

MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

Held in Council Chambers 13 Cottrell Street, Dowerin WA 6461 Tuesday 18 April 2023



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Shire of Dowerin Ordinary Council Meeting Tuesday 18 April 2023



1. Official Opening / Obituaries

The President welcomes those in attendance and declares the Meeting open at 4.05pm.

2. Record of Attendance / Apologies / Leave of Absence

Councillors:

Cr RI Trepp President

Cr BA Ward Deputy President

Cr W Allsopp Cr DP Hudson Cr NP McMorran Cr JC Sewell

Staff:

Ms R McCall Chief Executive Officer

Mr A Wooldridge Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Ms L Dreghorn Executive and Governance Officer

Members of the Public: Nil

Apologies: Cr AJ Metcalf

Approved Leave of Absence: Cr LG Hagboom

3. Public Question Time

Nil

4. Disclosure of Interest

Nil

5. Applications for Leave of Absence

Nil

6. Petitions and Presentations

Nil

- 7. Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s)
- 7.1 Special Council Meeting held on 7 March 2023.

Attachment 7.1A

7.2 Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 March 2023.

Attachment 7.2A

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation/Resolution - 7

Moved: Cr Allsopp Seconded: Cr McMorran

That, by Simple Majority pursuant to Sections 5.22(2) and 3.18 of the Local 0758 Government Act 1995, the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held 7 March 2023, as presented in Attachment 7.1A, and the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting

held 21 March 2023, as presented in Attachment 7.2A, be confirmed as a true and

correct record of proceedings.

Voting Requirements

	CARRIED 6/0		
8.	Minutes of Committee Meeting(s) to be Received		
8.1	Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5 April 2023 Attachment 8.1A		
	Voting Requirements		
	Simple Majority Absolute Majority		
Counci	llor's Recommendation/Resolution - 8		
Moved:	Cr Ward Seconded: Cr Sewell		
0759	That, by Simple Majority pursuant to Sections 5.22(2) and 3.18 of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> , the Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5 April 2023, as presented in Attachment 8.1A, be received by Council.		
	CARRIED 6/0		
9.	Recommendations from Committee Meetings for Council Consideration		
9.1	Bush Fire Advisory Committee Recommendation(s)		
9.1	Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5 April 2023		
9.1.1	Election of Office Bearers		
	Refer Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated 5 April 2023 Attachment 9.1.1A		
	Voting Requirements		
	Simple Majority Absolute Majority		
Counci	llor's Recommendation/Resolution - 9.1.1		
Moved:	Cr Sewell Seconded: Cr McMorran		
0760	That, in accordance with the Bush Fire Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference, the Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommends to Council that it accepts the nominations received for consideration as Office Bearers, as presented in Attachment 9.1.1A. CARRIED 6/0		
9.1.2	Fire Break Order 2023/2024		
	Refer Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated 5 April 2023 Attachment 9.1.2A		

Simple Majority Absolute Majority

Councillor's Recommendation/Resolution - 9.1.2

Moved: Cr Sewell **Seconded:** Cr Allsopp

That the Dowerin Bushfire Advisory Committee recommends to Council that the Firebreak Order for 2023/24 be adopted, with the dates for the Prohibited Burning Period commencing on 5 November to 15 February and the Restricted Burning Period commencing on 20 October to 4 November and 14 February to 14 April and remove the conditions for the Easter period, as presented in Attachment 9.1.2A.

CARRIED 6/0

9.1.3 Minimum Brigade Member Training Requirements

Refer Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated 5 April 2023

Attachment 9.1.3A - Letter from DFES Commissioner

Attachment 9.1.3B - Shire of Dowerin Proposed Fire Brigade Framework

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority Absolute Majority

Councillor's Recommendation/Resolution - 9.1.3

Moved: Cr Hudson **Seconded:** Cr Sewell

That, by Simple Majority, in accordance with Division 1, Section 35A(d) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, the Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommends to Council that it adopts the minimum Brigade Member Training Requirements:

1. Itinerant Workers Rural Fire Awareness

2. Farmer Response Brigade Bush

Members

Brigade Bushfire Safety Awareness

Respiratory Protective Equipment

3. Brigade Members Bushfire Safety Awareness

Fire Fighting Skills

CARRIED 6/0

10. Announcements by the President Without Discussion

A letter was received from CBH Group thanking the Shire of Dowerin for the provision of the Emergency Storage for 2022/23 season.

Shadow Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury, Mr Dean Smith - Regional Banking Services Enquiry. Submissions will be accepted regarding the closure of regional banks. CEO to write a submission on behalf of Council.

11. OFFICER'S REPORTS - CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

11.1 Financial Activity Statements

Corporate and Community Services



Date:	11 April 2023	
Location:	Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer: Aaron Wooldridge, Deputy Chief Executive Officer		
Author:	As above	
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995; Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996	
SharePoint Reference:	Organisation / Financial Management / Reporting / Financial Statements / 2022-2023 Monthly Financial Statements	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Attachment 11.1A - March 2023 Financial Activity Statement	

Purpose of Report	
Executive Decision	Legislative Requirement
Summary	

This item presents the Statement of Financial Activity to Council for the period ending March 2023.

Background

Section 6.4 of the *Local Government Act 1995* requires a local government to prepare financial reports.

Regulations 34 and 35 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* set out the form and content of the financial reports which have been prepared and are presented to Council.

Comment

In order to fulfil statutory reporting requirements and provide Council with a synopsis of the Shire of Dowerin's overall financial performance on a year-to-date basis, the following financial information is included in the Attachment.

