



Agenda

Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee

Wednesday, 10 November 2021, 6.00pm

CITY OF FREMANTLE
NOTICE OF A FINANCE, POLICY, OPERATIONS AND LEGISLATION
COMMITTEE MEETING

Elected Members

A Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee meeting of the City of Fremantle will be held on **Wednesday, 10 November 2021** in the North Fremantle Community Hall, located at 2 Thompson Road, North Fremantle commencing at 6.00 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Hammond'.

Matt Hammond
A/Director City Business

5 November 2021

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CITY OF FREMANTLE

Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee

Agenda

1. Official opening, welcome and acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Whadjuk people as the traditional owners of the greater Fremantle/Walyalup area and we recognise that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still important today.

2. Attendance, apologies and leaves of absence

Cr Doug Thompson will be an apology for this meeting.

3. Election of Presiding Member and Deputy Presiding Member

Committee members are encouraged to notify the Chief Executive Officer of their nomination for the position of presiding member or deputy presiding member, in writing prior to the meeting.

4. Disclosures of interests by members

Elected members must disclose any interests that may affect their decision-making. They may do this in a written notice given to the CEO; or at the meeting.

5. Responses to previous questions taken on notice

There are no responses to public questions taken on notice at a previous meeting.

6. Public question time

Members of the public have the opportunity to ask a question or make a statement at council and committee meetings during public question time.

Further guidance on public question time can be viewed [here](#), or upon entering the meeting.

7. Petitions

Petitions to be presented to the committee.

Petitions may be tabled at the meeting with the agreement of the presiding member.

8. Deputations

7.1 Special deputations

A special deputation may be made to the meeting in accordance with the City of Fremantle Meeting Procedures Policy 2018.

There are no special deputation requests.

7.2 Presentations

Elected members and members of the public may make presentations to the meeting in accordance with the City of Fremantle Meeting Procedures Policy 2018.

8. Confirmation of minutes

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

The Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee confirm the minutes of the Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee meeting dated 8 September 2021.

9. Elected member communication

Elected members may ask questions or make personal explanations on matters not included on the agenda.

10. Reports and recommendations

10.1 Committee delegation

FPOL2111-1 WALGA ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY AND RENEWABLES PROJECT

Meeting date: 10 November 2021
Responsible officer: Manager Facilities and Environment
Decision making authority: Committee
Attachments: 1. WALGA Energy Framework Offer Document
(Confidential)
Additional information: 1. Pricing evaluation matrix (Confidential)

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to consider an offer to enter into a contestable energy power purchase agreement compiled by WALGA and provided by Synergy. WALGA and Synergy require confirmation from individual local governments of whether they wish to participate in the purchase arrangement by 30th November 2021. If the City does agree to participate, the supply of power under this agreement would replace the City's current contractual arrangement with Synergy at the end of the 2021/22 financial year. The initial supply period under the WALGA contract would be a three-year term from mid-2022.

The WALGA supply arrangements offers a number of options, including the option to procure up to 100% of the total power supply from WA sourced renewable energy derived from the Albany, Collgar, and Emu Downs Wind Farms.

Modelling of the costs of the various WALGA supply options against the City's costs under its current contract indicates that over the three-year term of the WALGA supply contract, the bundled supply option using 100% green power would be approximately cost neutral compared to the City's expenditure on 'black' power under its current supply contract. At this similar cost it would reduce the City's reliance on purchasing carbon offsets to maintain its carbon neutral status and would provide an opportunity to progress towards the Council's zero emissions goal as set out in the One Planet Framework and Corporate Energy Plan at a faster pace than previously considered feasible.

Officers recommend that Council approves the City's participation in the WALGA power purchase agreement, electing to take up the bundled tariff option and the option to procure 100% of its power supply from WA renewable energy sources.

BACKGROUND

The City of Fremantle has collaborated with the Western Australia Local Government Association (WALGA) on a group power purchase agreement that is designed to provide cost effective energy options for the City by amalgamating the contestable energy loads of

multiple local governments into a single contract. This is designed to reduce the cost of power through economies of scale, particularly for renewable energy purchases.

On 12 May 2021 Council (through delegation to FPOL Committee) resolved to award a contract to Synergy for the supply of electricity to the contestable sites for an initial one-year period commencing 1 July 2021, with the option of a further one-year extension. The 'one plus one' contract structure would allow the City to assess the option to sign up to the WALGA large scale supply contract once it became established, should that supply option be more beneficial to the City than extending its current contract with Synergy for a second year.

On 30 September 2021 WALGA advised the City that Synergy had been awarded the supply of energy, renewables and integrated projects in phase one of WALGA's Energy Sustainability and Renewables Project. The supply arrangement also offers an option to procure 100% of its supply from WA sourced renewable energy derived from the Albany Wind Farm, Collgar Wind Farm and Emu Downs Wind Farm. The initial supply period under the WALGA contract would be a three-year term from mid-2022.

There is a time limit to the availability of the offer. Consequently, WALGA is requesting each WA local government to confirm whether or not it wishes to participate by 30th November 2021 at the latest.

The three-year term of the purchase agreement current on offer through WALGA is envisaged as the first phase of a longer-term agreement. In August 2021 the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) granted authorisation to WALGA to enable local governments who are current and future members of a proposed joint renewable energy purchasing group to pool their demand and collectively tender for and negotiate an electricity supply arrangement. The ACCC has granted authorisation for a 15-year period to 30 September 2036. The initial three-year agreement period is intended to provide price transparency and align individual local government contract terms ready for the development of a longer-term 10-year agreement when the initial three-year period expires.

The City of Fremantle has thirteen (13) sites which are suitable for contestable electricity contracts. By definition, sites with electricity consumption over 50 MWh per year (on average) are considered contestable. The City's contestable sites are:

- Fremantle Leisure Centre & Kiosk
- 70 Parry St Fremantle (Fremantle Oval temporary administration building)
- Fremantle Arts Centre
- Town Hall and Walyalup Civic Centre
- Knutsford St Depot
- 27 William St leased rooms (Data centre)
- Ken Allan Field - Rugby Club
- The Esplanade Reserve
- Ken Allen Field - Bowling Club and Mens Shed
- Gilbert Fraser Oval and Clubhouse
- Booyembara Park
- Samson Rec Centre
- Moores Gallery and Café U3

The modelled consumption for these properties is shown in the additional information.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The City's adopted 2021/22 budget includes provision of approximately \$323,000 for supply of electricity to contestable sites under the current contract with Synergy. Expenditure against this budget is currently estimated to be \$340,000 by the year end due to consumption to date being higher than was forecast when the budget was adopted. This estimate may change after the City's administration moves into the Walyalup Civic Centre (WCC) and the actual usage of electricity, reflecting the performance of the building's extensive environmentally sustainable design features and energy management systems, can be measured. Usage of electricity at the Fremantle Oval building is also expected to be affected by the City administration's move to WCC and occupation of parts of the Oval building by different tenants. These factors also make it difficult to accurately predict what the City's expenditure would be in 2022/23 if it exercised its option to extend the current contract with Synergy for that year.

The WALGA contract offers a fixed bundled electricity tariff that would apply to all sites that sign up to this contract. This tariff remains fixed for the full 3-year term of this contract with no increase for CPI or any other reason. This contract option, if taken up by the City, could reduce total electricity spend by approximately \$20,000 per annum compared to the 2021/22 adopted budget allocation (and potentially up to \$38,000 if the current forecast for 2021/22 actual year end expenditure is accurate) under the current electricity supply contract tariff. See additional information for details.

The WALGA contract also offers an unbundled electricity tariff option that would apply to all sites that sign up to this contract. This tariff is adjusted each year of the 3-year contract. The unbundled tariffs have been provided with a fixed peak and off-peak charge but with all other charges to be passed through directly. These will vary depending on the consumption patterns for the site and how the site is operated in any particular year. Synergy has provided an estimate of between 13.692 c/kWh up to 18.322 c/kWh. Both the high and the low estimates have been used to calculate the possible range of annual charges, but the final cost would likely be a charge falling somewhere between these two prices.

One of the potential advantages of an unbundled tariff is the ability to actively manage the power supply to your facilities over the course of the year to minimise electricity prices. In particular, if electricity consumption can be minimised during periods of peak demand, it is possible to make significant annual savings. However, the City of Fremantle has limited capacity to make rapid and significant reductions in peak demand which limits its ability to take much advantage of this option. The only significant opportunity would be to turn off the heat pump at the Leisure Centre but given that the peak periods are typically on the hottest afternoons of the year, the heat pump is likely to already be off anyway; so very little additional benefit would be obtained. For this reason, it is not recommended that the City pursue the unbundled tariff option.

The City has modelled the comparative costs of electricity under different options available through the WALGA supply arrangement against the cost under the current contestable sites contract.

Table 1: Modelled costs for WALGA's proposed electricity supply options:

	Cost per year			
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
WALGA Bundled Tariff	\$302,117	\$302,117	\$302,117	\$906,351
WALGA Unbundled Tariff - Low other costs	\$301,407	\$305,149	\$303,975	\$910,531
WALGA Unbundled Tariff - High other costs	\$374,389	\$378,130	\$376,957	\$1,129,476

The WALGA contract also offers a renewable energy product that can be purchased as an optional additional cost. Every participant in the contract can choose the proportion of the power that they will purchase as Green Power (typically 0%, 25%, 50% or 100%). The cost for 100% Green Power is shown in the table below. By comparison, the cost of purchasing Australian carbon offsets at the typical current cost of \$13 per tCO₂ to offset the emissions created by the City's current consumption of 'black' power would be around \$13,000 per annum for contestable energy. The purchase of offsets is the strategy the City has used to date to maintain its aim of being a carbon neutral organisation. It is worth noting that the cost of carbon offsets is expected to increase into the future as demand for them increases whilst the cost for Green Power is currently declining.

