



# Minutes

## Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee

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Wednesday, 14 April 2021, 6.00pm

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## **FINANCE, POLICY, OPERATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee  
held in the North Fremantle Community Hall  
on **Wednesday, 14 April 2021** at 6.00 pm.

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### **1. Official opening, welcome and acknowledgement**

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 6.01 pm.

#### **2.1. Attendance**

Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge	Presiding Member/Beaconsfield Ward
Cr Jenny Archibald	Deputy Presiding Member/East Ward
Cr Andrew Sullivan	Deputy Mayor/South Ward
Cr Doug Thompson	North Ward
Cr Adin Lang	City Ward
Cr Sam Wainwright	Hilton Ward
Cr Frank Mofflin	Hilton Ward ( <i>Observing only</i> )
Mr Philip St John	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Glen Dougall	Director City Business
Ms Michelle Brennand	Director Community Development
Mr Graham Tattersall	Director Infrastructure
Ms Charlie Clarke	Manager Governance
Mr Matt Hammond	Manager Economic Development and Marketing
Ms Beverley Bone	Managers Community Development
Mr Craig Best	Manager Asset Management
Mr Russell Kingdom	Manager City Design and Projects
Mr David Janssens	Manager Infrastructure Engineering
Mr Christopher Scanlan	Acting Manager Field Services
Ms Aimee Sabbatino	Acting Manager Communications and Events
Mr Luke McGuirk	Engineering Team Leader
Ms Melody Foster	Meeting Support Officer

*There were approximately 8 members of the public and no members of the press in attendance.*

#### **2.2. Apologies**

Cr Marija Vujcic

#### **2.3. Leave of absence**

Nil

**3. Disclosures of interests by members**

Nil

**4. Responses to previous questions taken on notice**

Nil

**5. Public question time**

The following member of the public spoke in relation to item FPOL2104-3.  
Christine Duckham

The following members of the public spoke in relation to item FPOL2104-11.  
Stephanie Poly  
Kate Thresher

The following member of the public spoke in relation to item FPOL2104-7.  
Mark Taylor

**6. Petitions**

Nil

**7. Deputations**

**7.1 Special deputations**

Nil

**7.2 Presentations**

Nil

**8. Confirmation of minutes**

**COMMITTEE DECISION**  
**(Officer's recommendation)**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge      Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan**

**The Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee confirm the minutes of the Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee meeting dated 10 March 2021.**

**Carried: 6/0**  
**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,**  
**Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

**9. Elected member communication**

Nil

## 10. Reports and recommendations

### **FPOL2104-3      INCREASING CANOPY COVER AND BIODIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF FREMANTLE**

**Meeting date:** 14 April 2021  
**Responsible officer:** Manager Parks and Landscape  
**Decision making authority:** Committee  
**Attachments:** Nil  
**Additional information:** Nil

#### **SUMMARY**

**At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 27 January 2021, Councillor Adin Lang moved an Elected Member Motion requesting investigation into the status of and further opportunities to increase canopy cover and biodiversity in the City of Fremantle. The purpose of this report is to summarise these investigations and recommend a series of actions to achieve them.**

#### **BACKGROUND**

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 27 January 2021, Councillor Adin Lang moved an Elected Member Motion requesting information supporting an agenda to:

- Increase budget to support the implementation of the Green Plan and Urban Forest Plan.
- Deliver more trees and biodiversity through tree planting, natural areas planting program and green corridors.
- Involve community in ownership of street/public trees more.

In response, Council resolved the following:

*With the objective of increasing canopy cover and biodiversity, the City of Fremantle should investigate the following and return a report to FPOL on 14 April 2021:*

1. *Review and update the existing Street and Reserve Tree Policy.*
2. *Provide an update on the actual number of trees planted annually against the annual planting targets in the Urban Forest Plan.*
3. *Review the Local Law regarding damage to City Property in relation to damage or removal of trees.*
4. *Suggest new planting targets based on a review to achieve the Urban Forest Plan targets.*
5. *Suggest how the Green Corridors in the City can be improved.*
6. *Review the existing Verge Garden Scheme and suggest how the scheme can be reinstated and expanded following Covid budget reduction.*
7. *Suggest how 'Friends of' groups can access and utilise more financial support.*
8. *Review the types of tree species planted, with a view to plant more endemic and local species.*

9. *Review reporting methods for tree planting and revegetation planting to simplify data presentation. E.g., note more accurate numbers on how many trees and shrubs are planted each year.*
10. *Increasing protection and support for Clontarf Hill as an important public open space, noting the City of Fremantle's previous resolution in August 2018 that the loss of A Class from the High Street reserve be offset for Main Roads land on Clontarf Hill.*
11. *Liaise with 'Friends of' groups to identify their needs to maximise success of bush care activities.*
12. *Engage with other significant landholders in Fremantle to engage them with initiatives and aspirations to increase local canopy cover and biodiversity.*

Additionally, at the Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee on 20 January 2021, Cr Adin Lang presented a petition containing approximately 1300 signatures, requesting the following:

*Increase funding for more trees, shade and wildlife in Fremantle by turning our city into an Urban Forest!*

This report responds to Council's resolution and provides the information requested or a proposal as to how the recommendation can be addressed.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed budget submissions will be submitted for Council consideration through the annual budget process.

### Urban Forest Plan

Despite exceeding the Urban Forest Plan tree planting targets, officers propose to maintain the established targets with the following estimated annual budget. For street trees, the costs include the purchase of the tree, planting and two years of watering and aftercare. For natural areas trees, the costs include the purchase of the tree (tubestock) and assume community planting. As noted in the officer comment section, to achieve 100% of the total tree planting target, 80% will be planted in the street and reserve tree program, with the balance to be in natural areas.

<b>Year</b>	<b>21/22</b>	<b>22/23</b>	<b>23/24</b>	<b>24/25</b>	<b>25/26</b>	<b>26/27</b>
<b>Urban Forest Plan Target Trees</b>	1,080	1,845	1,525	1,798	1,576	1,599
<b>Supply, plant and water street and reserve trees</b>	\$226 560	\$332 280	\$320 360	\$346 496	\$328 856	\$318 696
<b>Supply trees (tubestock)</b>	\$864	\$1 476	\$1 220	\$1 440	\$1 260	\$1 280

Officers are also developing a program of works to plant trees in hard surface areas such as carparks and streets where no verge is available for tree planting. There are

associated engineering costs to construct tree pits and associated infrastructure ready for planting and that support establishment and survival of the tree in otherwise unfavourable conditions. The anticipated budget increase for these specific treatments are to be determined and an increased budget request will be made based on the number of trees confirmed as requiring this specific planting treatment.

Officers have applied for \$16,540 in grant funding under the 2021/22 Local Government Urban Canopy Grant Program provided by WALGA and Water Corporation. If successful, the grant will enable an additional 188 trees to be planted in 2022, bringing forward tree planting targets from 2023 and beyond as required by the grant eligibility criteria. This will result in a corresponding budget increase requirement for planting costs \$25,223 in 2021/22 and an increase in tree maintenance costs in 2022/23 of \$18,779.

The City will require a corresponding increase in the annual tree maintenance budget to support the growth and ongoing maintenance requirements of an increased number of trees. The forecast annual increase to the existing tree maintenance budget is detailed below and will be included in the annual budget process.

<b>Year</b>	<b>21/22</b>	<b>22/23</b>	<b>23/24</b>	<b>24/25</b>	<b>25/26</b>	<b>26/27</b>
<b>Annual Cost Increase</b>	\$11 150	\$23 850	\$43 200	\$73 800	\$61 000	\$71 920

#### Green Corridors

Officers currently include a budget in existing projects for planting within green corridors when the project has scope for inclusion of landscaping. Officers will also develop a program of capital projects to install new landscaping within green corridors and submit them as part of the annual budget process. This is in addition to operational budgets where strategic documents and reports on landscape connectivity are used to guide annual works programs.

#### Verge Garden Scheme

In 18/19, Council allocated \$20,000 to the verge garden preparation assistance scheme and \$20,000 to the subsidised plant scheme. In 19/20, Council suspended the verge garden preparation assistance scheme and the subsidised plant scheme due to Covid. In 20/21, Council suspended the verge garden preparation assistance scheme due to Covid budget impacts and allocated \$12,000 to the subsidised plant scheme. For the 21/22 financial year, officers propose a budget allocation of \$20,000 to the verge garden preparation assistance scheme and \$20,000 to the subsidised plant scheme, acknowledging the verge garden assistance scheme is to be reviewed as part of the Verge Garden Policy review. The City has also successfully applied annually for the Water Corporation water wise grant for up to \$10,000 (50:50 matched grant) to subsidise this program.

#### 'Friends of' Groups

The City contributes \$15,000 annually to the Perth NRM Coastal and Marine Program that provides a coastal facilitator for the southern metropolitan coastline and access to Perth NRM programs that connect community to coastal conservation



within City coastal reserves. This program has supported and continues to support the Friends of Fremantle Beaches in various coastal dune restoration activities in partnership with the City, as well attract volunteers and connect community and school groups to coastal conservation and restoration within the City. The program has been successful in attracting external grant funding for coastal dune restoration activities within the City's coastline.

It is proposed to request additional operational budget for Maintain natural areas to implement a 'Friends of Bushland Extension Program' in the 2021/22 and future budget approval processes. The additional budget will consist of:

- \$21,000 to provide additional materials, contract labour and skill development activities to support the on-ground works anticipated in 'Friends of' groups activities and that may be used as matching financial contributions for external grant applications.
- Up to \$2,000 per group, available to eligible Friends of groups to support the operation of their group.

This will be in addition to the City's current community grants program which eligible Friends of groups may apply for.

This increased level of service will initially be provided within the existing staff establishment and will be reviewed during the first year and then annually to ensure it is sustainable and is meeting the objectives of the proposed Friends of Bushland Policy.

There are various external grants programs available to Friends of groups. It is common for these grants programs to require a minimum 50:50 cost sharing arrangement, often with the applicants' cost contribution comprised of a mix of in-kind and financial contributions. Depending on the detail of individual grant applications, there is potential to attract upward of \$45,000 per annum in external funding via Friends of groups for activities within City-managed land that contributes to the implementation of the respective natural area's management or operational plan.

#### Clontarf Hill

To increase support for Clontarf Hill as an important public open space, officers will submit a project proposal for budget consideration by Council in 2021/22. The project will support the Friends of Clontarf Hill in undertaking land management activities to restore and enhance the natural landscape. This support may be used by the Friends of Clontarf Hill as matching contributions in grant applications to increase their available budget to carry out activities that restore the landscape. The project proposal would seek the following for an initial three years:

- 2021/22                \$18,500
- 2022/23                \$26,000
- 2023/24                \$18,500

The success of the project will be reviewed annually and a continuation of the project beyond three years should the need be demonstrated.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

### 'Friends of' Groups

Individual volunteers are required to be covered by insurance should an injury or accident occur while undertaking activities on City-held land. Friends of groups can purchase their own public liability insurance if they are incorporated, alternatively volunteers may be covered by the City's insurance provided they meet requirements to ensure compliance with the City's insurer.

Information on insurance options and volunteers' obligations will be detailed in the proposed 'Friends of Bushland Manual for Friends of groups', together with information on requirements to address occupational health and safety for volunteers.

### Clontarf Hill

Friends of Clontarf Hill are responsible for confirming with the City that they have landowner permission to conduct landscape restoration activities on Clontarf Hill.

## **CONSULTATION**

### Verge Garden Policy

To revise the Verge Garden Policy, inclusive of the verge garden scheme, officers propose to undertake community consultation to understand attitudes towards verges, what verge treatments people currently have, how they would like to use their verge, what some of the barriers are from them achieving this and how the City could better support the creation of verge gardens through the verge garden preparation assistance scheme. The feedback gained through the consultation will be used to inform the revised Policy.

### Friends of groups

In 2017, the City released a survey via MySay to determine what sorts of activities community members like to do and what skills they could contribute with respect to undertaking or coordinating on-ground activities within the City's natural area reserves. The survey was promoted via the Friends of group network at that time, known interested community members and the City's media channels and 21 responses were received. The results of the survey informed the City's approach to supporting and developing Friends of Groups in the City.

Due to the low numbers of community members responding to the survey, the high level of responses relating to interest in on-ground activities and low level of responses relating to administration and coordination of on-ground activities, the City focussed on continuing and expanding its coordination and promotion of community planting days. This resulted in increasing the numbers of volunteers interested in participating in on-ground activities.

In 2018, the City partnered with three other local governments via the South West Group NRM facilitator to develop a community capacity building program for Friends of Groups and won a grant to implement this over 2019 and 2020. The program aimed at building skill and knowledge within each group to operate and attract more volunteers that would then build their capacity to participate in on-ground activities with the City. This resulted in an increased number of Friends of groups successfully applying for external grant funds for activities on City managed land.

Given the community interest generated by previous year's on-ground activities of hosted plantings and Sydney Myer funded capacity building project, the volume of activity now exists to warrant formalising the City's service to Friends of groups via Friends of Bushland Policy, Friends of Bushland Extension Program and Friends of Bushland Manual.

To support the development of the proposed policy, program and manual, further consultation will be undertaken with the Friends of Groups to revisit previous consultation outcomes, align expectations and ensure the policy, program and manual continues to strengthen the capacity of Friends of groups to operate and sustain their group together with their on-ground activities within the context of the respective City management or operational plans for each reserve.

