people keeping their dogs on leads whilst sports are being played.</i> • <i>Compare relative numbers of dog attacks/hospitalisations (does the shire have access to these hospital statistics?)</i> • <i>Number of incidents reported. Community feedback. * Rangers need to be available 24/7 to assist - this current call centre is pointless. People know how useless it is and therefore people are not bothering to call - therefore issues just escalate more and more.</i> • <i>Not in specific order: volume of usage by residents. Number of incidents reported (include type eg waste management vs dog fights etc). Ranger surveillance activity.</i> • <i>Constant use. Cleanliness. Safety. Need</i> • <i>Do strays access the area</i> • <i>Dog poops - present or not. Incidents reported to rangers/shire.</i> • <i>Dog attack/fight reporting. Traffic/parking issues. Waste left in parks - rubbish and excrement.</i> • <i>Dog attacks, public complaints</i>
Community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A serious consultation with the community, making sure we are going towards the right direction.</i> • <i>Communicate with the community.</i> • <i>Survey on: who reads signs at these areas? Did anyone experience any incidents at these trial areas? What were the social benefits of these areas for both humans and animals? Have you observed any breaches of the rules while using these spaces?</i> • <i>Place an on-site feedback station (like when checking in to a DPAW campsite) where the pencil and paper are replenished regularly and the feedback receptacle could be a</i>

	<p><i>simple postal-style slot in a lock and key cylinder. Tell us your experience, please rate this facility, suggestions/feedback.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Onsite rangers to interact with punters/iPad survey under a marquee.</i> • <i>Community survey responses. Complaints/feedback positive and negative. Community engagement at those parks on consistent basis during the trial period.</i> • <i>Conduct a survey of all dog owners. Have a presence in the parks to discuss one on one with dog owners.</i> • <i>Responses from ALL sporting clubs and schools. Survey of entire population.</i> • <i>Community engagement (events vs participation). Overall community support (yes continue vs no cease). Feedback from sporting organisations.</i>
General comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very difficult to measure. • The success of a project is measurable by a reduction of accidents and complaints. • Elect a new Council.

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12. Managing domestic animal impacts on wildlife

There was strong support for partnering with key stakeholders, including universities, rescue organisations and veterinarians, to develop and trial new and innovative approaches to manage feral and stray animal populations such as an intensive **dog and cat sterilisation blitz program** on an annual or as needed basis, to capture, desex and rehome stray and feral dogs and cats in the Broome township.

There was strong support to collaborate with key partners to jointly provide new signage and communication materials to increase knowledge and understanding about **turtle conservation**.

There was strong support to introduce a **new Cat Local Law** to provide for cat containment and maximum number of cats per household.

There was strong support to procure extra **feral cat traps** for loan by community members. Community members noted the need to amend references to 'hire' to be 'loan' with a fully refundable bond payment to communicate that cat traps are available for free to encourage greater use among community members.

There was lower support for a campaign or competition to encourage greater use of **catios** among cat owners. While community members weren't necessarily opposed to this action, the Shire of Broome may wish to remove this action so that it can direct limited resources to higher value actions.

	Support	Oppose	Unsure
Partner with key stakeholders (including universities, rescue organisations and veterinarians) to develop and trial new and innovative approaches to manage feral and stray animal populations, with consideration for an intensive sterilisation blitz program on an annual or as needed basis, to capture, desex and rehome stray and feral dogs and cats in the Broome township.	95%	0%	5%
Collaborate with key partners to jointly provide new signage and communication materials to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - raise awareness about where turtles nest along the Broome coastline. - increase compliance with the Turtle Watching Code of Conduct. - minimise the disturbance of endangered turtles and hatchlings by humans and domestic animals. 	95%	0%	5%
Introduce a new Cat Local Law to provide for cat containment and maximum number of cats per household.	90%	7.5%	2.5%
Procure extra feral cat traps for hire by community members.	82.5%	10%	7.5%
Develop a campaign or run a ' best catio competition '.	52.5%	17.5%	30%

Community comments

Community feedback and recommendations have been grouped by key themes. The points below are direct quotes from workshop participants.

Intensive sterilisation blitz program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I agree, but feel this should be a yearly exercise to implement the control overall.</i> • <i>Only potential animals - not all are rehomed or can be rehomed.</i> • <i>Feral dogs that kill domestic pets need to be culled.</i> • <i>I object to paying to de-sex other residents' pets. Concessional desexing - yes. Free desexing - no.</i> • <i>Dingoes attacking and killing dogs and other pets in Lullfitz/Sands area. Promote reporting to Council of incidents. Example - level of dog attacks at Broome Hospital compared to council statistics.</i> • <i>Minimising cat feral problems is imperative.</i> • <i>Cats must be sterilised/spayed.</i>
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<p>Cat laws</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Depends what this [Cat Law] is??</i> • <i>Cat law: introduce no cat outside owner's property. Sterilise/microchip. Fines if roaming (and trapping). Owners made responsible. Limit of 2 cats.</i> • <i>Enforce cat containment.</i> • <i>Cat registration is needed in order to gather data about cat owners and the number of cats per household.</i> • <i>Extra animals. Once again most dog and cat issues aren't from responsible owners they're strays or from high % indigenous households.</i> • <i>Believe there should not be a fee for applying for more cats/dogs etc. Perhaps an application but no fee. Special circumstances need to be available for people involved in foster care, as animal amounts can be high especially when caring for litters.</i>
<p>Feral cat traps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Regular trapping of beach and parks with local First Nations rangers.</i> • <i>Extra cat traps are needed but only if there are enough rangers to manage their use.</i> • <i>Cat trapping should not be performed by the general public - this would absolutely increase the risk of cats left in traps forgotten/abused.</i> • <i>No fee.</i> • <i>Bond instead of hire.</i> • <i>"Loan" not "hire".</i> • <i>Not hire - should not cost community to do shire work. If shire doesn't provide then have the ability to report where needed and shire to have rangers set trap in certain reasonable time frame.</i> • <i>Make more traps available for the stray cats to be trapped and euthanized.</i> • <i>Placement of cat traps by rangers around parks more effective than relying on residents to do. This will encourage people to restrict their cats from roaming and remove more of the feral population. More traps!</i>
<p>Catio competition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Not a key issue.</i> • <i>Waste of money!</i> • <i>Or other competition.</i> • <i>No need for best catio competition!</i> • <i>Don't know what this is?</i>
<p>Other</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I'm not a pet owner, although loving animals. Along 8 years that I lived in Broome, I've been attacked by dogs 3 times. 2 times during my bike ride around my area (Sunrise Park and Lullfits Drive) and one time in Cable Beach's car park. As consequences of attacks, I've been to Broome hospital and forced to anti-tetanus injection plus antibiotic. Thanks for your attention.</i> • <i>I must say that the tolerance for people taking dogs anywhere makes Broome unsafe. Domestic animal impact goes unseen hundreds of times a day when people "take" their dog from their house or car to the beach, usually with moderate negligence to controlling the animal.</i> • <i>Doggos has "rights" to play outside but owners must own up entire responsibilities if letting it mingle with others dogs or let play alone.</i> • <i>Not just strays etc puppy farms which Council has jurisdiction over. [identifying information removed] etc as areas relating to education? Is consideration for need for a dog even thought about? Everyone needs a dog here.</i> • <i>Have rangers available, at least 6am to 6pm to deal with strays, problem dogs etc. Talking to a message service is not a good option - don't get a call back or attendance.</i> • <i>Cash grab central on backyard breeders in education campaign.</i>

13. Other comments

On conclusion of the community workshops, participants were invited to share any other concerns, ideas, suggestions or comments.

Community feedback has been grouped by key themes. The points below are direct quotes from workshop participants.

General comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>This animal management plan is good and should be supported by all to make Broome a better place to own a pet responsibly.</i>
Community safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>After hearing everything tonight I feel more unsafe than ever regarding safety with dogs. There appears that the only place I can go that is dog free are other than Main Beach area. Very sad right now! My wish - that a grassed foreshore area with a large safe nice carpark is built south of surf club (halfway to Gantheume Point) and dedicated as a "dog beach". Coffee vans could provide refreshments, this would encourage dog owners to take their dog there rather than the main beach and camel area. Keep it to dog off lead at least 100m south of surf club. I am concerned there will be no parks where I can run/play sport without being chased by dogs. The main thing is that rangers need to police 24/7.</i> <i>Please investigate the Yawaru/Shire relationship. Please ask Yawaru Parks Council to commit to better animal control and an extra south-end surf club carpark dog pathway. Thankyou for thinking of our safety and for the future.</i> <i>I just want to feel safe walking my dog around Roebuck Estate on leash. She's anxious because of the number of times we've been attacked. Help me feel safe. I walk every morning at 4.30am to avoid other dog owners and to feel safe. This isn't ideal.</i> <i>Outside cameras?</i>
Ranger services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Any changes need to be enforceable otherwise there's no point. Understand that resourcing is what is required - time to invest.</i> <i>I think enforcing the existing laws is key to managing animals. Currently people have open blatant disregard for what is actually law. People need to be made accountable for their actions and their pets.</i> <i>Ranger presence is something which is desperately needed, especially in the future to implement and police all these changes. I feel we are already understaffed at present and this would have to be addressed.</i> <i>Rangers - more of them and their hours to be extended. After hours phone required to be answered. Not to oppose taking in a stray and lost dog.</i> <i>The duty hours and/or ranger resources do not adequately match the needs of the community. It is clearly under resourced and they are almost invisible. There is no clarity on how to contact after hours. Every call is handled by a call centre who tell you the rangers will get back to you the next business day. 5 days at an Easter break! Call centre is a waste of money.</i> <i>After hours reporting service which prompts a correspondence that says "you have prompted a response about responsible animal control".</i>
Simple rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>It's important to keep access/non-access rules very simple and straightforward. People will try to twist rules and "misunderstand" rules to suit themselves.</i>
Beach uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Extend vehicle access area at Gantheume to absorb cars not going up north of rocks. This becomes more necessary with population growth anyway.</i>
Beach access points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Need to promote beach access tracks through Minyirr Park.</i>

Stray animal management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities required to vet stray animals involved in spay neuter stray campaigns, to avoid animal infection. • SDWK ran a trial many years ago of sterilising feral cats and putting them back in the same area. This stopped more cats shifting into that area. • Cat trap should be readily available and invest in having more. • Bunnings could get on board to make cat traps as the Saturday morning craft project :)
Registrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All pets to be rego'd (cats and dog mainly). • Level of underreporting. 359 dogs registered, 21 cats registered: 2023 - poor registration stats. People may get free one year registration then consider that they are "in the system" so will not re-register or pay.
De-sexing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All cats and dogs to be sterilised unless owner has breeding permit. Strategy to desex all unregistered cats and dogs - execute this asap. • Stray animals are already managed - any that go on to rehoming are desexed. It is the ferals that need proper management. Currently they are culled, to manage effectively you need to implement a maintainable desex and release programme. • \$50k grants for sterilisation for Broome community.
Backyard breeding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backyard breeders need to be targetted in the education and sterilisation campaign. • The biggest issues are the owned animals that are not desexed and backyard breeding.
Dog types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of dogs being [...] to Broome - needs to be regulated - security issues - guard dogs.
Dog fighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We haven't touched on "dog fighting" which I have heard occurs in Broome's surrounding communities.
Peacocks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peacocks at rodeo grounds are feral. Who is responsible for getting rid of them? DBCA say Shire - Shire declined - some years ago.
Education and communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owner education is the key, preferably at the early stage of pet ownership including the animal needs. Bad behaviour should be targeted. • Better signage and education.

Submission 1

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RESPONSES TO DRAFT ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN – SHIRE OF BROOME

My responses are focused on the fact that I am a dog owner. I only exercise the dogs on Cable Beach, or the access point from DeMarchi Road midway between the surf club & Gantheaume Point. Gantheaume beach is an unruly free-for-all for most dogs – the reason why I don't go there (with or without dogs). Such a busy and small area and people don't bother to control their dogs.

Problems I see on Cable Beach on a daily basis:

- Vehicles with dogs parked in the camel zone
- Dogs off lead and not under control of their owner
- People walking their dogs without even a lead in their possession
- People not picking up their dogs excreta
- Campers on the beach/in the dunes
- Illegal fires on the beach, many still burning by daylight
- Campers/beachgoers parked high in the dunes where it clearly says no vehicle access
- People driving erratically and not observing speed limits

ALL of the above could be avoided if there was a Ranger presence on Cable Beach, particularly first thing in the morning (6am kind of first thing, not 8am when all the overnight campers have moved) and in the late afternoon/evening. If the rangers cannot police speeding vehicles, then there needs to be a police presence as well. For the amount of time I spend on that part of the beach, the number of times that I have witnessed ranger presence is extremely and ineffectively low. I have witnessed them on more than one occasion drive down the ramp, do a u-turn at the bottom and head back up. It's a joke.

Dogs in the camel zone:

“-Dogs would be prohibited in this area before 10am and after 2.30pm when camel tours are permitted to operate.

- Dogs would be permitted to exercise off-leash in this area between 10am and 2.30pm.”

This reads as if dogs are not allowed on that part of the beach between 2.30pm today & 10am tomorrow?? Which effectively means that you can't walk your dog before work (4.30am-6.30am are my 'before work' dog-walking hours and I can safely say I've never seen a camel at that time of the morning). It is unreasonable to expect that dogs are prohibited in the camel zone – how does someone without a 4wd vehicle exercise their dog if they can't get through the camel zone on foot? Suggestions:

- The camel zone is purely a transit-only zone for dogs which must be on leash and traverse near the water so as to distance themselves as much as possible from the camels (at any given time of the day – it creates confusion when there are multiple rules for different times of the day/year)
- Dogs must be under direct control of an adult
- It would help if all of the camel bases/loading points were moved north a little further (only by say 30-50m), the congestion of people on foot & vehicles at that point is hectic, this would also allow dog walkers to

head towards the water without the camels being forefront & centre of their attention and at what is currently close-range.

Dogs in the turtle zone:

I am against prohibiting dogs on the beach during turtle nesting season. In my opinion there is very little in the way of dog-traffic down there at that time of the year. I am aware that there has been reported nest predation by 'dogs', however consideration must be given to the fact that these are most likely wild dogs/dingoes and I have witnessed a dingo on Cable Beach. Misguided humans in search of seeing a nest being dug/eggs laid and then hatching would cause a whole lot more damage than the average domestic dog. That leads me to suggest that perhaps the Shire might like to engage the relevant parties to conduct organised "turtle tours" during the season whereby people can be guided and educated on etiquette instead of taking off under their own steam and probably doing more harm than good due to their ignorance?

General Issues:

There is already SO MUCH SIGNAGE in such a small area heading down the ramp to the beach, when as a sole driver you're expected to observe the partial one-way traffic, people on foot, children playing AND read the signs. Doesn't happen, quite obviously. Hopefully with the re-development (and I think the proposed two-way access) this may be alleviated to some extent. But instead of one or two large signs with a heap of information, maybe smaller signs that are more easily read as people drive down toward the beach.

The current method of contacting on duty rangers is pathetically ineffective, especially when trying to report issues that I have earlier listed as 'the daily issues I see on Cable Beach'. I realise that the system is probably not going to change, however perhaps give people a better option!! Currently I (and so many others I speak to) don't even bother to use the service because it's all too hard. Can there be an option included for people to record their own voice message? You speak to someone in Perth (it was last time I enquired), it's a tedious & time consuming process as the person on the other end of the phone endeavours to ascertain what you mean by north of the rocks, for example. The last time I called there purely just to leave a message for the Ranger, the person barely knew how to assist and the number she told me to call for resolve ended up being the SES Storm Assistance Helpline!! Consequently, the reports that should be made to the Rangers do not get made because it's a clunky process that people can't be bothered dealing with. This leads the Shire to believe that they have enough resources because there aren't any problems that need to be seen to! There used to be an App called Snap, Send, Solve. I am not sure if this still exists? If it does, can it be extended to allow people to report such incidents? If it's not, can it be re-instigated for this?

Page 30 of the Draft Plan sets out contact numbers. The Rangers mobile number listed is disconnected (and has been for quite some time). The Shire's website needs more information on HOW to contact the rangers or who to contact in different circumstances. I believe that in some instances the RSPCA should be called (even though there is no physical presence in town) and not the Rangers, but how do you find that information about what should be reported to whom?

Reading through the plan prompted me to wonder if I have actually notified the Shire about the death of my life-time registered dog, and how many more are in the same situation? Could you send out (maybe every couple of years) a "reminder" to those lifetime registered owners? Along the lines of checking that details are still correct, such as microchip, address, contact details, and to let the Shire know if anything needs to be changed, including whether or not you still have the dog (passed away, re-homed etc..) Maybe a tear-off, tick-the-box section at the bottom that can be returned?

I have only focused my feedback on what directly affects me as a dog owner. I am sure others impacted by the areas that I have not commented on will have their own opinions and ideas to contribute.

Appreciation to the Shire of Broome for seeking public engagement at a number of levels for this Plan to be developed.

Regards

Jennifer Kranendonk

17/6/2024

Submission 2

From: Sherylyn Fimmel <csfimmel@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 16, 2024 10:01 PM
To: Shire of Broome <Shire@broome.wa.gov.au>
Subject: I240616-244914 - Draft animal management plan feedback

Hi,

Please accept my feedback regarding the draft animal management plan. I have attended the community meeting and read the printed copy of the plan. It is something I feel extremely strongly about.