Table 2: Green power offer

	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3
Tariff (c/kWh)	3.00	2.60	2.23
Annual additional cost (100% Green Power)	\$47,288	\$40,983	\$35,151

This contract has no minimum take or pay conditions and allows for 20% roll in and roll out of contracts on a per Local Government which will be sufficient to ensure the City is not financially penalised for the normal changes that are expected to occur. If a site is expected to have a significant reduction in consumption (e.g., the temporary administration office at Fremantle Oval) it can be removed from the list of accounts to be included in this contract which will further reduce this risk.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

If Council approves the City's participation in the WALGA electricity supply arrangement, it will be necessary for the City to provide a signed agreement to WALGA by 30th November 2021. Assuming enough local governments commit to participating to enable the minimum electricity volume threshold to be achieved in order for the project to proceed, Synergy would then prepare a new contract for electricity supply for execution with the City. The new contract would come into effect from the end of the initial one-year term of the City's current contract with Synergy (30 June 2022) and the City would not exercise its option to extend the current contract into a second 12-month term.

If the WALGA supply arrangement does not proceed, or the Council does not approve the City's participation, the City would retain the ability to exercise the option to extend its current contract to 30 June 2023.

CONSULTATION

None applicable.

OFFICER COMMENT

The Council's One Planet Framework 2020-2030 sets the following specific targets in relation to the One Planet principle of zero carbon energy:

- Power City of Fremantle buildings, parks and streetlights with renewable electricity by 2025.
- Maintain carbon neutral status through to 2030 by minimising emissions and purchasing accredited offsets.

On 28 June 2017, as part of consideration of a report relating to the potential development of a solar farm on the South Fremantle landfill site, Council resolved:

Resolves that the City's next tender for the supply of electricity for contestable sites should give consideration to a preference for 'locally sourced green power'. The preference is subject to the annual cost of procuring electricity being no more than 10% greater than the total expenditure by the City on electricity under its current contestable power contract and the purchase of carbon offsets. (Refer to item SPD1706-4).

Subsequent tenders for contestable sites electricity supply did not result in tender submissions which offered a locally sourced green power supply option within the 10% cost margin referred to in the above resolution.

The Council's Corporate Energy Plan (adopted in 2017) includes actions to investigate creation of a contestable portfolio through consolidation of the City's energy accounts, and to negotiate with Western Power and Synergy for multiple sources of production/consumption to be interconnected and reduce the costs for all users.

In considering a report on sustainability subscriptions, One Planet membership and related matters on 11 August 2021, FPOL Committee resolved (among other matters) to: *Continue to pursue corporate carbon emission reductions in line with the Corporate Energy Plan where feasible, noting that the zero emissions target by 2025 would require substantial investment. (Refer to item FPOL 2108-3).*

The WALGA supply project could be seen as addressing the same actions as referred to above in the Corporate Energy Plan, but at a much larger scale across multiple local governments.

The option within the WALGA supply offer to purchase energy generated from WA wind farms could offer an opportunity to progress towards the City's zero carbon energy target, and to reduce reliance on carbon offsets to achieve overall carbon neutrality, at a faster pace than previously considered feasible.

Officers consider the cost savings offered by the WALGA bundled tariff option are sufficient to warrant recommending the Council to approve the City's participation in the WALGA scheme rather than extending its current contract with Synergy into the optional second year (2022/23). The WALGA option also offers the City certainty that its cost tariff would remain fixed for the next three financial years, whereas the City's current Synergy contract only secures the current tariff until the end of 2022/23, with uncertainty as to what tariffs the market would offer if the City re-tendered its own supply contract in mid-2023.

The WALGA contract option would only be likely to reduce the City's expenditure if the City continued to purchase 100% black power as it has done to date (noting that carbon offsets to cover the emissions from this power would need to be purchased for the City to maintain its current commitment to carbon neutrality as expressed in the Council's One Planet Framework).

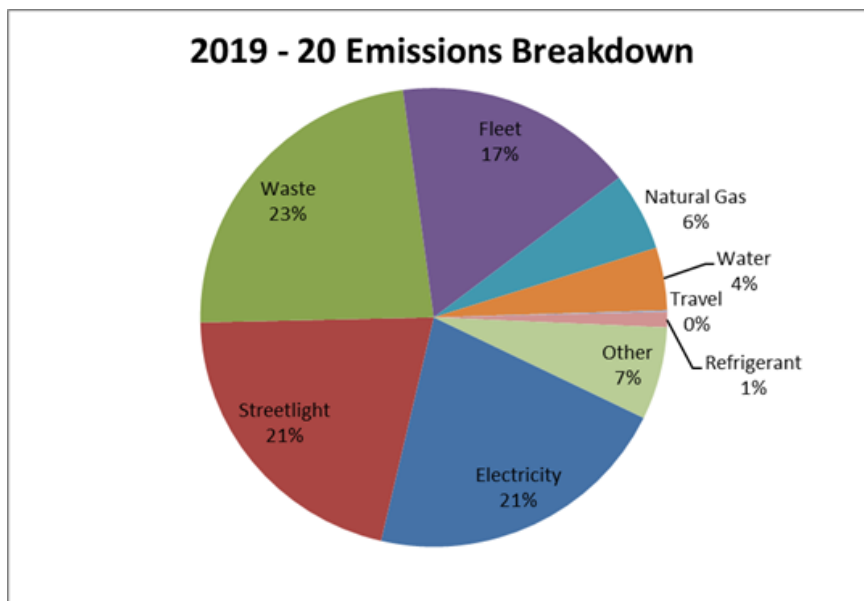
Alternatively, the City could choose to take up the option under the WALGA offer to procure all or a proportion of its contestable sites' electricity supply from WA renewable energy generation sources. Based on the costs set out in Tables 1 and 2 above, the cost of purchasing 100% Green Power under the WALGA bundled tariff would be as follows:

Table 3: Modelled costs under WALGA bundled tariff with 100% Green Power option

	Cost per year			
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
WALGA Bundled Tariff (black power)	\$302,117	\$302,117	\$302,117	\$906,351
Additional cost for 100% Green Power	\$47,288	\$40,983	\$35,151	\$123,422
Total	\$349,405	\$343,100	\$337,268	\$1,029,773

The City could also opt to purchase a mixture of black and green power. The cost under this option would vary according to the percentage of green power purchased, but as an example if the City chose to purchase 50% Green Power the cost over the three years of the WALGA contract would be approximately \$60,000 less than the total in Table 3 above.

Purchasing all, or a significant percentage, of its supply as green power would also reduce the total quantity of carbon offsets the City would need to purchase. The graph below (reproduced from the City's annual One Planet reporting) shows the breakdown of carbon emissions from all sources in 2019-20. Electricity consumption (excluding street lights) accounted for 21% of all emissions and out of this component, electricity consumed at contestable sites accounted for approximately two-thirds (so approximately 14% of total emissions from all sources).



If officers' current forecast for 2021/22 end of year expenditure on contestable power of \$340,000 is used as a baseline measure, the Year 1 cost of the 100% Green Power option would present a cost increase of approximately 3% and the 50% Green Power option would present a cost a decrease of approximately 4%. Due to the reducing cost of the 100% Green Power option over the three years of the WALGA contract (see Table 3 above), by year three the 100% Green Power option would cost marginally less than the forecast whole of year cost of black power under the City's current supply contract in 2021/22. As the green power offered under the WALGA contract is sourced entirely from accredited WA renewable energy generation plants, procuring power under this option would also broadly meet the objective of Council's June 2017 resolution referred to above

This option presents an opportunity to reduce the City's reliance on purchasing carbon offsets to maintain its carbon neutral status, and to progress towards the Council's zero emissions goal as set out in the One Planet Framework and Corporate Energy Plan at a faster pace than previously considered feasible, in a way that would be approximately cost neutral compared to the City's expenditure on 'black' power under its current supply contract.

Accordingly, officers recommend that that Council approves the City's participation in the WALGA power purchase agreement, electing to take up the bundled tariff option and the option to procure 100% of its power supply from WA accredited renewable energy sources.

VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority required

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council:

- 1. Approve the City's participation in the WALGA three-year Energy Sustainability and Renewables power purchase agreement with Synergy for the supply of electricity to contestable sites, on the basis the City elects to take up the bundled tariff option (Option 2) and the option to procure 100% of its power supply from WA renewable energy sources (Renewable Energy Option) as set out in Confidential Attachment 1 – WALGA Energy Framework Offer Document.**
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to provide written confirmation to WALGA of the City's acceptance of the offer to participate in the power purchase agreement as referred to in (1) above.**
- 3. Note procurement of electricity supply for contestable sites from WA renewable energy sources as referred to in (1) above would fulfill Council's previous resolution SPD1706-4 dated 28 June 2017, and no further action needs to be taken in relation to this resolution for the duration of the three-year supply period under the WALGA power purchase agreement.**

FPOL2111-2 WALYALUP KOORT INTERIM PLACE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Meeting date:	10 November 2021
Responsible officer:	Acting Director City Business
Decision making authority:	Committee
Attachments:	1. Draft Walyalup Koort Interim Place Development Plan
Additional information:	1. Nil

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Council for the adoption of the Walyalup Koort Interim Place Development Plan 2021 - 2023.

The report recommends that Council adopt the Walyalup Koort Interim Place Development Plan.

BACKGROUND

The construction of the Walyalup Civic Centre is now nearing completion and the 2021 calendar year will see a large majority of the broader redevelopment completed and operational.

As the project moves from construction into its operational life, the ongoing place management and activation of the precinct and collaboration with surrounding stakeholders to achieve this will be critical in realising the benefits associated with the broader project.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 24 March 2021, Council approved the establishment of the Walyalup Koort Place Development Working Group and associated terms of reference to facilitate this engagement.

The endorsed terms of reference enabled business community representatives from various sectors to participate in the group. Several major stakeholders and business community members participated in several meetings held between June and October of this year.

One of the key outcomes of the group was to provide feedback to officers on the development of an interim place development plan for Walyalup Koort.

The draft plan has now been completed and is being presented to council for adoption.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Projects and initiatives identified in the plan being delivered in the 2021/22 financial year are to be delivered within the constraint of existing operational budgets. Initiatives being delivered in the 2022/23 financial year will be included for consideration as part of budget adoption process in 2022.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Business community members and other stakeholders were invited to nominate for a position on the Walyalup Koort Place Development Working Group via a public Expression of Interest (EOI) process. The EOI process was advertised across City of Fremantle media channels and via the City of Fremantle business newsletter. The process ran from 8 April and closed on 23 April 2021.

