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The Shire of Koorda Integrated Strategic Plan (comprising of the Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan) was adopted by Council at the April 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting as per resolution 060422.

A desktop review was undertaken in 2024 and adopted by Council at the June 2024 Ordinary Council meeting as per resolution 120624.

## **OUR VISION**

To build a vibrant and sustainable community with shared social values, in which we can live and work in harmony with our environment.



#### **OUR HISTORY**

Approximately 240km and 3 hours' drive north-east of Perth situated along the popular 'Wheatbelt Way' self drive trail, Koorda's main industries include wheat, coarse grain and sheep farming. During springtime experience remarkable wildflower displays, with some species unique to the area.

Koorda is famously referred to as 'Corn Dolly Country,' attracting sightseers wanting to learn more about the ancient tradition of creating 'dollies' from stalks and husks of wheat. In 2019, Koorda adopted the catch phrase 'Drive in, stay awhile'.

The town offers great facilities for visitors to enjoy, from its wonderful Wheatbelt scenery, local attractions, museums and Drive In theatre, to sporting recreational services such as a golf course, tennis courts, lawn bowls, children's playgrounds, skate park and much, much more. There are numerous scenic areas to stop at, most with public BBQ and toilet facilities. Mollerin Rock, Newcarlbeon, Koorda Native Flora Reserve and Badgerin Rock are popular spots to enjoy the surroundings and perhaps catch some of the local inhabitants.

#### **OUR VALUES**

We will conduct business and gain reputation for:

- Being a community that is friendly, approachable, fair minded and responsive
- Being good stewards of our environment and heritage
- Having a strong sense of and identification with our community
- Acting with honesty and integrity

#### **OUR COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY**

- We will spend local as often as we can
- We will consult and engage with our community
- We will encourage, welcome and value feedback
- We will treat our natural environment as precious and important
- We will be open, fair and impartial in whatever we do
- We will treat people with respect
- We will encourage and support the volunteers in our community

#### **OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Our strategic priorities have been presented under four key pillars which are;









#### **COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT**

## **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**



Australia	83.1%
England	5.0%
New Zealand	2.5%
India	1.5%
South Africa	1.5%



# MEDIAN INCOME

**\$759**Weekly Income

Owned
Mortgage
Renting

53.5% 17.2% 16.6%



MEDIAN AGE

51



#### POPULATION





HOUSING

**TENURE** 

#### **HOUSEHOLD TYPES**

Couple without Children 55.8% Couples with Children 36.8% One Parent Families 3.1%

#### WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY

#### **Our Strengths**

### The strong community spirit, sense of belonging and friendships that exist.

## The positive relationship between the Shire and the community.

### The sense of safety and security because of a caring community and low crime rate.

### The pride people have in the look and feel of the town.

The sporting club which provides a meeting place and sense of pride for the community.

The condition of the roads.

Community events and activities which bring people together.

Unique visitor experience such as the drive-in movie theatre.

#### **Our Challenges**

Distance from a regional centre.

Dwindling and aging population.

Loss of and access to local and regional health and education services.

Lack of suitable housing to attract families and business to town.

Volunteer fatigue and the age of volunteers.

Access to funding to achieve community aspirations.

Attracting small business and pressures on business owners.

Shire lack of resources to deliver an ever-increasing range of services.

Attracting community minded people onto Council to provide fresh ideas.

Membership of a regional alliance.

#### INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

This document integrates the Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan elements of the WA Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) Framework.

The diagram below lists the documents that make up the Shire of Koorda Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework and demonstrates the importance of this document which sets the community's aspirations and council priorities for all the other plans.

#### The IPR Framework is based on

- The State Government's Blueprint for the region and other relevant policies, plans and strategies from the State and Federal Governments.
- Extensive community engagement on what is important to the people that live within our Shire.
- Input from Elected Members and Staff based on feedback they have received and their strong desire to deliver positive outcomes for their community.
- Current partnerships and projects already being delivered.