It is every person's right to feel safe in their community, and it is the role of the council to assist in this. The Draft Animal Management Plan notes this as outcome 1. I currently feel quite unsafe when walking, running and cycling in the community due to being chased by dogs off leads on several occasions. I only go to places that are either 'no dog' areas or 'dog on lead' areas but in both of these areas it is very common for dogs to be off leads. Owners either know they are doing the wrong thing but flout the rules knowing that there is no consequence, or profess to not know the rules.

My concern is that the Draft Animal Management Plan appears to be very much skewed towards keeping the dog owners happy by making as many places as possible in Broome to be 'dog friendly', with no regard for those who either do not like dogs, are fearful, or have a disability and scared of being knocked over or confronted.

I feel that some of the proposed rules are ambiguous and will be very hard to police. For example, the proposal for the rules around the area for 1km north of the rocks is that it become a dog on lead for some hours and a dog off lead for some hours of the day. Policing this would require rangers to be around several times a day. With Broome being a somewhat transient community, and with many tourists visiting with pets, these rules become difficult to interpret and remember. This then means that there will be a high incidence of people doing the wrong thing.

It is disappointing that for those who do not want to be exposed to dogs at the beach, due to fear or disability, will now only have a small area between the rocks and the Surf Club that will be always dog free. Surely, it is not too much to ask that, of the whole of Cable Beach, there could be a bit more area that is dog free. Please consider leaving the rules as they previously were, with it being dog free until 1km north of the rocks all day every day all year round.

Some of the parks that are proposed to be dog off lead areas are quite small and therefore the chance that a dog will run off the park is very high. I have experienced this on several occasions in the past when running past parks, even when on the opposite side of the road. It also risks having many dogs off leads in a small area which increases the risk of aggression.

In my local area I worry about Sunset Park. It is a narrow park that has a path running through it. For those with disabilities it becomes extremely unsafe to walk through this park. There is already a problem where people often walk through the park with their dog off a lead. There have been many occasions where dogs have run across the road in front of cars on Sayonara road as they cross to the park on the other side of the road. The combination of dogs and the many children that play on this road, as well as the increased traffic, especially in tourist season, makes this an accident waiting to happen.

My proposal:

Keep the area from 100m south of the Surf Club through to 1km north of the rocks as completely dog free, all day, every day, all year round. This includes the grassed area at the main swimming area. Do not have different rules for different times of the day - it is too ambiguous for people to respect. People just want to know where they can take their dog without thinking about what time it is.

Keep smaller parks dog free for safety around roads, and to ensure that there are not too many dogs off lead in a concentrated area.

Enforce dogs on lead when people are walking around the suburbs, especially when heading towards parks and the beach.

Make a large carpark and open grassed area with safe, easy access to the beach further south of the Surf Club and make it a designated dog beach. Invite food van and coffee vans to set up in the area, and provide public toilets. This would make it attractive and safe for dog owners to walk their dogs without feeling that they are missing out on nice amenities.

In summary, please consider the safety of everyone in the community, including those with disability and those who are fearful of dogs. Yes, these may be minority groups, but it is important that even minority groups are catered for adequately in the community. The reduction of dog free areas excludes these people from being a part of the community.

If you require more information or further feedback from me I can be contacted via this email or on 0418 197 276.

Kind regards,

Sherylyn Fimmel

Submission 3

From: Scott & Kylie <sweetthings@bigpond.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2024 11:11 AM

To: Shire of Broome <Shire@broome.wa.gov.au>

Subject: I240613-244787 - Animal management plan ...

Dear Shire of Broome

As a rate payer in this shire for over 17 years now I think this is a very restricted option. My husband and I both work full time and therefore the hours you proposed make it non optional for us to walk our very well behaved dog on this beach area unless the tides are perfect for driving north or the rocks. Also this is restricted during turtle nesting season as well.

May I suggest that walking dogs be an option until 8am every day so that locals are able to walk in the morning before the tourists and camels etc frequent the beach.

I think you will find that unlike the Gantheaume end (where I will no longer walk my small dog) most of these dog walkers live locally and are extremely responsible dog walkers.

Your reconsideration of the draft management plan would be muchly appreciated.

Regards

Kylie Temple

Submission 4

From: KRIM BENTERRAK <krimbenterrak@westnet.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 9:25 PM
To: Shire of Broome <Shire@broome.wa.gov.au>
Subject: I240612-244775 - Draft animal management plan response

Hi,

Please find our written response to the Draft Animal Management Plan.

Please reply to this email, if you have received this response.

Subject: Concerns Regarding New Dog Walking Restrictions on Cable Beach

Dear Shire Council,

We are writing to express our concerns about the new restrictions on dog walking in the Camel Zone on Cable Beach. We believe these rules will have unintended negative consequences.

Many residents of the Sunset Park and Broome North regions prefer to walk their animals rather than drive (or are unable to drive), valuing the beach as a communal space for everyone. Those who live near Cable Beach particularly appreciate the ability to walk to the beach, which is a vital part of their healthy lifestyle. Dog walking serves not only as a form of exercise but also as an opportunity to spend quality time with their pets. This proximity to the beach is a significant reason many people have chosen to live in this area.

As ratepayers, we believe we are entitled to exercise early in the morning by walking our dogs to the beach. These new restrictions neglect and compromise the interests of local residents in favour of other users. The beach should remain accessible to all, especially those who rely on it for their daily exercise and well-being. Further, prohibiting dogs in the Camel Zone before 10:00am and after 2:30pm will prevent residents, including ourselves, who work from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from using the area during the day.

Separately, the restrictions will likely encourage people to drive further along the beach to find permissible areas early in the morning or late in the afternoon. This increase in vehicle traffic can lead to significant environmental degradation in what is already a fragile coastal ecosystem. The potential damage to sand dunes, vegetation, and wildlife habitats could outweigh the intended benefits of the restrictions.

Additionally, during the wet season, it would be unwise for anyone to walk or run their dog in the middle of the day when temperatures are very warm. This further restricts the time available for residents to exercise their pets in a safe and comfortable environment.

We urge the council to reconsider these restrictions and find a solution that balances the needs of all beach users. The beach is a shared space, and its policies should reflect the diverse needs of the entire community, not just for tourism.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Krim Benterrak and Josie Mazzulla

Submission 5: Vet and SAFE

Vet:

- General overall concern with the Shire's capability to deliver the actions in the plan, given the lack of rangers and high turnover
 - Noted. For Council's consideration with budgets and resourcing.
- Currently the vets are getting lots of out-of-hours calls due to the Shire's out-of-hours process.
 - Have revised actions 5.2 and 7.2 to include a reference to after-hours services.
- The recent change in the impounding procedures have resulted in a large reduction the number of dogs in the pound facility (only Shire Rangers can accept the dogs, previously the vet could accept and the Shire would come to do the formal impound process)
 - To be addressed as part of action 5.1
- The vet would like direct access to one Ranger number for in office hours and out of office hours rather than calling reception
 - Suggest this is considered internally, and a direct response provided to the Vet.
- Recent changes in trapping of feral cats on private properties is resulting in less feral cats being euthanised.
 - Noted.
- Currently no handover with vet / rangers and a constant turnover of ranger staff.
 - To be addressed as part of action 5.2 (new).
- Recommend regular catch ups between Shire / Vet
 - To be addressed as part of action 5.2 (new).
- Currently the pensioner discount for desexing is not well advertised and the amount of 50% discount is capped
 - To be addressed by action 2.5.
- Believe the dog pound stats are down (page 7) due to a reduced ranger presence
 - Noted.

SAFE:

- Remove the Ranger mobile number from the Plan
 - Done.
- Would like to see more detail in the plan about how the pound will be progressed following the business case
 - Detail is not currently available. Will be addressed as part of action 5.3.
- Safe receive a number of out of hours calls due to the Shire's out of hours call process
- The process for how dogs are impounded needs to be put on the website and not constantly changing
 - To be addressed as part of action 1.3.
- Would be interested with bimonthly catch ups between the vet / shire / safe
 - To be addressed as part of action 5.2 (new).
- Clear advertising for out of hours on public holidays and then impounding of dogs

- To be addressed as part of actions 1.1 and 1.3 (updated).
- More staff are likely to be required for the initial roll out of the plan
 - Noted. For Council's consideration with budgets and resourcing.
- Questions about how pensioners access the discounts (page 14) and the amounts
 - To be addressed as part of action 2.5.
- High turnover of rangers at the shire – has this data – exit interviews been explored to understand why
 - Covered by HR processes.
- 5.2 – request to remove 'grant funding', move the action forward and reword to make more clear
 - No reference to 'grant funding' in action 5.2.
- 5.7 – questions about how long animals will be stuck in traps
 - For rangers consideration.
- 7.2 – can this be brought forward
 - For Shire / Council consideration.

Shire of Broome Animal Management Plan

DRAFT VERSION | 1 July 2024

DRAFT



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Introduction

The Shire of Broome's Animal Management Plan has been prepared to facilitate responsible animal management.

It supports achievement of the following outcome, objective and action in the Shire of Broome's Corporate Business Plan 2023-2027:

Outcome 1 A safe community

Objective 1.4 Encourage responsible animal management

Action 1.4.3 Facilitate development of an Animal Management Plan that responds to the State Government's statutory review of the *Cat Act 2011* and the *Dog Amendment Act 2013* and addresses dog exercise areas, strays and feral animal management, off-leash pets, dog attacks, de-sexing and animal welfare.

This plan focuses on pet ownership of dogs and cats in Broome, with consideration for interactions with people, camels, horses, and wildlife. It seeks to achieve seven objectives:

1. Raise awareness and understanding of responsible and caring behaviour toward animals.
2. Increase adoption of responsible pet owner behaviours, related to registrations, microchipping, desexing, obedience training, excessive barking, and animal excreta.
3. Review animal access on local beaches to improve community safety and animal welfare.
4. Review dog access in local reserves, parks, playgrounds and outdoor sports facilities.
5. Improve the management of lost, stray and feral dogs and cats.
6. Minimise domestic animal impact on local wildlife.
7. Strengthen governance and enforcement.

The Shire would like to thank community members for their support and assistance to create this plan:

- Expert interviews were facilitated with representatives from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), SAFE Broome, Broome Veterinary Hospital, Broome Turf Club, Broome Horse Riders Club Inc., Red Sun Camels, Broome Camel Safaris, Cable Beach Camels, Paws and Effect Dog Training, and Broome Bird Observatory.
- 1,020 community members completed a 2024 MARKYT® Community Scorecard
- 1,002 community members completed the 2024 Animal Management Survey
- 40 community members attended a community workshop

Animal ownership in Broome

Dog and cat ownership

There are around 8,399 pet dogs and 2,106 pet cats in the Shire of Broome, based on estimated calculations from the ABS Census, Shire of Broome’s Animal Management Survey and 2024 MARKYT® Community Scorecard.

Dog estimates are based on 62% of community members having a dog in the 2024 MARKYT® Community Scorecard and reported dog ownership in the Shire of Broome’s Animal Management Survey where 61% of dog owners have 1 dog, 34% have 2 dogs, 4% have 3 dogs and 1% have 4 or more dogs. Cat estimates are based on 14% of community members having a cat in the 2024 MARKYT® Community Scorecard and reported cat ownership in the Animal Management Survey where 63% of cat owners have 1 cat, 22% have 2 cats, 6% have 3 cats and 9% have 4 or more cats.

Nationally, the RSPCA estimates that 48% of households have a dog and 33% have a cat. While dog ownership in Broome is higher than the national average, cat ownership is lower. Contributing factors for lower levels of cat ownership may relate to the climate, higher numbers of stray and feral animals and the associated risks for cat safety and welfare, and a growing understanding that cats can be detrimental to wildlife. In the Animal Management Survey, only 18% of cat owners reported that they allow their cats to roam freely outdoors.

Shire statistics	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Dog registrations per year	203	215	204	330	359
Cat registrations per year	28	30	23	26	21
Applications for a horse to be walked, led, ridden on Local Government Property per year	20	6	87	30	7
Applications for a camel to be walked, led, ridden on Local Government Property per year	54	54	54	54	54

Horse ownership

People own horses or visit Broome with horses for various reasons, including recreation, farming, horseracing, and major events. Polo matches were a popular annual event prior to COVID-19 and are expected to return in 2025. It is estimated that there could be around 93 horses in Broome, based on 1% of survey respondents reporting horse ownership in the Shire of Broome’s Animal Management Survey. Around 4% of respondents reported riding a horse over the past 12 months. During the horse-racing season from June to August, the horse population is thought to double with around 100 thoroughbred racehorses visiting Broome. To ride on public land, horse owners must submit an *Application to Walk, Lead, Ride, Drive or Herd a Large Animal on Local Government Property*. In 2023, the Shire of Broome received an application for 7 horses. Collectively, over the past five years, the Shire has received applications for 150 horses.

Camel ownership

There are three camel tour operators in Broome. Each operator is permitted to have a maximum of 18 camels on Cable Beach at any time, unless otherwise approved by the Shire for extraordinary circumstances. Operators may have additional camels on their farms.

Shire of Broome's performance

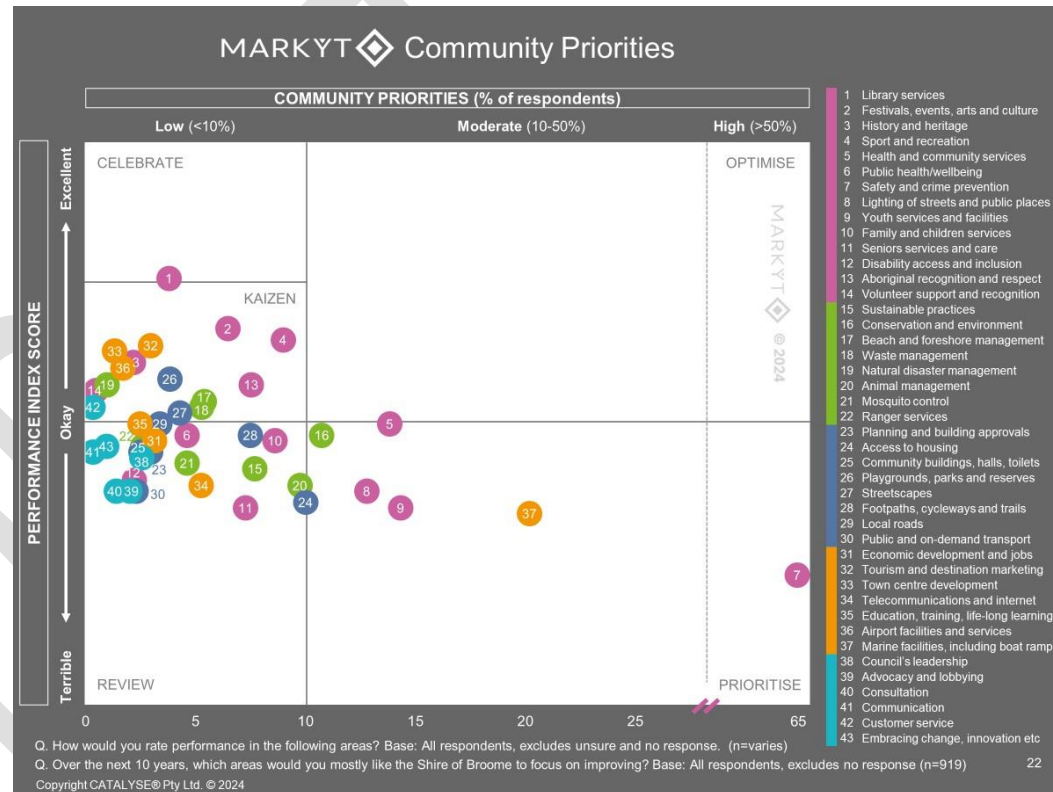
Overall performance

Between 2020 and 2024, the Shire of Broome participated in the MARKYT® Benchmarking Excellence Program on a two-yearly basis to evaluate and report on service levels.

In 2024, animal management received a performance score of 39 points out of 100, with an average rating below okay.

While performance increased by 2 points between 2020 and 2022, between 2022 and 2024, performance fell 7 points and is now 14 points below the industry average.

Community members identified animal management as an area to REVIEW and PRIORITISE in the MARKYT® Community Priorities chart. This has been a key driver in the Council's decision to develop an Animal Management Plan.