Up to 10 people were appointed to the working group, with relevant guests also invited to contribute to specific focus areas.

The feedback and advice collected as part of the working group contributed to the development of the Walyalup Koort Interim Place Development Plan.

OFFICER COMMENT

The completion of the broader Walyalup Koort development presents a significant opportunity to promote the current revitalisation of Fremantle's city centre and build positive perceptions among potential visitors, residents and investors.

The ongoing development and success of the Walyalup Koort precinct will require strong consideration and planning around the following:

- Place management priorities and principles inclusive of design, activation, events and prioritisation of infrastructure for the urban realm.
- Development and delivery of brand, marketing and communications strategies including the establishment of a brand narrative for the precinct for both destination and investment marketing.
- Ongoing engagement and collaboration with adjacent and surrounding businesses.
- Enabling access to, engagement with and community ownership of the space for the broader community.
- Leveraging the significant investment made to date in order to attract further external investment into the City Centre and greater Fremantle.
- Enabling opportunities for the private sector, major existing stakeholders and other partners to contribute to and participate in the ongoing activation of the precinct.

The Walyalup Koort Interim Place Development Plan aims to provide an initial approach to the achievement of the above-mentioned outcomes while a longer-term place management approach is developed for the precinct.

After consideration of the vision and guiding principles articulated in the precinct master plan, and assessment of feedback and advice collected via the working group the following key action areas were identified as being priorities for the space over the next 18 months.

1. Develop and deliver a brand identity that positions Walyalup Koort as Fremantle's beating heart and deliver a program of marketing and communications that effectively leverages the existing This is Fremantle brand and builds awareness across the metropolitan area.
2. Consistently engage and collaborate with surrounding businesses to develop and deliver approaches to activating Walyalup Koort, in a way that both draws on their ideas and advice and enables their presence in the space.
3. Develop and deliver initiatives that encourage and enable community led activation and support the community in utilising the space.
4. Tailor the delivery of experiences and activations to different user groups at strategic times in order to encourage a diversity of use by different segments of the community.
5. Establish and build a calendar of events and activations for Walyalup Koort over the next 12-18 months and monitor impacts and success factors in order to develop a feasible longer-term approach to the use of the space.
6. Build a cross-functional place management capability within the City and work closely with major stakeholders to effectively manage and respond to the needs of users, and promptly resolve challenges or issues arising from engagement with the space.

Each of the above-mentioned action areas are linked to a set of initiatives (detailed in the attached plan) to be implemented over the term of the interim plan which extends to 30 June 2023. This will also include the determination of short term approaches to the interim management of safety and lighting in the area.

Noting that this is only an interim plan, a key action within the plan is the development of a longer-term place management strategy that determines and defines the requirements for the ongoing management and activation of the Walyalup Koort public realm.

VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority required

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council adopt the Walyalup Koort Interim Place Development Plan as provided in Attachment 1.

FPOL2111-3 CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN – QUARTERLY REPORT – JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2021

Meeting date: 10 November 2021
Responsible officer: Manager Economic Development and Marketing
Decision making authority: Committee
Agenda attachments: 1. Corporate Business Plan – Quarterly report - July to September 2021
Additional information: Nil

SUMMARY

The Corporate Business Plan (CBP) Report for 2021/22 was provided to Committee on 8 September 2021 providing detail on the services, deliverables and projects that are programmed for the 2021/22 financial year.

This quarterly update report documents the progress made on those services and projects listed in the CBP Report 2021/22 for the first quarter of the financial year. It is intended to present this report to Council on a quarterly basis.

This report recommends that Council receive the CBP Quarterly Report for July to September 2021 as provided in Attachment 1.

BACKGROUND

This report includes services, deliverables and projects programmed for the 2021/22 financial year and reported to Committee in the Corporate Business Plan Report in September 2021. The projects and services are delivered across a number of business units throughout the organisation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Please note, the budget summary will continue to be reported through the Monthly Financial Report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Nil

OFFICER COMMENT

This Corporate Business Plan Quarterly Report continues to support an integrated planning framework and allows us to be more transparent in monitoring performance.

This report provides a summary of the deliverables and project progress for the programmed activities for 2021/22 as at 30 September 2021.

The key projects for the City this financial year are listed below with their progress update for quarter 1, 2021/22: -

Walyalup Koort

- Walyalup Civic Centre
 - The internal commissioning works are well progressed, and defect surveying/compliance assessments have commenced. IT and audio-visual final fix works have commenced. Externally, the building is now wind and weather tight and secure, the main works remaining being to the William Street loading/service area. The program remains on track for practical completion in early November, with Library and Customer Services anticipated opening to the public as of Monday 22 November; staged staff occupation to follow over the subsequent 2/3 weeks.
- Newman Court\High Street
 - The contractor is about to commence the final fit out of street furniture around Newman Court and High Street. These works are estimated to be complete by Monday 15 November.
- Playground:
 - Works to the playground are complete, the playground will be accessible to the public via a 'soft opening' on 22 November – the formal launch on Friday 26 November.
- Adelaide/Queen Street trees:
 - The first phase of tree pits and tree planting works have been completed to Adelaide and Queen Street, this included the amendment of parking bays.

Port Beach

The Port Beach project has progressed with the environmental investigations and reports to support the EPA submission being developed and finalised. The design and specifications for the dredging works are being developed. The tender for the sand screening works has been released and awarded.

Fremantle Oval

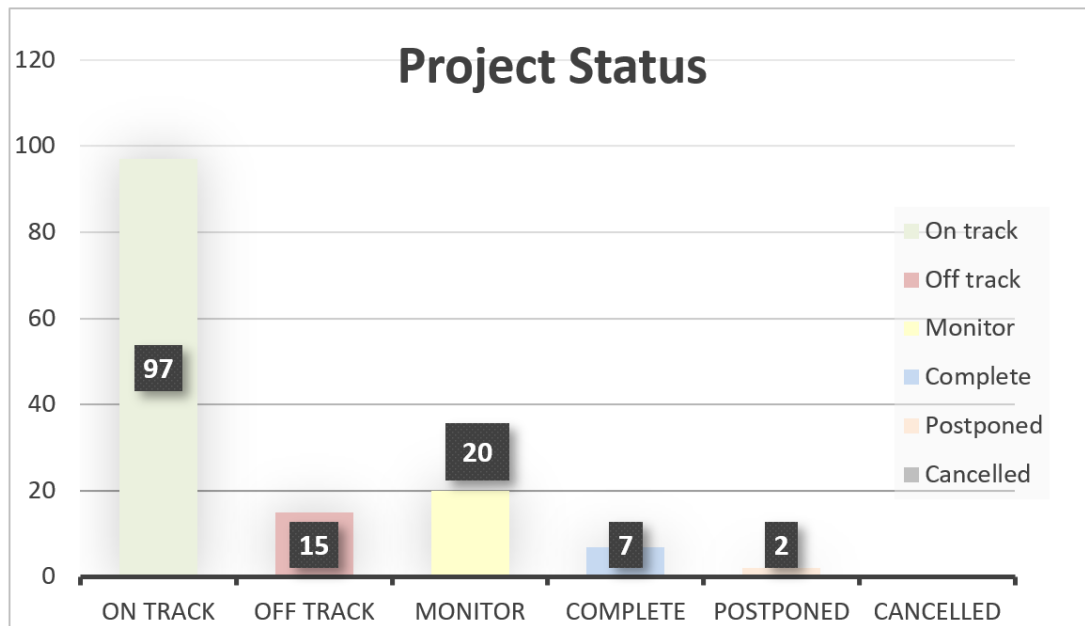
The following consultants have been engaged to advance the project planning for the Oval redevelopment: quantity surveyor, architect, project manager and government funding strategist. We anticipate the draft business plan and funding documentation will be completed by January 2022.

Strategic Community Plan Review

The consultant has been appointed, and background planning and preparation in train. The project is progressing in accordance with the approach and program approved by Council on 24 March 2021.

Progress Status

A summary of the status of the budgeted projects is displayed below.



VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority required

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council receive the City of Fremantle Corporate Business Plan – Quarterly Report for July to September 2021, as provided in Attachment 1.

FPOL2111-4 PETITION NORTH FREMANTLE BOWLING CLUB

Meeting date: 10 November 2021
Responsible officer: Manager Community Development
Decision Making Authority: Committee
Attachments: 1. Nil
Additional information: 1. Nil

SUMMARY

At the Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee meeting held on Wednesday 15 September 2021, Cr Doug Thompson presented a petition containing 96 signatures, requesting the following:

“Members of the community have been providing feedback for some time about the lack of access to and difficulty of getting membership of the Bowling Club premises. Following a meeting with the Deputy Mayor and the two Ward Councillors, we understand the Council will be considering the long-term future of the Bowling Club and associated infrastructure in the context of the Recreation Community Plan.

The community calls on the Council to resolve the current issues with the Bowling Club. We ask the Council to take the premises back into Council care and control for a short period and to put the facility out expressions of interest to community members or organisations with a view to maximising community access and use of the premises”.

The petition is noted with this report recommending that the Chief Executive Officer establish a reference group to enable workshopping of future tenancy arrangements, to assist the development of an appropriate maintenance plan and consider the short and long-term future community use of the North Fremantle Bowling Club and surrounds.

BACKGROUND

The North Fremantle Bowling Club facility is leased to a community group who operates the venue as a social bowling club. The lessee currently has access to the premises under a lease agreement, which has expired and has been operated in a hold over arrangement since 2012, termination of the lease would be subject to providing 30 days written notice.

The City is aware that there have been various concerns raised by members of the community regarding membership and accessing the facility to enable wider community benefit and use.

To enable fuller consideration of the issues and support a more comprehensive recommendation being made to Council it is proposed that the Chief Executive Officer establish a reference group in accordance with Council’s Internal Groups policy, to consider both short- and long-term possibilities. Members of this reference group will be determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

This reference group will be established by the end of 2021 and anticipate reporting recommendations back to Council by March 2022.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The City currently receives \$1 per year income from a peppercorn lease. Further expenditure may need to be considered if changes to the lease are made (for example utilities, building and grounds maintenance currently paid by the club).