## **OFFICER COMMENT**

The Strategic Community Plan was based on a visioning exercise conducted in 2014 which identified "Green: A city which values its environment" as one of 6 key themes. The Plan identifies "better quality natural habitat with space for endemic biodiversity" as a key outcome, with the objective to 'protect and enhance the City's natural landscapes and biodiversity. The measures of success are as follows:

- Maintain and upscale 1,000 new trees per year program.
- A 10% increase year on year of native verge gardens.
- Protect existing significant trees and increase overall tree canopy by 20% by 2020.
- Management plans prepared for environmentally significant terrestrial areas including our coastal and river foreshores.

The City's annual program is further guided by:

- the One Planet Action Plan, Green Plan 2020, Towards Establishing a Green Network Report: vegetation connectivity modelling report 2014 and Urban Forest Plan
- policies including the Street and Reserve Tree Policy and Verge Garden Policy
- site specific management plans.

These documents are used to inform a range of programs including annual tree planting, natural areas revegetation, community planting and friends of group activities, verge garden scheme and landscape plantings.

For the purposes of responding to the Motion, the officer comment section has grouped the resolution into similar themed operational areas of Urban Forest Plan,

Green Corridors, Friends of Groups and Other Landholders. The comment provides the information requested or a proposal as to how the recommendation can be addressed.

### Urban Forest Plan

#### ***Review the Local Law regarding damage to City Property in relation to damage or removal of trees.***

Protection for trees is currently provided through the Local Government Property Local Law 2002 under Clause 4.3(3) - A person must not remove or damage or attempt to remove or damage any flora which is on or above any local government property, unless that person is authorised to do so under a written law or with the written approval of the local government. This can be enforced with a penalty of \$125. Additionally, under Clause 10.3(2) any person who commits an offence under this local law is liable, upon conviction, to a penalty not exceeding \$5,000. Given this maximum penalty exceeds the cost of supply, planting and establishing a tree, officers believe it provides a significant enough deterrent and compensation for the loss or damage of a tree and recommend no change is required.

#### ***Review and update the existing Street and Reserve Tree Policy.***

The Street and Reserve Tree Policy was adopted by Council in 2017 with the purpose of defining how trees under the management and care of the City will be planted, pruned, maintained and removed. The Policy is due for a review and Officers propose to draft a revised Policy and bring to Council for consideration. Some of the additional areas suggested for the revised policy include all properties, where practical, will have at least one street tree planted in the verge and an increase over the current protection for trees within or adjacent to development and/or construction sites.

#### ***Provide an update on the actual number of trees planted annually against the annual planting targets in the Urban Forest Plan.***

The Urban Forest Plan was adopted in 2017 and the City commenced its implementation the same year. The implementation was affected by Covid related impacts on budget, with the 2019/20 financial year tree planting budget suspended. The Urban Forest Plan identifies native vegetation areas in the implementation plan and therefore these have been included in the summary. However, for the purposes of reporting, these have been kept separate from street and park tree planting. A summary is provided as follows:

UFP Boundary	2018		2019		2020 *		2021 proposed	
	2017/18 FY budget		2018/19 FY budget		2020/21 FY budget			
Area	Street and Park	Natural Areas**	Street and Park	Natural Areas**	Street and Park	Natural Areas**	Street and Park	Natural Areas
North	49	40	80	70	13	0		
West	143	340	92	20	88	250		

<b>East</b>	109	0	48	250	26	1004		
<b>South</b>	404	782	314	800	96	60		
<b>Total</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>1,162</b>	<b>716</b> (includes 219 various park trees)	<b>1140</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>1314</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>1000</b>
<b>Total trees planted</b>	<b>1,867</b>		<b>1,856</b>		<b>1,537</b>		<b>1,477</b>	
<b>UFP Target</b>	<b>1,172</b>		<b>1,040</b>		<b>805</b>		<b>1065</b>	

\*Note: the 2019/20 financial year budgets for tree planting and natural areas revegetation were withdrawn due to cost savings enforced at the commencement of Covid-19 in March 2019. 2020 street and park trees were planted later in 2020 utilising a portion of the 2020/21 tree planting program budget to meet some resident verge tree requests. 2020 natural area trees planted as part of revegetation was undertaken with existing external grants sourced by Friends of groups or other City partnerships, was under existing contracts and was undertaken with a portion of the 2020/21 budget for the 2021 revegetation program.

\*\*Data from some natural area sites have not been included as the Friends of groups who undertook these works have not provided information to the City.

Tree planting numbers are currently reported annually in the One Planet Annual Report and corporate Annual Report however, have excluded natural areas plantings. The Urban Forest Plan targets include all locations, including natural areas.

***Suggest new planting targets based on a review to achieve the Urban Forest Plan targets.***

The Urban Forest Plan identifies tree planting targets across the City and includes tree planting in natural areas, however doesn't specify targets for each landscape type. For the purpose of implementing the plan, officers propose to aim to plant 80% of the target trees in streets and reserves, as this is where the most benefit will be achieved in reducing the impacts of urban heat island effects and improving amenity in urban areas. The balance of the trees will be planted through the annual revegetation program and will generally exceed the annual urban forest plan targets. The costs for achieving these targets are noted in the financial section of this report.

The implementation of the Urban Forest Plan has highlighted some of the challenges and barriers to planting trees in the urban and suburban environments. Physical site conditions and constraints such as hard surfaces or utility service corridors present barriers to tree planting. Officers currently liaise closely with the Engineering team on projects such as road or car park renewal to include the construction of tree pits in these projects. Officers also propose to develop a program of works to plant trees in some of the difficult urban and suburban environments (City streets, narrow historical streets, car parks) which will need to be supported by additional budget for constructing tree pits in hard surfaces. These will be submitted for consideration in future budget cycles and will support the achievement of tree planting targets.

As well as physical constraints, there can be some resistance to planting trees. In the Urban Forest Plan, Goal 1 – Engage is to engage residents, businesses, community groups and government agencies in educating and facilitating ownership of the urban forest. Education material has been used to support major tree planting projects and will continue to be a key part of improving community awareness of the benefits of trees. This may also be partially supported by the revised Street and Reserve Tree Policy.

***Review the types of tree species planted, with a view to plant more endemic and local species***

The benefits of planting endemic and local species are well understood and documented, and include improved habitat, species biodiversity and species more resilient and adaptable to the location and changing climate. Over the past 4 years, the City has been undertaking a process of auditing the street trees within the City. To date, data has been gathered for Fremantle, Samson, North Fremantle, South Fremantle, Hilton and White Gum Valley. O'Connor and Beaconsfield are currently being audited and upon completion will give a recent set of data on the City's street trees. The audit includes tree location, genus, species, health, form, useful life expectancy and Helliwell tree value (an assessment system used worldwide for assessing the Amenity Value of a tree as a dollar value). Among other things, this data set can be used to establish a baseline of the genus and species composition of the City's street trees, including by location.

The data also provides an understanding on the age and health profile of the City's street trees and will be used for succession planning and transition of species which may include a shift to more endemic and local native species. This may result in divergence from some of the tree species identified in the Urban Forest Plan.

Moving forward, combining the tree audit data with on the ground knowledge will allow a more considered and data driven approach to the tree planting and maintenance program. The structure of the tree team has recently been developed to align with this approach providing both the staff capacity and resource level to implement the Urban Forest Plan and manage the increasing number of trees within the City.

***Review reporting methods for tree planting and revegetation planting to simplify data presentation. E.g., note more accurate numbers on how many trees and shrubs are planted each year.***

Overall numbers of trees planted are currently reported annually through the One Planet Annual Report and in the corporate Annual Report.

The City is currently reviewing the Environmental section of the website, to report more broadly and make more information available for the community. The environmental section will include, among others, a Biodiversity and Green Spaces tab. It is proposed the Biodiversity and Green spaces section will include annual, consolidated reporting section for tree planting and revegetation planting including:

- numbers of trees planted annually reported against the UFP targets

- Genus and species composition
- Locations by the Urban Forest Plan areas (north, south, east and west)
- Revegetation planting numbers and Genus and species.

It is anticipated this information will also be presented in the same format in the Annual and One Planet Reports.

### Green Corridors

#### ***Suggest how the Green Corridors in the City can be improved.***

The Greening Fremantle: Strategy 2020 identifies natural areas, biodiversity and linkages as “landscape areas that, although historically have been modified, provide a natural habitat for flora and fauna. These areas include river foreshores, coastal areas and urban bushland such as Cantonment Hill and Samson Park. These areas are important to provide a connection to nature in an urban setting and areas to protect and enhance biodiversity. Links between these areas are important to allow for fauna movement, increase flora biodiversity and improve amenity to encourage walking, cycling and other transport modes across the city.” The objectives of the linkages are:

- Develop links that increase the amount of flora/vegetation cover and increase habitats
- For native fauna and encourage their movement between green spaces.
- Increase and improve linkages between green spaces and areas of biodiversity.
- Ensure biodiversity areas and links are protected and/or managed and integrated into development so as to maintain function and integrity.
- Provide connectivity and encourage walking and cycling between green areas and POS and between activity nodes and centres.

The green linkages cover a diverse range of landscape typologies, including natural areas, parks, road reserves and land not owned or managed by the City. The approach for each linkage is defined in the Strategy and includes regional biodiversity, local biodiversity, green space and pedestrian and cycle connectivity. Improvements have been completed on green linkages and include Samson Reserve revegetation, Lefroy Road tree planting, Hilton Park tree planting, Frank Gibson playground upgrade, North Fremantle foreshore revegetation, Booyeembara Park revegetation, South Beach landscape plantings, coastal revegetation and Stevens Street tree planting.

In addition to these projects, officers propose to put together a program of greening projects to further implement linkages and submit them to Council for consideration in the annual budget cycles. The following project examples are located on the green linkages and highlight how the linkages can be improved through existing or proposed capital projects:

- Fremantle Public Golf Course and Community Facility Project: the City is improving a portion of the Montreal Street linkage through increased tree planting and landscaping and improved pedestrian and cycle connectivity.

- Griffiths Park Playground, irrigation and drainage swale renewal: Officers have proposed a project in the 2021/22 budget process to align the playground renewal of Griffiths Park with an upgrade of the irrigation system and existing drainage swale. The irrigation upgrade presents the opportunity to hydrozone the park, converting areas of turf to planting and trees. The drainage swale is currently a fenced, deep basin with little biodiversity/environmental value. It is proposed to convert the sump to a biofiltration swale integrated into the park (not fenced) providing habitat and amenity.
- City Median Strips: An upgrade of median strips across the City is an opportunity to create green linkages with trees and planting, showcase Western Australia's unique flora, increase amenity, create sustainable drainage through biofiltration swales and provide habitat and biodiversity.

Projects delivered under the Heart of Beaconsfield, and the extension of the Perth-Fremantle PSP through Leighton both provide opportunities for future projects.

***Review the existing Verge Garden Scheme and suggest how the scheme can be reinstated and expanded following Covid budget reduction.***

The Verge Garden Policy was adopted by Council in 2017 and outlines the City's approach to the verge preparation assistance scheme, mulch, the plant subsidy scheme, verge garden materials and verge garden maintenance. The verge garden scheme assists residents develop verge gardens by undertaking verge preparation and providing mulch and subsidised plants. Applications for the verge garden preparation assistance scheme far exceeds the budget allocated for the scheme. In 2019 there were 115 applications and the City was able to prepare 38 verges within the allocated budget, some of which were mulch deliveries only (no earthworks). These are assessed on the following order of priority: Seniors Card or Health Care Card holder, followed by size of verge where large verges have higher priority, followed by not had the property's verge prepared in the previous 10 years. The uptake of subsidised plants is high and generally reaches capacity. The number of applications for the scheme and uptake of the subsidised plant program indicate a high community desire to create and maintain verge gardens.

The Verge Garden Policy is now due for a review. Officers propose to undertake community consultation to gain an understanding of how residents want to use their verge and barriers to development to inform the Policy and how the City can support residents through the verge garden assistance scheme. A revised Verge Garden Policy will then be brought back to Council for consideration. Some of the areas suggested for consideration in the update Policy include:

- Revision of the verge garden preparation assistance scheme to help support a broader range of the community create verge gardens.
- Creation of smaller vegetable or community gardens.
- Activation of verges through play equipment, furniture and community gathering spaces.
- Self-assessment of verge garden designs to make it easier for the resident
- Approach to managing non-compliant verges (i.e. extensive hard surfaces) to create tree planting and verge garden opportunities.



## Friends of Groups

***Suggest how ‘Friends of’ groups can access and utilise more financial support.***

***Liaise with ‘Friends of’ groups to identify their needs to maximise success of bush care activities.***

Support for friends of groups is an objective of the Greening Fremantle: Strategy 2020 Actions “3.1 Review and develop management plans and programs for community group participation in design, implementation and ongoing management of POS and other green spaces”, “3.2 Provide and promote grant opportunities for community partnering projects” and “3.3 Develop the City’s capacity to assist “Friends of” and other groups for the implementation of enhancement plans”.