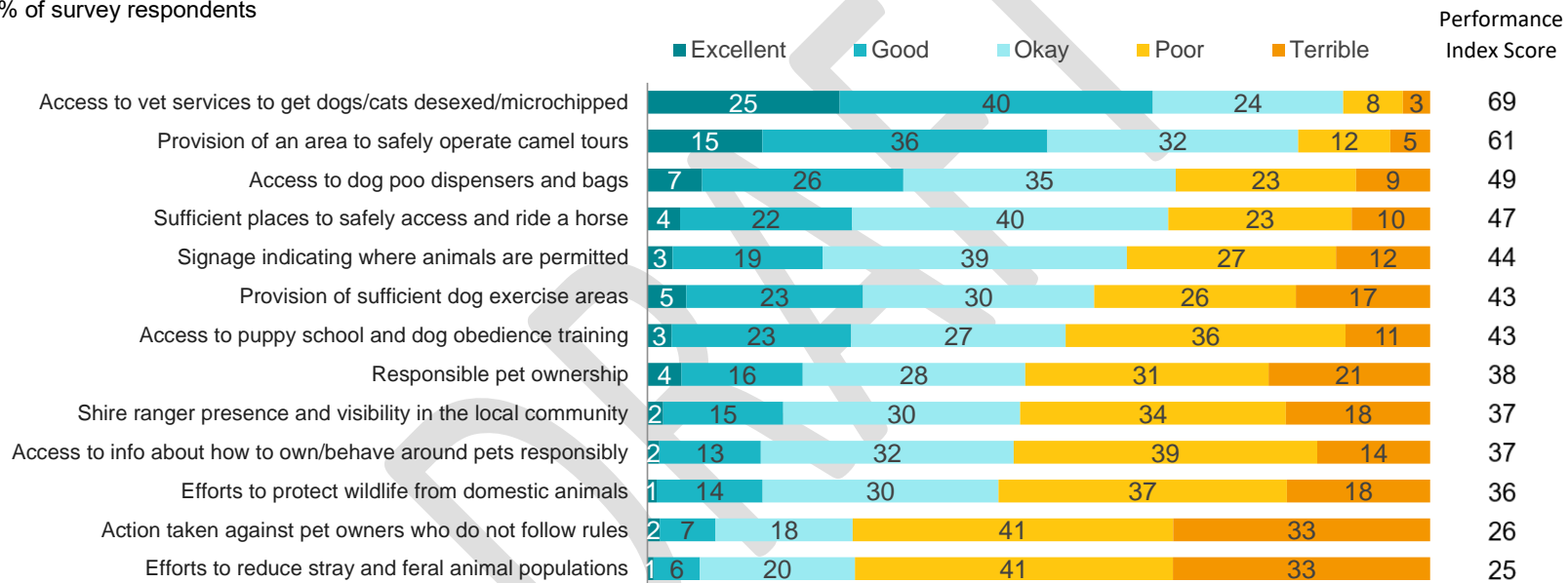


Community perceptions of animal management

In the 2024 Animal Management Survey, the Council invited community members to rate factors that contribute to overall ratings of animal management. The results show that community members are happiest with the ease of accessing vet services to get dogs and cats desexed or microchipped (89% positive rating and a performance index score of 69 out of 100) and providing a safe area to operate camel tours (83% positive rating and a performance index score of 61 out of 100). They are most concerned with efforts to reduce stray and feral animal populations and actions taken against pet owners who do not follow rules and regulations, with both receiving a negative rating from 74% of respondents and a performance index score of 25 and 26 points, respectively.

Responsible animal management performance levels

% of survey respondents



Performance ratings vary across the community. Key variances include:

- People with disability rate performance lower across most areas.
- Non-dog owners rate performance lower than dog owners across most measures.
- Recreational horse owners and riders provide lower ratings for having sufficient places to safely access and ride a horse.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are more concerned with access to dog exercise areas and protecting wildlife from domestic animals.
- Key stakeholders and conservation volunteers express higher levels of concern about protecting wildlife from domestic animals.

In relation to responsible pet ownership, the community was mostly concerned with:

- Ensuring dogs are securely confined in their property (selected by 63% of respondents)
- Keeping dogs under effective control when off-leash (62%)

Other concerns were keeping dogs on-leash in public places (selected by 49% of respondents), nuisance cats (42%), taking responsibility for animal excreta in public places (37%), keeping vaccinations and worming treatments up to date (25%) and managing excessive barking (23%).

Generally, non-dog owners were more concerned with dog related matters, and non-cat owners were more concerned with cat related matters.

Shire statistics

In 2023, the Shire of Broome received 168 complaints about dog attacks and 111 complaints about excessive barking, it conducted 15 investigations and provided 80 referrals to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA). In Western Australia, animal welfare is legislated by the Animal Welfare Act 2002 and administered by the RSPCA through its inspectors.

In 2023, 297 dogs and 366 cats were found or collected by rangers or volunteered to the pound. Among these animals, rangers were able to locate and return 46% of dogs but just 1% of cats to their owners. Working together, local rangers, vets, SAFE Broome and a team of dedicated volunteers and foster carers were able to care for and rehome 45% of dogs and 51% of cats, with some of these animals transferred to animal shelters to be rehomed. Despite best efforts, 22 dogs and 165 cats had to be euthanised. Many cats euthanised were feral cats.

Complaints and investigations	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Dog attack complaints	170	175	124	140	168
Barking complaints	82	81	90	148	111
Shire of Broome investigations	13	13	11	7	15
RSPCA referrals	49	51	44	61	80

Pound statistics: Dogs	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Dogs found or volunteered (lost, wandering, strays, feral)	400	245	270	301	297
Dogs returned to owners	119	81	128	126	137
Dogs rehomed or given to animal rescue shelter	247	132	125	142	133
Dogs euthanised	29	26	13	24	22

Pound statistics: Cats	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Cats found or volunteered (lost, wandering, strays, feral)	298	367	452	493	366
Cats returned to owners	4	2	5	8	3
Cats rehomed or given to animal rescue shelter	201	203	277	307	188
Cats euthanised	92	158	165	171	165

Broome Regional Hospital statistics

In a study by Briotti, Cransberg, Chidambaram and Nasim (2024)¹, looking at dog bite presentations at Broome Regional Hospital emergency department from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023, they found that on average, 4 dog-bite injuries presented to Broome Regional Hospital emergency department each week. The median age of patients was 32 years.

75% of patients were bitten by their own dog or a dog familiar to them, while 25% were bitten by a dog that was not known to them. The most common injuries were to the lower limb below the knee (42%), followed by the distal upper limb (31%) and then face (13%). The researchers queried if a higher rate of bites to the lower limb from unknown dogs may be associated with a significant number of stray dogs in Broome.

Around 22% of dog bite victims were non-residents in the Kimberley region, likely to be visiting the area for work, to visit family or friends, or as tourists.

83% of patients were discharged on the day of presentation, 23% of patients required repair in the emergency department or operating theatre, 16% of patients were admitted to Broome Regional Hospital and 3% of patients (around six patients) were required to transfer for subspecialty tertiary level care. The researchers reported that nationally, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, the prevalence of dog bites that present at a hospital and require admission is 20 per 100,000 while in Broome the incidence is seven times higher at 142 bites per 100,000.

Briotti, Cransberg, Chidambaram and Nasim (2024) concluded that the large number of dog bites in Broome and the need for hospital admission, and in severe cases hospital transfer, highlighted a challenge that regional hospitals are facing. They recommended more education, engineering, and enforcement to prevent dog bite injuries, and improve the management of a significant and preventable public health issue.

¹ Joshua Briotti , Jamie Cransberg , Rama Chidambaram , Sana Nasim , A two-year retrospective cohort study investigating the occurrence and short-term outcomes of dog-bite injuries in regional Western Australia., Injury (2024), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.injury.2024.111588>

Legal requirements of animal ownership

Administration of animal management within Western Australia is set out in legislation, predominantly the *Dog Act 1976* and the *Cat Act 2011*. This legislation authorises the Shire to enforce compliance and respond to or act on animal complaints and incidents, in a manner that is consistent with its powers as granted in legislation. This legislation also directs Council to collect revenue through fee-based services such as animal registration and impounding.

Animal welfare is also a key concern for the community. In WA, animal welfare is legislated by the *Animal Welfare Act 2002* and administered by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) through its Inspectors.

Responsible dog ownership

Dog owners are required to comply with the Dog Act 1976.

To meet legislative requirements, dog owners must:

- Ensure their dog has a current registration from three months of age.
- Not keep more than two dogs on their property (unless approved).
- Ensure their dog wears a collar with a registration tag at all times.
- Ensure their dog has a microchip.
- Observe special conditions for owning a greyhound or declared dangerous and restricted breed dog.
- Ensure their dog is securely confined within their property.
- Keep their dog under effective control at all times when in a public place.
- Keep their dog on-leash at all times in public places, unless posted signs indicate otherwise.
- Pick up and correctly dispose of all animal waste.

To be a responsible dog owner, it is recommended that dog owners:

- Keep vaccinations and treatments for parasites, fleas, ticks etc up to date.
- Take their dog to puppy school or dog obedience training.
- Socialise their dog with positive and varied experiences, including different sights, sounds, surfaces, smells and skills, from an early age.
- Manage excessive barking to reduce noise impacts on neighbours.

If the Dog Amendment (Stop Puppy Farming) Bill 2021 is passed, there will be a requirement for:

- Dog owners to ensure their dog is desexed by the age of two years, with limited exemptions, to prevent unplanned breeding or over breeding.
- Information on dogs to be held in a centralised registration system to allow information to be shared across the State.
- People who wish to breed their dog to get approval to breed, enabling breeders to be traced.
- Pet shops that sell dogs to transition to become adoption centres for unwanted dogs.

Responsible cat ownership

Cat owners are required to comply with the Cat Act 2011.

To meet legislative requirements, cat owners must:

- Ensure their cat has a current registration from six months of age.
- Ensure their cat wears a collar with a registration tag at all times.
- Ensure their cat is microchipped from six months of age (some exemptions apply).
- Ensure their cat is sterilised from six months of age (some exemptions apply).
- Apply for a permit from their local council (Shire of Broome) if they wish to become a breeder.
- Ensure all cats from six months are microchipped and sterilised prior to being sold, gifted or transferred to a new owner.
- Ensure kittens under six months are microchipped prior to being sold, gifted or transferred to a new owner. If a kitten cannot be sterilised due to its young age, the original owner must provide a prepaid sterilisation voucher to the new owner.

To be a responsible cat owner, it is recommended that cat owners:

- Avoid their cat being a nuisance in the community by keeping their cat indoors or exercising outdoors responsibly in a cat enclosure or on a leash.
- Put a bell on their cat's collar.
- Contact their local council to find out if a local law has been introduced to limit the numbers of cats that can be owned.

Responsible horse ownership

The State Government, through the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), is responsible for the governance of horse registrations. Identification of livestock in Western Australia is required under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management (Identification and Movement of Stock and Apiaries) Regulations 2013* [BAM (IMSA) regulations].

Horse owners and riders must adhere to the following State Government regulations:

- All horses must have a registered identifier (brand) or an approved identifier (e.g. microchip) or breed society identifier. This assists the State Government to trace horses during disease outbreaks and assists in the recovery of animals in cases of theft.
- In accordance with the *Road Traffic Code 2000*, horse riders and carriage drivers are permitted to travel on roads, unless a Road Access Sign says otherwise, or if the road is a designated freeway. Animals and animal drawn vehicles, including horses, are treated in the same way as other vehicles, which means that almost all road rules that apply to cars or bicycles will also apply to horse riders and carriage drivers. People riding animals are also permitted to use footpaths and nature strips provided they give way to pedestrians.

Horse owners must adhere to the following Local Government regulations:

- All horse owners in Broome must submit an *Application for Approval to Keep a Large Animal Within the Townsite*, in accordance with the *Health Local Law 2006, Part 5, Division 3*.

The Shire governs responsible horse ownership through the *Horses on Cable Beach Council Policy*. Horses are permitted in two areas along the coast:

- Gantheaume Point Horse Exercise Area and Horse Swimming Area
- Cable Beach foreshore north of the rocks from Cable Beach Reserve to Coconut Wells

To access designated horse areas at Gantheaume Point, Cable Beach, Coconut Wells and other public places, horse owners and riders must complete an *Application for Approval to Walk, Lead, Ride, Herd or Drive a Large Animal on Local Government Property and on Public Places* issued pursuant to *Local Government Property and Public Places Local Law 2016* Clause 3.2(g). Any persons who may be authorised to be in control of the animal must be named in this application, and they must adhere to the conditions in this form. Please refer to the application form for a full list of compliance requirements.

Safety tips for horse riders

- Always wear a helmet when riding.
- Ride on the nature strip as a first option. While you can legally ride on the road or road shoulder, the nature strip is safest if there is one available, and in turn, road shoulders are safer than riding on the road.
- Listen and pay attention to your animal. Don't ride in public places if your horse is unsettled.
- If you see a camel while riding, keep your horse at a safe distance from the camel and never pass a camel from behind.
- Do not walk or ride your horse above the high tide mark on Cable Beach during the turtle nesting and hatching season.
- Wear light coloured clothing during the day, or reflective clothing at night, to help make you visible to other road users.
- Avoid riding at night, if possible, but if the need arises, wear a reflective vest and attach reflective bands such as leg bands to your animal.

Responsible camel ownership

Camels are prescribed stock under the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management (Identification and Movement of Stock and Apiaries) Regulations 2013 [BAM (IMSA) regulations]. Camel owners must be registered as owners of stock and have a current property identification code (PIC) for the property/s where their animals are kept. There is no prescribed identification for camels. It is up to the individual to identify their animals if they wish to claim ownership or distinguish them from feral populations or camels owned by another party.

RSPCA Policy

Section C of the *RSPCA Policy* covers Animals in Sport, Entertainment, Performance, Recreation and Work. The following sections address responsible ownership and care for camels:

- C01 Animals in sport, entertainment, performance, recreation and work – general principles
- C02 Performing Animals
- C07 Training behaviour modification and invasive procedures

Local Government Policy

Camel owners must complete an *Application for Approval to Walk, Lead, Ride, Herd or Drive a Large Animal on Local Government Property and on Public Places* issued pursuant to *Local Government Property and Public Places Local Law 2016* Clause 3.2(g). Any persons who may be authorised to be in control of the animal must be named in this application, and they must adhere to the conditions in this form. Please refer to the application form for a full list of compliance requirements.

Responsible ownership of other animals

The Shire of Broome's *Health Local Laws 2006* outlines additional requirements for people who wish to keep animals within the townsite, including:

- Horses
- Camels
- Cows
- Pigs
- Sheep
- Goats
- Deer
- Rabbits
- Ferrets
- Birds, including pigeons and doves
- Poultry
- Roosters
- Geese
- Turkeys
- Peafowl's
- Gamebirds, including emus and ostriches
- Bees

Please refer to the Shire of Broome's *Health Local Laws 2006* and *Local Government Property and Public Places Local Law 2016* for further information.

9.2 PLACE

9.2.1 REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF CLOSURE OF CABLE BEACH VEHICLE RAMP - FEBRUARY

LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Cable Beach Foreshore Reserve
APPLICANT:	Nil
FILE:	RES 36477; NAT55.1; NAT55.3
AUTHOR:	Director Development Services
CONTRIBUTOR/S:	Nil
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Acting Director Development Services
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil

SUMMARY:

This report provides a summary of the Yawuru Park Council (**YPC**) recommendation of June 2024, regarding Cable Beach turtle hatchling season and vehicle access review. The YPC recommendation is to extend the implementation of full vehicle access ramp closure of December and January annually to include February, commencing December 2024.

This report recommends Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act, advertises the intention to introduce a full ramp closure for the additional month of February each year, for public submission for a period of 28 days.

BACKGROUND

Previous Considerations

OMC 19 March 2009	Item 9.5.2
OMC 30 September 2010	Item 9.4.2
OMC 24 June 2021	Item 9.2.4
OMC 18 November 2021	Item 9.2.3
OMC 28 July 2022	Item 9.2.1
OMC 25 August 2022	Item 9.2.1
OMC 27 October 2022	Item 9.2.1

OMC 19 March 2009

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council (**OMC**) of 19 March 2009, Council considered a number of strategies for limiting the impact of vehicles on nesting marine turtles along Cable Beach.

Council resolved to implement temporary beach access ramp closures at Cable Beach during turtle nesting season. A boom gate was installed at the top of the access ramp for the purpose of this closure.

OMC 30 September 2010

At the OMC of 30 September 2010, Council unanimously resolved to continue ramp closures during the turtle season with ramp closures coming into effect on 1 October through to 28 February, closures occurring overnight from 8pm-6am, as well as 2 hours either side of a tide higher than nine metres. These closures continue on an annual basis.

OMC 24 June 2021

At the OMC of 24 June 2021, Council received a petition requesting the Shire of Broome to workshop with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions's (DBCA) registered Turtle Monitoring Volunteers and other experts the best management options for protecting nesting turtles and hatchlings on Cable Beach.

The petition detailed the workshop was important for the following reasons:

- Flatback turtles are a threatened species listed under the *Environmental Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)* and are therefore legally protected;
- The current system of vehicle registrations is not working as vehicles continue to be driven over nesting sites and create ruts in which hatchlings get stuck and die;
- The Shire has the authority to control vehicles on the beach; and
- The presence and protection of marine turtles on Cable Beach create an important tourist asset that is driving economic benefit for the community.

Council resolved:

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
(REPORT RECOMMENDATION)**

Moved: Cr C Mitchell Seconded: Cr N Wevers

That Council:

- 1. Notes the Yawuru Park Council Working Group, in collaboration with Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions turtle experts and the Cable Beach Community Turtle Monitoring volunteers, will make a recommendation to the Yawuru Park Council on potential options to limit the impact of vehicular traffic on turtles during the nesting season on Cable Beach.**
- 2. Notes the Chief Executive Officer will prepare a report for Council's consideration following the receipt of the Yawuru Park Council recommendation.**
- 3. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to urgently upgrade the signage at the entrance of the Cable Beach vehicle ramp so that it is legible, any unauthorised signs be removed and that this be done for the current tourist season.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9/0

OMC 18 November 2021

At the OMC of 18 November 2021, Council considered the YPC recommendation of 10 June 2021 and the YPC Working Group (in collaboration with DBCA turtle scientist and Cable Beach Turtle Monitoring Volunteers), Turtle Review paper.

The YPC resolved to instruct the YPC Working Group to amend the briefing note to:

- ensure that it provides a comprehensive reference in support of a review of management arrangements for effective conservation of nesting marine turtles on Cable Beach; and
- ensure that it presents findings and evidence, including available data, linked explicitly to proposed management options (including changes to opening times for Cable Beach vehicle access ramp) to be considered at the next YPC meeting.