#### PROGRESS REPORTING

The Shire of Koorda has adopted a traffic light based Quarterly Update to report progress to Council and the Community against their documented commitments. In addition, results are formally communicated to the community annually via the legislated Annual Report.

#### **IPR REVIEWS**

This Integrated Strategic Plan will be subject to a major review requiring extensive community engagement in 2025/2026 as legislated. In addition, council priorities will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect any changes to regional and local priorities, the budget and to service levels.

#### SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement Activity	Date	Venue	Attendees
Community Light Lunch	23/09/2021	Koorda ES Building	4
Community BBQ	23/09/2021	Koorda Recreation Ground	14
Councillor & Staff Breakfast	24/09/2021	Shire Administration Office	15
Community Survey	Sep-Oct 21	Online and Hard Copy	79
TOTAL			112

#### WHAT OUR COMMUNITY TOLD US

The following provides a summary of the community priorities emerging from the various engagement forums.

The peaceful lifestyle, community spirit, caring and supportive locals, facilities, and community safety and security were recurring reasons that people value living in the Shire.

The lack of suitable rental accommodation and housing stock to attract business and workers to the

The need to consider how to best engage with and support volunteer groups to attract young people and reduce volunteer burn-out.

The importance of attracting community minded people, targeted skills, industry and boutique business to the town and the region.

A safe and efficient road and footpath network.

The opportunities presented by potential mining operations in neighbouring shires.

Access to health services

of the local
shop and
sporting club,
as meeting
places for
locals.

and support for our aging population.

The importance of and potential to expand local tourism via the look and feel of the town and the unique rural

The opportunity that recent funding provides to improve the look of the town and make it more inviting to visitors.

**experience** that can be offered.



#### THE SHIRE'S ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The work of Local Government is varied and affects the day to day lives of most people in our community. This plan lists the facilities and infrastructure that are maintained and renewed by the Shire of Koorda and also provides a summary of the services that are delivered directly by the Shire. In addition, the Shire advocates and provides support for a number of other services that we are not personally responsible for including.

- Day care which is the responsibility of service providers
- Heath care which is the responsibility of WA Country Health and health providers
- Major road upgrades and maintenance which are the responsibility of Main Roads
- Privately owned infrastructure and buildings which are the responsibility of the owner
- Reliable power supply which is the responsibility of Western Power
- Telecommunications and the internet which is the responsibility of service providers

#### **HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE**

- Attend and support local events and activities
- As a community, celebrate our successes
- Become a volunteer
- Develop leadership and problem-solving skills in young people
- Do regular exercise
- Drive safely
- Get involved in sporting and recreational activities
- Get to know your neighbours
- Have fun in our public spaces
- Join a community group
- Keep your neighbourhood clean and tidy
- Learn about local history
- Limit or recycle waste to reduce what goes to landfill
- Look out for others
- Report infrastructure damage



#### RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS



- Advocated to secure a new Medical Service Agreement to increase the current service to two days per week in Koorda.
- Created and ran a successful inaugural round of the Koorda Community Grants Scheme. Continuation of program into 2024/2025.
- Held regular meetings and exercises for the Local Emergency Management Committee to collaborate with local support organisations, hazard management agencies, and industry representatives, to collectively build a resilient community that is prepared to respond and recover from an emergency.
- Re-established the Koorda Bushfire Advisory Committee to provide advice on matters pertaining to obligations contained within the Bush Fires Act, organising, managing, resourcing and training volunteer bush fire brigades.



- Secured State Government funding through the Seroja Resilience Fund to execute projects that enhance facility and community resilience in times of emergencies. Purchased additional water truck, upgraded ablutions at Evacuation Centres, secured fixed and portable generators to utilise during extended power outages and deployed water tanks at strategic locations to compliment current firefighting water supplies.
- Enhanced and activated the town centre through new town directional signage and facility entrance signage.
- Replaced and renewed Caravan Park and Yalambee Short Term Accommodation Units through Local Roads and Community Infrastructure funding.