The City liaises with ‘Friends of’ groups each year to identify their needs to maximise the success of bush care activities on City managed land within the existing operational budget provisions to maintain natural areas, existing staff establishment and service arrangements with non-government organisations and provides supporting documentation for Friends of groups grant applications. The City liaises with and supports Friends of groups through the year to implement their activities and coordinate works. The City actively supports the capacity development of ‘Friends of’ groups and their external grant applications to implement on-ground works, as well as co-host community planting days to support the promotion of their group and engage more volunteers. Activities are consistent with City management or operational plans for each respective natural area.

Based on information and evidence obtained over at least the previous six years through working alongside various ‘Friends of’ groups and as volunteer-led activities have increased, officers propose to formalise and enhance this service level in 2021/22 with the introduction of a proposed ‘Friends of Bushland Policy’ supported by a ‘Friends of Bushland Extension Program’ and a user-friendly ‘Friends of Bushland Manual for Friends of groups’ that explains the program. The aim of the policy, program and manual is to clarify expectations, roles and responsibilities, support succession planning, volunteer recruitment and broader community involvement, build capacity of Friends of groups to operate and achieve their goals, ensure best practice conservation land management is undertaken, and facilitate community participation in operational planning for natural areas. Additionally, officers propose to support Friends of groups financially as noted in the Financial section of this report.

There are various external grants programs available to Friends of groups. It is common for these grants programs to require a minimum 50:50 cost sharing arrangement, often with the applicants’ cost contribution comprised of a mix of in-kind and financial contributions. There is potential to attract additional external funding for activities within City-managed land that contributes to the implementation of the respective natural area’s management or operational plan should Friends of Groups be able to apply to the City for matching contributions through an increased budget provision to do so.

Grants programs that the City has provided support to 'Friends of' groups to apply for and have successfully been awarded and implemented include Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage Coastwest grants, state Natural Resource Management Office Community Stewardship Grants and Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment Communities Environment Program. Additional opportunities to further enhance the City's service delivery to Friends of groups exist in other grant funding programs, including the State Natural Resource Management Office's Community Collaboration Grants program, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Community Rivercare Program and the State government's River Guardians Program.

#### Other Landholders

***Increasing protection and support for Clontarf Hill as an important public open space, noting the City of Fremantle's previous resolution in August 2018 that the loss of A Class from the High Street reserve be offset for Main Roads land on Clontarf Hill.***

The Mayor contacted Minister for Transport on 31 August 2018 requesting the transfer of land at Clontarf Hill and was advised the freehold and reserve land held by Main Roads was not available to be transferred at the time (November 2018). Additionally, Main Roads advised they had previously offered the 2.047ha of land (Reserve 21680) to the department of Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage as part of the South West Native Title Settlements. In February 2021, the City contacted DPLH for an update and were advised they will be progressing a significant volume of land through the Phases of the Noongar Land Base Strategy to ready land for Offer to the pending Noongar Boodja Trust. Due to the significance of this land parcel, it is likely that Reserve 21680 will be included in this body of work. Formal consultation with the City on this is anticipated over the coming year.

Clontarf Hill is important for its Aboriginal heritage and forms part of the Manjaree Trail developed by the Noongar community of Fremantle and Cockburn; interpretation signage has been installed on site. An application for heritage listing has been made under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* for artefacts / scatter, ceremonial, mythological, natural feature and as a camp and hunting place. It is an important Whadjuk Noongar site.

The Friends of Clontarf Hill have been actively engaged in maintaining and enhancing the conservation values of Clontarf Hill for over 25 years. According to the *Towards Establishing a Green Network: vegetation connectivity modelling report 2014*, Clontarf Hill is an area of priority conservation and is an important junction of both a north-south regional ecological linkage and a rare east-west ecological linkage, it is part of an ecological linkage that connects the coast to the Beeliar wetlands. Clontarf hill also contain a remnant stand of tuart trees, tuart woodlands and forests of the Swan Coastal Plain are listed as Critically Endangered and recognised as a Threatened Ecological Community under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Clontarf Hill contains a number of woody weeds and nuisance grass weeds that present a persistent challenge to the Friends of Clontarf Hill to control and that

degrade the bushland. The resource required to achieve effective reduction and control of these weed species is currently not available to the Friends of Groups as they rely solely on grant funding and their own fundraising. City funds made available for weed management would support the Friends of Clontarf Hill in maintaining this important public open space for its conservation values, the Friends of Group would also be able to put forward these funds as a matching contribution for any external grant funds they apply to, potentially increasing the resource available and expanding their revegetation efforts.

***Engage with other significant landholders in Fremantle to engage them with initiatives and aspirations to increase local canopy cover and biodiversity.***

The Urban Forest Plan identifies 52% of 3m+ canopy coverage trees are located on public lands (public lands includes parks, reserves and open space available to the public including Clontarf Hill, Fremantle Oval, both public and private golf courses, Fremantle Hospital, Fremantle Prison, museums and spaces along Fishing Boat Harbour). This highlights the size of the area and number of trees that are outside City owned or managed land presenting a constraint to achieving and maintaining canopy cover and biodiversity. Some of the other significant landholders identified include:

- Public Transport Authority
- Fremantle Port Authority
- Department of Transport
- Main Roads WA
- Department of Education
- Department of Communities
- Private schools
- Development WA
- Water Corporation
- Western Australian Planning Commission

Planning proposals exist over a number of the landholdings (including Development WA's and Department of Education's Swanbourne Street site, and the WAPC and Main Roads' Lefroy Road Quarry site. Further proposals are being developed for the Fishing Boat Harbour. Implementation of tree planting in these areas will most likely occur in conjunction with plan implementation.

The City currently offers support on the verge with subsidised plants through the verge garden plant subsidy schemes, whereby schools and commercial properties can apply for more plants or request free street trees.

The City has education material on the social, economic and environmental benefits of trees and greening for this purpose and could offer assistance with tree planting and greening, this could include:

- Identification of sites suitable for tree planting and greening.
- Advice on planting including species and maintenance
- Provision of trees and plants for planting on non-City owned or managed land.

Should Council decide to assist with tree planting on non-city managed land, officers can develop a program for consideration in future budget cycles. This may include setting a target for tree planting on non-City managed land, however achieving a target would be dependent on reaching agreement with land owners/managers for access for planting and ongoing responsibility and costs for watering and maintenance of the trees.

### Summary

The implementation of the recommendations detailed in this report are very closely related to the availability of staff resources and capacity.

Suitable budgets will also need to be identified, prioritised and approved by Council to progress aspects of these works and programs.

Timeframes for achieving these actions depend on staff capacity of the relevant team for any approved budgets. Upon approval of a project or program budget, officers will investigate resource availability and capacity requirements to develop proposed timeframes for implementation.

## **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Simple majority required

## **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved: Cr Adin Lang**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Wainwright**

Council:

1. Note the petition received at the Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee on 20 January 2021 requesting the City of Fremantle "Increase funding for more trees, shade and wildlife in Fremantle by turning our city into an Urban Forest!".
2. Note that the Local Government Property Local Law 2002 provides sufficient protection for trees and the removal or damage of a plant can be enforced under Clause 4.3(3) with a penalty of \$125 and that under Clause 10.3(2) a penalty not exceeding \$5,000 may be applied upon conviction.
3. Request officers commence a program of review and development for the Policy areas detailed below, in the following order of priority, and bring them back to Council for consideration:
  - a. Street and Reserve Tree Policy.
  - b. Verge Garden Policy, inclusive of the verge garden scheme, noting community consultation will be undertaken to inform the Policy and the verge garden assistance scheme.

- c. Friends of Bushland Policy, consulting with existing Friends of Groups, inclusive of financial support to be considered during the annual budget process.
4. Note the City is currently restructuring and updating the environmental section of the website, which includes a consolidated reporting section for tree planting and revegetation planting, which will include numbers and species of trees planted.
5. Note officers will include the operational programs as part of the annual business planning process, and will submit budgets to Council for consideration in the annual budget process, including:
  - a. \$227 424 in the 2021/22 financial year to achieve the annual tree planting targets of the Urban Forest Plan.
  - b. \$20 000 in the 2021/22 financial year to reinstate the verge garden preparation assistance scheme.
  - c. \$35 000 in the 2021/22 financial year to provide materials, resources and financial assistance to support Friends of Groups.
  - d. \$18 500 in the 2021/22 financial year to support the Friends of Clontarf Hill bushland restoration works.
  - e. A program of green linkage projects in future budget cycles.
6. Note the Department of Planning, Lands, Heritage has advised the City they will be progressing a significant volume of land through the Phases of the Noongar Land Base Strategy to ready land for Offer to the pending Noongar Boodja Trust and it is likely that Reserve 21680 will be included in this body of work, noting in the interim officers will contact Main Roads Western Australia requesting confirmation that they support actions to restore the natural bushland and/or contribute funds to prevent further bushland degradation.

### **AMENDMENT 1**

**Moved: Cr Adin Lang**

**Seconded: Cr Jenny Archibald**

**Amend the officer's recommendation, to include the following wording shown in green italics, to read as follows:**

**Council:**

1. **Receive the petition received at the Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee on 20 January 2021 requesting the City of Fremantle "Increase funding for more trees, shade and wildlife in Fremantle by turning our city into an Urban Forest!"**
2. ***Request a media and education campaign that city trees are city property, and they are protected as such.***
3. **Request officers commence a program of review and development for the Policy areas detailed below, in the following order of priority, and bring them back to Council for consideration:**

- a. Street and Reserve Tree Policy *in the 2021/22 financial year.*
  - b. Verge Garden Policy, inclusive of the verge garden scheme, noting community consultation will be undertaken to inform the Policy and the verge garden assistance scheme *in the 2021/22 financial year.*
  - c. Friends of Bushland Policy, consulting with existing Friends of Groups, inclusive of financial support to be considered during the annual budget process, *in the 2022 calendar year.*
4. Note the following:
- a) That the Local Government Property Local Law 2002 provides sufficient protection for trees and the removal or damage of a plant can be enforced under Clause 4.3(3) with a penalty of \$125 and that under Clause 10.3(2) a penalty not exceeding \$5,000 may be applied upon conviction.
  - b) City is currently restructuring and updating the environmental section of the website, which includes a consolidated reporting section for tree planting and revegetation planting, which will include numbers and species of trees planted *by September 2021 following the winter tree planting season.*
  - c) Officers will include the operational programs as part of the annual business planning process, and will submit budgets to Council for consideration in the annual budget process, including:
    - i. \$227 424 in the 2021/22 financial year to achieve the annual tree planting targets of the Urban Forest Plan.
    - ii. \$20 000 in the 2021/22 financial year to reinstate the verge garden preparation assistance scheme.
    - iii. \$35 000 in the 2021/22 financial year to provide materials, resources and financial assistance to support Friends of Groups.
    - iv. \$18 500 in the 2021/22 financial year to support the Friends of Clontarf Hill bushland restoration works.
    - v. *\$22 000 in the 2021/22 financial year for consultancy budget to plan the new program of green linkage projects to be implemented in future budget cycles.*
    - vi. *Note we are 1961 trees behind our targets for the Urban Forest Plan which equates to \$519 665 dollars. To catch up, Council should plant extra trees as follows:*
      - *2020/21 \$103,933 and 393 extra trees*
      - *2021/22 \$103,933 and 393 extra trees + \$25,493 for second year watering*
      - *2022/23 \$103,933 and 393 extra trees + \$25,493 for second year watering*
      - *2023/24 \$103,933 and 393 extra trees + \$25,493 for second year watering*

- 2024/25 \$103,933 and 389 extra trees + \$25,493 for second year watering
- 2025/26 \$25,493 for second year watering
- TOTAL \$ 519 665 and 1961 trees + \$127 465 watering.

- d) The Department of Planning, Lands, Heritage has advised the City they will be progressing a significant volume of land through the Phases of the Noongar Land Base Strategy to ready land for Offer to the pending Noongar Boodja Trust and it is likely that Reserve 21680 will be included in this body of work, *noting in the interim officers will contact Main Roads Western Australia requesting confirmation that they support actions to restore the natural bushland and/or contribute funds to prevent further bushland degradation.*
- e) *The imminent deletion of the Roe 8 and 9 from the Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS) by the Labor Government now provides the first meaningful opportunity for Clontarf Hill and other linkage lands owned by MRWA to be vested as a Reserve for the purpose of bush land restoration and protection.*

Carried: 6/0

Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright

#### Reason for change:

The changes are submitted to reflect the feedback received from relevant stakeholders.

#### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ITEM FPOL2104-3** (Officer's recommendation as amended)

Moved: Cr Adin Lang

Seconded: Cr Sam Wainwright

#### Council:

1. Receive the petition received at the Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee on 20 January 2021 requesting the City of Fremantle "Increase funding for more trees, shade and wildlife in Fremantle by turning our city into an Urban Forest!".
2. Request a media and education campaign that city trees are city property, and they are protected as such.
3. Request officers commence a program of review and development for the Policy areas detailed below, in the following order of priority, and bring them back to Council for consideration:
  - a. Street and Reserve Tree Policy in the 2021/22 financial year.