Following the June 2021 YPC meeting, the YPC Working Group undertook further research, including engaging a DBCA turtle scientist, review of international research and engagement with YPC membership, including the Shire and Yawuru PBC.

As a result of the review, additional information was tabled at the YPC meeting on the 23 September 2021. The recommendation made to the YPC included closure of the ramp completely from 1 December 2021 to 31 January 2022. However, the YPC did not support the YPC Working Group recommendation and made the following resolution instead:

To support, in principal, the recommendation by the Yawuru Park Council Working Group to request the Shire of Broome:

- 1. Implement a new and complete access ramp closure from 1 December to 30 January, commencing 2022, subject to, the implementation of the risk management strategy as set out in section 10 of the report, to the satisfaction of the YPC, to be determined at the YPC meeting to be held in June 2022.**
- 2. Maintain the existing access ramp closures (overnight from 8.00pm to 6.00am and 2 hours either side of a tide higher than 9 metres) from October 1 to February 28, not including the December and January full closures.**

The recommendation from the YPC meeting on the 23 September 2021 was considered at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on the 18 November 2021, where it was resolved as follows:

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION:
(REPORT RECOMMENDATION)**

Moved: Cr C Mitchell Seconded: Cr B Rudeforth

That Council:

- 1. Supports the recommendation of the Yawuru Park Council**
- 2. Continues with the current closure of the Cable Beach access ramp, located on Reserve 36477, for vehicles (other than essential Council services, licensed businesses and emergency vehicles) during the turtle nesting season 1 October to 28 February between 2000 hours and 0600 hours each day and two (2) hours both side of high tide where the tide is 9.0 metres (Admiralty Datum) or higher.**
- 3. Notes the Yawuru Park Council in Principal Support to implement full ramp closure for all vehicles (other than essential Council services, licensed businesses and emergency vehicles), from 1 December to 31 January 2023, with closure between 2000 hours and 0600 hours each day between 1 October and 30 November 2022 and 1 February and 28 February 2023 between 2000 hours and 0600 hours each day and**
Minutes – Ordinary Council Meeting 18 November 2021 Page 120 of 398 **two (2) hours both side of high tide where the tide is 9.0 metres (Admiralty Datum) or higher.**
- 4. Notes the draft communication strategy and implementation of tasks leading to the 2022/2023 closure.**
- 5. Invites the Yawuru Park Council Working Group to submit any recommendations from the engagement strategy and data collection once considered.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7/0

Consequently, ramp closures for the 2021/22 turtle nesting season occurred as per the decision of 30 September 2010, with the vehicle access ramp closed from 1 October and 28 February between 8pm and 6am and for two hours either side of any tide above 9.0 metres, and no full ramp closure.

Turtle monitoring again continued over the 2021/22 turtle nesting season, with additional data collected on tyre ruts during the hatching season. Data collected during the 2021/22 nesting season was included in a report included in the item.

At the YPC meeting of 22 June 2022, the YPC considered further recommendations of the YPC Working Group, including additional data collected. The YPC Working Group recommended to the YPC a two-month full closure of the Cable Beach vehicle ramp, to coincide with the peak turtle hatching months of December and January, each year, commencing 1 December 2022. The two-month full closure was proposed in addition to the then existing Cable Beach vehicle access closures during turtle nesting season which provides closure of the vehicle access ramp from 1 October to 28 February between 8:00pm and 6:00am each day and two hours both sides of the high tide where the tide is 9.0 metres or higher. The YPC agenda item also provided an update on implementation of the Risk Management Strategies as set out in the report of 23 September 2021.

The YPC recommendations from this meeting were considered by Council at the 28 July 2022 OMC. The following recommendation was made by officers:

REPORT RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. *Supports the 22 June 2022 recommendation of the Yawuru Park Council;*
2. *Pursuant to Section 3.50(1a) of the Local Government Act 1995, advertises for public submission for a period of 28 days, the intention to introduce a full closure of the Cable Beach vehicle access ramp, located on Reserve 36477, for vehicles (other than essential Council services, licensed businesses and emergency vehicles or any vehicles authorised by the Shire of Broome Chief Executive Officer) during the turtle nesting season from 1 December to 31 January;*
3. *Requests the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a report to Council on the consultation process with recommendations on whether to proceed with the proposed closure of the Cable Beach vehicle access;*
4. *Notes the draft communication strategy and implementation of tasks leading to the 2022/2023 closure, including a communications strategy from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions that should include public engagement; and*
5. *Requests the Chief Executive Officer to continue the capture of vehicle numbers at Cable Beach vehicle ramp and Gantheaume Point beach access track.*

This recommendation was not supported, and the following resolution was moved and passed:

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

Minute No. C/0722/083

Moved: Cr B Rudeforth

Seconded: Cr N Wevers

That Council defer consideration of this item until Council has been briefed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) regarding their Cable

Beach Turtle Monitoring Program report in addition to receiving a presentation from DBCA and the Yawuru Park Council on proposed plans at Gantheaume Point, preferably within 30 days.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8/0

A briefing was subsequently made to Council by representatives of DBCA and YPC on 16 August 2022. A summary of the briefing is included in the 'consultation' section of this report. Key issues raised by DBCA during the briefing to Council include:

- Flatback Turtles are protected by State and Federal legislation
- Current beach access closures are sufficient to protect nesting turtles
- Tyre ruts are having a direct impact on turtle hatchlings
- Along with current ramp closures, a total ramp closure for December and January annually will protect both nesting turtles and turtle hatchlings
- Vehicle traffic counts indicate capacity for vehicles to shift from Cable Beach to Gantheaume Point to access Cable Beach without significant disruption
- Cable Beach flatback turtles nest only on Cable Beach
- Impacts on turtle hatchlings directly impacts on adult turtle numbers returning to Cable Beach
- The proposed closure recognises the need to balance protecting ecological values and recreational values of Cable beach

Following the briefing, Council considered this matter at the 25 August 2022 OMC and resolved as follows:

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

Minute No. C/0822/101

Moved: Cr N Wevers

Seconded: Cr B Rudeforth

That Council:

- 1. Pursuant to section 3.50(1a) of the Local Government Act 1995 advertises for public submission for a period of 28 days the potential full closure of the Cable Beach vehicle access ramp, located on Reserve 36477, for vehicles (other than essential Council services, licensed businesses and emergency vehicles or any vehicles authorised by the Shire of Broome Chief Executive Officer) during the turtle nesting season from 1 December to 31 January;**
- 2. Requests the Chief Executive Officer prepare for Council consideration a report on the outcomes of the advertising of the potential vehicle ramp closure at the October Ordinary Meeting of Council; and**
- 3. Continue with part closure of the vehicle access ramp commencing 1 October 2022 until 28 February 2023 between 2000 hrs and 0600 hrs each day and during two (2) hours both sides of a high tide where the tide is 9.0m Australian Height Datum.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8/0

As per Council's decision on 25 August 2022 and the provisions of Local Government Act, the proposed road closure was advertised seeking public comment. The closure was advertised in relevant newspapers, on the Shire's website and on social media. The comment period ran from 1 September to 28 September.

Total valid submissions received was 737. This is considered a statistically relevant response. 92% of valid responses support ramp closure, with 5% of responses objecting to closure, broken down as follows:

Form	Support	Object	Dismissed	Invalidated
Written Submissions	413	11		2
Web Submissions	269	24	20	10
TOTAL	682	35	20	12
% RESULT	92%	5%	3%	

426 submissions were received through the Council email address or in writing during consultation, with the following results:

- 413 submission in support of closure for December and January
- 11 submissions Opposed to closure for December and January
- 2 submission in support of closure received after closing were invalidated

323 submissions were received through the Council website during consultation, with the following results:

- 269 in support of closure for December and January
- 24 opposed to closure for December and January
- 8 duplicate submissions were invalidated
- 2 submission with no comment were invalidated

20 web submissions were dismissed as there was no way to verify the legitimacy of the submissions or whether they were from 1 or more people. Of the 20 submissions that did not include an email address, 16 supported closure and 4 opposed.

There were also a significant number of submissions (529) that were submitted with what appear to be randomly generated email addresses that could not be confirmed as legitimate. Although these submissions were all in support of the ramp closure as they were not able to be verified to be legitimately submitted by real people they have not been included in any assessment.

The Cable Beach Club and Camp school were consulted as the only landowners with direct frontage to the Vehicle Ramp. A written response confirming support for the closure of the ramp for December and January was received from Cable Beach Club, subject to confirmation that permit holders, events and other permitted uses would not be adversely affected. A written response was received from the Camp School with no comment on the closure.

The primary themes of the submissions supporting closure were:

- Nesting turtles and hatchlings need protection
- Protection of turtle hatchlings should be prioritised over recreational use
- Current closures only protect nesting turtles not hatchlings

- Turtles are protected under law and should be protected on the beach
- There are already too many cars on the beach
- There were some submissions indicating support for closure until the end of February and/or permanent closure

The primary themes of the submissions objecting to closure were:

- The closure will impact recreational use
- Beaches are used for exercising dogs
- Beaches are part of the Broome lifestyle
- A bigger impact occurs from taking of turtles
- Current closures offer sufficient protection

Council considered the results of this community engagement and reconsidered the requested closure at the 27 October 2022 OMC, where the following decision was made:

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

(REPORT RECOMMENDATION)

Minute No. C/1022/001

Moved: Cr N Wevers

Seconded: Cr C Mitchell

That Council:

- 1. Supports the 22 June 2022 recommendation of the Yawuru Park Council;**
- 2. Pursuant to section 3.50(1a) of the Local Government Act 1995 closes the Cable Beach vehicle access ramp located on Reserve 36477 for the purposes of protecting nesting and hatching turtles from 1 December to 31 January the following year, annually for all vehicles other than essential Council services, DBCA and Yawuru Rangers, licensed businesses and emergency vehicles or any vehicles authorised by the Shire of Broome Chief Executive Officer;**
- 3. Pursuant to section 3.50(1a) provides public notice of the closure as per point 2 above, annually;**
- 4. Continue with part closure of the vehicle access ramp between 1 October until 30 November annually and from 1 February until 28 February annually between 2000 hrs and 0600 hrs each day and during two (2) hours both sides of a high tide where the tide is 9.0m Australian Height Datum for all vehicles other than essential Council services, licensed businesses, vehicles permitted under events and booking permits, emergency vehicles or any vehicles authorised by the Shire of Broome Chief Executive Officer; and**
- 5. Pursuant to Section 3.50(5) of the Local Government Act 1995 advise the Commissioner of Main Roads of the closure of the thoroughfare for December and January; annually.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7/0

Implementation of closures has since occurred in accordance with Council's decision. Closures for the 2022/2023 were impacted by closure of the ramp for an extended period due to weather conditions that resulted in the ramp remaining closed until 7 April 2023.

The closure occurred as scheduled for the 2023/2024 turtle nesting season, with the ramp opening on 1 February as scheduled in accordance with the 27 October 2022 resolution of Council.

Due to concerns raised by community members the Yawuru Parks Council Working Group discussed options around extending the vehicle ramp closure to include February, based on community concern and a briefing paper providing data across six years of turtle breeding monitoring. This culminated in an agenda Item to the Working Group meeting of 19 May 2024. The Briefing paper presented to YPC is attached as **Attachment 1**. The DBCA summary report assessing six years of turtle nesting data is attached as **Attachment 2**. This resulted in a recommendation from the Working Group being presented to the Yawuru Parks Council at the 19 June meeting of the YPC. At this meeting the YPC resolved as follows:

The Yawuru Park Council supports the recommendations of the YPC Working Group to:

- **Request the Shire of Broome to extend the complete access ramp closure of December and January annually to include the month of February on an annual basis.**
- **Request the Shire of Broome to maintain the existing October 1 to November 30 access ramp closures (Overnight from 8pm-6am and 2 hours either side of a tide higher than 9 metres), in addition to the December 1 - February 28 full closure.**

This report provides a summary of the Yawuru Park Council (YPC) recommendation of 19 June 2024, a summary of the data regarding turtle breeding and a recommendation to advertise the proposed closure of the vehicle ramp for February to gauge community support for this outcome. It is proposed that an item will be presented to Council at the September meeting to provide the results of the community engagement with a recommendation on the proposed closure, based on these engagement results and the informing strategies and papers.

COMMENT

There are a number of factors that have resulted in the current regime of vehicle ramp closures, based on assessments of impacts on turtle nesting and impacts on turtle hatchling mortality rates from vehicles. The current closures were developed to minimise these potential impacts. Assessment of these current closures included communications and engagement and analysis of turtle monitoring data.

Recent years have seen ramp closures extended due to weather impacts on the vehicle ramp, however, at the start of this year the ramp condition allowed opening on 1 February 2024 as per Council resolution. A number of impacts were identified consistent with previous data analysis that led to the current closures, including turtle hatchlings caught in tyre ruts. Numerous community members contacted Council and the Shire to confirm these impacts, with public questions related to this matter being raised at the Annual Electors Meeting held 15 February 2024 as well as the OMC held 29 February 2024.

In addition to previous analysis and data that concluded that nesting and hatching turtles require protection from vehicles, compilation of monitoring data from 2017 to 2023 has been prepared by DBCA to allow for identification of trends and potential risks to turtle breeding, which is provided in **Attachment No 2**.

This data provides a summary of the 2023/2024 monitoring program and also tracks nesting and hatching across multiple years and includes total numbers of nests from 2017 to 2023.

It is noted that monitoring now uses modelling and extrapolation from data over the total monitoring program, and consequently only requires physical monitoring over a seven week period. The monitoring program still covers the totality of the turtle nesting period and by virtue of that will know when hatching will occur. The monitoring program has been modified to ensure that adequate data is collected with resources available, while still ensuring useable data for continued analysis.

Data from the monitoring period between 2017 and 2023 shows that roughly 20% of turtle nests are hatching during the month of February each year (See Table 7 in **Attachment No 2**). The length of period that data has been collected at Cable Beach, as well as the use of data extrapolation from other turtle monitoring programs, provides some surety that this is an accurate figure. The assumption is that roughly 14 nests would have hatched during February 2024.

Twenty percent of the turtle population that nests at Cable Beach is considered significant. For this reason the YPC considers that there is sufficient evidence that the current closures should be reviewed to allow for increased protection of turtle hatchlings.

When considering the need for additional closures, the following factors lead to the conclusion that Council should seek community feedback:

- The protected status of Flatback turtles in both State and Federal legislation
- The data from six years of monitoring confirming that twenty percent of turtle hatching occurs in February;
- Inclusion of conservation of turtle breeding areas of Cable Beach as a specific action in Council's Corporate Business Plan;
- Scientific evidence that turtles nesting on Cable Beach are part of a distinct genetic cohort that does not breed at other locations; and
- Clear feedback from the Community Scorecard and the draft Animal Management Plan community engagement processes.

Section 3.50 of the Local Government Act contains provisions for the closure of roads and includes explicit powers for closure of a thoroughfare for more than four weeks under Section 3.50(1a). Section 3.50(4)(a) requires a public comment period where a Local Government intends to close a road for a period greater than four weeks.

Council officers consider that the ramp constitutes a thoroughfare under this definition and, accordingly, it is proposed to seek comment from the public for the proposed closure.

It should be noted that while the public notice identifies a intent to close the vehicle ramp, this outcome is not pre-determined, this wording is required to be consistent with the requirements of the Local Government Act, and Council will have the opportunity to determine an outcome when community comment is assessed.

While the closure is essentially an extension of current closures, the proposed wording reflects the total closure period in accordance with the Act. Based on the above, it is recommended that Council resolve to seek public comment on including the month of February as full-ramp closure.

CONSULTATION

The results of consultation from the August 2022 resolution of Council are described above. While a substantial and representative number of people responded, this consultation was limited to public notices in newspapers, notice boards and social media.

Council staff are proposing to structure the public submission form that will capture more data from the submitters than the previous consultation to allow Council to make an informed decision. Data to be collected will include email address, post code, affirmation of support or objection to the proposed closure, as well as any additional comment.

Some indication of community support for closure has already been obtained through Councils biannual Community Perceptions survey. A clear response during community engagement showed broad support for continued measures to protect turtle nesting and hatchlings, with the following identified as a key community priority from this extensive engagement process:

“Impose stricter measures to protect turtles during nesting season”.

Typical comments from the engagement on this issue

“Actually do something effective every season to protect turtles along ALL Broome's beaches especially Cable Beach. Ban vehicles on ALL beaches. Prevent illegal camping.”

“The turtle season needs to be protected from the general public and vehicles driving over the areas where turtles hatch. Broome is a beautiful area and conservation and environmental management need to be an important part of this unique place.”

Additionally, during consultation for the Shire of Broome's proposed Animal Management Plan, comment indicating that protecting turtle breeding areas from vehicles is a high priority was received, though this document is still in draft form.

Whilst the above demonstrates that there is strong community support for the extension of the ramp closure to include February, views have been expressed that the full ramp closures remove the ability for residents to enjoy access to this portion of the beach in their vehicles which is highly regarded as an important recreational activity.

Accordingly, it is considered appropriate to seek comment from the community to gauge support for closure of the vehicle ramp for February.

A more detailed public submission form will provide Council with better information to consider.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995

3.50. Closing certain thoroughfares to vehicles

- (1) A local government may close any thoroughfare that it manages to the passage of vehicles, wholly or partially, for a period not exceeding 4 weeks.
- (1a) A local government may, by local public notice, order that a thoroughfare that it manages is wholly or partially closed to the passage of vehicles for a period exceeding 4 weeks.