Statements of Financial Activity - Statutory Reports by Program and Nature or Type

The Statements of Financial Activity provide details of the Shire's operating revenues and expenditures on a year-to-date basis. The reports further include details of non-cash adjustments and capital revenues and expenditures, to identify the Shire's net current position.

Note 1 - Statement of Financial Activity

Notes supporting the Statement of Financial Activity by Program and by Nature and Type.

Note 2 - Cash and Financial Assets

This note provides Council with the details of the actual amounts in the Shire's bank accounts and/or investment accounts as at the reporting date.

Note 3 - Receivables

This note provides Council with both Rates Receivables and General Receivables outstanding as at the reporting date. This report has been expanded to further break down the detail of General Receivables.

Note 4 - Other Current Assets

This note provides details of other current assets that the Shire may hold.

Note 5 - Payables

This note provides details of Shire payables unpaid as at the reporting date. This Note is new to the financial statements.

Note 6- Rate Revenue

This note provides details of rates levied during the year.

Note 7 - Disposal of Assets

This note gives details of the capital asset disposals during the year.

Note 8- Capital Acquisitions

This note details the capital expenditure program for the year.

Note 9 -Borrowings

This note shows the Shire's current debt position and lists all borrowings.

Note 10 - Cash Backed Reserves

This note provides summary details of transfers to and from reserve funds, and associated interest earnings on reserve funds, on a year-to-date basis.

Note 11 - Other Current Liabilities

This note outlines any provisions the Shire has on hand relative to other current liabilities.

Note 12 - Operating Grants and Contributions Received

This note provides information on operating grants received.

Note 13 - Non-Operating Grants and Contributions Received

This note provides information on non-operating grants received.

Note 14 - Explanation of Material Variances

Council adopted (in conjunction with the Annual Budget) a material reporting variance threshold of 10% or \$10,000, whichever is the greater. This note explains the reasons for any material variances identified in the Statements of Financial Activity at the end of the reporting period.

Consultation

Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer

Aaron Wooldridge, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Megan Shirt, Consultant

Policy Implications

The Shire of Dowerin has a comprehensive suite of financial management policies. Finances have been managed in accordance with these policies.

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Community Priority: Our Organisation

Objective: We are recognised as a transparent, well governed, and effectively

managed Local Government

Outcome: 5.3

Reference: 5.3.2

Asset Management Plan

Nil

Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

Statutory Implications

Council is required to adopt monthly statements of financial activity to comply with Regulation 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

Risk Implications

Risk Profiling Theme	Failure to fulfil statutory regulations or compliance requirements		
Risk Category	Compliance		
Risk Description	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact		
Consequence Rating	Insignificant (1)		
Likelihood Rating	Rare (1)		
Risk Matrix Rating	Low (1)		
Key Controls (in place)	Governance Calendar, Financial Management Framework and Legislation		
Action (Treatment)	Nil		
Risk Rating (after treatment)	Adequate		

Timely preparation of the monthly financial statements within statutory guidelines is vital to good financial management. Failure to submit compliant reports within statutory time limits will lead to non-compliance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

	Financial Implications		
Nil			
	Voting Requirements		
S	Simple Majority	Absolute Majority	
Officer's Recommendation/Resolution - 11.1			

Moved: Cr Hudson **Seconded:** Cr Allsopp

That Council, by Simple Majority pursuant to Regulation 34 of the *Local Government* (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, receives the statutory Financial Activity Statement report for the period March 2023, as presented in Attachment 11.1A.

11.2 List of Accounts Paid

Corporate & Community Services



Date:	11 April 2023		
Location:	Not Applicable		
Responsible Officer: Aaron Wooldridge, Deputy Chief Executive Officer			
Author:	Aaron Wooldridge, Deputy Chief Executive Officer		
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995; Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996		
SharePoint Reference: Organisation/Financial Management/Reporting/Financial Statement and Credit Cards			
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil		
Attachments:	Attachment 11.2A - List of Accounts Paid - March 2023		

Purpose of Report	
Executive Decision	Legislative Requirement
Summary	

This Item presents the List of Accounts Paid, paid under delegated authority, for March 2023.

Background

Nil

Comment

The List of Accounts Paid as presented has been reviewed by the Deputy Chief Executive Officer.

Consultation

Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer

Aaron Wooldridge, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Cheryl Murray, Finance Officer

Policy Implications

The Shire of Dowerin has a comprehensive suite of financial management policies. Finances have been managed in accordance with these policies. Payments have been made under delegated authority.

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Community Priority: Our Organisation

Objective: We are recognised as a transparent, well governed, and effectively

managed Local Government

Outcome: 5.3

Reference: 5.3.2

Asset Management Plan

Nil

Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

Statutory Implications

Regulation 12 and 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* requires that a separate list be prepared each month for adoption by Council showing creditors paid under delegated authority.