- b. Verge Garden Policy, inclusive of the verge garden scheme, noting community consultation will be undertaken to inform the Policy and the verge garden assistance scheme in the 2021/22 financial year.**
- c. Friends of Bushland Policy, consulting with existing Friends of Groups, inclusive of financial support to be considered during the annual budget process, in the 2022 calendar year.**

**4. Note the following:**

- a) That the Local Government Property Local Law 2002 provides sufficient protection for trees and the removal or damage of a plant can be enforced under Clause 4.3(3) with a penalty of \$125 and that under Clause 10.3(2) a penalty not exceeding \$5,000 may be applied upon conviction.**
- b) City is currently restructuring and updating the environmental section of the website, which includes a consolidated reporting section for tree planting and revegetation planting, which will include numbers and species of trees planted by September 2021 following the winter tree planting season.**
- c) Officers will include the operational programs as part of the annual business planning process, and will submit budgets to Council for consideration in the annual budget process, including:**
  - i. \$227 424 in the 2021/22 financial year to achieve the annual tree planting targets of the Urban Forest Plan.**
  - ii. \$20 000 in the 2021/22 financial year to reinstate the verge garden preparation assistance scheme.**
  - iii. \$35 000 in the 2021/22 financial year to provide materials, resources and financial assistance to support Friends of Groups.**
  - iv. \$18 500 in the 2021/22 financial year to support the Friends of Clontarf Hill bushland restoration works.**
  - v. \$22 000 in the 2021/22 financial year for consultancy budget to plan the new program of green linkage projects to be implemented in future budget cycles.**
  - vi. Note we are 1961 trees behind our targets for the Urban Forest Plan which equates to \$519 665 dollars. To catch up, Council should plant extra trees as follows:**
    - 2020/21 \$103,933 and 393 extra trees**
    - 2021/22 \$103,933 and 393 extra trees + \$25,493 for second year watering**
    - 2022/23 \$103,933 and 393 extra trees + \$25,493 for second year watering**
    - 2023/24 \$103,933 and 393 extra trees + \$25,493 for second year watering**
    - 2024/25 \$103,933 and 389 extra trees + \$25,493 for second year watering**
    - 2025/26 \$25,493 for second year watering**



- **TOTAL \$ 519 665 and 1961 trees + \$127 465 watering.**

- d) **The Department of Planning, Lands, Heritage has advised the City they will be progressing a significant volume of land through the Phases of the Noongar Land Base Strategy to ready land for Offer to the pending Noongar Boodja Trust and it is likely that Reserve 21680 will be included in this body of work, noting in the interim officers will contact Main Roads Western Australia requesting confirmation that they support actions to restore the natural bushland and/or contribute funds to prevent further bushland degradation.**
- e) **The imminent deletion of the Roe 8 and 9 from the Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS) by the Labor Government now provides the first meaningful opportunity for Clontarf Hill and other linkage lands owned by MRWA to be vested as a Reserve for the purpose of bush land restoration and protection.**

**Carried: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

**Cr Jenny Archibald requested the item be referred to the Ordinary Meeting of Council. Seconded by Cr Andrew Sullivan.**

## **FPOL2104-7 BOOYEEMBARA PARK LANDSCAPE PLAN**

<b>Meeting date:</b>	14 April 2021
<b>Responsible officer:</b>	Manager Parks and Landscape
<b>Decision making authority:</b>	Committee
<b>Attachments:</b>	1. Booyeembara Park Master Plan Implementation – Community Engagement Report 2. Booyeembara Park Landscape Plan
<b>Additional information:</b>	Nil

### **SUMMARY**

**This report provides an update on the Booyeembara Park Landscape Plan design process and seeks Council endorsement of the plan and approval to progress to detailed design and construction of Stage 1 works.**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Booyeembara Park site has a long and diverse history of aboriginal use, industrial land uses and most recently, public investment in the public open space. The Montreal Street Open Space Master Plan was developed from 1997-99 in close consultation with the community. The implementation of the master plan has been an ongoing process and has been influenced by many factors including the sites history, site contamination issues, community use and availability of budget for construction.

Booyeembara Park has been identified as containing bonded Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) fragments and is managed in accordance with the Booyeembara Park Site Management Plan (SMP). The SMP is *“designed to mitigate risk by providing protection for human health (of general public, park visitors and workers) and the environment during routine park maintenance works and any other remedial or civil works that may lead to the disturbance of soils at the park”* (GHD 2012).

As the park has developed and grown with the community, new projects, uses and pressures have exerted influence on the park. Some of these are in line with the Master Plan and some have developed from the Master Plan’s intent and have grown into new uses with the community.

More recently, there have been many changes in the surrounding area including new residential developments in White Gum Valley/Knutsford, an upgrade to the Fremantle Public Golf Course, Clubhouse and Community Facility as a result of the Main Roads WA High Street upgrade and the development of a Council endorsed Mountain Bike Trail Concept Plan. The City of Fremantle has also received a cash-in-lieu contribution specifically for improvements to Booyeembara Park as a condition of subdivision from nearby land.

To ensure Booyeembara Park functioned as an integrated precinct incorporating these new uses and facilities into the landscape, as well as catering for the changing needs of the community, officers proposed to revise the Booyeembara Park Landscape Plan. At the Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee

meeting on 12 August 2020, Council resolved (part 4 of decision) the following:

4. *Request officers progress with the development of the Booyeembara Park Concept Plan, as identified in attachment 2, noting it will be developed in consultation with the Booyeembara Park Reference Group, prior to further community consultation.*

This report provides an update on the outcomes from community consultation and Booyeembara Park Reference Group engagement and how the landscape plan has been developed inclusive of integrating the Mountain Bike Trail and Fremantle Public Golf Course and Community Building projects.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Officers have completed an Opinion of Probable Cost for landscape construction works for each stage of works, of which a summary is provided below. The costs are subject to final detail design and will vary depending on the specification of the materials and final design. The cost estimate is based on a level of finish consistent with the existing in Booyeembara Park. The design has been based on re-using/adapting as many existing elements as possible to minimise the cost of construction and requirements for working in contaminated land.

<b>Stage of Works</b>	<b>Cost Estimate (inc contingency)</b>
Montreal street and community facility car parking	Included in Golf Course Project
Olive grove event space	\$310 000
Family and youth area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- District level playground upgrade</li> <li>- Half basketball court</li> <li>- Path link and aboriginal circle</li> </ul>	\$500 000 \$30 000 \$90 000
Environment and culture area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Story telling circle</li> <li>- Ephemeral wetland</li> <li>- Stairs and lookout</li> </ul>	\$65 000 \$500 000 \$650 000
Amphitheatre	\$290 000
Stage 4 Area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mountain bike trails</li> <li>- Pump track, amenity area and six seasons garden</li> <li>- On and off street parking and access</li> </ul>	\$615 000 \$520 000 \$250 000

At the SPT Committee on 27b March 2019, Council accepted a cash in lieu payment from LandCorp for a value of \$404,075 ex GST for the subdivision of land at Lot 1819 Blinco St Fremantle and supported the expenditure of the payment to work at Booyeembara Park (subject to WAPC/Minister's approval). The officer comment section recommends a scope of works for this capital budget.

There will be increased operational maintenance costs as the landscape plan is implemented. The costs are dependent on the final detailed design, materials and maintenance requirements, as well as the staged implementation of the construction. The increased annual maintenance cost will be finalised with the design and staging and submitted as part of future budget processes.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **CONSULTATION**

The Booyeembara Park Landscape Plan has been developed in close consultation with the Booyeembara Park Reference Group through a series of workshops. The Booyeembara Park Reference Group, made up of representatives from Friends of Boo Park, WGV Community Orchard, Elected Members and local community members, were heavily involved in shaping the revised master plan prior to opening for public comment.

The engagement on the landscape plan was open between 12 November to 13 December 2020 and participation methods were:

- Interactive map and online survey on My Say Freo.
- Drop-in session at Booyeembara Park, Thursday 26 November 3.30pm to 6.00pm (near the playground).
- Awareness and promotion of the engagement was undertaken via:
  - Attendance at the White Gum Valley precinct group meeting 3 November 2020.
  - Direct email to previous submitters on various Booyeembara Park projects.
  - Letters sent to 116 owners and occupiers on Stevens Street likely to be interested in or affected by proposed parking.
  - Adverts in local newspaper in City's 'newsbites' column 14 and 28 November 2020.
- Included in My Say Freo newsletter November 2020.

The My Say Freo page was visited by 385 people. There was a total of 26 submissions, 24 online, one via post and one via email. There were around 35 attendees at the drop-in information session.

Key findings across all methods were:

- The majority of respondents expressed positive sentiment toward the plan and thought it would be of great benefit to the community. Those who did not were primarily concerned with impacts on the natural environment and existing attributes of the reserve.
- Stevens Street parking option A (off-street parking within the park, with additional on-street parking) was the preferred parking method due to improved safety and reduced impact on local residents.
- Most attendees at the drop-in live nearby and had existing concerns about parking and traffic on Stevens Street.

Additionally, significant community engagement on each of the current associated projects (Fremantle Public Golf Course, Clubhouse and Community Facility, Booyeembara Park Mountain Bike Trail and Sullivan Hall landscape plan) and the feedback from these was used to inform the draft landscape plan, prior to consultation.

To develop the Fremantle Public Golf Course, Clubhouse and Community Facility, the City undertook a three-stage community consultation process. The consultation targeted key stakeholders and users as well as the wider community. Feedback was also sought on the integration of the facility with Booyeembara Park including access, functions and features within the park that may support existing uses or new uses complementary to the building.

To develop the mountain bike trail concept plan, the City established the Booyeembara Park Mountain Bike Trail Working Group to work with officers, the consultant and the community to provide information, requirements and feedback. There were three workshops and an open community engagement period from 17 July and 9 August 2020. The purpose of the engagement was to obtain input on the future needs of the area (including consideration of a potential pump track, and parking), and gather feedback on the proposed trail designs.

The City also notes feedback from the 2018 engagement on the former Men's Shed site where respondents raised concerns about parking in the vicinity of the Sullivan Hall area. During this engagement some respondents noted they'd like to see parking along Stevens Street only, and other feedback was received regarding incorporating sports facilities in the area, landscaping, native elements, seating and shade.

## **OFFICER COMMENT**

The focus of the Booyeembara Park Landscape Plan was to review the staged implementation of the master plan and how it serves the community. The objectives of the Booyeembara Park Landscape plan included:

### Access and circulation

Connect the existing, new and proposed functional areas by:

- Retaining pedestrian, cycle and maintenance access to the park through the Olive Grove
- Completing the footpath network within the park
- Providing adequate, accessible parking considering the new uses of mountain bike trail and golf clubhouse and community facility.

### Functional and social spaces

The opportunity exists to provide complementary spaces in the landscape to support community use, events and functions of the building including:

- Outdoor social spaces for golf users
- Flexible outdoor spaces for community events, functions, markets, etc
- Complementary usable outdoor spaces for groups who may use the building (i.e. play, youth, learning and community groups)

- Completion of 'unfinished' spaces including the ephemeral wetland, story telling circle and amphitheatre
- Outdoor spaces connecting the cafe with Booyeembara Park and the golf course

### Landscape Character

One of the unique aspects of the park is its diverse landscape typologies. The landscape treatments should enhance the established character and function of the adjacent landscape and function including:

- Golf course landscape
- Parkland landscape
- Established Montreal Street streetscape character
- Bushland areas
- Retention and enhancement of key views

### Flexibility

Retain flexibility within the design for potential future use including:

- Golf operations including lit driving range or mini golf
- Expansion of the community facility
- New or existing community uses within the park (ie. olive harvest festival)

The Booyeembara Park Landscape plan focussed on the functional areas of the park that have not been completed, have changed due to new developments or were not functioning. The following descriptions relate to the precincts within the park and describe the design (please refer to attachment 1 for the detailed Booyeembara Park Landscape Plan).

### Olive grove event space

Since construction, the olive grove promenade has taken on a stronger community focus than expected and has become the site of an annual olive harvest and long table dining event. The narrative has developed into 'Munja', a story focused on the harvest, growing and sharing of food, developing from the recycling narrative of the original concept. The landscape plan aims to:

- Build on the 'Munja' narrative by upgrading the olive grove with improved paths, seating and long tables to facilitate the harvest as well as provide year round social spaces.
- Provide a range of functional spaces, which can be used informally or in conjunction with the building, to hold a range of events which may include community activities, concerts and markets.
- Enhance the visual and physical connection between the building and the ephemeral wetland and story telling circle. Proposed materials are complementary to the park.
- Provide an area where the golf course operator could create a mini-golf course, without impact on the park function.

### Family and youth area

The family and youth area includes the picnic lawn, skate park, playground and open lawn area. The function of these spaces is currently good, however with the new community facility and mountain bike trail, Booyeembara Park will become a regional

destination. The increased demand on family and youth areas is designed in the Landscape plan, which proposes to:

- Create a destination playground, catering for a wider range of play and connected to the new community facility and cafe.
- Extend the youth facilities by the inclusion of a half basketball court near the skate park. This will be accessible from the path between the two spaces and link to the main grassed area.
- Increase picnic areas including shelters over tables.
- Include nature play under the existing climbing tree circle.
- Completion of footpath network.

#### Environment and culture area

This area includes the story telling circle, unfinished wetland and informal trail up the limestone hill to the look out. The storytelling circle was built in the location of the healing ceremony, a permanent reminder of a temporary event. The landscape plan proposes to:

- Refurbish the storytelling circle creating an event and educational space including accessible paths and seating.
- Plant endemic and bush tucker species
- Complete the ephemeral seasonal wetland which will provide habitat for animals such as frogs, lizards and birds. A boardwalk will allow interaction with the wetland for casual and educational purposes.
- Provide educational and informational signage
- Formalise the trail up the limestone hill with a series of steps and ramps finishing at a look-out on the edge of the Royal Fremantle Golf Course, taking advantage of the spectacular view from the top.