- (2) *The order may limit the closure to vehicles of any class, to particular times, or to such other case or class of case as may be specified in the order and may contain exceptions.*
- (4) *Before it makes an order wholly or partially closing a thoroughfare to the passage of vehicles for a period exceeding 4 weeks or continuing the closure of a thoroughfare, the local government is to —*
 - (a) *give local public notice of the proposed order giving details of the proposal, including the location of the thoroughfare and where, when, and why it would be closed, and inviting submissions from any person who wishes to make a submission; and*
 - (b) *give written notice to each person who —*
 - (i) *is prescribed for the purposes of this section; or*
 - (ii) *owns land that is prescribed for the purposes of this section;**and*
 - (c) *allow a reasonable time for submissions to be made and consider any submissions made.*
- (5) *The local government is to send to the Commissioner of Main Roads appointed under the Main Roads Act 1930 a copy of the contents of the notice required by subsection (4)(a).*
- (6) *An order under this section has effect according to its terms, but may be revoked by the local government, or by the Minister, by order of which local public notice is given.*

The definition of a thoroughfare as per the Act is as follows:

thoroughfare means a road or other thoroughfare and includes structures or other things appurtenant to the thoroughfare that are within its limits, and nothing is prevented from being a thoroughfare only because it is not open at each end;

Environmental Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

Flatback turtles are a threatened species listed as 'vulnerable' under the EPBC Act and are legally protected.

Biodiversity Conservation Act (WA) 2016

Flatback turtles are listed as 'rare or likely to become extinct' under the WA State Government Biodiversity Conservation Act. All marine turtles that occur in Western Australia are protected under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. Under this legislation, a person must not disturb fauna unless that person has lawful authority to disturb it.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of locking the gates at Cable Beach during the nesting and hatching season is contained within the existing Shire operating budget. The public comment will be undertaken under existing operating budget.

RISK

There is strong community support for the conservation of turtle breeding sites, and this has been reflected in the Shire's Corporate Business Plan 2023-2027. Not closing access creates risk of community backlash as a result of potential turtle fatalities.

There is also well used vehicular access to Cable Beach for recreational and cultural purposes. Closure of access creates risk of community backlash due to dissatisfaction from lack of access.

Both risks will need to be balanced to ensure effective management of both issues. Community engagement in accordance with the Act should provide some clarity around this balance.

An effective community engagement process will ensure risks are minimised.

STRATEGIC ASPIRATIONS

Council's Corporate Business Plan contains specific outcomes related to partnering with DBCA as well as conservation of turtle breeding sites on Cable Beach.

Place **We will grow and develop responsibly, caring for our natural, cultural and built heritage, for everyone.**

Outcome 5 **Responsible management of natural resources**

Objective 5.2 Manage and conserve the natural environment, lands and water.

Objective 5.2 Manage and conserve the natural environment, lands and water.

Actions 5.2.1 **Partner** with Yawuru and Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) to jointly manage Minyirr Buru Conservation Park.

5.2.4 **Facilitate** conservation of turtle breeding sites through managing vehicle access to Cable Beach during the wet season and community education.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

(REPORT RECOMMENDATION)

Minute No. C/0724/083

Moved: Cr J Mamid

Seconded: Cr J Lewis

That Council:

- 1. Notes the 19 June 2024 recommendation of the Yawuru Park Council;**
- 2. Pursuant to Section 3.50(1a) of the Local Government Act 1995, advertises for public submission for a period of 28 days, the intention to introduce a full closure of the Cable Beach vehicle access ramp, located on Reserve 36477, for vehicles (other than essential Council services, licensed businesses and emergency vehicles or any**

vehicles authorised by the Shire of Broome Chief Executive Officer) during the turtle nesting and hatching season from 1 December to 28 February on an annual basis; and

- 3. Requests the Chief Executive Officer prepare for Council consideration a report on the outcomes of the advertising of the potential vehicle ramp closure at the September Ordinary Meeting of Council.**

**For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr M Virgo,
Cr P Taylor, , Cr E Smith, Cr J Mamid.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8/0

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 - YPC Briefing Paper
2. Attachment 2 - DBCA Turtle Breeding Summary Paper

9.2.2 MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE KIMBERLEY ZONE AND KIMBERLEY REGIONAL GROUP MEETING HELD ON 20 JUNE 2024

LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Nil
APPLICANT:	Nil
FILE:	KRG01
AUTHOR:	Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer
CONTRIBUTOR/S:	Nil
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Chief Executive Officer
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil

SUMMARY:

This report presents for Council endorsement the Minutes from the joint meeting of the Kimberley Zone of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and Kimberley Regional Group held on 20 June 2024.

BACKGROUND

A copy of the minutes from the Kimberley Zone of WALGA (Kimberley Zone) and the Kimberley Regional Group (KRG) meeting held 20 June 2024 are attached for Council consideration (**Attachments 1 and Attachment 2**).

As a result of a past decision of the group, both the Kimberley Zone and KRG meetings occur consecutively.

It should be remembered that the Kimberley Zone is a group established to represent regional issues to the State Council of WALGA. This group includes the four Kimberley Shires in addition to the Shires of Christmas Island and Cocos Keeling Islands.

The KRG is a group defined through a deed of agreement between the four Kimberley local governments with the Minister for Local Government.

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley accepted the Secretariat role for the Kimberley Zone / KRG late in 2021.

COMMENT

The minutes and respective background information are attached to this report and the following comments are made in relation to the resolutions passed by the Group. Additional recommendations have been made where necessary for Council's consideration.

Kimberley Zone Meeting Minutes – 20 June 2024

Reports from Representatives

- WALGA –
 - Karen Chappel, President,
 - Nick Sloan, CEO
- Regional Development Australia Kimberley – Janine Hatch, Director
- Australia's North West Tourism – Kim Brown , Destination Development Manager

- Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Tom Chapman, Regional Manager Kimberley (Written report attached in the minutes)
- Kimberley Development Commission - Chuck Berger, CEO

Reports from Kimberley Country Zone

The following table provides a summary of Matters for Decision that were to be considered at the WALGA State Meeting on 10 June 2024, and provides an update on Matters for Noting.

	Matters for Decision	WALGA Recommendation
8.1	Caravan Park and Camping Grounds Regulations	<p>That State Council:</p> <p>Endorse a new Caravan Park and Camping Grounds Regulation Advocacy Position:</p> <p>Part 2 of the Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Regulations 1997 should be amended to allow Local Governments to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider camping on private property for a period of greater of 3 months. 2. Establish policy to guide approvals beyond 3 months to ensure that camping is locally appropriate and provide for circumstances where caravans, predominantly in the form of tiny homes on wheels, can be occupied on a more permanent basis. <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiny Homes on Wheels (THOWs) are an emerging form of housing that offers an alternative and affordable housing option that can assist in addressing the current housing shortage. • THOWs are classified as caravans under the Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Act 1995 (the Act) and the Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Regulations 1997 (the Regulations). • The Regulations restrict the length of occupation of THOWs. • A new advocacy position proposes that the Regulations be amended to allow THOWs to be occupied for longer periods and for Local Governments to be able to establish policy to guide these longer approvals. • The Environment Policy Team endorsed the draft advocacy position on 29 May 2024.
8.2	2024 Audit Experience Survey Results and Advocacy Position	<p>That State Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the Audit Experience Survey Results Summary; and

		<p>2. Amend Advocacy Position 2.2.2 Local Government Audit Process to remove point 7 as it has been achieved.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA, in partnership with Local Government Professionals WA (LG Professionals), has recently conducted a survey of the Local Government sector to seek feedback on the annual audit process. • The 2024 survey was based on the inaugural audit experience survey conducted last year, allowing for direct comparison of results over time. • Five key emerging issues were identified following the 2023 survey, and these areas demonstrated varying levels of improvement this year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - timeframe and delays; - additional workload on Local Government staff; - cost; - inconsistent advice from contract Auditors and the Office of the Auditor General (OAG); and - asset valuation requirements. • An outcome of advocacy efforts last year was the achievement of a review of the application of Fair Value principles, particularly as applied in audit related asset valuation. • It is recommended that the WALGA Advocacy Position on Local Government Audit Process (position 2.2.2) be updated to reflect this achievement. • An initial meeting with the OAG has recently been held to discuss the outcomes from the survey. • WALGA and LG Professionals will continue to work with the OAG to reform the audit process in line with sector feedback, with a particular focus on those areas of concern identified in the 2024 survey results. • This item was considered at the Governance Policy Team held on 15 May 2024, where the recommendation was supported.
<p>9.1</p>	<p>Environment Policy Team Report</p>	<p>That State Council note the matters considered by the Environment Policy Team at its meetings on 1 May and 29 May 2024.</p> <p>MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL DECISION</p> <p>Caravan and Camping Ground Regulation Both the Great Southern Zone and South West Country Zones at their respective April 2024 Zone meetings passed resolutions calling on WALGA to adopt a sector-</p>

		<p>wide advocacy position on Caravan and Camping Group Regulation.</p> <p>The Policy Team was provided with WALGA's new Advocacy Position at its meeting on 29 May 2024 and endorsed the recommendation that State Council adopt the Advocacy Position related to the Caravan and Camping Ground Regulations.</p> <p>Item 8.1 of the State Council Agenda relates to this matter.</p> <p>2. MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL NOTING</p> <p>The Policy Team discussed the following items for noting on the 1 May 2024 State Council agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 8.1 - Environment Policy Team Report • Item 9.2 - Tree Retention Model Local Planning Policy • Item 9.4 - Planning and Building Performance Monitoring Report <p>3. PORTFOLIO UPDATES</p> <p>The Policy Team was provided with updates on the following at their 1 May 2024 meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Forests, • Planning Reform, • Nature Positive Law reforms, • Climate Change Policy Statement and Advocacy Position review, and • Polyphagous shot-hole borer.
<p>9.2</p>	<p>Governance Policy Team Report</p>	<p>That State Council note the matters considered by the Governance Policy Team at its meetings on 1 May and 15 May 2024.</p> <p>MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL DECISION</p> <p>2024 Audit Experience Survey Results and Advocacy Position</p> <p>WALGA, in partnership with Local Government Professionals WA, has recently conducted a survey of the Local Government sector to seek feedback on the annual audit process.</p> <p>The Policy Team was provided with the Audit Experience Survey Results Summary Report and recommends that State Council adopt the recommendation to note the survey results and amend Advocacy Position 2.2.2.</p>

		<p>Item 8.2 is included in the Agenda for State Council's decision.</p> <p>2. MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL NOTING</p> <p>Local Government Election Analysis</p> <p>The Policy Team considered a report which presented the findings of a review and analysis of five election cycles up to and including the 2023 local government, against a backdrop of legislative reforms to the Local Government electoral process in WA.</p> <p>The Policy Team resolved to defer the item to a future meeting and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested WALGA seek advice from the WAEC on the expected timing for the delivery of their Local Government Elections Report; and • Expressed disappointment in the Local Government response rate to the WALGA request for information and requested re-engagement with Local Governments to improve participation.
<p>9.3</p>	<p>Infrastructure Policy Team Report</p>	<p>That State Council note the matters considered by the Infrastructure Policy Team at its meeting on 1 May 2024.</p> <p>1. MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL DECISION</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>2. MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL NOTING</p> <p>At its meeting on 1 May, the Infrastructure Policy Team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Received a briefing from Cr James Rowe JP representing the North Metropolitan Zone regarding a motion carried by the Zone seeking an investigation into the impact of the new light vehicle emissions standard on Local Governments. The team resolved that input be sought from the WALGA environment team to understand how the impacts of this new legislation can be integrated into broader climate change related work. 2. Discussed the submissions to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) 2024 Regional Telecommunications Review; and b) State Parliamentary Inquiry into Regional Telecommunications; that were to be considered by State Council. 3. Considered progress of the work with Regional Road Groups to update the multi-criteria analysis models used to prioritise investments funded by the State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement. 4. Received updates for on-going policy or advocacy activities in relation to: 5. Regulating heavy vehicle road access conditions;

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Extended lead time for quotes from Western Power for headworks and changes to infrastructure; 7. Royalty payments for mine site materials used in road construction and maintenance; 8. Review of Main Roads WA Cross over Policy; and 9. Local Government Active Transport Working Group.
<p>9.4</p>	<p>People and Place Policy Team Report</p>	<p>That State Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the matters considered by the People and Place Policy Team at its meeting on 30 April 2024. 2. Determine to retire Advocacy Position 3.12.1 State Trail Bike Strategy. <p>1. MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL DECISION</p> <p>Advocacy Position Review</p> <p>The People and Place Policy Team provides recommendations regarding WALGA community and emergency management advocacy positions for State Council's decision. Advocacy Positions may be reviewed in the WALGA Advocacy Position Manual.</p> <p>The Policy Team recommends that State Trail Bike Strategy Advocacy Position 3.12.1 be retired. This position relates specifically to the WA State Trail Bike Strategy 2008, which is no longer in circulation or available on State Government platforms.</p> <p>The Policy Team considered that existing Advocacy Position 3.12 Off-Road Vehicles captures the sector's desire to manage land use activities related to the use of trail bikes in line with their local context:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>3.12 Off-Road Vehicles Legislation relating to off road vehicles should be reviewed to align registration and licensing of off-road vehicles with other vehicle types are users. In addition, educational resources should be developed in consultation with users, regulators, and vendors relating to safety, regulatory compliance and other associated matters</i></p> <p>2. MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL NOTING</p> <p>The Policy Team discussed the following items for noting on the 1 May 2024 State Council agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 9.1 - WALGA 2023 Emergency Management survey • Item 9.3 - Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA) Improvement Plan implementation • Item 9.5 - 2024 WALGA Aboriginal Engagement Forum

<p>9.5</p>	<p>Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) Report</p>	<p>That State Council note the report from the Municipal Waste Advisory Council to the 10 July 2024 meeting.</p> <p>1. MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL DECISION</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>2. MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL NOTING</p> <p>MWAC considered the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Statement Review - Extended Producer Responsibility: The Council considered a proposed update of the Extended Producer Responsibility Policy Statement. An updated Policy Statement will be provided to State Council for consideration at its September meeting. • Development of Advocacy Position - Circular Economy: The development of a Circular Economy Advocacy Position is a priority for 2024. The Council was provided with a summary of WALGA's plan for the position and were given an opportunity to provide their input. • Draft State Waste Strategy - Focus and Process for Submission: The Council was provided with WALGA's Submission on the Directions Paper, which informed the development of the Draft Strategy. Members supported the proposed process to develop a response to the Draft Strategy. • Waste Levy Policy and Advocacy Position - Feedback from Zones: WALGA Zones have considered the Waste Levy Advocacy Position and Policy Statement and have provided feedback, an overview of their comments was provided to MWAC. The Policy and Advocacy Position was endorsed by State Council at the 1 May 2024 meeting. <p>Updates on the following items were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Statement Review Update, • Wheatbelt Waste and Environment Summit being held in Northam on 30-31 May 2024, • DWER Non-Metropolitan Roundtable, and • Bin Tagging Program.
<p>10.1</p>	<p>2024-2025 State and Federal Budget Update</p>	<p>That State Council note the update on the 2024-25 State and Federal Budgets.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2024-25 State Budget was handed down on Thursday, 9 May 2024. • The Government used the Budget to set out its priorities for the upcoming election, with a focus on addressing the high cost of living, new industry development and economic diversification.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited funding was provided for initiatives in WALGA's State Budget Submission, however a number of these may be considered for funding during the election campaign. The 2024-25 Federal Budget, handed down on Tuesday, 14 May 2024 also focussed on providing cost of living relief and investing in new industry development. While the Federal Budget retained the Government's commitment to a number of key funding programs for the Sector it missed the opportunity to invest in other priorities identified in WALGA's Federal Budget Submission.
10.2	<p>Submission to the Commissioner for Children and Young People WA Priority Area Discussion Papers</p>	<p>That State Council note the submission to the Commissioner for Children and Young People Priority Area Discussion Papers.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Western Australian Commissioner for Children and Young People requested that WALGA provide a submission to the Commissioner's policy area discussion papers. WALGA's submission aligns to Advocacy Position 3.6 Children and Young People and 3.10.2 Child Safeguarding. It provides a high-level overview of the interaction of Local Government with the identified priority areas, noting that the issues raised are predominantly within the remit of State Government or service delivery specific. The People and Place Policy Team noted the submission at its 29 April 2024 meeting.
10.3	<p>Perth and Peel Urban Greening Strategy</p>	<p>That State Council note the submission on the Perth and Peel Urban Greening Strategy.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) is seeking feedback to inform the State Government's development of an Urban Greening Strategy for the Perth and Peel Regions, to be finalised by December 2024. Local Government is a key stakeholder in the development of the Strategy. WALGA's submission aligns with WALGA's Urban Forest Advocacy Position, including the need for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a lead State Government agency to be responsible for delivery of the strategy, and coordination across government, the Strategy to be statewide, a 30% canopy by 2040 target to be set for the Perth and Peel Region, effective State level policy and regulation to protect trees on private land and retain more