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The lessee currently has access to the premises under a lease agreement, which has expired and has been operated in a hold over arrangement since 2012. The agreement can be terminated by giving a minimum of 30 days' notice.

CONSULTATION

Consultation will occur with the North Fremantle Bowling Club and the community as part of the scope of this reference group.

OFFICER COMMENT

The draft Community, Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan notes the need to review the City's current leasing arrangements is a priority for both sport and community groups.

In accordance with the Internal Groups Policy, the Chief Executive Officer will establish a reference group and develop the terms of reference. Members of this reference group will be determined by the Chief Executive Officer as soon as possible with the purpose of assessing current issues and to consider both short- and long-term options, bringing a report back to Council by March 2022.

VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority required

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council:

- 1. Receive the petition relating to the North Fremantle Bowling Club.**
- 2. Request a reference group be developed to review the following matters in relation to the North Fremantle Bowling Club site:**
 - a. Future tenancy arrangements**
 - b. Future community use of the site**
 - c. Maintenance plan**
- 3. Request a report be brought back to Council on the above matters by March 2022.**

FPOL2111-5 TENDER FCC586/21 CHEMICAL FREE WEED CONTROL

Meeting date: 10 November 2021
Responsible officer: Manager Parks and Landscape
Decision making authority: Committee
Attachments: 1. Nil
Additional information: 1. Confidential – Pricing Evaluation Matrix

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to consider tender number FCC586/21 for Chemical Free Weed Control.

This report recommends that Council accepts the tender submitted by Greensteam Australia in accordance with the tender evaluation undertaken as per the selection criteria included in the tender document.

BACKGROUND

The chemical free weed control tender calls for a Contractor to provide scheduled weed management to various nominated hardscape and sensitive areas within the City of Fremantle. Serviced areas include the town centre, arterial roads, suburban roads, foreshores, playgrounds and the Fremantle Leisure Centre.

The Contract specification details the minimum standards for undertaking the set service maintenance across the 6 specific set service components as well as a schedule of rates for the engagement of additional services. The specific service requirements for both set services and additional services is identical.

The Contractor is responsible for providing all staff, supervision, materials, supplies and equipment necessary to accomplish the undertaking of all works as per the frequencies, timeframes and service requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The table below summarises the available budget, current expenditures, recommended tender price by Greensteam Australia for chemical free weed control services, and associated expenses:

Description	Expenditure	Budget
Budget		
Allocated budget (2021/22)		\$373,000
Expenditure		
Expenditure incurred to date:	Nil	
Activities		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender number FCC586/21 for Chemical Free Weed Control (p/a) 	\$401,676	
Anticipated spend for the 2021/22 financial year (excluding the September single service)	\$372,776	
Total annual expenditure (estimated)	\$401,676	

To progress the contract works in this financial year, the scheduled September service of the Arterial Roads will not be completed in 2021/22 of this contract. The value of this single service will offset the budget shortfall in the 2021/22 financial year. This service spans multiple years, therefore, an additional budget allocation will be included as part of the annual budget process for future years. Should the additional budget allocation not be available the service frequency or scope will be adjusted to the adopted budget.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Tenders were invited in accordance with section 3.57 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and the tendering procedures and evaluation complied with part 4 of the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996.

CONSULTATION

Nil

OFFICER COMMENT

Detail

Tender FCC586/21 for Chemical Free Weed Control was advertised on 15 September 2021 and closed on 1 October 2021.

The WALGA Preferred supplier program was not used for this tender. The tender was publicly advertised to ensure all available providers had the opportunity to submit providing the opportunity for contractors with innovation and emerging technology in weed control to submit a proposal.

Essential details of the contract are outlined below:

Contract type	Lump sum with schedule of rates for additional services.
Contract duration	Three years with two one-year extension options available, exercisable at the sole discretion of the City.
Commencement date	On or about 15 November 2021
Completion date	On or about 15 November 2024

Tender evaluation

Tender submissions were received from the following contractors and evaluated by the tender evaluation panel:

- Environmental Industries Pty Ltd
- Greensteam Australia Pty Ltd
- Profounder Turf Master Facility Management

The tender evaluation panel establishes whether the tender submissions conform to the conditions for tendering and selects a suitably qualified and experienced contractor.

The tender evaluation panel comprised:

- Parks Coordinator
- Supervisor Parks Reserves and Landscape Management
- Procurement Officer
- Procurement Officer (non-voting)

Tenderers were required to disclose information that might be relevant to an actual or potential conflict of interest and disclose if they had any relationship with City of Fremantle employees involved in the tender process. Members of the tender evaluation panel are required to disclose any actual or perceived interest with any of the tenderers. No disclosures were made.

To obtain the broadest possible comparison base, each of the tenders was evaluated against the following tender selection criteria and was in turn graded in the tender evaluation matrix.

Item No	Description	Weighting
1	Relevant Experience	15%
2	Skills and Key Personnel	25%
3	Demonstrated Understanding	20%
4	Sustainability	10%
5	Price	30%

All tender submissions received were conforming.

The tender submitted by Greensteam Australia scored the highest rating with 87 points, followed by Environmental Industries with 68 points. The remaining tender submissions received lower scores.

Overall Weighted Score Including Pricing	Relevant Experience	Key Personnel Skills & Resources	Demonstrated Understanding	Sustainability	Price	Total Score
Tenderer	15	25	20	10	30	100
Environmental Industries Pty Ltd	10	13	9	6	30	68
Greensteam Australia Pty Ltd	14	22	17	7	26	87
Profounder Turf Master Facility Management	2	10	10	5	22	49

Environmental considerations

Greensteam Australia provided a comprehensive sustainability component including strategies for fuel and water efficiencies. Sustainable initiatives also provided for use of battery powered equipment and machinery.

Risk consideration

An assessment undertaken by Dun and Bradstreet indicates that Greensteam Australia have the financial capacity to undertake the contract.

There are no strategic or corporate risks within the City's existing risk registers which relate to the issues contained in this report.

Comment

Greensteam Australia are an established company with extensive experience in undertaking contracts of similar scope. Greensteam are the incumbent provider of this service with the City of Fremantle and have performed well in all aspects of this contract. They are well resourced in both personnel and equipment to successfully complete the scope requirements and provided a comprehensive methodology detailing how all service components of the contract will be delivered.

References

The City has received references in respect to the recommended tenderer, as follows:

Reference 1 – Local Government

- Current provider for steam weeding within streetscapes.
- High level of service with a strong safety focus.
- Very proficient in communication and documentation.

Reference 2 – Local Government

- Current provider for steam weeding contract over 3 years inclusive of sensitive areas, public access ways, footpaths and road kerbs.
- Highly skilled staff and experienced company providing excellent service.
- Timely and accurate communication and documentation.

COF statement:

- Current provider of this service to the City as well as previous chemical free weed control contracts for the City.
- Throughout their previous contracts Greensteam Australia have proved to be highly efficient and competent in carrying out all aspects of the scope of works. This is evident through consistency in meeting their contract KPI's.

VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority required

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council:

- 1. Accept the tender from Greensteam Australia for Chemical Free Weed Control (FCC586/21) at the rates tendered for a period of 3 years.**
- 2. Approve the option to extend the contract for up to 2 years (one year plus one year) providing Greensteam Australia have performed satisfactorily in accordance with the terms of the Contract.**

10.2 Council decision

FPOL2111-6 BUDGET AMENDMENTS - OCTOBER 2021

Meeting date: 10 November 2021
Responsible officer: Acting Manager Finance
Decision making authority: Council
Agenda attachments: Nil
Additional information: Nil

SUMMARY

To adopt various budget amendments to the 2021/22 budget account numbers as detailed below in accordance with the Budget Management Policy.

This report recommends that Council approves the required budget amendments to the adopted budget for 2021/22 as outlined in the report.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the Budget Management Policy, this report provides details of proposed amendments to the 2021/22 budget on a monthly basis to Council (via FPOL) to adopt budget amendments to:

1. Consider an additional purpose or grant acceptance or release of quarantined funds;
2. Reflect any expenditure above the budget amount agreed by the CEO in the previous month and adjust other accounts to accommodate the value of these.
3. Make amendments to the carried forward budget to reflect the final position at the end of the financial year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications are detailed in this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 1995:

Section 6.2 (1)

The Council is required to prepare and adopt, by Absolute Majority, an annual budget for its municipal fund by 31st August each year.

Section 6.8 (1) and (2)

The Council cannot incur expenditure from its municipal fund for a purpose for which no expenditure estimate is included in the annual budget (known as an 'additional purpose') except where the expenditure —

- (a) is incurred in a financial year before the adoption of the annual budget by the local government;
- (b) is authorised in advance by resolution by Absolute Majority; or
- (c) is authorised in advance by the mayor or president in an emergency.

Where expenditure has been incurred;

- (a) under S 6.8 (1) (a) it is required to be included in the annual budget for that financial year; and
- (b) under S 6.8 (1) (c), it is to be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the council.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996:

Regulation 33A

A formal review of the annual budget is to be presented and adopted by Council, by Absolute Majority, between 1st January and 31st March each year.

CONSULTATION

There are no community engagement implications as a result of this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

The following amendments are proposed to be made to the adopted/revised budget for 2021-22.

1. Budget amendments for proposed expenditure for an additional purpose or release of quarantined funds.

The proposed budget amendments below are for expenditure for an additional purpose to be determined by the Council as required by S6.8 (1) (b) of the Act. The decision will amend the budget by creating a new budget account number to accommodate that proposed expenditure, and by transferring the required funds from one or more existing accounts to the new account.