#### Amphitheatre

The much-loved amphitheatre was the work of a dedicated group of residents. Unfortunately, due to the site conditions and materials, the structure requires redesign to make it safe and accessible again. It is proposed to scale the amphitheatre back by removing the top tiers and wing walls, finishing the layers with low rock walls and creating a path connection from the story telling circle to the bushland tracks and mountain bike trail. The resultant amphitheatre will be intimate, safe and accessible to the community, whilst still maintaining the acoustic qualities that make it a great performance space.

#### Stage 4 area

The proposed stage 4 area included the community axis from the original master plan. As no works had been undertaken in this area, the community had begun to inhabit the space. This included informal mountain bike trails along the eastern edge of the park. A process began in 2019 to formalise a proposal for the trails and the Booyeembara Park Mountain Bike Trail Concept Plan was adopted by Council in 2020. Additionally, in 2020, the Friends of Booyeembara Park received grant funding to commence construction of the six seasons garden. These existing community uses have been used as the basis for the development of the stage 4 are, which proposes to:

- integrate the mountain bike trail and six seasons garden into the park by providing paths, picnic areas, planting and lookout points for other park users to view the trails.
- Include a pump track to cater for a wider range of users and skill levels.
- Provide new car parking along Stevens Street including off-street car bays and a drop-off area to service the mountain bike trail as well as Sullivan Hall.

#### Stevens Street and Montreal Street

The new developments within the park and the neighbouring golf course will increase the amount of people travelling to the precinct on foot, bike or by car. Road safety, increased parking and pedestrian access along Stevens and Montreal Streets were considered important to allow people to safely access the precinct. Car parking along Montreal Street has been designed to allow safe access for golf users with clubs and buggies, with a large set down area at the back of the car bay. The landscape treatment is also consistent with the southern portion of Montreal Street. Stevens Street parking includes a combination of on and off street parking as well as a new footpath along the road. Traffic calming is included by way of treatments at intersections, which also allows for safer pedestrian crossing points.

#### Summary and Next Steps

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 24 March 2021, Council approved the use of the cash in lieu payment of \$404,075 ex GST from LandCorp for construction of Booyeembara Park. Officers propose to use the budget for stage 1 works, which will prioritise completing the immediate building surrounds and olive grove event space, followed the story telling circle and half-court basketball. The works will be scoped to budget and detailed cost estimates will be developed through the detail design phase. The Booyeembara Park Reference Group have supported this proposal. The construction of the Stage 1 works will be scheduled for completion in time for the opening of the building.

### **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Simple majority required

#### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ITEM FPOL2104-7**

**(Officer's recommendation)**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Jenny Archibald**

#### **Council:**

- 1. Receive the Booyeembara Park Master Plan Implementation – Community Engagement Report, provided in attachment 1.**
- 2. Adopt the Booyeembara Park Landscape Plan, provided in attachment 2.**
- 3. Request officers progress to detailed design, tender and construction for the stage 1 works, noting:**



- a. The works will use of the cash in lieu payment of \$404,075 ex GST from LandCorp.**
- b. The works will be scoped to the budget, with a priority placed on the golf clubhouse and community building integration area and olive grove event space followed by the story telling circle and half-court basketball.**

**Carried: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

**FPOL2104-13 ELECTED MEMBER MOTION – REFLECTING ON THE  
DIVERSITY OF OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH OUR  
COUNCILLORS AND EMPLOYEES – COUNCILLOR FRANK  
MOFFLIN**

**Meeting date:** 14 April 2021  
**Responsible officer:** People and Culture Director  
**Decision making authority:** Council  
**Agenda attachments:** Nil

**ELECTED MEMBER SUMMARY**

Local governments need to reflect, through employees and elected members, the diversity of their communities.

In regard to gender, the City of Fremantle still has opportunities to improve this representation. The executive leadership team has 33% female representation and at Manager level 35%. There has been greater representation in women seeking election to Council, at the last 2 elections (2017 and 2019) 54.5% of candidates have been women (18 of 35 candidates) and the current Council has 38.5% female representation.

It is well known that more diverse organisations outperform those which are less diverse. The Best Practice Guide for Gender Equity in Local Government, published by the Victorian Government (2018) states:

Research shows that councils stand to benefit from implementing gender equity actions. Diverse organisations have been shown to be better at meeting regulatory reporting requirements and minimising legal risks. Equity has also been proven to deliver measurable benefits, such as increased productivity across an organisation, and improved performance in financial operations, innovation and safety. From a human resources perspective, taking a proactive approach to gender equity has been shown to reduce staff turnover, boost staff retention and improve access to new talent. International and local research also shows that gender equality is a precondition for the prevention of family violence and other forms of violence against women and girls.

The representation of women in senior roles does not just happen, it requires a commitment and direction action. There are a number of government examples of target setting to improve representation including:

- The WA Government 'Action Plan to improve WA Public Sector Employment Outcomes 2020–2025' which aims to increase the representation of women in the Senior Executive Service (SES) to 50% and support inclusive work environments.
- The Australian Government has committed to a gender diversity target of women holding 50 per cent of Government board positions overall, and women and men each holding at least 40 per cent of positions at the individual board level.

Without a formal plan it is difficult to achieve equal representation of women in senior roles.

The purpose of this Notice of Motion is to acknowledge a commitment to gender diversity and request the CEO to report back on ways in which the City can improve the representation of women in senior management.

### **OFFICER COMMENT**

The issue of gender diversity in senior positions is an issue for local government sector in general and as such the statement committing to the improvement in gender diversity in management positions and on Council is reasonable and supported.

Some of the issues requested to be addressed in the report are more complex than others but are all worthy of consideration and on this basis the second part of the motion is also supported.

It is expected the report might be available for Council consideration by July / August this year.

### **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority Required

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ITEM FPOL2104-13**

**(Elected member motion)**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan**

#### **Council:**

- 1. Acknowledge a commitment to improve gender diversity through the management and Council.**
- 2. Propose that the CEO prepare a report for future consideration by the Council outlining the measures which may improve greater gender diversity in the leadership of the City, including, but not limited to;**
  - a. The appropriateness of targets and any potential targets.**
  - b. Training and coaching of current and aspiring women leaders within the organisation.**
  - c. Research and understanding of the barriers that may exist within to women attaining leadership roles within the City, and development of actions and / or strategies to remove these.**
  - d. Understanding of the extent to which the organisational culture may or may not be supportive of women in leadership roles.**
  - e. Development of specific training for women in roles within local government where women are particularly underrepresented.**
  - f. Encouragement of women candidates for election to Council.**

**Carried: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

**ITEMS APPROVED “EN BLOC”**

The following items were adopted unopposed and without discussion “En Bloc” as recommended.

**COMMITTEE DECISION**

Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge

Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan

The following items be adopted en bloc as recommended:

FPOL2104-1	20 LIVES 20 HOMES PROGRAM
FPOL2104-2	CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN - QUARTERLY REPORT – JANUARY TO MARCH 2021
FPOL2104-8	ADOPTION OF MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COUNCIL AND MODEL STANDARDS FOR EMPLOYING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS
FPOL2104-9	REQUEST MAYORAL VACANCY REMAIN UNFILLED 2021
FPOL2104-10	BUDGET AMENDMENTS - MARCH 2021
FPOL2104-12	ADVERTISING OF THE PROPOSED DIFFERENTIAL RATE FOR THE 2021/22 FINANCIAL YEAR

**Carried en bloc: 6/0**

Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright

**FPOL2104-1      20 LIVES 20 HOMES PROGRAM**

**Meeting date:** 14 April 2021  
**Responsible officer:** Manager Community Development  
**Decision making authority:** Council  
**Attachments:** Nil  
**Additional information:** 1. 20 Lives 20 Homes First Evaluation Snapshot

**SUMMARY**

The 20 Lives 20 Homes (20:20) program utilises the 'Housing First' model, a sector-based approach to ending homelessness as outlined in the WA State Government's *All Paths Lead to a Home: Western Australia's 10 Year Strategy on Homelessness 2020 - 2030*.

The 20:20 program secured philanthropic funding for a two-year period from 2018 to 2020, with the City's commitment to fund the program's independent evaluation undertaken by the University of Western Australia School of Population and Global Health.

The 20:20 program has been successful in providing wrap around support and sustainable housing for twenty one people who have lived rough on the streets of Fremantle for an average of 6.9 years (up to 17 years), none of whom are sleeping rough any longer, and over half are now housed on a long term basis.

Due to the impacts of Covid-19 and the increasing demand on housing and homeless support services, the 20:20 program is being extended. The 20 Lives 20 Homes Initiative Partnership Group has received Lotterywest funding to extend the program into a third year and is now seeking Council support to continue funding the independent evaluation in 2021/2022.

It is recommended that Council continue to financially support the independent evaluation of the 20 Lives 20 Homes program. This will enable the completion of the final report in 2022, along with research to further delve into key issues such as housing supply to people in need.

**BACKGROUND**

The 20 Lives 20 Homes (20:20) program is a place-based response to homelessness in Fremantle. The program promise is to house twenty of the most long-term, vulnerable people whom are sleeping rough in Fremantle. The program utilises a housing first approach with the coordination of 24/7 wrap around services.

The Housing First model is a priority sector-based approach to ending homelessness, as outlined in the WA State Government's *All Paths Lead to a Home: Western Australia's 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness 2020 – 2030*.

In 2019, St Patrick's Community Support Centre, Ruah Community Services and Foundation Housing, with the backing of community leaders including the City of

Fremantle, sought public support to fund a two-year trial of a place-based approach in the Fremantle area.

Philanthropic funding was secured for the employment of specific outreach case workers, an after-hours support service and the program coordination support. The City was approached to provide financial support for the program to be independently evaluated by the University of Western Australia School of Population and Global Health.

The overall evaluation aim is to examine how intensive wrap-around support and rapid access to housing enables individuals in the Fremantle area to exit homelessness.

The evaluation objectives are:

- Investigate among people supported by Fremantle 20:20, changes in outcomes relating to housing, health and wellbeing, social engagement and social support, use of health care and justice services, employment (where applicable);
- Examine the impact, benefits and barriers/enablers of effectiveness for the pilot strategies unique to Fremantle 20:20 (including challenges relating to housing supply);
- Identify learnings for potential expansion of Fremantle 20:20 and for the Zero Project more broadly.

The evaluation snapshot, released November 2020 (*Additional information attachment 1*), summarises the demographics and complex needs of the first twenty-one people supported by the 20:20 program. Highlighting the range of different housing and accommodation options that people have been connected to as a part of the person-centred ethos of Housing First.

Listed below is the participant data containing information on housing options, health impacts and case study feedback:

Participant Demographics		
62%	Male	6.9 years average spent homeless  Equivalent to 53,077 Nights collectively sleeping rough
38%	Female	
47 years	Average age (range 33 – 63 years)	
74%	Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	
Types of Housing		
9	People are in lodging/boarding houses with a license to occupy, including one couple	
5	People are in private rentals through the Private Rental Brokerage Project	
3	People are in public housing through the Department of Communities	
2	People are couch surfing waiting for homes to become available	
1	Person has reunited with family and is now supported by 50 Lives and recently employed	

1	Person is incarcerated and no longer in the 20:20 program	
Health Impacts		
80	Emergency presentations	Aggregate costs over three years \$215,806  Or  Per person per year (n=13) \$5,533
25%	Injury/poisoning	
19%	Alcohol and other drug use	
13%	Circulatory/respiratory	
28	Ambulance arrivals to hospital emergency departments	
26	Inpatient admissions	
23%	Alcohol and other drug use	
15%	Circulatory/respiratory	
15 %	Mental health and behavioural	
46	Inpatient days	

This is a notable achievement given the contextual challenges of the global pandemic and further highlighting the evidential support for the Housing First model and its provision of tangible outcomes in the approach to ending homelessness.

The 20:20 program is providing tangible outcomes in the ongoing work to address homelessness in the Fremantle community. The evaluation data captured, validates the hard work of the programs service agencies that are continuing to provide critical support, and reach members of the community, while the City and the sector work to support the roll out of the longer-term Housing First services in Fremantle.

The 20:20 program's key performance indicators are as follows:

1. **Identify:** The most vulnerable street-present people in Fremantle that are identified and triaged for housing and support;
2. **Housing:** Vulnerable homeless people whom are sleeping rough are housed;
3. **Support:** Vulnerable homeless people whom have been sleeping rough. Once housed, are adequately supported to maintain their housing and address their needs;
4. **Connection:** Vulnerable homeless people whom have been sleeping rough. Once housed and adequately supported, engage in meaningful activities and demonstrate positive changes in their lives;
5. **Collaboration:** Services and workers in the local community are able to come together to work collaboratively and support the most vulnerable people sleeping rough.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The City entered a sponsorship agreement with St Patrick's Community Centre on behalf of the 20 Lives 20 Homes Fremantle initiative partnership (Ruah Community Services, St Patrick's Community Support Centre and Foundation Housing Limited) in September 2019. The terms of the agreement included:

Evaluation Period		Cost
Year 1	1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020	\$36,540

Completed		
Year 2 Completed	1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021	\$38,810
Year 3	1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022	Proposed \$43,200
Currently unfunded	The 20 Lives 20 Homes Initiative Partnership Group are seeking a slight increase in funding from the City to expand the research topics to delve further into key issues such as housing supply.	