- Adopted a Waste Management Plan and Landfill Closure Management Plan in November 2022.
- Partnered with NEWROC to investigate regional landfill solutions.
- Endorsed of an application by NEWROC to the Federal Government's Regional Precincts Partnership Program for waste management planning.
- Expressed an interest for a solar power and battery back up system for the Recreation Centre submitted as a group application with NEWROC.
- Liaised with Wheatbelt NRM to secure free trees to replant dead trees in avenue of trees and trees around town.
- Collaborated with DWER to install water tank at Mt Collier Dam.



- Reviewed Financial Management, Risk Management, Legislative Compliance and Internal Controls in May 2023. Achieved a 70% completion rate within the first year for reported findings and recommendations.
- Endorsed a new Customer Service Charter.
- Commenced a full Council Policy review.
- Adopted a "Continuing Professional Development for Elected Members" Policy in June 2023.
- Reported regularly on the progress of our Strategic Plan to the Community.



## **1.1 -** Local people feel safe, engaged, and enjoy a healthy and peaceful lifestyle.

- **1.2 -** Local volunteer groups supported through initiatives that reduce volunteer fatigue and strengthen their resilience.
- **1.3** Emergency services are supported with effective planning, risk mitigation, response, and recovery.

#### We know we are succeeding when

**ACTIONS BY STRATEGIC PILLAR** 

- Community survey results and feedback indicate high satisfaction with the services and facilities provided.
- Community activities and events bring people together and engender community spirit.
- Volunteer groups are thriving and feel that they are supported by the Shire.
- The Shire effectively partners with emergency services and the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) to ensure community safety.



1.1 - Local people feel safe,

peaceful lifestyle.

# engaged, and enjoy a healthy and

#### **1.2 -** Local volunteer groups supported through initiatives that reduce volunteer fatigue and strengthen their resilience.

**1.3 -** Emergency services are supported with effective planning, risk mitigation, response, and recovery.

#### **Council Actions**

- **1.1.1 -** Schedule of quarterly President and CEO meetings with regional representatives from: WAPOL, WACHS and Department of Education representatives.
- **1.1.2 -** Secure medical practitioner for Koorda for two days per week.
- 1.1.3 Complete agreement with CRC to define and implement a schedule of events and activities to enhance community lifestyle and engagement.
- 1.2.1 Create a register of volunteers' skills and availability and hold an annual event (via CRC agreement) to recognise registered volunteers.
- **1.2.2 -** Review and refine community grants program as required.
- **1.2.3 -** Develop grants communication strategy in concert with CRC to alert community groups to opportunities.
- **1.3.1 -** Work with emergency service stakeholders to ensure the Shire and Volunteers meet DFES training and WHS standards.
- **1.3.2 -** Conduct regular LEMC and BFAC meetings and exercises with outcomes reported to community.
- **1.3.3** Establish closer links to regional emergency services and participate in regional exercises.



## ACTIONS BY STRATEGIC PILLAR

#### **Community Priorities**

#### We know we are succeeding when

**2.1 -** Our local economy grows in a sustainable manner.

- Our land planning strategy and scheme provides opportunities for business growth and jobs.
- The feel of our town and support of local business is well branded and recognised.
- There is ongoing activation of our town centre with new or expanding business.
- Housing and rental stock assists in the attraction and retention of the local workforce.

- **2.2 -** Tourism helps to diversify and grow our local economy
- Visitors receive timely and accurate information about our attractions and services.
- We work with local stakeholders and regional tourism groups to promote our attractions and experiences.
- We continually enhance and promote our tourism assets and experiences in a coordinated manner.