Item	Account #	Account Details	2021/22 Adopted Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	(Increase)/ Decrease	2021/22 Amended Budget
				Income	(Expenditure)	
1.1	Demolition of Stevens Scoreboard - Item not included in the adopted budget due to an oversight. Funds to be released from the infrastructure recovery budget to carry out these works.					
Exp	300170.1606	Program-Infrastructure Recovery	(227,126)		10,000	(217,126)
Exp	300xxx.1606	Demolish - Stevens Reserve Scoreboard			(10,000)	(10,000)

1.2	Additional grant funding to be received from the Department of Justice to respond to increased demand for services arising from the Covid19 pandemic and provide assistance for vulnerable women resulting from a variation to the 2021/22 funding agreement of the Fremantle Community Legal Centre. Additional funds to contribute towards staff and administration costs.					
Inc	100447.4320	Provide legal aid – family relationships	89,481	47,745		137,226
Exp	100447.xxxx		(158,182)		(47,745)	(205,927)
Inc	100550.4320	Provide Legal aid –		111,670		111,670
Exp	100550.6823	Vulnerable Women			(111,670)	(111,670)

2. Budget amendments for proposed expenditure for a purpose identified within the budget for which there are insufficient funds allocated.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) has the delegated authority under the Budget Management Policy to incur expenditure for a purpose identified within the budget for which there are insufficient funds allocated, where:

- The proposed expenditure is a maximum of 5% or \$50,000 (whichever is the lesser) above the budgeted amount; and
- There are sufficient funds equivalent to the value proposed to be sent allocated to other budget line items within the overall budget, and which, in the opinion of the CEO, are not expected to be spent during that financial year.

The budget amendments below are to reflect any expenditure above the budget amount agreed by the CEO during the previous month, and to adjust other accounts to accommodate the value of those.

Item	Account Details	Account #	2021/22 Adopted Budget	Revenue Income / (Decrease)	Expenditure (Increase)/ Decrease	2021/22 Amended Budget
				Income	(Expenditure)	
2.1	Increase the scope of the Leisure Centre Shade Sail project to include additional works to upgrade the lighting around the 50m pool. The existing lighting was mounted on structurally unsound poles. New lighting that meets current standards is required to operate the 50m pool late in the day. Additional works to be funded from savings identified from other capital projects related to Leisure Centre.					
Exp	300189.1606	P-11965 Purchase - Leisure Centre - Disinfectant System	(50,000)		19,000	(31,000)
Exp	300193.1606	P-11968 Purchase - Leisure Centre - Pool blankets	(94,000)		30,000	(64,000)
Exp	300203.1606	P-11982 Design and construct - Arts Centre - Sewer	(70,000)		16,000	(54,000)

Item	Account Details	Account #	2021/22 Adopted Budget	Revenue Income / (Decrease)	Expenditure (Increase)/ Decrease	2021/22 Amended Budget
				Income	(Expenditure)	
Exp	300260.1606	P-12045 Design and construct - Leisure Centre - Shade sail	(150,000)		(65,000)	(215,000)

3. Carried forward projects estimate budget amendments.

The proposed budget amendments to the FY 2021/22 budget as shown below, are related to prior year capital projects not completed as anticipated.

Item	Account Details	Account #	2021/22 Adopted Budget	Revenue Income / (Decrease)	Expenditure (Increase)/ Decrease	2021/22 Amended Budget
				Income	(Expenditure)	
3.1	The Revealed Exhibition: New & Emerging WA Aboriginal Artists, is delivered by the Fremantle Arts Centre by way of a fully funded State Government grant. It is proposed that commission earned during the 2021/22 financial year by the FAC from the sale of Aboriginal artworks be reinvested into the welfare of Aboriginal Artists.					
Exp	100415.6822	Coordinate arts centre exhibitions - contract expense Artists	(71,400)		(35,000)	(106,400)
Inc	100415.4431	Coordinate arts centre exhibitions - Commission Earned		35,000		35,000

VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority Required

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council approves the required budget amendments to the adopted budget for 2021/22 as outlined below:

Item	Account #	Account Details	2021/22 Adopted Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	(Increase)/ Decrease	2021/22 Amended Budget
				Income	(Expenditure)	
1.1	Demolition of Stevens Scoreboard - Item not included in the adopted budget due to an oversight. Funds to be released from the infrastructure recovery budget to carry out these works.					
Exp	300170.1606	Program-Infrastructure Recovery	(227,126)		10,000	(217,126)
Exp	300xxx.1606	Demolish - Stevens Reserve Scoreboard			(10,000)	(10,000)
1.2	Additional grant funding to be received from the Department of Justice to respond to increased demand for services arising from the Covid19 pandemic and provide assistance for vulnerable women resulting from a variation to the 2021/22 funding agreement of the Fremantle Community Legal Centre. Additional funds to contribute towards staff and administration costs.					
Inc	100447.4320	Provide legal aid – family relationships	89,481	47,745		137,226
Exp	100447.xxxx		(158,182)		(47,745)	(205,927)
Inc	100550.4320	Provide Legal aid – Vulnerable Women		111,670		111,670
Exp	100550.6823				(111,670)	(111,670)

Item	Account Details	Account #	2021/22 Adopted Budget	Revenue Income / (Decrease)	Expenditure (Increase)/ Decrease	2021/22 Amended Budget
				Income	(Expenditure)	
2.1	Increase the scope of the Leisure Centre Shade Sail project to include additional works to upgrade the lighting around the 50m pool. The existing lighting was mounted on structurally unsound poles. New lighting that meets current standards is required to operate the 50m pool late in the day. Additional works to be funded from savings identified from other capital projects related to Leisure Centre.					
Exp	300189.1606	P-11965 Purchase - Leisure Centre - Disinfectant System	(50,000)		19,000	(31,000)
Exp	300193.1606	P-11968 Purchase - Leisure Centre - Pool blankets	(94,000)		30,000	(64,000)
Exp	300203.1606	P-11982 Design and construct - Arts Centre - Sewer	(70,000)		16,000	(54,000)

Item	Account Details	Account #	2021/22 Adopted Budget	Revenue Income / (Decrease)	Expenditure (Increase)/ Decrease	2021/22 Amended Budget
				Income	(Expenditure)	
Exp	300260.1606	P-12045 Design and construct - Leisure Centre - Shade sail	(150,000)		(65,000)	(215,000)

Item	Account Details	Account #	2021/22 Adopted Budget	Revenue Income / (Decrease)	Expenditure (Increase)/ Decrease	2021/22 Amended Budget
				Income	(Expenditure)	
3.1	The Revealed Exhibition: New & Emerging WA Aboriginal Artists, is delivered by the Fremantle Arts Centre by way of a fully funded State Government grant. It is proposed that commission earned during the 2021/22 financial year by the FAC from the sale of Aboriginal artworks be reinvested into the welfare of Aboriginal Artists.					
Exp	100415.6822	Coordinate arts centre exhibitions - contract expense Artists	(71,400)		(35,000)	(106,400)
Inc	100415.4431	Coordinate arts centre exhibitions - Commission Earned		35,000		35,000

FPOL2111-7 VENUE SUPPORT – ON MY FEET SUBSIDY REQUEST

Meeting date: 10 November 2021
Responsible officer: Manager Community Development
Decision making authority: Council
Attachments: Nil
Additional information: Nil

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to waive all fees associated with the ongoing hire of Princess May Park as requested by the not-for-profit organisation, On My Feet.

This report recommends that Council waive all fees associated with the hire of Princess May Park by On My Feet for bookings from 18 November 2021 to 29 December 2022.

BACKGROUND

The [Grants and Sponsorships Policy](#) adopted by Council on 12 May 2021, provides a consolidated approach to the management of financial assistance requests across the City's multiple funding streams. Funding requests that sit outside the policy scope, are to be submit to Council for assessment and approval consideration.

The not-for-profit organisation, On My Feet are seeking 100% subsidy for the hire of Princess May Park for their Exercise Group Program. The booking request is for use of the park weekly for two hours per Thursday morning (7- 9am) until the end of 2022. As per the Venue Support grants community organisations are only eligible to apply for in-kind support of up to 50% for the cost of hire.

The On My Feet program is targeted at people experiencing and at risk of homelessness. Aiming to increase their mental wellbeing through physical activity and social cohesion.

Prior to the adoption of the Grants and Sponsorship Policy the City provided full subsidy to On My Feet for Fremantle Park in 2020/21 financial year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

On My Feet have requested for an ongoing booking – 18 November 2021 to 29 December 2022, total hire fees \$1,923.40, no income will be received into the Parks account 100655.4461.

The breakdown of fees listed below.

Financial Year	Booking	Subsidy Request	Income Loss
Year 1 2021/22 (Nov to June 2022)	2hrs per week 33 weeks \$16.30 p/hr Total booking \$1,075.80	100%	\$1,075.80
Year 2 2022/23 (proposed estimate on current fees) (July to Dec 2023)	2hrs per week 26 weeks \$16.30 p/hr Total booking \$847.60	100%	\$847.60
		Total	\$1,923.40

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OFFICER COMMENT

On My Feet is a volunteer run organisation working to improve the lives of vulnerable people in the community, with a emphasis on those experiencing homelessness. Collaborating with other key agencies such as St Patrick's Community Support Centre, On My Feet deliver free weekly sessions that incorporate physical exercise and social interactions.

Whilst this request sits outside the Venue Support Policy, this program provides a valuable contribution for the Fremantle community wellbeing.

The Exercise Group Program provides increased community benefit for both the participants and the volunteers leading the program. There are up to 20 people participating per session. Participants are also provided with the opportunity for further ongoing programs and trainings specific to improving social connections and their health and wellbeing.

The City plays a vital role in developing the capacity of community organisations that seek to increase the social and physical inclusion of disadvantaged members of the community. As per the Grants and Sponsorship Policy, it will be requested that the City be appropriately acknowledged for the support and an evaluation report completed.

VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Absolute majority required

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council waive all fees associated with the hire of Princess May Park by On My Feet for bookings from 18 November 2021 to 29 December 2022.

FPOL2111-8 ADOPTION HOMELESSNESS ACTION PLAN 2021-2023

Meeting date: 10 November 2021
Responsible officer: Manager Community Development
Decision making authority: Council
Attachments: 1. Draft Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2024
Additional information: Nil

SUMMARY

The purpose of this reports is for Council to consider adopting the Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2024.