Risk Implications

Risk Profiling Theme	Failure to fulfil statutory regulations or compliance requirements		
Risk Category	Compliance		
Risk Description	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact		
Consequence Rating	Insignificant (1)		
Likelihood Rating	Rare (1)		
Risk Matrix Rating	Low (1)		
Key Controls (in place)	Governance Calendar		
Action (Treatment)	Nil		
Risk Rating (after treatment)) Adequate		

	lications

Funds expended are in accordance with the Council's adopted 2022/23 Budget.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation/Resolution - 11.2

Moved: Cr Trepp Seconded: Cr Allsopp

That Council, by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 6.8(1)(a) of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 12 & 13 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, receives the report from the Chief Executive Officer on the exercise of delegated authority in relation to creditor payments from the Shire of Dowerin Municipal Fund, as presented in Attachment 11.2A, and as detailed below:

List of Accounts Paid - March 2023			
EFT 10715 to EFT 10803	\$1,201,582.71		
Direct Debit: Credit Card Payment: January 2023	\$1,587.73		
Direct Debit: Credit Card Payment: February 2023	\$2,896.77		
Direct Debit: Synergy	\$4,536.16		
Direct Debit: Bank Fees	\$560.43		

Direct Debit: Water Corporation	\$17,852.93
Direct Debit: Puma Energy	\$1,245.08
Direct Debit: Telstra	\$580.50
Direct Debit: Payroll Deduction	\$50.00
PPE Mar 2023 - Wages	\$42,448.82
PPE Mar 2023 - Wages	\$48,334.27
PPE Mar 2023 - Wages	\$44,545.47
Superannuation	\$6,163.79
Superannuation	\$6,116.11
Superannuation	\$6,140.05
TOTAL	\$1,384,640.82

11.3 Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates in Excess of Three Years

Corporate & Community Services



Date:	11 April 2023	
Location:	Various	
Responsible Officer:	Aaron Wooldridge, Deputy Chief Executive Officer	
Author:	Sheldon Cox, Rates and Finance Officer	
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995; Local Gove Management) Regulations 1996; Civil Judgemen 2004	· ·
Sharepoint Reference:	Organisation/Rates & Valuations/Debt Recovery	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Attachment 11.3A - Outstanding Rates Debts	

Purpose of Report	
Executive Decision	Legislative Requirement
Summary	

This item presents a proposal to proceed with the sale of properties whose rates and charges have been in arrears for three years or more to Council for consideration and, if satisfactory, endorsement.

Background

Under Section 6.64(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act), if any rates or service charges due to a local government have remained unpaid for at least three years, the local government may take possession of and proceed to sell the land. Section 6.68 describes the necessary conditions for exercising the power to sell the land.

Whilst Section 6.68(1) of the Act prevents the local government from exercising the power of sale unless the local government has attempted to recover money due to it under Section 6.56 of the Act, under Section 6.68(2), a local government is not required to attempt under Section 6.56 to recover money due before exercising the power of sale, where the local government has a reasonable belief that the cost of proceedings will equal or exceed the value of the land, or where the local government has made reasonable efforts to locate the owner of the property and has been unable to do so.

In order to take possession of the property and proceed with its sale, the local government must cause notice requiring the payment of rates in accordance with Schedule 6.3 of the Act. The notice is also to be served on any party with an interest in the land, such as the Mortgagees and is also to be posted on the local government's official website for a period of not less than 35 days. If at the expiration of three months from the date of issue of the notice the rates remain unpaid, the local government can proceed with selling the land by public auction, with such an auction to occur not more than twelve months from the date of the notice.

Achievements have been, including the sale and seizure of one property, two more awaiting sale or seizure and the enforcement of consistent payments by problematic debtors who are now on schedule each year.

The aim of this item is to propose an additional four assessments for potential sale and/or seizure. The following properties, while not necessarily hold a large debt, will become a problem if they are not acted upon now. The four listed are under unfortunate circumstances in which all owners and

potential beneficiaries have since passed away, leaving a difficult and uncomfortable situation for the Shire to navigate.

Under Clause 5 of Schedule 6.3 of the Act, the outstanding rates, any additional legal expenses and the costs of the sale or incidental costs to the sale of the property can be recovered by the local government. Any residual amounts from the sale of the property is to be held by the local government in the event of the owners making a claim. If after twelve months the amount has not been claimed, the residual funds are to be paid into the Supreme Court under Section 99 of the Trustees Act. If unclaimed for a further six years, the amount is then paid into the Consolidated Fund of the State Government.

Comment

Staff have exhausted all avenues of action in accordance with relevant legislative requirements relating to collection of the outstanding rates on the properties. A decision of Council on how to proceed is now required.

The Officer's Recommendation is to list the four assessments for sale and/or seizure in recovering the outstanding rates debt. If this option is not accepted, the debt will remain outstanding and further increasing in debt year on year and will need to be included in all future budgets.

With each of these debts remaining outstanding the liability on the Shire's cash position is increased, resulting in a reduction of funds to utilise for community projects and works.

Consultation

Sheldon Cox, Rates Officer

Tara Donnelly, Rates Consultant

Aaron Wooldridge, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Lauren Marsh, Senior Account Manager - AMPAC Debt Recovery

Damian Barr, Local Government Services - AMPAC Debt Recovery

Association of Rates Officers

Troy Hancock, Legislation Officer, Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries

Policy Implications

Nil

Statutory Implications

Part 6 Division 6 and Schedule 6.3 of the Local Government Act 1995 are applicable.

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Community Priority: Our Organisation

Objective: We are recognised as a transparent, well governed, and effectively

managed Local Government

Outcome: 5.3

Reference: 5.3.2

Asset Management Plan

Nil

Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

Risk Implications

_	Failure to fulfil statutory regulations or compliance requirements
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Risk Category	Financial Impact
Risk Description	\$50,001 - \$200,000
Consequence Rating	Moderate (3)
Likelihood Rating	Possible (3)
Risk Matrix Rating	Extreme (20)
Key Controls (in place)	Financial Management Framework; Debt Recovery Procedures; Legislation
Action (Treatment)	Undertake debt recovery as per procedures and legislation
Risk Rating (after treatment)	Effective

Financial Implications

The sale of the properties at the sale or seizure level in debt recovery would decrease the outstanding rates by approximately \$60,000 or more. Daily interest accruing at 5% per annum would cease. The outstanding rates and service charges may not be fully recovered from the sale of the property, or the cost of any legal action/s. In the event the price realised at sale is less than the balance of the rates and charges, Section 6.12(1) c of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides that any shortfall following sale shall be written off.