#### **Council Actions**

**2.1 -** Our local economy grows in a sustainable manner

- **2.1.1** Review planning framework and scheme to ensure contemporary and compliant and engage community and business input to confirm will meet needs and expectations of stakeholders.
- **2.1.2 -** Develop continuity plans for power and telecommunications infrastructure and advocate requirements with other levels of government and regional stakeholders as required.
- **2.1.3 -** Develop local supplier panel to support and streamline local purchasing by Shire.
- **2.1.4 -** Create economic development strategy in consultation with community and business to identify unique proposition and operational barriers.
- **2.1.5** Complete community infrastructure projects including Business Buzz and Green Heart townscape projects, and the Recreation Precinct phases 2 and 3.
- **2.1.6 -** Develop Shire Housing Strategy to include expanded short-term and worker accommodation.
- **2.2 -** Tourism helps to diversify and grow our local economy
- **2.2.1 -** Undertake redevelopment of Drive-In facilities and develop and implement promotion strategy.
- **2.2.2 -** Investigate enhancing tourist experience with free Wi-Fi at Yalambee Units and Caravan Park.
- **2.2.3 -** Investigate a unique event that leverages the Shire's assets to attract visitors and tourists.



# **3.1 -** Shire owned facilities are renewed and maintained in a strategic manner to meet community needs.

- **3.2 -** Safe, efficient, and well-maintained road, and footpath infrastructure.
- **3.3** A high standard of sustainable waste services.
- **3.4 -** Conservation of our natural environment for future generations.

#### We know we are succeeding when

**ACTIONS BY STRATEGIC PILLAR** 

- Asset maintenance and preservation is in line with community needs and Shire financial resources.
- We deliver a safe and fit for purpose road and footpath network.
- Upgrades and improvements are delivered on time on budget.
- Local and regional waste strategies to reduce, reuse and recycle are implemented.
- There is regional collaboration and community engagement in the management of invasive species.
- There is effective management of nature reserves for the enjoyment of locals and visitors.



#### **Council Actions**

- **3.1** Shire owned facilities are renewed and maintained in a strategic manner to meet community needs.
- 3.2 Safe, efficient, and wellmaintained road, and footpath infrastructure.
- **3.3** A high standard of sustainable waste services.

**3.4 -** Conservation of our natural environment for future generations.

- 3.1.1 Review asset management program to include asset life planning and replacement with defined scheduled maintenance program.
- **3.1.2 -** Develop and implement online user maintenance request system.
- **3.2.1** Review and enhance existing road construction and maintenance strategy to align with changing funding provision and opportunities.
- 3.2.2 Road asset review to determine routes and develop works program required to support future industry requirements.
- 3.3.1 Construct waste transfer station to extend life of existing landfill and to prepare for regional solution
- **3.3.2 -** Continue to work towards a Regional Waste solution with NEWROC.
- **3.4.1** Develop Shire strategy for renewable energy options to trial prior to implementation.
- 3.4.2 Partner with Wheatbelt NRM and DWER for future grant and project opportunities.
- **3.4.3** Identify climate change initiative that Shire can implement and involve community in development and implementation.



#### We know we are succeeding when

**ACTIONS BY STRATEGIC PILLAR** 

**4.1 -** Open and transparent leadership.

- Audits confirm we deliver sound strategic planning, financial and asset management practices.

- **4.2 -** Investment in the skills and capabilities of our elected members and staff
- Elected members are trained and supported to make well informed decisions.
- We invest in the wellbeing and development of staff.
- We provide a high standard of customer service.
- **4.3** Forward planning and delivery of services and facilities that achieve strategic priorities.
- We report performance against targets in our plans to council and the community.
- We are recognised for working together in a manner that benefits of our local community, the business sector and the region.