The development of a homelessness action plan contributes to the achievement of the City's Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2019-2024. Addressing action 1.2.7- create a homelessness plan/strategy for the City of Fremantle.

The Homelessness Action Plan 2021- 2024 (HAP) is an informing strategic document, developed to guide the City's response to homelessness. The prioritised actions provide a framework to respond to the complex challenges of homelessness. The scope of actions will:

- a) Direct evidence-based advocacy to increase investment in local services and resources to meet the needs of people in Fremantle.**
- b) Support and coordinate the delivery of initiatives that provide opportunity for active participation community connection and resilience.**
- c) Build a greater understanding in the broader community of the roles, responsibilities, and priorities in responding to homelessness and its impacts.**

This report recommends that Council adopt the Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2024.

BACKGROUND

The City is seeking to establish a formalised plan to address homelessness in the community. The development of the Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2024 is also a direct achievement outcome of the City's Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2019-2024.

Housing and homelessness are complex issues that are the core responsibility of the State and Federal Governments. The City supports *All Paths Lead to a Home: Western Australia's 10 Year Strategy on Homelessness 2020-2030*, and the adopted housing first initiative as a key priority by the state government.

The Strategy sets out a vision for Western Australia where everyone has a safe place to call home and is supported to achieve stable and independent lives. The Strategy sets out a ten-year vision for all levels of government, the community sector and the wider community can work together in Western Australia towards ending homelessness.

The Strategy clearly outlines the role of local government:

- a) Making information on local services and supports available and accessible.
- b) Ensuring Rangers and front-line staff are informed and supported to interact with people experiencing homelessness and, where appropriate, refer them to local services.
- c) Working with Police to support and refer people experiencing homelessness to local services and supports.
- d) Coordinating volunteer and charity groups through a place-based approach that better meets the needs of people experiencing homelessness.
- e) Utilising land and assets to create places that are inclusive and can support vulnerable people.

The visibility of people forced to sleep rough on our streets was amplified through the global pandemic. This anecdotal feedback has been evidenced through the State Strategy and suggests that the number of people who are experiencing homelessness in the community is increasing. Currently in Fremantle there are 172 people experiencing homelessness, according to the By Name List (September 2021).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Some of the priority actions in the plan will have budget implications.

These will be considered as part of the project identification, annual budget development and long-term financial planning processes.

Currently the City supports the following provision of services per annum:

Provider/Program	2021/2022 Expenditure
Library Connect	\$42,000
20 Homes 20 Lives	\$43,200
Nyoongar Patrol	\$30,000
Imagined Futures	\$10,000
Outreach Map	\$5,000
Total	\$130,200

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

The City is actively involved in Fremantle based working groups with local and state agencies to continually advocate for place-based resources and services to address homelessness in the Fremantle community through the Imagined Futures District Leadership Group (formerly known as South West Metropolitan Partnership Forum

SWMPF) and the establishment of the Imagined Futures Housing and Homelessness Interagency Strategic Group.

Consideration to develop this plan has included the following key stakeholders:

- WA Police
- Department of Communities
- St Patrick's Community Support Centre
- Foundation Housing
- Freo Street Doctor
- Homeless Health Care Connect
- WACOSS
- Cana Community
- Red Cross

OFFICER COMMENT

The City of Fremantle set the vision for Fremantle to be a compassionate city that cares for the wellbeing of our people and the environment we share, through the Strategic Community Plan 2015-2025.

The Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2024 sets out the City's commitment to respond to the impact of extreme social exclusion – homelessness. The plan's three-year timeframe is intended to keep actions current and achievable to meet community need in an evolving social landscape.

Ending homelessness requires a whole of community approach with coordinated and integrated strategies and responses. Integral to the reduction of people at risk of or experiencing homelessness is partnerships. The City is committed to continue working with key sector stakeholders through the delivery of the Homelessness Action Plan over the next three years.

The visibility of people forced to sleep rough on our streets was amplified through the global pandemic. This anecdotal feedback has been evidenced through the State Strategy and suggests that the number of people who are experiencing homelessness in the community is increasing.

People do not choose to enter homelessness. There are many contributing factors that force a person to enter homelessness all of which are complex and nuanced to individual circumstance.

A person is considered to be experiencing homelessness- as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), if they do not have suitable accommodation alternatives and their current living arrangement:

- Is in a dwelling that is inadequate
- Has no tenure, or if their initial tenure is short and not extendable
- Does not allow them to have control of space for social relations.

The Homelessness Action Plan has been developed around the following key focus areas:

Focus area 1 – Accessible information

Develop and maintain accessible information to support decision making and connection to key services. We aim to increase the community awareness and understanding of social vulnerabilities, homelessness.

Focus area 2 – Support and assist

We will work to support people who are sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness in the City.

Topic 3 – Advocate

We will continue to advocate for the right resources and services be made available in Fremantle for greater impact in the reduction of homelessness across the continuum.

Ending homelessness requires a whole of community approach with coordinated and integrated strategies and responses. The City is determined to work with key stakeholders in improving the capacity of the community and reducing homelessness to functional zero.

VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority required

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council adopt the Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2024, as provided in Attachment 1.

FPOL2111-9 VOLUNTARY GOODWILL SERVICE PROVIDER POLICY

Meeting date: 10 November 2021
Responsible officer: Manager Community Development
Decision making authority: Council
Attachments: 1. Voluntary Goodwill Service Provider Policy
Additional information: Nil

SUMMARY

This report addresses Council's decision in the Council item C2101-5 – Issues relating to the Pioneer Park camp out from the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 February 2021.

Included in that decision is that consideration be sought on the development of a policy for social service groups providing service to 'at risk' persons in Fremantle, on Council controlled property, to ensure they are delivered appropriately.

Policy adoption is the first phase in the official coordination of volunteer goodwill service delivery, the second phase will see the development of the registration process – guidelines and conditions of operation.

This report recommends that Council adopt the Voluntary Goodwill Service Provider Policy, as provided in Attachment 1, and notes a registration process and guidelines will be developed through a co-design/consultation approach.

BACKGROUND

Outreach providers and goodwill voluntary services are an important element within the range of services provided to people facing disadvantage, including people experiencing homelessness in the City of Fremantle.

The policy addresses the need for a policy for social service groups providing service to 'at risk' persons in Fremantle on council-controlled property to ensure they are delivered appropriately, to facilitate collaboration between the city and goodwill service providers and to support positive community outcomes.

Policy adoption is the first phase of official coordination of these volunteer goodwill group. The second phase is the development of a registration procedure and guidelines outlining conditions of operation. A co-designed/consultation approach with key stakeholders, service providers and people with lived experience will be undertaken to best inform this process.

Currently voluntary goodwill providers are operating at the Beach Street carpark in a precinct model at the City's request. This is a temporary location with limited infrastructure, the final phase will determine the most appropriate site for the service to best meet the needs of the people requiring the service, the provider and the City.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

During February and March 2021, City officers conducted one-on-one consultations with key stakeholders involved with the Pioneer Park camp out to discuss opportunities as well as further collaboration. The key stakeholders included:

- WA Police
- Department of Communities
- St Patrick's Community Support Centre
- Ruah Community Services
- Uniting WA

These discussions confirmed the need for a regulatory framework (e.g., policy) that was fair and equitable to all, as well as the need for greater collaboration and communications.

Following policy adoption, a registration process will be developed through a co-designed/consultation approach, including these key stakeholders, service providers and people with lived experience.

OFFICER COMMENT

The Voluntary Goodwill Service Provider Policy has been developed to guide the facilitation of the delivery of effective and responsible service provision through a place-based approach that best meets the needs of the community.

The adoption of this policy will inform a formalised registration process to govern the coordination of service providers - the Registration of Voluntary Goodwill Service Provider Guidelines. The approach to this development will be through a co-design/consultation process with key stakeholders, service providers and people with lived experience. It is a collaborative cross organisational approach that involves the community safety, parks, waste and community development teams.

The proposed policy objectives include:

- a. Provide a clear regulatory framework for the administration of goodwill service providers
- b. Support the provision of access to basic amenities such as food and ablutions in a safe and respectful environment that protects users' dignity.
- c. Strengthen relationships between charitable goodwill community groups and homeless service support organisations in Fremantle to reduce community need.

- d. Remove the duplication of service delivery and over servicing that can inadvertently entrench people in crisis support.
- e. Educate volunteer goodwill groups about how they can best support people to access services with the aim to exit homelessness.
- f. Provide a risk management framework that seeks to maintain the safety of the users, the providers, and the wider community.

Service providers that are seeking approval are to meet standards of operations including, a clear prescribed role in relation to other agencies, cooperation with the City, appropriate insurances, and the adherence to standards for health and safety. All approved providers will be required to complete quarterly evaluation reporting.

The Voluntary Goodwill Service Provider Policy supports the coordination of the safe and responsible delivery of essential services to people 'at risk' in the Fremantle community. It provides a place based response to meet community needs while ensuring the City discharges its duty of care. The policy aligns with key actions drafted in the City's Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2024 and with the role of local government as outlined in the State Government's strategy to end homelessness.

VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority required

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council:

- 1. Adopt the Voluntary Goodwill Service Provider Policy, as provided in Attachment 1.**
- 2. Note the registration process will be developed through a co-designed/consultation approach, including key stakeholders and people with lived experience.**

**FPOL2111-10 ORGANISATIONAL COUNCIL POLICY REVIEW – COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
MARKETING**

Meeting date: 10 November 2021
Responsible officer: Manager Governance
Decision making authority: Council
Attachments: 1. Amended policies
Additional information: Nil

SUMMARY

A key role of Council is to make policies to guide its decision making, as specified in clause 2.7 of the *Local Government Act 1995*. Council has 81 policies, a number of which have not been reviewed for some time. A staged review of all policies has commenced to ensure that these continue to represent the position of Council and to identify desirable and / or necessary updates. The purpose of this report is to consider policies relating to the Community Development and Economic Development and Marketing business units, as part of this review.