As part of the sponsorship agreement, the City of Fremantle is acknowledged through the following:

- a. Website for the 20 Lives 20 Homes Fremantle initiative;
- b. St Patrick's Community Support Centre Facebook page, tagging the City as a sponsor;
- c. Acknowledgement in public speeches; and
- d. Use of City logo on printed and online material.

The request for additional funding from the City will allow for the completion of the final evaluation report of the 20 Lives 20 Homes Project for the period 2019 to 2022.

It is requested that the City extend their funding contribution to that date, at a cost of \$43,200, slight increase from previous year to include the demand on housing supply.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

## **CONSULTATION**

The City has strong stakeholder relationships with the 20 Lives 20 Homes Fremantle initiative partnership group, including St Patrick's Community Support Centre, Ruah Community Services and Foundation Housing. 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 the South West Metropolitan Partnership Forum or SWMPF) and the establishment of the Imagined Futures Housing and Homelessness Interagency Strategic Group.

At the Ordinary Council meeting held on 27 January 2021 Item FPOL2101-16 *Pioneer Park Fremantle Camp Out*, Council endorsed its support for the Housing First model at the centre of *All Paths Lead to a Home*, Western Australia's 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness 2020 to 2030 and as applied in successful projects like 20 Homes 20 Lives.



This model expands this approach as central to ending homelessness in Fremantle and beyond. Furthermore, it reaffirms as a matter of urgency the following points that were adopted at the Finance, Policy, Operations and Legislation Committee meeting held in October 2020 Item FPOL2010-6 *Common Ground Housing First Model*, that Council:

1. Support a Common Ground in Fremantle, which delivers a housing first approach and wrap around services to support tenants with complex needs by providing a permanent home.
2. Explore opportunities for discussion on other or shared models, in consultation with the State Government and the affordable housing sector.
3. Acknowledge the chronic homelessness in Fremantle, noting the significant increase of people sleeping rough in the past 6 months.
4. Advocate for well-resourced and funded service provision to address housing and homelessness issues in Fremantle.
5. Notes the net decrease in public housing, which has reduced the number of affordable housing options in Fremantle.

Further to the above, at the Ordinary Meeting of Council 24 March 2021, Item FPOL 2103-11, a Notice of Motion was received *Communication of diverse and affordable housing objectives and concerns to the Minister of for Housing and State Housing Authority*.

Council noted the significant opportunity that exists to increase social housing availability through the redevelopment of Department of Communities sites at Burt Street, Holland Street and Davis Park Precinct, whose demolition has in the short term led to a decrease in available public housing in Fremantle and request the City to write to the new Minister for Housing and to the Department of Communities requesting a meeting, and;

- Stating Council's strategic objective to maintain a housing mix that is "diverse and affordable, to meet the current and future needs of the City's residents", in alignment with the stated principles of the WA Housing Strategy; and
- Requesting that public housing levels be maintained and redeveloped public housing units be replaced in the area to ensure retention of affordable housing options in our community, in a timeframe that ensures long-term residents are able to stay in the Fremantle community while redevelopment occurs.

## **OFFICER COMMENT**

The 20:20 program commenced in 2019 in Fremantle and is the first place-based trial in WA of the 50 Homes 50 Lives (50:50) Housing First model. The project takes a person-centred and trauma informed approach, with brokering of housing, and provision of support to sustain housing retention.

The second year of the 20:20 program coincided with the COVID-19 global pandemic and its substantial health, economic and social impacts. The primary and secondary impacts of the pandemic, including various government restrictions,

created significant challenges for the community services sector in the provision of care and support for the vulnerable population.

Since the Covid-19 pandemic, the number of people experiencing forms of homelessness in Fremantle has increased. This has served to amplify pressure on service providers and further highlights the insufficiency of sustainable housing options for people experiencing homelessness in Fremantle. This has added impetus for the continuation of the 20:20 program and to expand the evaluation research to delve further into key issues such as housing supply.

Fremantle is home to many people whom are either at risk or experience forms of severe disadvantage and subsequent homelessness. Currently in Fremantle (key data source the By Name List, 22 March 2020), there are 194 people experiencing homelessness with 59 people sleeping rough.

The City is consistently advocating to the State Government for well-resourced and funded service provision to address housing and homelessness issues in Fremantle. The evaluation and final report of the 20 Lives 20 Homes Program will be a vital resource to further support informed evidence-based advocacy to the State. It will provide validation that the Housing First model works and various supported housing models are required in Fremantle to end homelessness.

The consideration of a funding extension for the 20 Lives 20 Homes program confirms Council's recognition of the importance of evidence-based advocacy and place-based responses to address homelessness.

## **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Simple majority required

### **COMMITTEE DECISION ITEM FPOL2104-1**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan**

#### **Council:**

- 1. Support "in principle" inclusion of the budget estimate of \$43,200 for the independent evaluation and final report of the 20 Lives 20 Homes project in the draft 2021/22 budget.**
- 2. Acknowledge and thank the 20 Lives 20 Homes Initiative Partnership Group consisting of the St Patrick's Community Centre, Ruah Community Services and Foundation Housing for the successful outcomes achieved with the 20 Lives 20 Homes program thus far.**

**Carried en bloc: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

**FPOL2104-2 CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN - QUARTERLY REPORT –  
JANUARY TO MARCH 2021**

**Meeting date:** 14 April 2021  
**Responsible officer:** Manager Economic Development and Marketing  
**Decision making authority:** Committee  
**Agenda attachments:** Corporate Business Plan – Quarterly Report January to March 2021  
**Additional information:** Nil

**SUMMARY**

The Corporate Business Plan (CBP) Report for 2020/21 was provided to Committee on 9 September 2020 providing detail on the services, deliverables and projects that are programmed for the 2020/21 financial year.

This quarterly update report documents the progress made on those services and projects listed in the CBP Report 2020/21 for the third quarter of the financial year. It is intended to present this report to Council on a quarterly basis, in October, January, April and August.

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

**BACKGROUND**

This report includes services, deliverables and projects programmed for the 2020/21 financial year and reported to Committee in the Corporate Business Plan Report in September 2020. 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 2020/21 as at 30 March 2021.

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on both Council operations and community services. The pandemic has required a review and in some circumstances a shift in priorities and approach. The City's adopted Covid-19 Recovery Plan provides a short-term response to these changes and identifies key approaches and priorities to support our community in recovering from the negative impacts of the pandemic both socially and economically and building on positive aspects.

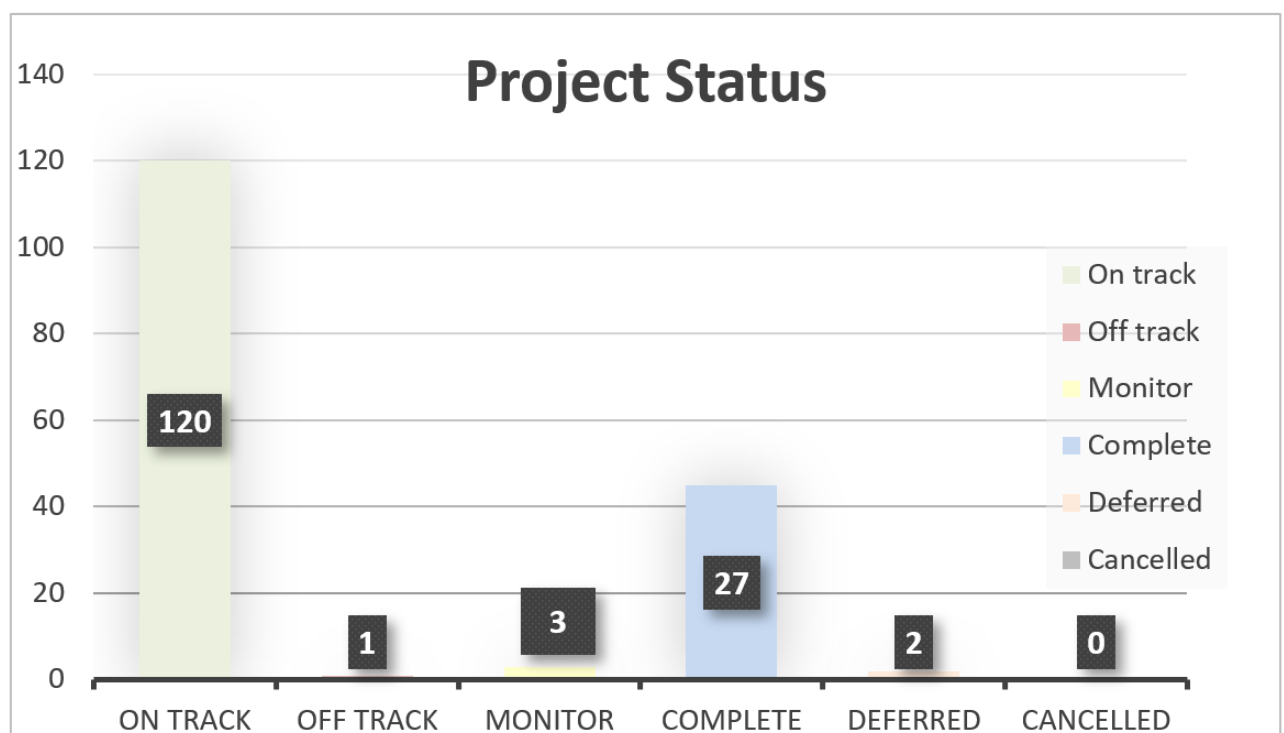
The initiatives identified in the recovery plan seek to achieve 3 core outcomes: -

- Maintain health, wellbeing and resilience in our community;
- Create, sustain or reinstate jobs within the Fremantle economy;
- Attract people throughout Perth and Western Australia to increase visitation and spend within the Fremantle economy and increase participation by both visitors and locals in the many activities and events it offers.

A number of initiatives have been developed as part of the City of Fremantle Covid-19 Recovery Plan and further information on these initiatives can be found in the City's Recovery Plan document.

## Progress Status

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



## **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority Required

### **COMMITTEE DECISION ITEM FPOL2104-2**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan**

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

**Carried en bloc: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

**FPOL2104-8 ADOPTION OF MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COUNCIL  
AND MODEL STANDARDS FOR EMPLOYING CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
OFFICERS**

<b>Meeting date:</b>	10 March 2021
<b>Responsible officer:</b>	Manager Governance
<b>Decision making authority:</b>	Council
<b>Attachments:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. City of Fremantle Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates Code of Conduct</li><li>2. City of Fremantle standards – for the recruitment, selection, performance review and early termination of local government Chief Executive Officers</li></ol>
<b>Additional information:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Current Elected and Committee Members Code of Conduct</li><li>2. Current CEO recruitment and performance management policy</li></ol>

**SUMMARY**

**Legislative changes that require local governments to comply with minimum standards covering the recruitment, selection, performance review and early termination of chief executive officers and the adoption of a mandatory code of conduct for council members, committee members and candidates have come into effect.**

**A Council resolution is required to repeal the current code and policy and to adopt the mandated code and standards.**

**BACKGROUND**

**Model Standards** – for the recruitment, selection, performance review and early termination of local government Chief Executive Officers

The Local Government (Administration) Amendment Regulations 2021, outlining CEO Standards Regulations, including the Recruitment, Performance Management and Termination of the CEO were gazetted on 2 February 2021 and took effect on 3 February 2021.

Key features of these regulations include the requirement:

- to establish a selection panel comprised of council members and at least one independent person to conduct the recruitment and selection process for the position of CEO;
- to establish a performance review process by agreement between the local government and the CEO; and
- to conduct a recruitment and selection process where an incumbent CEO has held the position for a period of ten or more consecutive years on expiry of the CEO's contract.

In addition, requirements for advertising vacant CEO positions have been updated to align with amendments to state-wide public notice provisions.

**Model code of conduct** - for council members, committee members and candidates

The *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021* were gazetted on 2 February 2021 and took effect on 3 February 2021. This change immediately introduced a Model Code of Conduct that applies to council members, committee members and candidates.

The Model Code Regulations provide for:

- overarching principles to guide behaviour
- behaviours which are managed by local governments
- rules of conduct breaches which are considered by the Standards Panel.

Previously, each local government was required to develop their own code of conduct and manage behaviour in accordance with that code. These regulations replace these individual codes by introducing a model code that applies to all council members, committee members and candidates. It also provides for a high-level process to deal with complaints to ensure a more consistent approach between local governments and across the sector. The intent of the model code is to address behaviour through education rather than sanctions.

The purpose of the model code is to guide decisions, actions and behaviours, to clearly reflect community expectations of behaviour and ensure consistency between local governments.

The *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021* (Model Code) includes general principles and behaviours for council members, committee members and candidates, and repeals and replaces the Local Government (Rules of Conduct) Regulations 2007. The Model Code of Conduct is required to be uploaded on the City's website once adopted.

The Model Code Regulations provide for:

- Division 2, General Principles - to guide behaviour;
- Division 3, Behaviours - managed internally by local governments and;
- Division 4, Rules of Conduct - breaches which are considered by the Standards Panel.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Local governments are required to prepare and adopt the:

- **Model Standards** - mandatory minimum standards that cover the recruitment, selection, performance review and early termination of local government Chief Executive Officers; and the
- **Model code of conduct** - for council members, committee members and candidates

within three months of the regulations coming into effect (by 3 May 2021).