		<p>native vegetation as part of the development process, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an expanded and sustained Urban Greening Grant program.
10.4	Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer Update	<p>That State Council note the update on the Polyphagous shot-hole borer emergency and WALGA advocacy.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) is leading the national response to eradicate Polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB), with tree removal the only effective treatment. • More than 3,000 mature trees have been removed so far, many of which are in the most iconic and important areas of Perth, including Kings Park, Rottnest Island, Perth Zoo, Hyde Park and around Lake Claremont. • WALGA has intensified its PSHB advocacy in recent months, including representations to the Premier and Environment Minister with our concerns regarding the adequacy of the response to date, the need for greater urgency and support from the State Government, and to commence recovery immediately, including funding for replanting and research into alternative treatment methods.
10.5	Flying Minute: Submission on Emergency Management Sector Adaptation Plan	<p>That State Council note the update on WALGA's submission on the Emergency Management Sector Adaptation Plan (EM-SAP) to the State Emergency Management Committee as endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) is developing an Emergency Management Sector Adaptation Plan (EM-SAP) to embed climate change adaptation into the WA emergency management sector. • WALGA was engaged by the SEMC to consult with the WA Local Government sector on the content, questions and actions presented in an EM-SAP Discussion Paper. • 32 Local Governments participated in WALGA's EM-SAP consultation activities, and a consultation summary report was submitted to the SEMC as preliminary findings. • WALGA prepared a formal submission on the EM-SAP to the SEMC. The submission supports the WA EM-SAP initiative as an important milestone in strengthening the consideration of climate change in emergency decision-making, however, provides

		<p>25 recommendations to inform the development of the final EM-SAP to ensure it is fit for purpose for Local Governments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WALGA's submission on the EM-SAP was endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute on 18 April 2024 and submitted to the SEMC on 24 April.
10.6	<p>Flying Minute: Stage Wage Case Submission</p>	<p>That State Council note the WALGA 2024 State Wage Case submission to the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission as endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annually the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission (WAIRC) in Court Session issues a decision setting the WA minimum wage. WALGA had an opportunity to file a submission with the WAIRC containing Local Government specific information and economic data for the WAIRC to consider when making its decision. The provision of a submission is important because Local Governments are now the second largest employer in the State industrial relations system (after the State Government) and the decision issued may impact on Local Government employee wages. The submission outlines WALGA support for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wage increases that balance the need for fair wages with the requirement for Local Governments to carefully manage their budgets in the interest of their communities. Increases in line with wage fixing principles. The Governance Policy Team approved the recommendation that the submission be provided to State Council for endorsement. State Council endorsed the submission via Flying Minute on 9 May 2024 and the submission was provided to the WAIRC on 14 May 2024.
10.7	<p>Flying Minute: Submission on the Inquiry into Local Government Sustainability</p>	<p>That State Council note the submission on the Inquiry into Local Government Sustainability to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport as endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport (The Committee) is conducting an inquiry into local government sustainability, with submissions due by 31 May 2024. WALGA's submission addresses current and future Local Government funding and expenditure

		<p>challenges, as well as current labour market shortages with a focus on regional issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The submission was informed by WALGA's advocacy positions, 2024-25 State and Federal Budget submissions and relevant data and statistics from a range of sources. • The endorsed submission was provided to the sector and Local Governments were encouraged to prepare their own submission to the inquiry. • At its meeting of 1 May 2024, State Council resolved the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>That the submission on the inquiry into Local Government Sustainability to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport be endorsed in principle.</i> 2. <i>A working party of State Councillors to be established by the President to work with the WALGA Economist to refine the submission and submit to State Council as a Flying Minute, for approval by the submission deadline.</i> • A working party was created and met on 2 May 2024. The working party made minor changes to the submission. The submission as amended was provided to State Council by Flying Agenda for endorsement. • State Council endorsed the submission via Flying Minute on 8 May 2024 and the submission was provided to the Committee on 31 May 2024. • WALGA will appear before the Committee on 7 June 2024.
<p>10.8</p>	<p>Flying Minute: Standardised Meeting Procedures Submission</p>	<p>That State Council note WALGA's submission on Standardised Meeting Procedures to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries as endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An element of the State Government's Local Government Reform Proposals is to introduce standardised meeting procedures as regulations, and thereby discontinue the making of local laws for this purpose. • Sector consultation on the Reform Proposals indicated broad support for standardised meeting procedures. • The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) released a Consultation Paper in February 2024, seeking sector feedback on the proposed standardised meeting procedures with consultation closing on 29 May 2024. • WALGA released a companion Discussion Paper raising matters for consideration to assist Local Governments with their assessment of the proposed

		<p>meeting procedures and to assist WALGA develop a sector position on the proposals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback on the Discussion Paper closed end of April to facilitate developing a Flying Minute to State Council by the consultation closing date of 29 May 2024. • State Council endorsed the submission via Flying Minute on 27 May 2024. • On 29 May 2024, the DLGSC extended the deadline to 7 June 2024. • The submission was provided to DLGSC on 7 June 2024.
11.1	Report on Key Activities, Advocacy Portfolio	<p>That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Advocacy Portfolio to the July 2024 State Council meeting.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>Advocacy: work has commenced on WALGA's election policy platform and State election campaign.</p> <p>Marketing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campaigns <p>Communication and Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media Coverage • 2024/25 State Budget Communications • 2024/25 Federal Budget Communications • Media Releases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2024 WA Tree Festival branches out into second week (12 April 2024) - In a fire emergency, the badge you wear shouldn't matter (16 April 2024) - WALGA welcomes changes to Long Service Leave (LSL) for LG employees (19 April 2024) - WALGA response to State Budget 2024-25 (9 May 2024) • Social Media; LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram <p>Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 WALGA Local Government Convention and Exhibition • 2025 Urban Forest Conference
11.1.2	Report on Key Activities, Infrastructure Portfolio	<p>That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Infrastructure Portfolio to the July 2024 State Council meeting.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>Roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Transport and Roads Research and Innovation Program (LGTRRIP) • Condition Assessment of Roads of Regional Significance

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Rail Interface Agreements • Update of User Guides for calculating the cost of road wear for defined freight tasks <p>Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement 2023/24 – 2027/28 • Achievements of the State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement • GIS Mapping of the Rural Road Safety Business Case Alignments <p>Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Freight Strategy • Bus Stop Infrastructure • Active/Green Transport Discussion Paper <p>Utilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underground Power • Streetlighting <p>Road Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RoadWise Councils • RoadWise Recognised <p>Asset Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Assets and Expenditure Report Update Project
<p>11.1.3</p>	<p>Report on Key Activities, Member Services Portfolio</p>	<p>That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Member Services Portfolio to the July 2024 State Council meeting.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>Commercial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferred Supplier Program (PSP) Development • Sustainable Energy Project <p>Governance & Procurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Elections <p>Employee Relations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA Industrial Relations Commission applications • WALGA Salary and Workforce Survey 2023 • People and Culture Seminar • Long Service Leave – new regulations <p>Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected Member Training • Officer Training • Brand new course offerings • LGA30120 Certificate III in Local Government
<p>11.1.4</p>	<p>Report on Key Activities, Policy Portfolio</p>	<p>That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Policy Portfolio to the July 2024 State Council meeting.</p>

		<p>Activities:</p> <p>Economics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquiry into Local Government Sustainability (Agenda Item 10.7 refers) • State and Federal Budgets (Agenda Item 10.1 refers) <p>Environment & Waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry Season Taskforce • Wheatbelt Waste & Environment Summit • Release of the draft State Waste Strategy and Waste Infrastructure Plan • Meeting with Minister for Energy; Environment; Climate Action <p>Planning & Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Greening Grants • Polyphagous Shothole Borer Advocacy • STRA Planning Regulations – Information Session <p>Emergency Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Emergency Management Committee • WALGA 2023 Emergency Management Survey <p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal Affairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage - National Reconciliation Week • Commencement of Stage 5A of the Public Health Act 2016
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CONCLUSION OF ZONE MATTERS

The Zone noted the report from the WALGA President and the circulated State Council Agenda Items and supported the recommendations in the Matters for Decision contained with the State Council Agenda and acknowledged the items for noting above and the Status Report on State Council Resolutions.

WALGA'S efforts to become an employer Organisation

The Zone noted the importance of WALGA becoming a registered employer organisation.

Kimberley Regional Group Meeting Minutes – 20 JUNE 2024

The following items from the Kimberley Regional Group Meeting held 20 June 2024 should be noted by Council:

Correspondence

The KRG noted that the correspondence was received and noted that the Chief Executive Officer could be directed on a response if required.

Correspondence in:

Date: 30 May 2024

From: Paul Zinkel, Committee Secretary Regional Development Infrastructure and Transport
Topic: Timeframe for the inquiry into Local Government Financial Sustainability and hearing locations

Date: April & May 2024

From: Federal and State Ministers, Premier, Department Industry and Peak Bodies
Topic: Kimberley Regional Group & Regional Capitals Alliance Govt Forum and Networking lunch

Date: 6 May 2024

From: Roger Cook, MLA Premier
Topic: Meeting with the KRG February 2024

Correspondence out:

Date: 30 May 2024

From: Kimberley Regional Group Executive Team
To: Committee Regional Development Infrastructure and Transport
Topic: Timeframe for the Inquiry into Local Government Financial sustainability and hearing locations.

Date: April & May 2024

From: Kimberley Regional Group Executive Team
To: Federal and State Ministers, Premier, Department Industry and Peak Bodies
Topic: Kimberley Regional Group & Regional Capitals Alliance Government Forum and Networking Lunch
Financial Report

The KRG noted:

1. the interim Financial Report to 31 March 2024
2. the \$129,487 year to date budget surplus
3. no member contributions are outstanding for the 2023/24 financial year ; and
4. the total members interest of \$391,962 at 31 March 2024 represented by cash held in Reserves.

Presentations

The following presentations were received from key stakeholders:

- Shane Ivers, CEO Shire of Irwin
- Jennifer Thomas, Regional Development and Engagement Manager NBNCO
- Robert Taylor, CEO WA Indigenous Tourism Operators (WAITOC)

Shared Services

The KRG discussed the appetite for exploring a shared services model between the Kimberley Councils. The KRG CEO and Council CEO's will discuss the next steps out of session and report back to the KRG.

Kimberley Regional Group Priority Action List

KRG provided an update on the progression of action items, as listed in the minutes.

Election Strategy

The KRG noted the progress of the 2025 election strategy, members noted the presentation of the draft Investment Prospectus for feedback and approved the printing of 100 Election Strategy documents.

Election Advocacy, Communication and Engagement Plan

The KRG endorsed the Advocacy, Communications and Engagement Plan for the 2025 State and Federal elections.

RAI Summit – Canberra Trip 2024

The KRG will be attending the 2024 RAI Summit in Canberra from the 13 – 15 August, it will be a combined trip with the Regional Capitals Alliance . Invites have been sent to members.

State and Federal Budget 2024/25 Overview Kimberley Perspective

The KRG noted the Kimberley initiatives in the 2024 State and Federal Government budgets.

Kimberley Housing Roundtable

KRG will be holding the Kimberley Housing Roundtable the week of the 29 July at the Shire of Broome. A draft agenda will be distributed with invitations issued to speakers and guests.

Inquiry into Local Government Sustainability

KRG noted that a submission has been lodged to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport Inquiry into Local Government Sustainability. The Executive Officer has an action to try and seek a hearing if possible.

Kimberley Town Crime Data

The Group noted the regional crime statistics as presented for the Kimberley Shire's.

Executive Officer Report

The Executive Officer Report was received and endorsed.

General Business

KRG confirmed responsible officers and updated comments for upcoming KRG meetings, lobbying and upcoming events.

CONSULTATION

WALGA
Kimberley Development Commission
Kimberley Regional Development Australia

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT**Local Government Act 1995****POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

RISK

Nil.

STRATEGIC ASPIRATIONS

Performance We will deliver excellent governance, service & value for everyone.

Outcome 11 Effective leadership, advocacy and governance

Objective 11.1 Strengthen leadership, advocacy and governance capabilities.

Prosperity Together, we will build a strong, diversified and growing economy with work opportunities for everyone.

Outcome 9 A strong, diverse and inclusive economy where all can participate

Objective 9.5 Grow the size and depth of Broome's labour market with improved access to training and development opportunities.

Place We will grow and develop responsibly, caring for our natural, cultural and built heritage, for everyone.

Outcome 7 Safe, well connected, affordable transport options

Objective 7.1 Provide safe and efficient roads and parking.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

(REPORT RECOMMENDATION)

Minute No. C/0724/084

Moved: Cr P Taylor

Seconded: Cr M Virgo

That Council receives and endorses the resolutions of the Kimberley Zone of Western Australia Local Government Association (WALGA) and the Kimberley Regional Group as attached in the Kimberley Zone of WALGA and Kimberley Regional Group Joint Meeting Minutes of 20 June 2024 en bloc.

***For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr M Virgo,
Cr P Taylor, Cr E Smith, Cr J Mamid.***

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8/0

Attachments

1. Zone Minutes June 2024
2. KRG Minutes June 2024

9.3 PROSPERITY

There are no reports in this section.

9.4 PERFORMANCE

9.4.1 MONTHLY PAYMENT LISTING - JUNE 2024

LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Nil
APPLICANT:	Nil
FILE:	FRE02
AUTHOR:	Coordinator Financial Operations
CONTRIBUTOR/S:	Manager Financial Services
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Acting Director Corporate Services
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil

SUMMARY:

This report recommends that Council receives the list of payments made under delegated authority, as per the attachment to this report, for June 2024.

BACKGROUND

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) has delegated authority via Delegation 1.2.20 Payments from the Municipal or Trust Funds, to make payments from the Municipal and Trust funds as per budget allocations and in line with applicable policies.

COMMENT

The Shire provides payments to suppliers by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT and BPAY), cheque, credit card or direct debit. Attachment 1 provides a list of all payments processed under delegated authority in June 2024.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

12. *Payments from municipal fund or trust fund, restrictions on making*
 - (1) *A payment may only be made from the municipal fund or the trust fund —*
 - (a) *if the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from those funds — by the CEO; or*
 - (b) *otherwise, if the payment is authorised in advance by a resolution of the council.*
13. *Payments from municipal fund or trust fund by CEO, CEO's duties as to etc.*

- (1) *If the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, a list of accounts paid by the CEO is to be prepared each month showing for each account paid since the last such list was prepared —*
 - (a) *the payee's name; and*
 - (b) *the amount of the payment; and*
 - (c) *the date of the payment; and*
 - (d) *sufficient information to identify the transaction.*

- (3) *A list prepared under sub regulation (1) or (2) is to be —*
 - (a) *presented to the Council at the next ordinary meeting of the Council after the list is prepared; and*
 - (b) *recorded in the minutes of that meeting.*

13A. Payments by employees via purchasing cards

- (1) *If a local government has authorised an employee to use a credit, debit or other purchasing card, a list of payments made using the card must be prepared each month showing the following for each payment made since the last such list was prepared —*
 - (a) *the payee's name;*
 - (b) *the amount of the payment;*
 - (c) *the date of the payment;*
 - (d) *sufficient information to identify the payment.*
- (2) *A list prepared under sub regulation (1) must be —*
 - (a) *presented to the council at the next ordinary meeting of the council after the list is prepared; and*
 - (b) *recorded in the minutes of that meeting.*

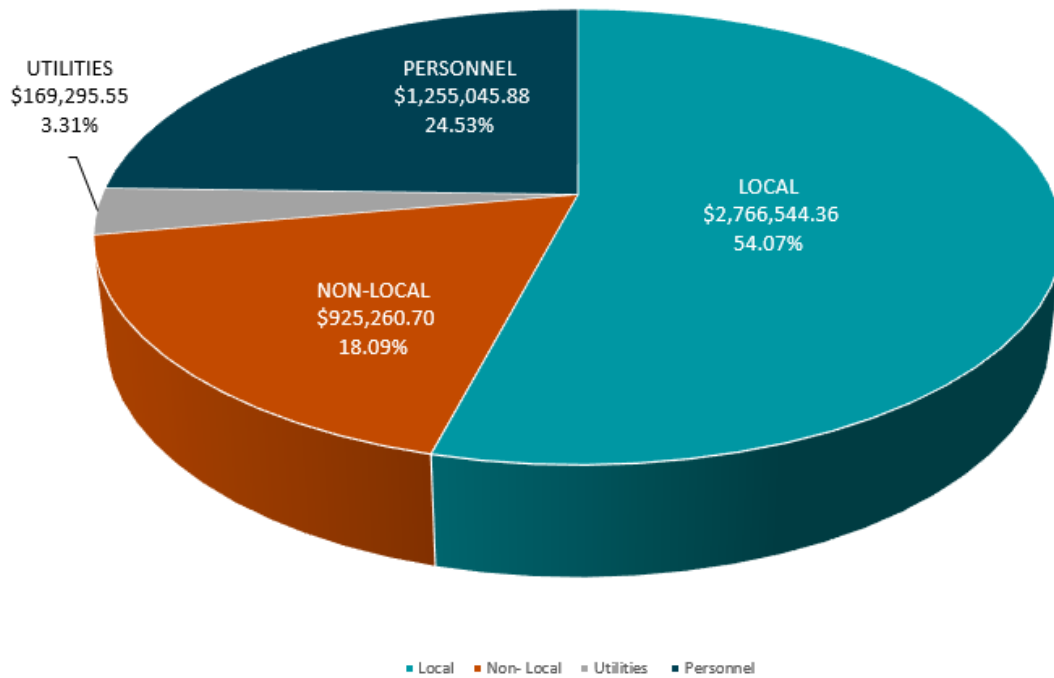
POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

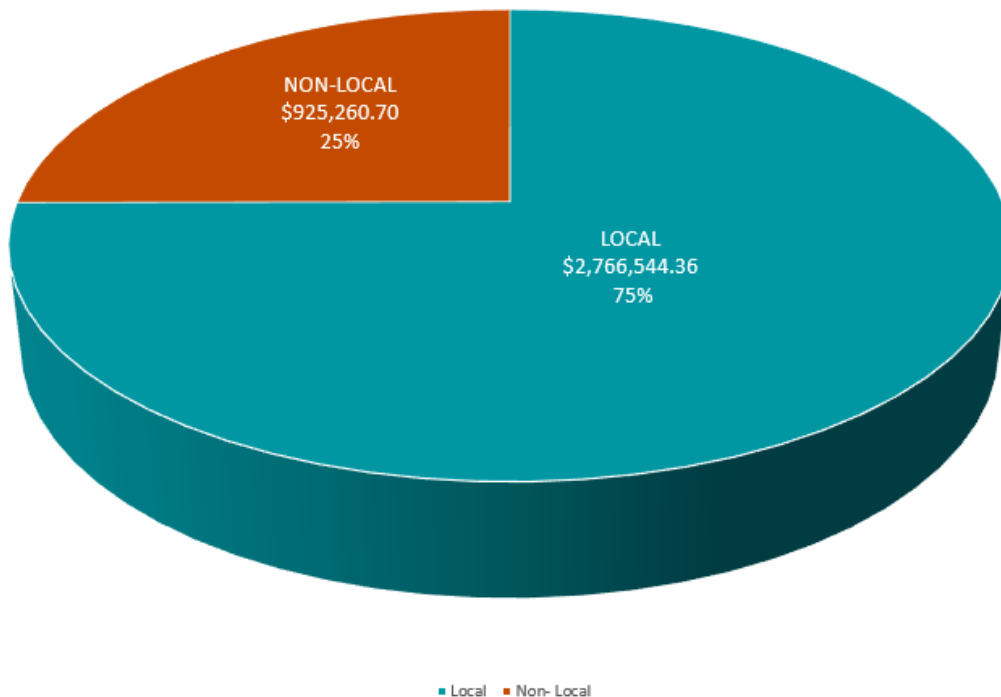
List of payments made in accordance with budget and delegated authority. Payments can also be analysed as follows:

SHIRE OF BROOME PAYMENTS JUNE 2024



Note: Personnel payments in this analysis include payroll, superannuation (contained within Direct Debit type payments), payroll tax and other deductions (contained within the EFT Payments type payments).