#### **Council Actions**

- **4.1 -** Open and Transparent
- **4.1.1 -** Ensure efficient use of resources and that governance and operational compliance and reporting meets legislative and regulatory requirements.
- **4.1.2 -** Ongoing refinement of organisational structure and capacity, and alignment of resources with strategic Community, Economic and Environmental priorities.
- **4.1.3 -** Develop communications strategy and scheduled tactics to engage and report outcomes to community and business stakeholders.
- **4.1.4** Initiate annual customer satisfaction and perceptions survey and report results to community.
- **4.2 -** Investment in the skills and capabilities of our elected members and staff
- **4.2.1** Develop professional development programs for staff and elected members.
- **4.2.2** Align staff culture development program with practical skills development and strategic planning.
- **4.2.3** Set Elected Member SAT band allocation at 80 per cent for Band 4 Local Government.
- **4.3 -** Forward planning and delivery of services and facilities that achieve strategic priorities.
- **4.3.1** Enhance service delivery through mutually beneficial partnerships with neighbouring Local Governments and Band 1 Local Governments.
- **4.3.2** Report to Council progress of Council Actions using a quarterly score card and report results to community.

#### **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

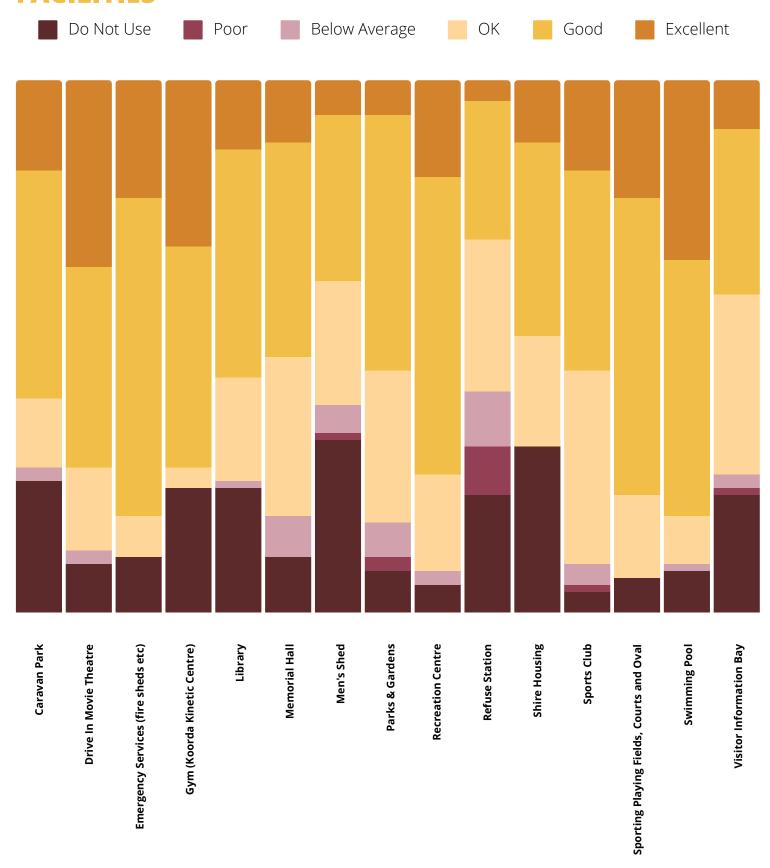
Community members were asked to rank the following strategic priorities in order of importance to them with the resulting order being;

Strategy	High Priority	Medium Priority
Access to health services	82%	17%
Bush fire prevention and control	65%	32%
Road and footpath network	65%	30%
Safety and security	59%	32%
Facilities, services and care available for seniors	56%	32%
Sport and recreation facilities	55%	38%
Economic development	43%	50%
Access to services and facilities for people with disabilities	43%	31%
Development of Town Centre	41%	48%
Services and facilities for youth	36%	56%
Natural resource management	34%	49%
Tourism development	32%	57%
Community events organised by the Shire and CRC	30%	51%
Events, arts and cultural activities	17%	51%