## **CONSULTATION**

Nil

## **OFFICER COMMENT**

**Model Standards** – for the recruitment, selection, performance review and early termination of local government Chief Executive Officers

Following adoption of the model standards the City will develop a working procedure in line with the standards for the recruitment, performance management and termination of the CEO to enable officers to easily implement the requirements outlined in the standards.

**Model code of conduct** - for council members, committee members and candidates

In adopting the model code, local governments are encouraged to review their existing code and consider incorporating any additional behaviour requirements under **Division 3** that are not represented in the model code.

Any additions must be consistent with the model code of conduct, and section 5.104(3) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Local governments may not amend **Division 2** (Principles) or **Division 4** (Rules of Conduct) of the model code.

In preparation for this report, the City's current code of conduct was reviewed, and it was considered that there was one additional behaviour identified, that should be included in the model code of conduct. As a result, it is recommended that the following additional clause 10A shown below be included in the City's model code of conduct.

### **‘10A. Informal meetings of Council members**

(1) In this clause –

***informal meeting*** means a meeting, to which all Council members have been invited, held for the purposes of general discussion and the provision of information where no decision making may occur, such as a briefing or training session or a workshop.

(2) Unless authorised in writing by the Council or the CEO, a Council member or committee member must not disclose, to any other person, information that the Council member or committee member acquired at an informal meeting.

(3) Subclause (2) does not prevent a Council member or committee member from disclosing information –

- (a) at a closed meeting of the Council or a committee;
- (b) to the extent specified by the Council and subject to other conditions as the Council determines;



- (c) that is already in the public domain;
- (d) to an officer of the Department;
- (e) to the Minister;
- (f) to a legal practitioner for the purpose of obtaining legal advice; or
- (g) if the disclosure is required or permitted by law.'

The intention of including this clause is to support the deliberative or "thinking" processes of council members, to allow them to weigh and consider information and to reflect on the reasons for or against a particular choice without the fear that an incomplete thought or clarifying discussion might be released publicly without context.

If council members are reluctant to contribute to a discussion the quality and depth of that discussion is reduced.

It should be noted that any additional amendments, consistent with the model code of conduct, and section 5.104(3) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, may be made at a future time if considered appropriate.

Following adoption of the code the City will develop a complaint handling process for adoption by Council. If the City receives any 'Division 3' complaints in the meantime the City will acknowledge and accept the lodgement but advise that the complaint cannot be progressed until a policy and procedure are adopted.

## **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Absolute majority required

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ITEM FPOL2104-8** **(Officer's recommendation)**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan**

#### **Council:**

- 1. Adopt;**
  - a. City of Fremantle Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates (attachment 1); and**
  - b. City of Fremantle Chief Executive Officer standards – for the recruitment, selection, performance review and early termination of local government (attachment 2).**
- 2. Rescind;**
  - a. Elected and Committee Members Code of Conduct 2018; and**
  - b. CEO recruitment and performance management policy**

**Carried en bloc: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

## **FPOL2104-9 REQUEST MAYORAL VACANCY REMAIN UNFILLED 2021**

**Meeting date:** 14 April 2021  
**Responsible officer:** Manager Governance  
**Decision making authority:** Council  
**Attachments:** Nil  
**Additional information:** Nil

### **SUMMARY**

This report is intended to determine whether Council support a request being made to the Electoral Commissioner to allow the vacant Mayoral position, created by Mayor Brad Pettitt's election to State Government, to remain vacant until the October Ordinary Local Government Election 2021 or if Council would prefer to fill the position as soon as practicable.

### **BACKGROUND**

Mayor Brad Pettitt was elected to State Government at the election held on 13 March 2021 (the result of that election was announced on the 6 April 2021). As such, he will be unavailable to undertake the functions of the office of Mayor for the City of Fremantle.

In order to fill this position Council is required to consider how it wishes to deal with the vacancy of the Mayor. Essentially two options exist.

Firstly, the City could hold an extraordinary election to fill the vacancy.

Secondly, Council may seek the approval of the Electoral Commissioner to allow the position to remain vacant until the Ordinary Local Government Election 2021.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The cost of holding an extraordinary election to fill a Mayoral vacancy on Council is estimated at around \$100,000. Council's adopted budget does not include funding for this purpose.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

In accordance with section 4.17 of the *Local Government Act 1995* if an elected member's office becomes vacant after the third Saturday in January but before the third Saturday in July, in the election year in which the term of the office would have ended, Council may, with the approval of the Electoral Commissioner, allow the vacancy to remain unfilled until the next ordinary election.

### **CONSULTATION**

Nil

## **OFFICER COMMENT**

Should Council wish to pursue the option of requesting that the position remain vacant and assuming approval is granted by the Electoral Commissioner, this would mean that the City's Ordinary Local Government Election 2021 would include a Mayoral election as already scheduled.

It is recommended that Council seeks the approval of the Electoral Commissioner for the vacancy on Council, created by the Mayors election to State Government, to remain unfilled until the Ordinary Local Government Election 2021.

## **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Absolute majority required

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ITEM FPOL2104-9** **(Officer's recommendation)**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan**

**Council, in accordance with Section 4.17 of the Local Government Act 1995, seek the approval of the Electoral Commissioner to allow the City of Fremantle's Mayoral vacancy to remain unfilled until the Ordinary Local Government Election 2021.**

**Carried en bloc: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

**FPOL2104-10 BUDGET AMENDMENTS - MARCH 2021**

**Meeting date:** 14 April 2021  
**Responsible officer:** Manager Finance  
**Decision making authority:** Council  
**Attachments:** Nil  
**Additional information:** Nil

**SUMMARY**

**To adopt various budget amendments to the 2020/2021 budget account numbers as detailed below in accordance with the Budget Management Policy. The budget amendments have nil effect to the overall budget.**

**This report recommends that Council approves the required budget amendments to the adopted budget for 2020/21 as outlined in the report.**

**BACKGROUND**

In accordance with the Budget Management Policy this report provides details of proposed amendments to the 2020/2021 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 to 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 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 July 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 1<sup>st</sup> January and 31<sup>st</sup> March each year.

**CONSULTATION**

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

**OFFICER COMMENT**

The following amendments to budget account numbers to the adopted budget for 2020/2021 are submitted to Council for approval as outlined below.

**1. Budget amendments for proposed expenditure for an additional purpose**

The proposed budget amendments below are for expenditure for an additional purpose to be determined by 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	2020/21 Adopted Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	(Increase)/ Decrease	2020/21 Amended Budget
				Revenue	(Expenditure)	
1.1	\$5k Grant recently received from Business Events Perth for production of a video to promote Fremantle as a destination for Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events. This grant will provide 50% of the total cost of the video.					
Rev	200xxx.4318	PXXXXX - Promote Fremantle - Video Production	0	5,000		5,000
Exp	200xxx.6823		0		(10,000)	(10,000)
Exp	100557.6823	Manage destination marketing plan implementation	(671,775)		5,000	(666,775)
1.2	Additional \$70k grant received from DLGSC towards delivery of "Revealed 2021". This will be added to the Revealed event for 2021.					
Rev	200789.4315	P-11945 Program-Reveal Aboriginal Artist 2021	250,000	70,000		320,000
Exp	200789.6823		(250,000)		(70,000)	(320,000)
1.3	Additional Commonwealth Grant funds for COVID recovery projects has now been identified for use in this Western Power trial project. The project is to upgrade streetlighting around the Gibson Park precinct to LED lighting as part of a state govt pilot.					
Rev	200150.4313	P-11980 Western Power Streetlight LED Upgrade - Stage 1	0	120,000		120,000
Exp	200150.6823		0		(120,000)	(120,000)
1.4	Budget of \$100,000 requested to remove existing retaining wall and replace with new engineered wall, funded from the infrastructure recovery pool. The existing retaining wall behind the Men's Shed has failed in some places and is showing signs of impending failure over majority length of the wall. Project identified from corporate risk register.					
Exp	300170.1606	Program- Infrastructure Recovery	(173,609)		100,000	(73,609)
Exp	300xxx.1606	P-11981 Design and Construct – Men's Shed - Wall	0		(100,000)	(100,000)
1.5	Budget of \$70,000 requested to install a replacement sewer connection for Fremantle Arts Centre toilets, funded from the infrastructure recovery pool. The current sewer connection is regularly blocked and overflows in the café courtyard. This causes issues for café patrons and visitors to the Centre. As a risk mitigation measure the City is renting temporary toilets at the cost of approx. \$10,000 for 3 months. Project identified from corporate risk register.					
Exp	300170.1606	Program- Infrastructure Recovery	(73,609)		70,000	(3,609)
Exp	300xxx.1606	P-11982 D&C - Fremantle Arts Centre Sewer Replacement	0		(70,000)	(70,000)

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

CEO has the delegated authority under the Budget Management Policy to incur expenditure for a purpose identified within the budget for which there is insufficient funds allocated, where:

- a) The proposed expenditure is a maximum of 5% or \$50,000 (whichever is the lesser) above the budgeted amount, and
- b) 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 #	Account Details	2020/21 Adopted Budget	Revenue Increase/ (Decrease)	Expenditure (Increase)/ Decrease	2020/21 Amended Budget
Nil						

### **3. Carried forward projects estimate budget amendments**

The budget amendments below are to adjust the carried forward project estimates and to amend the carried forward budget to reflect the final position at the end of financial year.

Item	Account #	Account Details	2020/21 Adopted Budget	Revenue Increase/ (Decrease)	Expenditure (Increase)/ Decrease	2020/21 Amended Budget
Nil						

End of financial year adjustments for 30 June 2020 are still ongoing therefore further budget amendments for carried forward projects will be presented to Council next month. Once completed the final overall effect on the end of year surplus, unspent grant funds and reserve funds movements for carried forward projects will be reported to Council through the budget amendment report.

### **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Absolute majority required

#### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ITEM FPOL2104-10** **(Officer's recommendation)**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan**

**Council approve the required budget amendments to the adopted budget for 2020/2021 as outlined below:**

Item	Account #	Account Details	2020/21 Adopted Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	(Increase)/ Decrease	2020/21 Amended Budget
				Revenue	(Expenditure)	
1.1	\$5k Grant recently received from Business Events Perth for production of a video to promote Fremantle as a destination for Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events. This grant will provide 50% of the total cost of the video.					
Rev	200xxx.4318	PXXXXXX - Promote Fremantle - Video Production	0	5,000		5,000
Exp	200xxx.6823		0		(10,000)	(10,000)
Exp	100557.6823	Manage destination marketing plan implementation	(671,775)		5,000	(666,775)
1.2	Additional \$70k grant received from DLGSC towards delivery of "Revealed 2021". This will be added to the Revealed event for 2021.					
Rev	200789.4315	P-11945 Program-Reveal Aboriginal Artist 2021	250,000	70,000		320,000
Exp	200789.6823		(250,000)		(70,000)	(320,000)
1.3	Additional Commonwealth Grant funds for COVID recovery projects has now been identified for use in this Western Power trial project. The project is to upgrade streetlighting around the Gibson Park precinct to LED lighting as part of a state govt pilot.					
Rev	200150.4313	P-11980 Western Power Streetlight LED Upgrade - Stage 1	0	120,000		120,000
Exp	200150.6823		0		(120,000)	(120,000)
1.4	Budget of \$100,000 requested to remove existing retaining wall and replace with new engineered wall, funded from the infrastructure recovery pool. The existing retaining wall behind the Men's Shed has failed in some places and is showing signs of impending failure over majority length of the wall. Project identified from corporate risk register.					
Exp	300170.1606	Program- Infrastructure Recovery	(173,609)		100,000	(73,609)
Exp	300xxx.1606	P-11981 Design and Construct – Men's Shed - Wall	0		(100,000)	(100,000)
1.5	Budget of \$70,000 requested to install a replacement sewer connection for Fremantle Arts Centre toilets, funded from the infrastructure recovery pool. The current sewer connection is regularly blocked and overflows in the café courtyard. This causes issues for café patrons and visitors to the Centre. As a risk mitigation measure the City is renting temporary toilets at the cost of approx. \$10,000 for 3 months. Project identified from corporate risk register.					
Exp	300170.1606	Program- Infrastructure Recovery	(73,609)		70,000	(3,609)
Exp	300xxx.1606	P-11982 D&C - Fremantle Arts Centre Sewer Replacement	0		(70,000)	(70,000)

**Carried en bloc: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**



**FPOL2104-12      ADVERTISING OF THE PROPOSED DIFFERENTIAL RATE  
FOR THE 2021/22 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**Meeting Date:** 14 April 2021  
**Responsible Officer:** Director City Business  
**Decision Making Authority:** Council  
**Agenda Attachments:** Objects and Reasons for Differential Rates for the 2021/22 financial year  
**Additional information:** Nil

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider approval for advertising the proposed differential rate categories, rate in the dollar and minimum payment as detailed in the Objects and Reasons for differential rates (shown in Attachment 1) for the 2021/22 budget, in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

This report recommends that Council endorse the proposed 2021/22 differential rate categories, rate in the dollar and minimum payment and approve advertising of the proposed 2021/22 differential rates. The differential rates provide for a general increase of 3.25% on the current year. there was no increase in rates last year.