There is a provision for rates debt recovery in the 2022/23 budget.

	Voting Requirements		
	Simple Majority	Ab	solute Majority
Officer	's Recommendation/Resolution - 11.3	3	
Moved:	Cr Ward	Seconded	l: Cr Allsopp

That, by Simple Majority, in accordance with Part 6 Division 6 and Schedule 6.3 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council:

- 1. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake the necessary actions to commence the sale of the following properties:
 - a. A451 total of \$26,264.05;
 - b. A503 total of \$7,305.35;
 - c. A224 total of \$690.08; and
 - d. A229 total of \$437.49

Inclusive of issuing Property Seizure and Sale Orders, purchasing property valuations, AMPAC fees and advertising costs; and

2. Utilises funds under GL: RATES - Debt Collection Expenses to cover the cost of enacting the above.

11.4 340 Hindmarsh Back Road, Dowerin - Application for the Keeping of Six Dogs

Corporate & Community Services



Date:	4 April 2023	
Location:	340 Hindmarsh Back Road, Dowerin	
Responsible Officer:	Aaron Wooldridge, Deputy Chief Executive Officer	
Author:	Linley Dreghorn, Executive & Governance Officer	
Legislation:	Dog Act 1976; Shire of Dowerin Dogs Local Law 2008	
Sharepoint Reference:	Compliance/Ranger/Animal Registrations	
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Attachment 11.4A - Ranger's Report	

Purpose of Report	
Executive Decision	Legislative Requirement
Summary	

This Item presents an application for the keeping of six dogs at a rural property to Council for consideration and, if satisfactory, approval.

Background

An application has been received to keep six dogs at 340 Hindmarsh Back Road, Dowerin. Any person wishing to keep more than two dogs within prescribed areas is required to get Council approval.

Comment

A copy of the Ranger's Report is provided as an Attachment. The report details the process of assessing the application, the inspection of the property and the Ranger's recommendation.

All dogs have been microchipped, registered and are between the ages of 1 and 8 years of age.

Consultation

Irene Ryan - Rural Ranger Services

Policy Implications

Nil

Statutory Implications

The Shire of Dowerin Dogs Local Law 2018 and Part 26 of the *Dog Act 1976* are applicable.

Clause 3.2(2)(b) of the Dogs Local Law only permits the keeping of four dogs over the age of three months if the premises is situated outside a townsite. However, Section 26(3) of the *Dog Act 1976* enables a local government to grant an exemption in respect of the numbers of dogs permitted to be kept at a residence. Such an exemption may be made subject to conditions, including a condition that it applies only to the dogs specified in the exemption.

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Community Priority: Our Organisation

Objective: We are recognised as a transparent, well governed, and effectively

managed local government

Outcome: 5.3

Reference: 5.3.2

Asset Management Plan

Nil

Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

Risk Implications

Risk Profiling Theme	Failure to fulfil statutory regulations or compliance requirements		
Risk Category	Compliance		
Risk Description	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact		
Consequence Rating	Insignificant (1)		
Likelihood Rating	Rare (1)		
Risk Matrix Rating	Low (1)		
Key Controls (in place)	Governance Management Framework		
Action (Treatment)	Document Governance Framework		
Risk Rating (after treatment)	Adequate		

Finan	cial	Impli	ications
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An application fee of \$100 applies and the cost of registration on all six dogs.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation/Resolution - 11.4

Moved: Cr Hudson **Seconded:** Cr McMorran

That, in accordance with Section 26(3) of the *Dog Act 1976*, Council approves the application to house six dogs at 340 Hindmarsh Back Road, Dowerin with the following conditions:

- 1. The approval being placed on the condition that the dogs do not prove to be a nuisance (to the satisfaction of Council) to adjoining or adjacent neighbours in terms of barking, aggressive behaviours and / or wandering;
- 2. The exemption applies only to the 6 dogs stated on the application. Once any of the dogs are deceased, sold or otherwise disposed of, the exemption ceases to have effect;
- 3. The exemption will cease to have effect on the date of any conviction for an offence relating to the *Dog Act 1976* in respect of any of the dogs, or any person in charge of those dogs;

- 4. The subject property must be kept clear of all animal excreta using proper disposal methods;
- 5. Adequate cover and protection are always to be available to the dogs;
- 6. The dogs are to be adequately confined in accordance with Section 3.1 of the Shires Dog Local Law; and
- 7. Access to the property is to be given to a Shire Officer for an annual inspection, or more regularly if the Shire so determines. Each inspection will be charged in accordance with the adopted Schedule of Fees and Charges.

11.5 Sustainability of the Dowerin Community Resource Centre

Corporate & Community Services



		THE DOO TERRITORY
Date:	12 April 2023	
Location:	Dowerin Community Resource Centre, Stewart S	treet Dowerin
Responsible Officer:	Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer	
Author:	Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer	
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995	
Sharepoint Reference:	Community Development/Community Services/I	OCRC
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Attachment 11.5A - Dowerin Community Resource	ce Centre Merger

Purpose of Report	
Executive Decision	Legislative Requirement
Summary	

For Council to consider the proposal to combine the services delivered by the Dowerin Community Resource Centre (DCRC) under the management of the Shire of Dowerin (the Shire) and to provide support for the on-going sustainability and delivery of community services.