#### **COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

Facility	Service Objective
Caravan Park	To provide an attractive, safe and inviting facility and experience for visitors to help grow tourism.
Community Buildings, Halls & Public Toilets	To provide meeting places and facilities that are valued by the community and well used.
Drive In Movie Theatre	To provide a unique and entertaining experience for local people and tourists.
Emergency Services (fire sheds etc)	To provide fit for purpose facilities for essential emergency services.
Library	To provide library services that engage the local community and encourage life-long learning.
Parks & Gardens	To manage and maintain parks and gardens, so that they are attractive and well used.
Refuse Station	To provide waste services which are convenient to the community while meeting our legislative requirements.
Shire Housing	To provide fit for purpose housing that attracts and provides a comfortable home to key stakeholders and staff.
Sporting Playing Fields, Courts and Oval	To provide sporting facilities and a meeting place that is valued by the community and well used.
Swimming Pool	To provide a safe and active facility for children and families to enjoy.
Visitor Information Bays	To provide inviting spaces to visitors in prominent places that provides information and makes them want to stay.

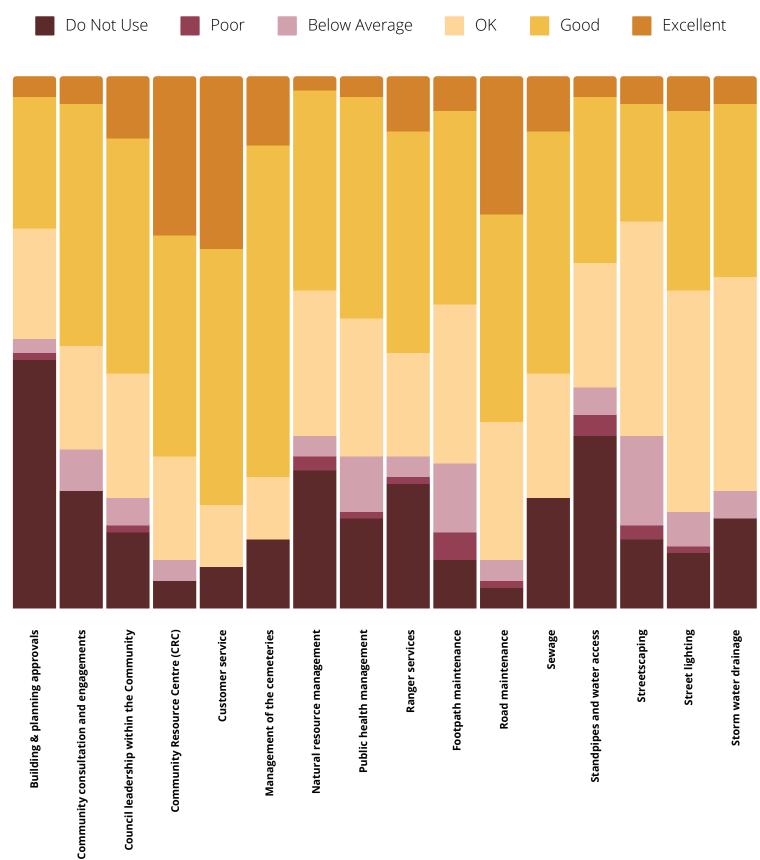
# HOW OUR COMMUNITY RATED OUR COMMUNITY FACILITIES



#### SHIRE SERVICES

SHIRE SERVICES	
Asset Group	Service Objective
Building & planning approvals	To develop the shire and its infrastructure while ensuring compliance with legislative requirements.
Community consultation and engagements	To keep the community informed through various communication platforms and involve them in relevant issues, events and projects.
Council leadership within the Community	To connect with and listen to local people and provide a clear and consistent strategic direction.
Community Resource Centre (CRC)	To provide a central meeting space for the community which supports business and volunteer groups and promotes tourism.
Customer service	To provide a high level of customer service and access to convenient payment options.
Management of the cemteries	To provide a peaceful and dignified place to bury our dead so that they can be visited by and remembered by loved ones.
Natural resource management	To conserve, enhance, promote, and rehabilitate the natural environment to ensure appropriate management and use.
Public health management	To provide health services that contributes to the health and wellbeing of local residents and visitors.
Ranger services	To monitor and enforce compliance with relevant legislation and local laws.