This report recommends that Council adopt the recommendations listed in the table included in the 'officer comment' section of this report, noting that the following policies are recommended for deletion:

1. Investments: property and other non-current assets
2. Private apartment investment

BACKGROUND

Policies are (in their ideal form) clear, simple statements of how an organisation plans to conduct its services, actions or business. In local government policies reflect the leadership and decision-making role of Council and are a way for Council to give expression to preferred solutions to problems or matters of concern. Policies are in turn a guide for officers and elected members when making decisions, although they are not procedural in nature. They are implemented by way of administration policies, procedures and processes.

This report is part of a program where a number of reports will be presented to Council over the next 12 months, to update the City's Policies. The purpose of this program is to simplify the City's policies and create stronger alignment across the City's Divisions.

Clause 2.7 of the *Local Government Act 1995* make provision for Council to adopt policies to guide its decision making. These exist in addition to strategies, action plans, budgets, operational policies and procedures, and instruments (including policies) adopted under the *Planning and Development Act 2005*.

Council has approximately 81 policies (not including those made under the Planning and Development Act), a number of which have not been reviewed for some time. As part of its general administration and in the interests of good governance, a staged review of policies has commenced to ensure that these continue to represent the position of

Council and to identify any desirable / necessary updates. The proposed approach is to undertake a preliminary review of policies by area to establish whether a policy is:

1. Current, requiring no amendments.
2. Largely current, requiring minor updates only.
3. Requiring minor updates and future review
4. Not current, recommended for deletion.
5. Requiring future review.

OFFICER COMMENT

A review of the 10 policies sitting under the Community Development and Economic Development and Marketing Teams has been undertaken and recommendations are included below.

The regular review and update of Council Policy contributes to Council's objective to "*maintain high standards of corporate governance*" (Strategic Community Plan) and addresses the auditor recommendation to:

"Introduce a periodic City-wide policy review to:

- minimise the risk of policies becoming outdated;
- ensure consistency of formatting between policies; and
- promote culture where employees bring all proposed policy amendments to the attention of council."

Policies considered to be current, no amendments recommended:	
1. Acquisition and disposal of property	Adopted: 22/02/2017 Last Reviewed: -
This policy is still current. The template will be updated.	Recommendation: Adopt as unchanged.
2. Film friendly city	Adopted: 28/08/2019 Last Reviewed: -
This policy is still current. The template will be updated.	Recommendation: Adopt as unchanged.
3. Lease agreements for Council properties	Adopted: 22/02/2017 Last Reviewed: -
This policy is still current. The template will be updated.	Recommendation: Adopt as unchanged.
4. Leasing of City property in a competitive manner	Adopted: 22/02/2017 Last Reviewed: -
This policy is still current. The template will be updated.	Recommendation: Adopt as unchanged.

5. Grants and sponsorship	Adopted: 26/05/2021 Last Reviewed: -
This policy was adopted recently.	Recommendation: Adopt as unchanged.
6. Nyoongar acknowledgement	Adopted: 23/11/2020 Last Reviewed: -
This policy was adopted recently.	Recommendation: Adopt as unchanged.
7. Recreation	Adopted: 23/11/2011 Last Reviewed: -
The Community Sport and Recreation Facilities (CSRF) Plan will supersede this policy.	This policy will be recommended for deletion when the Plan is adopted.

Policies that are largely current, recommended for minor amendment:		
1. Diverse and affordable housing	Adopted: 25/05/2011 Last Reviewed:	
This policy elaborates on Council's position on facilitating diverse and affordable housing. Minor updates to reflect changes to documents and agencies listed, to better reflect Council's role and to identify an additional opportunity are recommended.		Recommendation: Adopt policy with the following minor amendments:
Section	Change	Reason
Objective	Replace reference to Strategic Plan 2010 with 'Strategic Community Plan 2015-2025'	Reflect current document
Definitions	Replace reference to Department of Housing with 'Department of Communities'	Reflect current agency name
Definitions	Amend explanation of affordable housing to confirm that this is for people experiencing housing stress who 'may' (or may not) have applied for public housing.	Recognition that housing affordability is a growing issue and can affect people who have not applied for public housing.
Objective	Replace words "Council intends to..." with "Council wishes to..."	Recognises that Council has pursued many of the policy actions listed already.
Research and Cooperation	Delete reference to establishing affordable housing targets. Insert word 'periodically' before commitment to monitor affordability and diversity of housing.	Recognises that the City has relatively little influence over housing affordability. Establishment of targets is consequently not recommended as the best allocation of resources.

		Monitoring performance periodically (such as through planning scheme reviews) allows review of status and refinement of response from time to time.
1. Research and Cooperation	Replace words “liaison” and “cooperation” with “liaise” and “cooperate” and replace reference to “managing affordable housing projects” with “facilitating affordable housing projects”.	Wording correction. Term ‘facilitate’ better reflects secondary role of the city in housing projects.
2. Facilitation of affordable and diverse housing through the planning system	Replace commitment to “Consider amendments to the local planning scheme and local planning policies to:...” with “Maintain provisions in the planning framework to:...”	Reflects the fact that provisions have been introduced into both the planning scheme and policy framework
Subclause 2.2	Replace word “ensure” with word “encourage” and “is” with “being” in relation to the provision of a percentage of affordable housing in large developments	Reflects limitations of Council’s capacity to require this in many circumstances, and corrects wording.
3. Direct Use of City land and assets for affordable housing	Replace word “City” with “public” in the title	Recognises that state and Crown land may contribute to affordable housing
3. Direct Use of City land and assets for affordable housing	Delete first sentence about reviewing the City’s land holding to identify land which might be used for affordable housing	This task has been complete. Disposal of a city-owned site in the West End included a requirement for inclusion of affordable housing.
3. Direct Use of City land and assets for affordable housing	Replace word “enable” with “consider” in relation to the provision of affordable in the redevelopment of City-owned sites such as the Knutsford Street Depot and Lefroy Road Quarry	Reflects subsequent investigation which identifies some other considerations which may (or may not) limit the suitability of this option on some sites.

3. Direct Use of City land and assets for affordable housing	Add additional sentence: "Consider supporting temporary use of surplus public land and reserves in suitable locations to accommodate low cost housing pending requirement for its longer term reserved purpose"	Reflects further opportunities to realise policy objectives through use of public land, an example being the "My Home" project in North Fremantle.
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Policies considered not current/obsolete, recommended for deletion:		
1. Investments: property and other non-current assets		Adopted: 11/02/2002 Last Reviewed: 28/12/2007
This Policy is considered to be obsolete, and references outdated procedures and actions.		Recommendation: Delete policy.
2. Private apartment investment		Adopted: 25/03/2020 Last Reviewed: -
The City is no longer in a position to provide this support.		Recommendation: Delete policy.

Copies of each policy in their current form are available on the City's website, and any proposed amendments to policies are shown in the above table and are shown in the attachment to this report with red and green text, indicating red for removal and green for inclusion.

All final policies will also be updated in line with current City templates and any spelling, formatting or grammatical inconsistencies will be corrected.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Clause 2.7 of the *Local Government Act 1995* make provision for Council to adopt policies to guide its decision making.

CONSULTATION

Consultation is not statutorily required or considered necessary for the minor amendments made during this part of the review.

VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority required

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council:

- 1. Adopt the following policies as unchanged:**
 - a. Acquisition and disposal of property**
 - b. Film friendly city**
 - c. Lease agreements for Council properties**
 - d. Leasing of City property in a competitive manner**
 - e. Grants and sponsorship**
 - f. Nyoongar acknowledgement**
 - g. Recreation**
- 2. Adopt the minor amendments to the policies below (as shown in attachment 1):**
 - a. Diverse and affordable housing**
- 3. Delete the following policies:**
 - a. Investments: property and other non-current assets**
 - b. Private apartment investment**

FPOL2111-11 ADOPTION OF ACCESS AND INCLUSION PLAN 2021-2025

Meeting date:	10 November 2021
Responsible officer:	Manager Community Development
Decision making authority:	Council
Attachments:	1. Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2025 Community Engagement Report Final 2. Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2025
Additional information:	Nil

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider adopting the Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2025 and receive the community feedback report as provided in the Community Engagement Report.

The City's 2016-2020 Access and Inclusion Plan has been reviewed and through an evaluation and community engagement process the new Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2025 has been developed.

To ensure compliance with legislative requirements, once adopted the Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2025 (AIP) is to be submitted to the Department of Communities (Disability Services) by December 2021.

The newly developed AIP is a strategic guiding document that aims to actively address barriers faced by people with disability and people from diverse communities. Achieved through prioritised actions that work to accomplish the seven legislative outcomes.

Three key focus areas provide a framework for the proposed priority actions that will work to achieve the seven legislated outcomes and the City's additional outcome eight. These include:

1. Diverse, inclusive and thriving communities
2. Accessible places and spaces
3. Equitable access to City services

The report recommending adoption of the Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2025 was deferred through committee decision at the Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee (FPOL) on 8 September 2021, with a request that further engagement be undertaken with the LGBTQIA+ community and people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds. This additional consultation has been undertaken and is reflected in the update to outcome eight and its purpose of incorporation in the Access and Inclusion Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Disability Services Act 1993 (amended 2004) requires local government authorities to develop and implement a (Disability) Access and Inclusion Plan. The (D)AIP assists public authorities to develop strategies and implement improvements to access and inclusion across seven legislated outcome areas. The City has a statutory obligation to review the Plan every five years.

The City's current Access and Inclusion Plan 2016-2020 was adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 25 November 2015. Since that date regular progress reporting has been provided to the Department of Communities (Disability Services), outlining the City's success in achieving the set outcomes.

The subsequent development of the new Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2025 was delayed due to the restrictions and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The AIP works to benefit people with disability, the elderly, young parents, the LGBTQIA+ community and people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds. The continuation of the plan's identification as Access and Inclusion reflects the commitment to supporting people with disability and the promotion of the value of a diverse and inclusive community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Some of the priority actions in the plan will have budget implications.

These will be considered as part of the project identification, annual budget development and long-term financial planning processes.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Disability Services Act 1993 (amended 2004) requires state and local government authorities to develop and implement a Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.

Under the Act public authorities must include a report about Disability Access and Inclusion Plan implementation in their annual report each year.