LOCAL Vs NON-LOCAL PAYMENTS JUNE 2024



The above graph shows the percentage of local spend in comparison to non-local and recoupable spend for June 2024 after \$1,255,045.88 in personnel payments, \$169,295.55 in utilities and other non-local sole suppliers were excluded.

YEAR TO DATE CREDITOR PAYMENTS

The below table summarises the total payments made to creditors year to date:

Month	Cheques	EFT Payments	Direct Debit	Credit Card	Trust	Payroll	Total Creditors
Jul-23	\$ 1,441.39	\$ 2,026,138.15	\$ 157,064.40	\$ 31,160.48	\$ -	\$ 749,538.21	\$ 2,965,342.63
Aug-23	\$ -	\$ 3,636,229.61	\$ 458,162.41	\$ 36,953.74	\$ -	\$ 745,258.30	\$ 4,876,604.06
Sep-23	\$ 2,180.90	\$ 2,958,635.14	\$ 156,890.04	\$ 34,952.54	\$ -	\$ 728,212.05	\$ 3,880,870.67
Oct-23	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,614,698.05	\$ 243,802.39	\$ 33,365.63	\$ -	\$ 772,473.06	\$ 4,666,839.13
Nov-23	\$ 631.40	\$ 3,793,083.11	\$ 268,860.67	\$ 45,962.05	\$ -	\$ 1,164,818.38	\$ 5,273,355.61
Dec-23	\$ 50.00	\$ 3,002,660.80	\$ 324,868.44	\$ 39,840.31	\$ -	\$ 765,510.89	\$ 4,132,930.44
Jan-24	\$ -	\$ 3,563,736.38	\$ 352,800.17	\$ 23,895.33	\$ -	\$ 755,908.70	\$ 4,696,340.58
Feb-24	\$ 523.23	\$ 2,425,258.66	\$ 195,833.62	\$ 33,882.74	\$ -	\$ 781,867.68	\$ 3,437,365.93
Mar-24	\$ -	\$ 2,865,663.83	\$ 289,942.65	\$ 29,044.05	\$ -	\$ 762,074.12	\$ 3,946,724.65
Apr-24	\$ 7,759.51	\$ 3,056,940.88	\$ 205,176.53	\$ 29,777.38	\$ -	\$ 771,492.89	\$ 4,071,147.19
May-24	\$ -	\$ 4,035,301.76	\$ 302,732.02	\$ 27,307.39	\$ -	\$ 1,162,350.36	\$ 5,527,691.53
Jun-24	\$ 30,823.18	\$ 3,663,089.32	\$ 624,389.17	\$ 45,584.63	\$ -	\$ 752,260.17	\$ 5,116,146.47
TOTAL	\$ 45,909.61	\$ 38,641,435.69	\$ 3,580,522.51	\$ 411,726.27	\$ -	\$ 9,911,764.81	\$ 52,591,358.89

RISK

The risk of Council not adopting this report is extreme as this will result in non-compliance with Regulation 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

The likelihood of this ever occurring is rare due to the CEO's implementation of procedures to ensure payment details are disclosed to Council in a timely manner, as well as Procurement and Purchasing policies which ensure these payments are made in accordance with budget and delegated authority and comply with *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

STRATEGIC ASPIRATIONS

Performance We will deliver excellent governance, service & value for everyone.

Outcome 12 A well informed and engaged community

Objective 12.1 Provide the community with relevant, timely information and effective engagement.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

(REPORT RECOMMENDATION)

Minute No. C/0724/085

Moved: Cr E Smith

Seconded: Cr P Taylor

That Council:

- 1. Receives the list of payments made from the Municipal and Trust Accounts in June 2024 totalling in \$5,116,146.47 (Attachment 1) per the requirements of Regulation 12 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 covering:**
 - a) EFT Vouchers EFT75186 – EFT75643 totalling \$3,663,089.32;**
 - b) Municipal Cheque Vouchers 57832 – 57834 totalling \$30,823.18;**
 - c) Trust Cheque Vouchers 00000 - 00000 totalling \$0.00; and**
 - d) Municipal Direct Debits DD33395 – DD33459 including payroll totalling \$1,376,649.34.**
- 2. Receives the list of payments made by credit cards in June 2024 totalling \$45,584.63 (contained within Attachment 1) per the requirements of Regulation 13A of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 covering EFT Vouchers EFT75724 – EFT75749.**
- 3. Notes the local spend of \$2,766,544.36 included in the amount above, equating to 75% of total payments excluding personnel, utility and other external sole supplier costs.**

**For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr M Virgo,
Cr P Taylor, Cr E Smith, Cr J Mamid.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8/0

Attachments

1. MONTHLY PAYMENT LISTING - JUNE 2024

Cr Virgo declared an Impartiality Interest in item 9.4.2, the reason being I am a paid employee of the BVC who leases premises and receives funding from the Shire of Broome.

9.4.2 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - JUNE 2024

LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Nil
APPLICANT:	Nil
FILE:	FRE02
AUTHOR:	Senior Finance Officer
CONTRIBUTOR/S:	Manager Financial Services
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Acting Director Corporate Services
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil

SUMMARY:

Council is required under Regulation 34(1) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (FMR)* to consider and adopt the Monthly Financial Report for the period ended 30 June 2024.

BACKGROUND

Council is provided with the Monthly Financial Report, which has been prepared in line with statutory reporting obligations and includes the:

- Statement of Financial Activity by nature classifications (satisfying Regulation 34 of the *FMR*);
- Statement of Financial Position (satisfying Regulation 35 of the *FMR*);
- Basis of Preparation;
- Statement of Financial Activity Information - the adjustments to the Statement of Financial Activity and Net Current Assets Position which agree to the surplus/deficit position (satisfying Regulation 32 of the *FMR*), and
- Explanation of material variances to year-to-date budget (satisfying Regulation 34 of the *FMR*);

Supplementary information has been provided per Regulation 34(2) of the *FMR* to provide Council with a holistic overview of the operations of the Shire of Broome. The Supplementary Information notes include:

- Cash and financial assets;
- Reserve accounts;
- Capital acquisitions – summarised by asset class, detailed to project, plant disposals;
- Aged payables;
- Borrowings;
- Grants – detailed listing of operating grants, capital grants and contributions;
- Detailed list of Council adopted Budget amendments – by nature classification.

COMMENT

The June 2024 Monthly Financial Report is a snapshot of operating and project progress on a monthly basis. It is critical to note that post end of year accrual and non-cash adjustments are to occur, which will affect the final 30 June 2024 position. The final closing position and

statements will be presented as the audited annual financial report which is anticipated for December 2024.

The 2023/24 Annual Budget was adopted at the Special Meeting of Council on 11 July 2023. The following are key indicators supporting the year-to-date budget position with respect to the Annual Forecast Budget, true final closing position for 2024/25 will be arrived at following end of year adjustments and the conclusion of the external audit process:

Budget Year elapsed	100.00%
Total Rates Raised Revenue	100% (of which 96% has been collected)
Total Other Operating Revenue	106%
Total Operating Expenditure	91%
Total Capital Revenue	51%
Total Capital Expenditure	44%
Total Sale of Assets Revenue	69%

More detailed explanations of variances are contained in Note 3 of the Monthly Financial Report. The commentary identifies material variations between the expected year-to-date budget position and the position at the reporting date.

Based on the 2023/24 Annual Budget presented at the Special Meeting of Council on 11 July 2023, Council adopted a balanced budget to 30 June 2024. The 2022/23 final end-of-year position was adopted by Council at the SMC on 21 December 2023, through the 2022/23 Annual Financial Statements.

The Amended Annual Budget reflects all Council adopted budget amendments to date, including quarter 1, 2 and 3 reviews, and budget amendments adopted by Council through individual agenda items. The amended budget forecasts a deficit position at 30 June 2024 of \$246,031. It is noted that this is a forecast, and the true final closing position for 2024/25 will be arrived at following end of year adjustments and the conclusion of the external audit process.

For the financial year ended 30 June 2024, the following are significant variances from YTD actual against Budget:

Operating Revenues

The full year operating revenue budget was \$43,512,317 with an actual YTD received of \$44,563,375, a total variance of \$1,051,058. Noteworthy items include:

- Operating Grants \$1,805,304
An advance payment of \$1,402,226 for the 2024/25 Financial Assistance Grant was received late June (consisting of general purpose and roads allocations). This was budgeted to be received in full in the 2024/25 annual budget, and will be a permanent variance for 2023/24 with a future budget amendment to reduce the grant revenue, offset by an increase to the final closing surplus.
- Interest Earnings \$328,384
Reserve interest higher than budget, due to increased interest rates and the progress of some capital projects funded partially or fully by reserve funds. Reserve interest is held in reserves for future projects. Increased returns from municipal fund interest have already been adjusted through 23/24 quarterly finance and costing review processes.

Operating Expenses

The full year operating expense budget was \$52,746,454 with an actual YTD spend of \$47,754,775, a total variance of \$4,991,679. Noteworthy items include:

- Employee Costs (\$238,293)
End of year salaries and wages accruals are yet to be processed and variances due to vacancies within the organisation.
- Materials and Contracts (\$3,183,877)
Lower than budgeted expenditure on some operating accounts, including grant and reserve funded projects, which have been carried over into the 2024/25 annual budget. These include McMahon Estate structure plan, refuse site remediation, precinct structure planning and Beagle Bay Road Shoulder reconstruction.
- Depreciation on Non-current Assets (\$1,175,636)
This does not include the June depreciation, depreciation for June will occur during the end of financial year finalisation and include capitalisation of work in progress and any projects completed in June.

Capital Expenses

The full year capital expenditure budget was \$34,885,850 with an actual YTD spend of \$15,457,484, a total variance of \$19,428,366. Projects that have not been finalised at 30 June 2024 have been re-budgeted and the majority will be carried over into the 2024/25 annual budget. Final carry over amounts are subject to change as the end of year finalisation and audit occur. Noteworthy projects include:

- Roads, Footpaths & Bridges \$985,620
Frederick Street carpark.
- Land & Buildings \$4,022,420
Building staff housing, BRAC Dry detailed design, Town Beach Café redevelopment, Male Oval toilets
- Recreation \$12,869,782
Cable Beach redevelopment.
- Mobile Plant \$1,131,100
Vehicle and Plant fleet changeover (delayed delivery).

Transfers to Reserves \$6,741,496 and Transfers from Reserves (\$4,191,461)

End of financial year processes will determine final transfers between reserve and municipal funding, based on actual spend on capital projects. Some transfers have been carried over to the 2024/25 budget where the project expenditures have also been carried over.

Comments to the closing position

The statements presented within the attachment as at 30 June 2024 show a closing position of \$9,063,388. It should be noted that the Shire of Broome is currently in the process of preparing its Annual Financial Statements. This requires several processes to occur which can affect the Shire's end-of-year financial position. As these processes are underway, the financial position presented in this report cannot be relied upon as the final position for the Shire of Broome. The audited final position for the Shire of Broome will be completed and presented to Council as part of the Annual Financial Statements in December 2024.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* were amended (SL2023/106) and published on 30 June 2023. The changes, effective from 1 July 2023, have an impact on the reporting of the financial activity statement required each month (Section 34). The below outlines the new reporting requirement under Section 34:

- 34(1) A local government is to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the revenue and expenditure, as set out in the annual budget under regulation 22 (1)(d), for the previous month (the “relevant month”) in the following detail:
- (a) annual budget estimates, taking into account any expenditure incurred for an additional purpose under section 6.8(1)(b) or (c); and
 - (b) budget estimates to the end of the relevant month; and
 - (c) actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income to the end of the relevant month; and
 - (d) material variances between the comparable amounts referred to in paragraphs (b) and (c); and
 - (e) the net current assets at the end of the relevant month and a note containing a summary explaining the composition of the net current assets.
- 34(1B) The detail included under subregulation (1)(e) must be structured in the same way as the detail included in the annual budget under regulation 31(1) and (3)(a).
- 34(1C) Any information relating to exclusions from the calculation of a budget deficiency that is included as part of the budget estimates referred to in subregulation (1)(a) or (b) must be structured in the same way as the corresponding information included in the annual budget.
- 34(2) Each statement of financial activity is to be accompanied by documents containing-
- (b) an explanation of each of the material variances referred to in subregulation (1)(d); and
 - (c) such other supporting information as is considered relevant by the local government.
- 34(3) The information in a statement of financial activity may be shown according to nature classification.
- 34(4) A statement of financial activity, and the accompanying documents referred to in subregulation (2), are to be —
- (a) presented at an ordinary meeting of the council within 2 months after the end of the relevant month; and
 - (b) recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which it is presented.
- 34(5) Each financial year, a local government is to adopt a percentage or value, calculated in accordance with the AAS, to be used in statements of financial activity for reporting material variances.

An amendment to the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, effective from 1 August 2023, is the addition of Regulation 35, with Local Governments now required to report a financial position statement each month. The additional Regulation 35 is as follows:

- 35(1) A local government must prepare each month a statement of financial position showing the financial position of the local government as at the last day of the previous month (the previous month) and —
- (a) the financial position of the local government as at the last day of the previous financial year; or
 - (b) if the previous month is June, the financial position of the local government as at the last day of the financial year before the previous financial year.
- 35(2) A statement of financial position must be —
- (a) presented at an ordinary meeting of the council within 2 months after the end of the previous month; and
 - (b) recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which it is presented.

Local Government Act 1995

Section 6.4 – Financial report

Section 6.8 – Expenditure from municipal fund not included in the budget.

The attached report aligns to the statutory requirements of monthly reporting to Council, including the presentation of the statement of financial position.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial statements attached reflect the culmination of historic transactions for the 2023/24 financial year. The final 30 June 2024 position is subject to change post end of year accrual and non-cash adjustments. The final closing position and statements will be presented as the audited annual financial report.

RISK

The Monthly Financial Report is presented monthly and provides a retrospective picture of the activities at the Shire. Contained within the report is information pertaining to the financial cost and delivery of strategic initiatives and key projects.

In order to mitigate the risk of budget over-runs or non-delivery of projects, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) has implemented internal control measures such as regular Council and management reporting and the quarterly Finance and Costing Review (FACR) process to monitor financial performance against budget estimates. Materiality reporting thresholds have been established at half the adopted Council levels, which equate to \$5,000 for operating budget line items and \$10,000 for capital items, to alert management prior to there being irreversible impacts.

It should also be noted that there is an inherent level of risk of misrepresentation of the financials through either human error or potential fraud. The establishment of control measures through a series of efficient systems, policies and procedures, which fall under the responsibility of the CEO as laid out in the *Local Government (Financial Management Regulations) 1996 Regulation 5*, seek to mitigate the possibility of this occurring. These controls are set in place to provide daily, weekly and monthly checks to ensure that the integrity of the data provided is reasonably assured.

STRATEGIC ASPIRATIONS

Performance We will deliver excellent governance, service & value for everyone.

Outcome 11 *Effective leadership, advocacy and governance*

Objective 11.2 Deliver best practice governance and risk management.

Outcome 12 *A well informed and engaged community*

Objective 12.1 Provide the community with relevant, timely information and effective engagement.