#### **HOW OUR COMMUNITY RATED OUR SHIRE SERVICES**



#### **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

Asset Group	Service Objective
Drainage & Stormwater	To plan, renew and maintain infrastructure to a safe operating standard in a manner that meets the needs of our community.
Footpaths	To plan, renew and maintain infrastructure to a safe operating standard in a manner that meets the needs of our community.
Roads	To plan, renew and maintain infrastructure to a safe operating standard in a manner that meets the needs of our community.
Sewerage	To plan, renew and maintain infrastructure to a safe operating standard in a manner that meets the needs of our community.
Street Lighting	To plan, renew and maintain infrastructure to a safe operating standard in a manner that meets the needs of our community.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

#### Purpose

To share information, gather views and opinions, develop options, build consensus, and make effective decisions that consider stakeholder input.

#### **Guiding Principles**

Taken from iap2 seven drivers of contemporary engagement practice:

- Based on the belief that those who are affected by a decision have the right to be involved in the decision-making process.
- Includes the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision.
- Promotes sustainable decisions by recognising and communicating the needs and interests of all participants including decision makers.
- Seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision.
- Seeks input from participants in designing how they participate.
- Provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
- Communicates to participants how their input affected the decision.

#### **Key Inputs**

- Community Engagement Toolkit.
- Various engagement techniques that are identified for each engagement activity such as Community and Stakeholder workshops, Surveys, Social Media, Face to Face Interviews, Submissions, Pop up engagement hubs.

#### **How Reviewed**

 By ensuring feedback received is used to inform the decisionmaking process.

#### **How Reported**

- Consultation section of Ordinary Council Meeting items.
- Summary of key engagement activities in the Annual Report.

# RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (INTEGRATING ASSET, FINANCE, AND WORKFORCE PLANNING)

#### **Purpose**

To use our people and resources to protect and enhance our infrastructure and natural environment and to deliver Shire services in a financially sustainable manner.

#### **Guiding Principles**

- Sustainable financial performance.
- Well informed investment decisions.
- Skilled and motivated workforce.
- Improved management of risk.
- Improved social responsibility.
- Demonstrated compliance.
- Enhanced community consultation.

#### **Key Inputs**

- Resourcing Plan.
- Asset condition data.
- Community service level expectations.
- Technical and quality requirements.

#### **How Reviewed**

- Annually to update financial modelling using current data.
- Major review of the Resourcing Plan every 4 years.

#### **How Reported**

- Quarterly Update.
- Annual Report.
- Plant Replacement and Utilisation reporting.
- Asset ratios.

#### RISK MANAGEMENT

#### **Purpose**

To ensure that relevant risks and opportunities have been identified, assessed and mitigated as part of any decision or action.

#### **Guiding Principles**

- Integral part of organisational processes.
  - Informs decision making.
- Explicitly addresses uncertainty.
- Systematic, structured, and timely.
- Based on the best available information.
- Tailored to suit environment.
- Takes human and cultural factors into account.
- Transparent and inclusive.
- Facilitates continual improvement and enhancement of the organisation.

#### **Key Inputs**

- Risk Reporting Framework.
- Governance Compliance Calendar.
- Officer Reports.

#### How Reviewed

Risk Management and Governance falls on all levels of the organisation including Council, the Management Team, Staff and Persons who perform functions or deliver services on behalf of the Shire.

- Council is responsible for ensuring that Council strategy and operations are managed within an effective risk management framework.
- The Audit Committee, working with the CEO is responsible for reviewing the risk exposure of the Council and recommending to Council the acceptable level of risk tolerance.
- Regulation 17 review every 3 years.

#### **How Reported**

- Risk section of Ordinary Council Meeting Items.
- Audit Committee meeting minutes.