- Disability Services Act 1993 (amended 2004);
- Equal Opportunity Act 1994;
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Commonwealth);
- Carers Recognition Act 2004; and
- The Disability (Access to Premises Buildings) Standards 2010.

CONSULTATION

Stage One, planning and awareness community consultation commenced in 2019 with the formation of the Access and Inclusion Plan Working Group, comprising of people with disability, community members and disability sector employees. Awareness and promotion of the Working Group included:

- Print and online media channels (E-newsletters, social media, Newsbites)
- Direct communication with stakeholders

Stage two was a broader stakeholder and community engagement to identify the barriers faced by Fremantle residents and visitors, and the opportunities to improve City services and facilities. This engagement was conducted under the direction of an external consultant in conjunction with City officers.

Engagement methods included:

- Workshops for community members and City staff
- Online engagement (My Say Freo, 360 page visits)
- Hard copy surveys and comment boards in public places
- Survey assistance session at the Fremantle Library
- Working group meetings

Stage three, consultation on the draft plan sought feedback and improvement on the draft actions through:

- Review by the Access and Inclusion Working Group
- Online engagement (My Say Freo)
- Drop-in session at Fremantle Library

The consultation was advertised in the local newspaper, via the City's e-newsletter (Freo Weekly and This is Business) and media release.

The level of engagement from the wider community was significantly impacted as result of the delay and extended length of process of the project due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to note that the Working Group was actively engaged throughout the process and thoroughly consulted with. They provided positive feedback at the last working group meeting, with their changes already reflected in the draft development stage.

Engagement input is provided as Attachment 1.

Additional consultation was subsequently undertaken by City staff with key community representatives from the CaLD and LGBTQIA+ communities outside of the broader community engagement process. This included:

- Distribution of the draft AIP directly to stakeholders for comment
- Face to face consultation and discussion

OFFICER COMMENT

The Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2025 builds upon the work already achieved by the City. Working to progress and improve physical access to City buildings and facilities, equitable access to City services, events, mainstream information and for all people with disability to be provided with the same opportunities to be included and active participants in community life.

Key achievement highlights from the City's current Access and Inclusion Plan 2016-2020, include:

- Disability Awareness Staff Training Model – Induction for all new City employees includes compulsory disability awareness training.
- Leighton for All Project – Successful partnership project that obtained grant funding to improve the access to Leighton Beach through beach matting, beach wheelchair, beach walker and a sensory tent for events, project to be completed.

- Buster the Fun Bus Sensory Sessions – Implementation of new sensory specific sessions to allow for children and parents with sensory challenges to participate in a smaller, quieter group, with a supported and sensory sensitive atmosphere.
- Walyalup Civic Centre Design – Through cross-organisational collaboration the new Civic Centre has been designed to allow for optimal access and inclusion. For example, a charging station, Changing Place facility, accessible signage, and audio loops in meeting room.

The Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2025, is a strategic guiding document, developed to reflect the broader range of community members that benefit from an inclusive and accessible community and built environment.

The AIP 2021-2025 plan aligns to the strategic imperatives identified in the City of Fremantle's Community Strategic Plan. Through the strategic focus area 'health and happiness' the City aims to create a physical and social environment where it is easy for people to lead safe, happy and healthy lives.

It seeks to address and respond to barriers that prevent people from participating fully in the community on an equal basis. Working to remove these barriers creates equality and offers people with disability and from diverse communities more independence, choice and control.

The AIP acknowledges that there is a need for an intentional starting point in acknowledging and addressing the barriers that are experienced by people from CaLD backgrounds and people from the LGBTQIA+ communities in Fremantle. The incorporation of outcome eight in the plan is an intentional starting point for the City to work towards the improved strategic representation of Fremantle's diverse and marginalised communities and actions required in removing these barriers and challenges.

The framework of focus areas and priority actions were informed by key findings captured through the community consultation process. Actions where the City has direct control or influence to achieve the legislated outcomes have been prioritised. The three focus areas are:

Focus Area 1: Diverse, inclusive and thriving communities

- Accessing services and events
- Create a connected and inclusive City that actively, embraces and celebrates diversity

Focus Area 2: Accessible places and spaces

- Accessing buildings and facilities

Focus Area 3: Equitable access to City services

- Accessing information from the City
- Equitable access to City customer service
- Accessible complaints processes
- Equitable participation in City consultation
- Employment opportunities with the City

A further detailed implementation action plan will be developed as an operational working document in collaboration with key staff from across the organisation. The City will convene specific disability reference groups with community members and stakeholders for project specific engagement and consultation. This will drive achievement of the AIP 2021-2025 and will accompany an internal working group with key staff from various City business units; demonstrating the City's commitment to the whole of organisation approach in addressing and improving access and inclusion.

VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority required

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council:

- 1. Receive the community feedback as provided in the Community Engagement Report in Attachment 1.**
- 2. Adopt the Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2025, as provided in Attachment 2.**
- 3. Submit to Department of Communities (Disability Services) by December 2021.**

11. Motions of which previous notice has been given

FPOL2111-12 ELECTED MEMBER MOTION – CR ADIN LANG - AMENDMENT OF CITY OF FREMANTLE CAT MANAGEMENT LOCAL LAW 2020

Meeting date: 10 November 2021
Responsible officer: Chief Executive Officer
Decision making authority: Council
Agenda attachments: Nil

ELECTED MEMBER SUMMARY

Cats continue to pose a huge challenge to our local native animals and biodiversity, even with the City of Fremantle Cat Management Local Law in place. To protect our natural environment, the issue of cats and their impact on the environment ought to be further considered. In addition to the threats cats pose to our native wildlife, the health of individual free-ranging cats across our city should also be considered.

Since the City of Fremantle embarked on the management of domestic cats, there has been constant dialogue with the Western Australian State Government on the matter while they reviewed the Cat Act 2011. In the most recent correspondence with the Minister for Local Government, John Carey, it has been made clear there will be no revisions to the Cat Act 2011 and therefore no mechanism to enforce curfews or confinement to private property – even though this is supported by the Western Australian Community and would protect wildlife and individual cat health.

An amended Cat Management Local Law would focus on expanding cat prohibited areas beyond our natural bushland areas, to include other refuges for wildlife such as verge gardens, median strips, and street trees. Other City managed assets like roads would also be included as prohibited areas to help protect the safety of individual cats who are at risk of being struck by vehicles.

TIMELINE

May 2019 - The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (the department) has commenced a statutory review of the Cat Act 2011 (Cat Act).

June 2019 the WA State Government declared feral cats a pest to protect vulnerable native wildlife from extinction.

November 2019 - The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (the department) has produced a report from the statutory review of the Cat Act 2011 (Cat Act), including findings:

“It has been suggested that the Cat Act should contain provisions about confining cats to premises and the number of cats allowed so that the same rules apply across the State and local governments do not have to make their own local laws about these matters.

Seventy-three per cent of respondents supported the confinement of cats to the owner’s property. It should be noted that among cat owners, there was only 49 per cent support, with 39 per cent of cat owners opposing cat confinement.”

May 2020 - Fremantle Council has adopted a new local law to protect native wildlife from predation by cats.

July 2021 - Minister Carey confirms there will be no changes made to the Cat Act 2011 (attached).

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

During the City of Fremantle advertising period 21 November 2019 to 19 March 2020, the My Say Freo page was visited by 105 people and 78 made submissions.

Key findings:

- 67 people stated that they support the local law as proposed.
- 28 people want the local law to introduce even further restrictions. This included suggestions that cats should be prohibited from roaming outside of their property altogether, that night curfews should be applied, and suggestions of other places to include in the cat prohibited areas.
- 3 people did not support the proposed local law. The reasons for this included a belief that it would duplicate existing legislation, and that the decision should be up to the cat owner.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Council supports the process of amending the City of Fremantle Cat Local Law to expand cat prohibited areas to all City owned and managed property unless the cat is on a lead or contained.

OFFICER COMMENT

The purpose of the *Cat Act 2011* (the Act) was to introduce measures to reduce the large number of stray cats being euthanised each year; encourage responsible cat ownership; and provide for better management of the unwanted impacts of cats on the community and environment.

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Culture Industries provide the following advice on their website, in regard to cat local laws:

A local government needs to consider what elements of cat control they wish to regulate and only decide to make a local law if:

- *the Act, Cat Regulations 2012, the Cat (Uniform Local Provisions) Regulations 2013 or any other written law do not already cover that matter; and*
- *there appears a sufficient need for additional regulation in that area.*

Through the integrated planning process, the community may advise that there is a need for particular areas of cat control. It is then a matter of deciding that if you need cat control, what exactly you do need.

For some local governments the Act and Cat Regulations 2012 may provide sufficient powers for the control of cats without the need for a local law. Others may find targeted education campaigns and policies in particular areas may be all that is needed to supplement the legislation.

A number of local governments including the City of Fremantle have made local laws, making it an offence for Cats to be in 'prohibited areas' to enable them to issue a fine if a cat is found in one of these areas. The City of Fremantle currently has 12 Cat Prohibited Areas.

The City implemented a feral animal control program, which is designed to capture domestic cats should they be present in the areas identified in the Cat Local Law. All natural areas are surveyed twice per year to monitor feral animal activity and target areas with specific treatments. This information is enhanced with the City's camera trap fauna monitoring and for cats specifically. The City also includes natural areas where cats are known to frequent or where residents have reported nuisance cats. Trapping for cats occurs for a period of up to 14 days where cats are being targeted. The approximate existing annual cost for the feral animal control program is estimated to be up to \$27,000 per year.

Should the Cat Management Local Law be amended, Council must consider the potential impact on the resources of the City. By increasing areas as prohibited areas, the onus will fall on the City to 'police' the issue rather than addressing it through the feral animal control and other educational programs already in operation.

12. Urgent business

In cases of extreme urgency or other special circumstances, matters may, on a motion that is carried by the meeting, be raised without notice and decided by the meeting.

13. Late items

In cases where information is received after the finalisation of an agenda, matters may be raised and decided by the meeting. A written report will be provided for late items.

14. Confidential business

Nil

15. Closure