Background

The Western Australian Community Resource Network (WACRN) is comprised of over 100 rural, remote, and regional Community Resource Centres (CRCs). The centres are not-for-profit organisations that are independently owned and operated by their local community.

Locally owned and operated, CRCs provide a wide array of information and community-based services to local people, businesses, and visitors of regional Western Australia. CRCs are committed to developing regional communities and connecting the people of Western Australia. They provide training and education programs, access to business facilities, and information on community events and government services.

In 1998, the Dowerin Telecentre was established to provide additional services for the residents of Dowerin in addition to services provided by the Shire of Dowerin.

In 1999, the Telecentre was operating in the building purchased by the Shire of Dowerin where they exist today.

In 2009/10, the CRC network was established under a new funding program and agreement. At this time the Shire of Dowerin and DCRC entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the library services to be provided by the DCRC on behalf of the Shire. This later extended to include the provision of visitor services.

In 2013, the DCRC signed its first contract under the new funding agreement. The agreement outlined a range of services the CRC provides to the community of Dowerin, including services established under the MOU between DCRC and Shire of Dowerin. In 2017, the 2nd contract was approved under the same terms and recently resigned in 2022 for a further 5 years to expire in 2027. It is anticipated in 2027 the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) will continue with a new contract.

The services the DCRC provides are essential to the community and it allows for businesses, residents and visitors to access a safe and welcoming environment. Deliverable objectives include:

Access to state government and community information services;

- Activities and initiatives that improve skills and capacity to foster economic growth in the local community; and
- · Activities and initiatives to create or improve community connectiveness and capacity

These services range from (but not limited to):

- Government Services (Centrelink)
- Bendigo Bank Agency
- Community Events
- Senior Citizens Activities
- Book Club
- Better Beginnings Story Time for young children
- Library
- 1. Community Information
- 2. Visitor Services
- 3. Despatch fortnightly newsletter
- 4. Equipment and meeting room hire
- 5. Administration (photocopying, scanning, printing, faxing, binding etc)
- Internet Access both via PC's and iPad
- Photography printing

In the recent year, the Bendigo Bank services has closed as part of Bendigo's regional structure changes.

The DCRC Board, at its meeting in September 2022, met and discussed the future of the DCRC and had decided not to continue the services under its current arrangement as a not-for-profit business. This is due to the lack of engagement within the board members and governance issues uncovered.

The DCRC Board approached the Council as an option for the Council to continue these services to the community as they have deemed the services are still essential to the community.

In August 2021, the DCRC commissioned the Wheatbelt Business Network (WBN) to report on future Governance options to ensure the service remained sustainable and available in Dowerin. Six different governance options were presented, being:

Option 1: Current model

Option 2: Retain incorporation with administration support from the Shire

Option 3: Incorporation dissolves and Shire of Dowerin holds DPRID contract

Option 4: Incorporation dissolves and CRC closes

Option 5: Incorporation dissolves and existing NFP in Dowerin received CRC assets and

tenders for DPRID contract

Option 6: Cluster of CRC's

Following consideration of the options presented, the DCRC agreed that option 3 Incorporation Dissolved and the Shire holds the DPIRD contract, was the preferred option and approached the Shire accordingly.

Comment

Currently, two of the services DCRC undertakes on behalf of the Shire (Library and Visitor Centre), make up 50% of the total services delivered per week. The library services are currently part funded by the State Library of WA to the Shire.

In accordance with the Shire's priorities of the Integrated Strategic Plan, it is imperative the alignment of the business case to the Integrated Strategic Plan is considered. The sustainability of the CRC will ensure the continuing services for the community is a priority as listed in the above Integrated Strategic Plan.

The key benefits of the merger will ensure a better management of the DCRC and the improvement to the governance structure. There will be no increase in additional resources needed because of the merger, however, if the merger was not to take place, the two services the Shire is responsible for will still need to be resourced in-house.

As part of the Shire's community development program that is currently operated in-house and the role of the Community Development Officer, these will be a key link in addition to the current structure of the DCRC. This will mean an improved synergy of systems and processes that will come from the transition.

Several rural Shires have assumed management of the local CRC due to the difficulty in maintaining appropriately skilled board members for the CRC and the synergies between the services provided. Having the Shire manage the CRC and report monthly to Council, has proved to be a much simpler process for many Shires including; Yilgarn, Mukinbudin, Corrigin, Brookton, Narembeen, Kulin, Toodyay, Wandering, Westonia and Wongan-Ballidu.

Consultation

Aaron Wooldridge, DCEO

Dowerin Community Resource Centre Board and Staff

Community Information Sheet and Survey

Community Forum - 1 December 2022

Council Workshop - 15 November 2022, 20 December 2022 & 11 April 2023

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

150 Squared

Shire of Toodyay and Westonia

Policy Implications

Shire of Dowerin Risk Management Framework.

Statutory Implications

The proposal will be bound by the *Local Government Act 1995* and associated regulations. If the Shire of Dowerin takes on the management of the DCRC, a contract variation will need to be entered into with Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development to name the Shire of Dowerin as the legal entity responsible for the terms of the funding contract.