Outcome 13 *Value for money from rates and long term financial sustainability*

Objective 13.1 Plan effectively for short- and long-term financial sustainability

Objective 13.2 Improve real and perceived value for money from rates.

Outcome 14 *Excellence in organisational performance and service delivery*

Objective 14.3 Monitor and continuously improve performance levels.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

(REPORT RECOMMENDATION)

Minute No. C/0724/086

Moved: Cr P Taylor

Seconded: Cr E Smith

That Council receives the Monthly Financial Report for the period ended 30 June 2024 as attached, noting the financials are unaudited and the final position for the year is subject to change.

***For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr M Virgo,
Cr P Taylor, Cr E Smith, Cr J Mamid.***

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 8/0

Attachments

1. Monthly Statement of Activity June 2024

10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION WITH NOTICE

Nil.

12. NOTICE OF MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil.

13. BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE

The Director Corporate Services noted a typographical error in the recommendation, which has been corrected administratively and is now reflected in the minutes.

13.1 SHIRE OF BROOME RATES 2024/2025

LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Nil
APPLICANT:	Nil
FILE:	ARA01; ARA12
AUTHOR:	Manager Financial Services
CONTRIBUTOR/S:	Coordinator Financial Operations Finance Officer - Rates
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Acting Director Corporate Services
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil

SUMMARY:

The report recommends to Council the outcome of the extended statutory local public notice period before adopting the 2024/25 Annual Budget. Council is also requested to authorise the Chief Executive Officer to apply to the Minister for Local Government to approve the differential rates that require exemption from section 6.33(3) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

BACKGROUND

Previous Considerations

OMC 24 April 2024	Item 9.4.3
OMC 30 May 2024	Item 13.1

The “Notice of intention to impose 2024/2025 differential rates” report presented to Council at the 24 April 2024 Ordinary Meeting of Council (OMC) summarised the following matters:

- The 2024/25 budget process to date including revenue required to be raised from rates as per the 2024/25 draft budget;
- Proposed Gross Rental Value (GRV) and Unimproved Value (UV) rating categories and corresponding valuations;
- Proposed rate in the dollar (RID) for each rating category reflecting a 5.97% increase from the preceding year, plus an additional 0.959% for GRV Commercial properties;
- Minimum payments proposed at \$1,344 for all rate categories with the exception of the GRV Vacant and UV Mining categories which were proposed to have lesser minimum payments of \$1,264 and \$958 respectively;
- The statutory requirement to advertise certain rating information through public notice; and
- The statutory requirement to consider submissions received concerning the proposed rates.

Through this report, Council resolved the following:

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:	Minute No. C/0424/013	
Moved: Cr P Taylor	Seconded: Cr E Smith	
That Council:		
1. Publishes a local public notice proposing the 2024/25 differential general rates and minimum payments set out in the table below and invites electors or ratepayers to lodge submissions about this proposal within 21 days from the date of notice:		
	MINIMUM PAYMENT	RATE IN THE DOLLAR (cents)
Residential (GRV)	\$1,344	9.2478
Vacant (GRV)	\$1,264	20.0813
Commercial (GRV)	\$1,344	12.6712
Tourism (GRV)	\$1,344	14.9846
Commercial Rural (UV)	\$1,344	3.7704
Mining (UV)	\$958	15.2538
Rural (UV)	\$1,344	0.9019
2. Adopts the Objects and Reasons presented in Attachment 2 for each of the proposed differential general rates and minimum payments in point 1 above; and		
3. Following the close of the public submission period, requests the Chief Executive Officer to report back to Council, presenting any submissions for formal consideration, before seeking Ministerial Approval under section 6.33(3) of the Local Government Act 1995 to impose differential rates which are more than twice the lowest differential rate in the GRV Vacant, UV Mining and UV Commercial Rural differential rating categories.		
For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr J Mamid, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr E Smith, Cr M Virgo, Cr P Taylor, Cr S Cooper.		
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 9/0		

Following the OMC 24 April 2024, a public notice inviting submissions on proposed differential rates was advertised in the 1 May 2024 edition of The West Australian Newspaper, with the 21 day submission period ending 4pm 22 May 2024. A further advertisement appeared in the Broome Advertiser edition issued on 2 May 2024. Public notices were also placed on noticeboards located at the Shire of Broome Administration Centre and Library. A digital public notice was published on the Shire of Broome's website with a link to the Objects and Reasons for the Differential Rates and Minimum Payments for the 2024/25 Financial Year.

The Shire also wrote to the 23 properties in the UV Commercial Rural rating category, inviting public comments on the proposed differential rates according to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) requirement for rating categories with less than 30 ratepayers.

At the OMC 30 May 2024, Council were provided a report to consider any submissions received and to seek approval for the Chief Executive Officer to apply to the Minister for the required ministerial approvals under 6.33(3). Council resolved:

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

(REPORT RECOMMENDATION)

Minute No. C/0524/075

Moved: Cr D Male

Seconded: Cr P Taylor

That Council:

1. **Notes that no submissions were received in response to Council's intention to impose the 2024/25 differential rates and minimum payments under section 6.36(4) of the Local Government Act 1995 during the public submission period of 21 days;**
2. **Endorses the following proposed Differential General Rates and Minimum Payments for 2024/25:**

DIFFERENTIAL RATE CATEGORY	MINIMUM PAYMENT	RATE IN THE DOLLAR (cents)
Residential (GRV)	\$1,344	9.2478
Vacant (GRV)	\$1,264	20.0813
Commercial (GRV)	\$1,344	12.6712
Tourism (GRV)	\$1,344	14.9846
Commercial Rural (UV)	\$1,344	3.7704
Mining (UV)	\$958	15.2538
Rural (UV)	\$1,344	0.9019

3. **Adopts the 2024/25 Rating Objects and Reasons for each of the proposed differential general rates and minimum payments in point 2 above as contained in Attachment 1; and**
4. **Requests the Chief Executive Officer to seek the Minister for Local Government's approval under section 6.33(3) of the Local Government Act 1995 to impose differential rates for the:**
 - (a) **GRV Vacant differential rating category, which is proposed to be more than twice the lowest GRV Residential differential rate; and**
 - (b) **UV Commercial Rural and UV Mining differential rating categories, which are proposed to be more than twice the lowest UV Rural differential rate.**

For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr M Virgo, Cr P Taylor, Cr S Cooper.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7/0

Following the OMC on 30 May 2024, it was identified that an administration error in the local public notice period for the required minimum 21 day advertising had occurred, being not all local public notice mediums were advertised for the full 21 day required period. Upon recognition of this error, the Shire re-advertised the proposed differential rates on 26 June

2024, seeking submissions until 4 pm on 18 July 2024 (a period of 22 days), in accordance with the statutory requirements under section 6.36 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act).

In addition to the local public notice requirements, Ministerial approval is required if a differential rate is more than twice the lowest differential rate in either UV or GRV properties (s6.33 of the Act). Approval will be sought for the GRV Vacant category which is more than twice the base GRV Residential rate, and the UV Commercial Rural and UV Mining categories which are both more than twice the base UV Rural rate.

The Minister requires evidence of Council consideration of any submissions received before considering the Shire's application for exemption from section 6.33 of the Act.

COMMENT

Submissions

During the re-advertised submission period, one submission was received by the Shire on 3 July 2024. The submission received was by a member of the public that was not able to be identified as a ratepayer or resident of the Shire, however, is presented for Council consideration.

A summary of the submission and officer's response is provided below:

Assessment No.: Not identified as a ratepayer of the Shire of Broome
Submission:

Re: Differential Rates 2024/2025

I note your advertised untendered rates in the West Australian of 26th June 2024 and would be pleased if you could answer the following;

- 1. Does residential mean residential improved (home units/houses etc) GRV can not be applied to residential but only to C & I (commercial and industrial) as the tenant pays both net rent and outgoings in that situation (hence gross rent). Whereas in residential the tenant pays net rent (\$500 per week etc) and landlord (lessor) pays all outgoings (hence net rent).*
- 2. GRV Vacant. Does this mean vacant land residential or commercial/industrial. Either way all rates of this type can be based on unimproved value only (ie vacant).*
- 3. GRV Commercial. I presume this means industrial, retail, show rooms/industrial/commercial or whatever. GRV is applicable if Unimproved not vacant land.*
- 4. Tourism (caravan parks etc) not sure of this one. You should seek advice from a Broome valuer.*
- 5. What is commercial rural – examples.*
- 6. Commercial rural - sound right.*
- 7. UV Mining – no idea.*

*Many shires are making the same mistake regarding the use of GRV.
The Minister advises the type of valuation to be used.
Why not write to the valuer general to get an explanation.*

The submission received was querying the GRV and UV valuation methodologies and did not support any specific concerns regarding the proposed differential rates or minimum payments for the 2024/2025 financial year.

Officer Response:

As the basis for calculating rates, s6.28(2) of the Local Government Act 1995 mandates that land (vacant or improved) predominantly used for non-rural purposes is to be rated using its Gross Rental Valuation (GRV). GRV is defined in the Valuation of Land Act 1978 as:

Gross annual rental that the land might reasonably be expected to realise if let on a tenancy from year to year upon condition that the landlord were liable for all rates, taxes and other charges thereon and the insurance and other outgoings necessary to maintain the value of the land.

The value for each property is determined by the Valuer General and provided to the Shire of Broome.

As per s. 6.28 (2) of the Local Government Act 1995, land (vacant or improved) predominantly used for rural purposes is to be rated using its Unimproved Value (UV), supplied and updated annually by the Valuer General. The Shire of Broome's Objects and Reasons for the 2024/2025 financial year, outlines the basis for the valuation types applied as either GRV or UV utilised in our proposed differential rating categories in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995. A copy of the report is attached for your reference.

As detailed, the term gross rental value (as defined by the Valuation of Land Act 1978) and use for the purposes of rating land under the Local Government Act 1995, may be different to the terms and use you have experienced as a licenced valuer of commercial and industrial properties.

A response to each individual question is provided within the letter to clarify their queries, along with an enclosed copy of the Shires proposed 2024/2025 Objects and Reasons.

No other submissions were received by the Shire during the re-advertisement period.

Conclusion

The initial ministerial application approval was sought under section 6.33 of the Act for the proposed GRV Vacant rating category, as the rate in the dollar for this category is more than twice the GRV Residential rate. Additional approval was sought under section 6.33 of the Act for UV Mining and UV Commercial differential rating categories which are more than twice the lowest UV Rural general rate.

Accordingly the Shire readvertised the intent to impose differential rates for another 22 days and now seeks approval for Council to consider the one (1) submission received, and recommend that the application made to the Minister be reindorsed.

CONSULTATION

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Local public notice was provided and direct correspondence issued to property owners as required under section 6.36 of the Act. One submission was received during the re-advertised period.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995

s6.26	<i>Rateable land</i>
s6.28	<i>Basis of Rates</i>
s6.32	<i>Rates and service charges</i>
s6.33	<i>Differential general rates</i>
s6.34	<i>Limit on revenue or income from general rates</i>
s6.35	<i>Minimum payment</i>

The rate in the dollar and minimum payments applicable to each differential rating category proposed for the 2024/25 annual budget have been developed with full consideration for the Act, specifically the sections referenced above.

s1.7	<i>Local public notice</i>
s6.36	<i>Local government to give notice of certain rates</i>

The Shire has complied with the statutory requirement to give public notice in at least four ways (state-wide newspaper, Shire administration and Library notice boards, Shire website and Shire facebook page) after 1 May, for at least 21 days, stating the proposed differential rates and minimum payments for each rating category; providing suitable access to the Objects and Reasons, and considering all submissions to Council through this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Rating Policy

The Rating Policy outlines the Council's principles and methodology when exercising the Council's discretionary powers to determine the level and structure of rates levied under the Act.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposed differential rates and minimum payments for the 2024/25 financial year will raise an estimated rates revenue of \$28.49M.

RISK

Risks associated with the consideration of submissions received and the general endorsement of the proposed rates model include:

- Delays to the 2024/25 annual budget adoption affect cash flow and delay the commencement of significant capital projects.
- Delay in the timing of issuance of the annual rates notices, leaving less time for ratepayers to pay rates by 30 June 2025.
- Tying up Shire resources that would be utilised on other projects and statutory reporting.

STRATEGIC ASPIRATIONS

Performance We will deliver excellent governance, service & value for everyone.

Outcome 12 A well informed and engaged community

Objective 12.1 Provide the community with relevant, timely information and effective engagement.

Outcome 13 Value for money from rates and long term financial sustainability

Objective 13.1 Plan effectively for short- and long-term financial sustainability

Objective 13.2 Improve real and perceived value for money from rates.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

(REPORT RECOMMENDATION)

Minute No. C/0724/087

Moved: Cr P Taylor

Seconded: Cr M Virgo

1. **Notes that Council readvertised for the required 21 days under section 6.36 of the Local Government Act 1995;**
2. **Notes that one submission was received and considered in response to Council's intention to impose the 2024/25 differential rates and minimum payments under section 6.36(4) of the Local Government Act 1995;**
3. **Reaffirms the endorsement of the following proposed Differential General Rates and Minimum Payments for 2024/25:**

DIFFERENTIAL RATE CATEGORY	MINIMUM PAYMENT	RATE IN THE DOLLAR (cents)
Residential (GRV)	\$1,344	9.2478
Vacant (GRV)	\$1,264	20.0813
Commercial (GRV)	\$1,344	12.6712
Tourism (GRV)	\$1,344	14.9846
Commercial Rural (UV)	\$1,344	3.7704
Mining (UV)	\$958	15.2538
Rural (UV)	\$1,344	0.9019

- 4. Reaffirms the adoption of the 2024/25 Rating Objects and Reasons for each of the proposed differential general rates and minimum payments in point 3 above as contained in Attachment 2; and**
- 5. Recommends the Chief Executive Officer to seek the Minister for Local Government's approval under section 6.33(3) of the Local Government Act 1995 to impose differential rates for the:**
 - (a) GRV Vacant differential rating category, which is proposed to be more than twice the lowest GRV Residential differential rate; and**
 - (b) UV Commercial Rural and UV Mining differential rating categories, which are proposed to be more than twice the lowest UV Rural differential rate.**

**For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr M Virgo,
Cr P Taylor, Cr E Smith, Cr J Mamid.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8/0

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 - 2024-25 Objects and Reasons
2. Attachment 2 - 2024-25 Proposed Draft Rates Model for Budget Adoption

Cr M Virgo left the Chambers at 5:12 pm.

14. MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

Minute No. C/0724/088

Moved: Cr J Lewis

Seconded: Cr P Matsumoto

That the meeting be closed to the public at 5:12pm.

***For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr P Taylor,
Cr E Smith, Cr J Mamid.***

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7/0

Cr Virgo declared a Financial Interest in item 14.1, reason being “my son is an apprentice at H & M Tracey and lives with me at home.”

Shire President C Mitchell declared an Impartiality Interest in item 14.1, the reason being “I am a volunteer wildlife coordinator for Native Animal Rescue Broome. The successful tenderer is constructing the buildings for our group”.

This item and any attachments are confidential in accordance with section 5.23(2) of the Local Government Act 1995 section 5.23(2)((e)(iii)) as it contains “a matter that if disclosed, would reveal information about the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of a person, where the information is held by, or is about, a person other than the local government”.

14.1 REQUEST FOR TENDER RFT24/06 DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR (3X2) DWELLINGS

LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Nil
APPLICANT:	Nil
FILE:	RFT24/06
AUTHOR:	Manager Engineering
CONTRIBUTOR/S:	Nil
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Director Infrastructure
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil

SUMMARY:

This report considers the submissions received for the Request for Tender to Design and Construct four (3x2) dwellings and seeks Council's adoption of the recommendation contained within the attached confidential Evaluation Report.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

(REPORT RECOMMENDATION)

Minute No. C/0724/089

Moved: Cr P Taylor

Seconded: Cr E Smith

That Council:

- 1. Note the recommendation in the Evaluation Report for RFT24/06 Design and Construction of Four (3x2) Dwellings as presented in confidential Attachment 1.**
- 2. Accepts the Tender provided by H&M Tracey Contracting Pty Ltd as the most advantageous Respondent from which to form a Contract after final contract negotiations to a maximum total value of \$2,083,400 excluding GST.**

- 3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and sign the contract documentation following final contract negotiations and the appropriate financial due diligence, and negotiate contract variations during the works/project if necessary.**
- 4. If a Contract cannot be executed with H&M Tracey Constructions Pty Ltd, authorises the Chief Executive to negotiate with the second preferred respondent and sign the contract documentation following final contract negotiations and the appropriate financial due diligence, and negotiate minor contract variations during the contract if necessary.**

**For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr P Taylor,
Cr E Smith, Cr J Mamid.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 7/0

1. RFT24/06 EVALUATION REPORT (*Confidential to Councillors and Directors Only*)
This attachment is confidential in accordance with section 5.23(2) of the Local Government Act 1995 section 5.23(2)((e)(iii)) as it contains “a matter that if disclosed, would reveal information about the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of a person, where the information is held by, or is about, a person other than the local government”.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

Minute No. C/0724/090

Moved: Cr P Taylor

Seconded: Cr E Smith

That the Meeting again be open to the public at 5:13pm.

***For: Shire President C Mitchell, Cr D Male, Cr J Lewis, Cr P Matsumoto, Cr P Taylor,
Cr E Smith, Cr J Mamid.***

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7/0

Cr M Virgo returned to the Chambers at 5:13pm.

The Council chambers were opened and it was noted that no members of the public returned to the Chambers.

15. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 5:14pm.