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Community Priority: Our Community

Objective: We live in a diverse, healthy, and connected community

Outcome: 1.1 - 1.2 - 1.3 - 1.4

Reference: 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.2.2, 1.3.3, 1.4.1

Community Priority: Our Economy

Objective: We are an attractive location to invest, live, play, visit and work

Outcome: 2.2

Reference: 2.2.1

Community Priority: Our Infrastructure

Objective: We have functional assets and infrastructure that supports the community

Outcome: 3.2

Reference: 3.2.1

Community Priority: Our Organisation

Objective: We are recognised as a transparent, well governed, and effectively

managed local government

Outcome: 5.1

Reference: 5.1.1

Asset Management Plan

The CRC operates from a Shire owned facility; therefore, lifecycle operational and capital costs are accommodated within the AMP. The proposed merger will result in the Shire acquiring IT and furniture assets. These assets will need to be valued to determine lifecycle costs.

Long Term Financial Plan

The CRC operates from a Shire owned facility; therefore, lifecycle operational and capital costs are accommodated within the LTFP. The proposed merger will result in the Shire acquiring IT and furniture assets. Operational and capital costs to maintain the assets will need to be determined and factored into the LTFP.

Workforce Plan

The proposal would require the existing CRC staff to transition to Shire employment operating within the Community and Corporate Services department. CRC Staff will be employed under the Local Government Officers' (WA) Interim, Award 2011. No additional FTE will be required to deliver the CRC and community services.

The current workforce structure of the CRC consists of:

Position	Hours Per Week	FTE
CRC Centre Manager	20 Hours	0.5263
CRC Project Officer	20 Hours	0.5263
CRC Service Officer	15 Hours	0.3947

It is proposed to retain the initial workforce structure whilst implementing the transition with the intent to review the structure alongside the Shire's Community Development Officer position. It is envisaged there will be efficiencies identified through rationalisation.

Risk Implications

Risk Profiling Theme	Business & Community Disruption
Risk Category	Interruption to Service
Risk Description	Substantiated, public embarrassment, widespread loss of community trust, high widespread multiple media profile, third party actions
Consequence Rating	Insignificant (1)
Likelihood Rating	Possible (3)
Risk Matrix Rating	Low (4)
Key Controls (in place)	Proposed Business Case - CRC Merger
Action (Treatment)	Change Management Plan
Risk Rating (after treatment)	Adequate

Risk Profiling Theme	Project/Change Management
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Risk Category	Project Time
Risk Description	Exceeds deadline by 25% or project timeline
Consequence Rating	Moderate (3)
Likelihood Rating	Possible (3)
Risk Matrix Rating	Moderate (6)
Key Controls (in place)	Proposed Business Case - CRC Merger
Action (Treatment)	Change Management Plan
Risk Rating (after treatment)	Adequate

Financial Implications

This proposal will result in the Shire of Dowerin accepting the financial responsibilities of the DCRC to include operational and capital costs. In anticipation of the Shire of Dowerin becoming the legal entity operating the DCRC and transfer of the funding contracts with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

The below table summaries the cost benefit expected from the merger. The analysis is based on the current CRC workforce structure and has not considered potential rationalisation.

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	TOTAL
BENEFITS						
REVENUE	\$ 137,069.60	\$ 140,704.50	\$ 144,470.26	\$ 148,371.59	\$ 152,413.37	\$ 723,029.32
COST SAVINGS	\$ 30,940.00	\$ 30,940.00	\$ 30,940.00	\$ 30,940.00	\$ 30,940.00	\$ 154,700.00
COST AVOIDANCE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OTHER BENEFITS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL BENEFITS	\$ 168,009.60	\$ 171,644.50	\$ 175,410.26	\$ 179,311.59	\$ 183,353.37	\$ 877,729.32
COSTS						
NON- RECURRING	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
RECURRING	\$ 156,800.00	\$ 159,800.00	\$ 163,800.00	\$ 166,800.00	\$ 170,800.00	\$ 818,000.00
TOTAL COSTS	\$ 156,800.00	\$ 159,800.00	\$ 163,800.00	\$ 166,800.00	\$ 170,800.00	\$ 818,000.00
NET BENEFIT OR (COST)	\$ 11,209.60	\$ 11,844.50	\$ 11,610.26	\$ 12,511.59	\$ 12,553.37	\$ 59,729.32

	Voting Requiremen	S S
Si	mple Majority	Absolute Majority
Officer's	Recommendation/	esolution - 11.5
Moved:	Cr Allsopp	Seconded: Cr Hudson

0767 That, by Simple Majority, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 Council:

- 1. Agrees that the Shire of Dowerin will be responsible for the management of the Dowerin Community Resource Centre.
- 2. Agrees that the Shire of Dowerin will apply to become the legal entity operating the Dowerin Community Resource Centre and requests the CEO to negotiate the transfer of funding contracts with the relevant bodies.
- 3. Requests the CEO to:

- (a) Work with the Dowerin Community Resource Centre Board and Staff to implement Council's decision.
- (b) Include in the 2023/2024 Budget financial implications of this decision as part of the budget process.
- (c) Monitor and review the service to determine appropriate service delivery levels.
- (d) Present a Service Delivery Plan to Council in March 2024 for consideration.

11.6 Adoption of 2023/24 Schedule of Fees and Charges

Corporate & Community Services



Date:	12 April 2023	
Location:	Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer:	Aaron Wooldridge, Deputy Chief Executive	Officer
Author:	Linley Dreghorn, Executive & Governance Of	ficer
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995	
Sharepoint Reference:	Organisation/Financial Management/2023-2	4 Budget
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil	
Attachments:	Attachment 11.6A - 2023/24 Schedule of Fe	es and Charges

Purpose of Report	
Executive Decision	Legislative Requirement
Summary	

This Item presents the proposed 2023/24 Schedule of Fees and Charges for implementation from 1 July 2023 to Council for consideration and, if satisfactory, adoption.

Background

The 2023/2024 Schedule of Fees and Charges are presented to Council prior to the adoption of the 2023/2024 budget deliberations to allow for the Fees and Charges to become effective as at 1 July 2023.

Comment

The proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges for the 2023/24 financial year are included in the Attachment. The attachment also details the previous years' fees and charges for comparison purposes.

In reviewing the 2023/24 Schedule of Fees and Charges, the following procedures and processes have been taken into consideration:

- 1. Input has been sought from all Management and key budget owners;
- 2. Comparisons against similar Shires for similar activities; and
- 3. Statutory charges are determined by the Federal and State Governments.

A comprehensive review of the Schedule of Fees and Charges has identified a number of business functions that the Shire did not previously have a fee or charge for. This has been corrected in the 2023/24 Schedule of Fees and Charges.

Consultation

Council Budget Workshop 21 March 2023 Council Budget Workshop 11 April 2023 Management

Departmental Budget Owners

Policy Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Community Priority: Our Organisation

Objective: We are recognised as a transparent, well governed, and effectively

managed Local Government

Outcome: 5.3

Reference: 5.3.2

Asset Management Plan

Nil

Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

Statutory Implications

Sections 6.16 and 6.19 of the *Local Government Act 1995* are applicable and states:

"6.16. Imposition of fees and charges

- (1) A local government may impose* and recover a fee or charge for any goods or service it provides or proposes to provide, other than a service for which a service charge is imposed.
- * Absolute majority required.
- (2) A fee or charge may be imposed for the following
 - (a) providing the use of, or allowing admission to, any property or facility wholly or partly owned, controlled, managed or maintained by the local government;
 - (b) supplying a service or carrying out work at the request of a person;
 - (c) subject to section 5.94, providing information from local government records;
 - (d) receiving an application for approval, granting an approval, making an inspection and issuing a licence, permit, authorisation or certificate;
 - (e) supplying goods;
 - (f) such other service as may be prescribed.
- (3) Fees and charges are to be imposed when adopting the annual budget but may be
 - (a) imposed* during a financial year; and
 - (b) amended* from time to time during a financial year.

6.19. Local government to give notice of fees and charges

If a local government wishes to impose any fees or charges under this Subdivision after the annual budget has been adopted it must, before introducing the fees or charges, give local public notice of —

- (a) its intention to do so; and
- (b) the date from which it is proposed the fees or charges will be imposed"

Risk Implications

Risk Profiling Theme	Failure to fulfil statutory regulations or compliance
	requirements

^{*} Absolute majority required.

Risk Category	Compliance
Risk Description	No noticeable regulatory or statutory impact
Consequence Rating	Insignificant (1)
Likelihood Rating	Rare (1)
Risk Matrix Rating	Low (1)
Key Controls (in place)	Governance Calendar
Action (Treatment)	Nil
Risk Rating (after treatment)	Adequate

Financial Implications

Income will be generated through the charging of the 2023/24 Schedule of Fees and Charges.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation/Resolution - 11.6

Moved: Cr Trepp Seconded: Cr Ward

That, by Absolute Majority, in accordance with Sections 6.16 and 6.19 of the Local Government Act 1995, Council adopts the 2023/24 Schedule of Fees and Charges, as presented in Attachment 11.6A, for the 2023/24 financial year to become effective from 1 July 2023 and that local public notice of these Fees and Charges be given.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 6/0

12. OFFICER'S REPORTS - GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE

12.1 GROH Lease Renewal - 18 O'Loghlen Street

Governance & Compliance



		THE DOG TERRITORY
Date:	11 April 2023	
Location:	18 O'Loghlen Street, Dowerin	
Responsible Officer:	Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer	
Author:	Linley Dreghorn, Executive & Governance Officer	
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995	
Sharepoint Reference: Legal Services/ Agreements/ Tenancy Agreement		nt
Disclosure of Interest: Nil		
Attachments:	Attachment 12.1A - GROH Letter of Offer	

Purpose of Report	
Executive Decision	Legislative Requirement
Summary	

This item presents the Letter of Offer from Government Regional Officer's Housing (GROH) to Council, and if satisfactory, adoption.

Background

In 2020, Council leased 18 O'Loghlen Street, Dowerin to GROH for three years with a one-year option at \$390.00 per week rent. This lease expired on 7 April 2023.

GROH have advised the Shire that they would like to renew the lease for three years with a oneyear option.

Comment

Due to the request from GROH being different to the current lease as they have requested for a three-year lease with a one-year option. Council is required to draw up a new lease agreement.

Council may wish to review the pricing structure of the lease agreement. Over the three-year period there has been no weekly rent increase. GROH have offered an increase from \$390.00 to \$420.00 representing an annual increase of approximately 7.5%.

Consultation

Rebecca McCall, Chief Executive Officer Kim Doble, Leasing Officer, GROH

Policy Implications

Nil

Statutory Implications

3.58. Disposing of property

(1) In this section —

dispose includes to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of, whether absolutely or not; property includes the whole or any part of the interest of a local government in property, but does not include money.

- (3) A local government can dispose of property other than under subsection (2) if, before agreeing to dispose of the property
 - (a) it gives local public notice of the proposed disposition
 - (i) describing the property concerned; and
 - (ii) giving details of the proposed disposition; and
 - (iii) inviting submissions to be made to the local government before a date to be specified in the notice, being a date not less than 2 weeks after the notice is first given;

and

(b) it considers any submissions made to it before the date specified in the notice and, if its decision is made by the council or a committee, the decision and the reasons for it are recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the decision was made.

Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan

Community Priority: Our Economy

Objective: We are an attractive location to invest, live, play, visit and work

Outcome: 2.1

Reference: 2.1.3

Community Priority: Our Infrastructure

Objective: We have functional assets and infrastructure that supports the community

Outcome: 3.3 Reference: 3.3.1

Asset Management Plan

Nil

Long Term Financial Plan

Nil

Risk Implications

Risk Profiling Theme	Asset Management Practices	
Risk Category	Compliance	
Risk Description	Short term non-compliance but with significant regulatory requirements imposed	
Consequence Rating Insignificant (1)		
Likelihood Rating	Almost Certain (5)	

Risk Matrix Rating	Extreme (25)
Key Controls (in place)	
Action (Treatment)	
Risk Rating (after treatment)	Adequate
Financial Implications	
Council has budgeted to receive rental income for this property in the 2022/23 Budget.	
Voting Requirements	
Simple Majority	Absolute Majority

Officers Recommendation/Resolution - 12.1

Moved: Cr Ward **Seconded:** Cr McMorran

That, by Simple Majority, in accordance with Section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council approves to:

- 1. Renew the lease for 18 O'Loghlen Street Dowerin to Government Regional Officer's Housing for a three-year period with a one-year option at a weekly rent of \$420.00;
- 2. The lease is to commence immediately after the current residential tenancy agreement expires;
- 3. Carries out maintenance as per terms and conditions set out in the residential tenancy agreement;
- 4. Approves to give local public notice of the proposed disposition in accordance to Section 3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995; and
- 5. Delegates Authority to the CEO to execute lease agreement between the Shire of Dowerin and the Government Regional Officer's Housing.

13.	OFFICER'S REPORTS - WORKS AND ASSETS	
	Nil	
14.	Urgent Business Approved by the Person Presiding or by Decision	
	Nil	
15.	Elected Members' Motions	
	Nil	
16.	Matters Behind Closed Doors	
16.1	Confidential Item - T2023-01 - Determination of Tender Submissions	
	In accordance with Sections 5.23(2)(e) and 5.23(2)(c) of the <i>Local Government Act</i> 1995, Council will go Behind Closed Doors to discuss a matter that if disclosed, would reveal information that has a commercial value to a person and a contract which may be entered into by the local government.	
16.2	Confidential Item - T2023-02 - Determination of Tender Submissions	
	In accordance with Sections 5.23(2)(e) and 5.23(2)(c) of the <i>Local Government Act</i> 1995, Council will go Behind Closed Doors to discuss a matter that if disclosed, would reveal information that has a commercial value to a person and a contract which may be entered into by the local government.	
	Voting Requirements	
	Simple Majority Absolute Majority	
Officer's Recommendation/Resolution		
Moved	: Cr Trepp Seconded: Cr McMorran	
0770	That, in accordance with Sections 5.23(2)(b) of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> , Council go Behind Closed Doors.	
	CARRIED 6/0	
5.09pm	n - Council went Behind Closed Doors.	
	Voting Requirements	
	Simple Majority Absolute Majority	
Officer	's Recommendation/Resolution	
Moved	: Cr Trepp Seconded: Cr Hudson	
0773	That, in accordance with Sections 5.23(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> , Council come out from Behind Closed Doors.	
	CARRIED 6/0	
5.26pm - Council came out from Behind Closed Doors.		
Voting Requirements		
	Simple Majority Absolute Majority	
	Confidential Item - T2023-01 - Determination of Tender Submissions	
10.1	Communication 12020 of Determination of Tender Submissions	

Officer's Recommendation/Resolution - 16.1

Moved: Cr Hudson **Seconded:** Cr Allsopp

That, by Simple Majority, in accordance with Regulation 18(4) of the Local Government (Functions & General) Regulations 1996, Council:

- Accepts the Tender submitted by Holberton Earthmoving for Tender T2023-01
 Maintenance Grading Road Works in the amount as per Confidential Attachment 16.1A as the most advantageous tender to form a Contract; and
- 2. In accordance with Regulation 20(1) of the Local Government (Functions & General) Regulations 1996, Council delegates the formation of the Contract to the Chief Executive Officer, subject to any variations (of a minor nature) prior to entry to Contract.

CARRIED 6/0

16.2 Confidential Item - T2023-02 - Determination of Tender Submissions

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

Officer's Recommendation/Resolution 16.2

Moved: Cr Ward **Seconded:** Cr McMorran

That, by Simple Majority, in accordance with Regulation 18(4) of the Local Government (Functions & General) Regulations 1996, Council:

- Accepts the Tender submitted by Fulton Hogan for Tender T2023-02 Supply
 of Bituminous Seal Works in the amount as per Confidential Attachment 16.2A
 as the most advantageous tender to form a Contract; and
- 2. In accordance with Regulation 20(1) of the Local Government (Functions & General) Regulations 1996, Council delegates the formation of the Contract to the Chief Executive Officer, subject to any variations (of a minor nature) prior to entry to Contract.

CARRIED 6/0

17. Closure

The President thanked those in attendance and declared the meeting closed at 5.27pm.