**BACKGROUND**

The power to raise local government property rates is set out under the Local Government Act 1995 (Act). In adopting its annual budget, Council must consider its current Strategic Community, Corporate Business and Long Term Strategic Plans and, subject to the rating provisions under the Act, the Council is at liberty to use its rating powers to raise rate revenue at the level it determines appropriate.

To determine this level requires Council to assess the current and future service needs, aspiration of the community and their capacity and willingness to pay for those services. Long-term financial planning workshops considered the requirements to ensure asset renewal is appropriately funded over the forward 10 year program. The below rate program is being proposed for the draft 2021/22 budget to achieve an appropriate level of funding for operations and asset renewal in line with the current long term financial plan.

As part of the process for the 2021/22 draft budget it is proposed to continue to apply differential rating.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Differential rates represent a strategic approach to rating which is a major revenue source of Council.

The financial implications of these measures based on rates data as at April 2021 would see a total rate collection of approximately \$50.2m in 2021/22. The rate yields are compared to the projected rates from the draft long-term financial plan.

Note: The rate yield estimated above is based on current valuations provided by Landgate.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Sections 6.33 and 6.34 of the *Local Government Act 1995* allow local governments to impose differential rates and minimum payment. Section 6.36 requires local governments to give notice of certain rates before imposing.

## **CONSULTATION**

Nil, this recommendation is the City's intention to advertise the proposed differential rates for public comment prior to the adoption of the 2021/22 budget. This advertising will occur for a minimum 21 days and allows ratepayers the ability to consider the proposed rates in the dollar and make any submissions prior to Council adopting the proposed rate as part of the budget adoption process.

## **OFFICER COMMENT**

### Rates

Rates are a significant proportion of the City's revenue and are used to achieve the objectives of the Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan. The purpose of levying rates is to meet the City's budget requirements in order to deliver services and projects each financial year.

It is recommended that the proposed differential rate categories, rate in the dollar and minimum payment as detailed in the attached 2021/22 Objects and Reasons for differential rates and outlined below, be advertised.

<b>Differential Rate Category</b>	<b>Proposed Minimum Payment</b>	<b>Proposed Rate in the Dollar (¢)</b>
Residential Improved	\$1,388	0.084602
Commercial and Industrial General	\$1,388	0.089890
Vacant Commercial and Industrial	\$1,388	0.162689
City Centre Commercial	\$1,388	0.097922
Nightclubs	\$1,388	0.115945
Vacant Residential Land	\$1,344	0.128111
Residential Short Term Accommodation	\$1,388	0.094477

The minimum payments will be re-evaluated in accordance with section 6.35(3) of the Local Government Act 1995 to ensure the general minimum is imposed on not less than 50% of the number of properties in each category.

### Advertising

Before Council can impose differential rates across the City, the proposed differential rates must be advertised for a minimum of 21 days. The advertising period can occur

up to two months prior to adoption of the budget. This period of advertising allows ratepayers the ability to consider the proposed rates in the dollar and make any submissions prior to Council adopting the proposed rate as part of the budget adoption process.

It should be noted public advertising of the proposed rate in dollar and minimum payment does not bind Council to these when adopting the 2021/22 budget. The advertising process does not prohibit Council from amending the rate in the dollar and minimum payment at budget adoption.

## **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority Required

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ITEM FPOL2104-12** **(Officer's recommendation)**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan**

#### **Council:**

- 1. Endorse the proposed 2021/22 differential rate categories, rate in the dollar and minimum payment as outlined below and detailed in the Objects and Reasons for differential rates, provided in Attachment 1.**

Differential Rate Category	Proposed Minimum Payment	Proposed Rate in the Dollar (¢)
Residential Improved	\$1,388	0.084602
Commercial and Industrial General	\$1,388	0.089890
Vacant Commercial and Industrial	\$1,388	0.162689
City Centre Commercial	\$1,388	0.097922
Nightclubs	\$1,388	0.115945
Vacant Residential Land	\$1,344	0.128111
Residential Short Term Accommodation	\$1,388	0.094477

- 2. Approve the 2021/22 differential rate categories, rate in the dollar and minimum payment as outlined in part 1, to be advertised.**

**Carried en bloc: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

**FPOL2104-4 METROPOLITAN REGIONAL ROAD GROUP-ROAD  
REHABILITATION GRANT APPLICATION 2022/23**

**Meeting date:** 14 April 2021  
**Responsible officer:** Manager Infrastructure Engineering  
**Decision making authority:** Committee  
**Attachments:** Nil  
**Additional information:** Nil

**SUMMARY**

Each year, the City is invited to submit for consideration projects qualifying for the Metropolitan Regional Road Group (MRRG) grant program for road rehabilitation works. The closing date for the 2022/23 financial year programme submission is the 23 April 2021 and the successful projects funded will be announced in December 2021.

Each financial year, there is a maximum limit of \$950,000 grant money that the City can apply for in relation to the MRRG sites and the contribution criteria is based on a two thirds/one third split (MRRG/City).

This report recommends that Council supports the 2022/23 MRRG grant application for the road rehabilitation sites as listed in the officer's comments with a total programme budget of \$1,079,116. A separate budget request and approval will still be required from Council during the 2022/23 financial year for these sites.

**BACKGROUND**

The MRRG grant program has been created to provide the basis of an unbiased approach to determining the condition and importance of potential grant funded rehabilitation sites. Each site is assessed using the approved accumulative points scoring system that considers road condition, surface age, volume of traffic and number of heavy vehicles using the road.

Sites are inspected and condition ratings carried out, in accordance with the current MRRG Rehabilitation Guidelines (January 2019). All traffic lanes are inspected. Each site's score is reviewed and a visual condition point's score table is produced to ensure that they are suitable projects for final submission. The existing road profile and deflection survey is also conducted for all sites and this determines the recommended road treatment.

The following criteria apply to all MRRG rehabilitation submissions:

- All district distributor A and B roads are eligible for funding with no required minimum number of vehicles per day (vpd).
- All local distributor roads carrying greater than 2000 vpd are eligible for funding.
- Access roads are not eligible for funding.
- A pavement investigation and structural design is required for all submissions.

Note: Due to the impacts of COVID-19, the City deferred its current financial year (2020/21) road renewal programme and as a result some of the sites that have been selected in this report for renewal in 2022/23 were originally scheduled for renewal this financial year.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

As required under the MRRG funding guidelines, the City must contribute one third of the road rehabilitation cost.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
<b>MRRG Road Rehabilitation (Financial Year 22/23)</b>	
State Contribution-MRRG Grant Funding (2/3 of Road Rehabilitation Cost)	\$719,411
City's Contribution for Road Rehabilitation (1/3 of Road Rehabilitation Cost)	\$359,705

In order to meet the grant application criteria, officers only require support from Council for the sites listed for road rehabilitation at this stage. Each one of the sites will still be subject to a separate budget request in the 2022/23 financial year budget process.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

All road pavement rehabilitation will require final approval from Main Roads WA as part of the MRRG grant application.

## **CONSULTATION**

The South West Subgroup Metropolitan Regional Road Group has been informed of the current intention.

## **OFFICER COMMENT**

Officers carried out the field investigations, completed design options and recommend road treatments for four sites within the City boundary for funding consideration by MRRG.

A summary of the investigation and recommended treatments is shown below. If the City is successful with this grant application, further detailed design work will be required to finalise the treatments for each site and the City's contribution will still be subject to Council's approval through the 2022/23 financial year budget process.

Recommended roads for the City's MRRG funding submission for financial year 2022/23 are as follows:

	<b>Street Name and Approximate Extent</b>	<b>Total Cost of Road Rehabilitation Treatment</b>	<b>Proposed Treatment</b>
Site 1	Lefroy Road, both directions between Edmund Street and Caesar Street, including Curedale Street roundabout.	\$710,226	Foam Bitumen Stabilisation.
Site 2	Winterfold Road, Eastbound 35m East of McCombe Avenue to 10m East of Property 114.	\$89,312	SAMI Seal, 35 mm DGA Overlay and minor reconstruction works.
Site 3	South Terrace, both directions 25m North of Alma Street to 50m North of Russel Street, including Wray Avenue roundabout.	\$168,574	Foam Bitumen Stabilisation.
Site 4	Carrington Street, Southbound 15m north of Hughes Street to Property 188.	\$111,004	Foam Bitumen Stabilisation.
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,079,116</b>	
<b>Summary of Costs (Financial Year 2022/23)</b>			
<b>MRRG's Grant Funding Contribution (2/3)</b>		<b>\$719,411</b>	-
<b>City's Contribution for Road Rehabilitation (1/3)</b>		<b>\$359,705</b>	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,079,116</b>	-

In addition to the road rehabilitation works recommended at the four sites above, City officers also assess each site for opportunities for improvement, maximising the efficiency and cost of our works, as well as minimising the impacts to our community. These opportunities for improvement seek to address outcomes adopted by Council in the Integrated Transport Strategy 2015, the Bike Plan 2019-2024 and the Access and Inclusion Plan 2016-2020. The following opportunities for improvement have been identified for the 2022/23 MRRG Rehabilitation Program project submissions:

	<b>Additional Opportunities for consideration during detailed design</b>
Site 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improvements to all pram ramps on Lefroy Rd and side roads (between Edmund Street and Caesar Street) including widths, gradients &amp; tactile pavers for pedestrian accessibility.</li> <li>The addition of median refuges (where missing) from all Lefroy Road pedestrian crossings for pedestrian safety.</li> <li>Widening of existing median islands and the addition of grab rails to improve pedestrian safety.</li> <li>The addition of Bicycle Awareness Zone (BAZ) symbols to the section of Lefroy Road currently not wide enough to support bicycle lanes (between Edmund Street and Curedale Street roundabout).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewal of (and addition where missing) of green bicycle paint to the bicycle lane conflict points (intersections/busy crossovers like Fremantle College entrance and exit).</li> <li>• The addition of some added protection/separation to the Lefroy Road bike lane.</li> <li>• The addition of street tree planting.</li> </ul>
Site 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewal of Winterfold pedestrian crossing at McCombe Avenue including new tactile pavers for pedestrian accessibility.</li> <li>• Improvements to bicycle lane road on-ramp (mainly visibility).</li> <li>• Replacement of damaged kerbs.</li> <li>• Inclusion (where missing) bicycle friendly drainage grates.</li> </ul>
Site 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements to all pram ramps on South Terrace (between Alma Street and Russell Street) including widths, gradients &amp; tactile pavers for pedestrian accessibility.</li> <li>• Renewal of (and addition where missing) of green bicycle paint to the bicycle lane conflict points.</li> <li>• Renewal and addition of BAZ symbols.</li> <li>• Renewal of decorative concrete to roundabout.</li> <li>• Soft landscaping opportunities to roundabout.</li> </ul>
Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewal of Hughes Street pedestrian crossing, including new tactile pavers for pedestrian accessibility.</li> <li>• The addition of a median refuge to Hughes Street pedestrian crossing for pedestrian safety.</li> <li>• Address the blackspot accident hazard (right turns from Hughes Street on to Carrington Street), by banning the right hand turns with a new island.</li> </ul>

Each of the above opportunities will be explored during the detailed design process and where feasible, will be added separately to the budget request in the 2022/23 financial year for consideration by Council. These additional opportunities will not be covered by the MRRG grant, as this is specifically intended for road rehabilitation.

## **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Simple majority required.

### **COMMITTEE DECISION ITEM FPOL2104-4**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan**

#### **Council**

**Request officers lodge the City of Fremantle's 2022/23 financial year grant application to the Metropolitan Regional Road Group for the following road rehabilitation sites, noting that if successful, further detailed design work will be required to finalise the treatments for each site and that the City's contribution will be subject to a separate budget request that will require Council's approval during the 2022/23 financial year:**

	<b>Street Name and Approximate Extent</b>
<b>Site 1</b>	Lefroy Road, both directions between Edmund Street and Caesar Street, including Curedale Street roundabout.
<b>Site 2</b>	Winterfold Road, Eastbound 35m East of McCombe Avenue to 10m East of Property 114.
<b>Site 3</b>	South Terrace, both directions 25m North of Alma Street to 50m North of Russel Street, including Wray Avenue roundabout.
<b>Site 4</b>	Carrington Street, Southbound 15m north of Hughes Street to Property 188.

**Carried: 6/0**

Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright



**FPOL2104-5      PETITION FOR REINSTATEMENT OF THREE GATES AT STEVENS RESERVE**

**Meeting date:** 14 April 2021  
**Responsible officer:** Manager Field Services  
**Decision making authority:** Committee  
**Agenda attachments:** Nil  
**Additional information:** Council Petition – Dog Management Trial

**SUMMARY**

**At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 24 March 2021, a petition containing seventy nine (79) signatures was presented to the Council, requesting the Council:**

- 1. Immediately stop the one-month trial period as part of dog management at Stevens Reserve Fremantle and reinstall all gates at Stevens Reserve; and**
- 2. Consult with dog owners who use Stevens Reserve on identified dog management issues identified by the Council, and co-design solutions with dog owners that enable their dogs to be safely off-leash at the Reserve.**

**This report recommends that Council receive the petition and note that the trial period is due to finish on 16 April 2021 and all gates will be reinstated on this date.**

**BACKGROUND**

In November 2020 the City received a request from the Fremantle Cricket Club (FCC) to increase the dog management at Stevens Reserve due to the ongoing dog related incidents. One of the main requests from the FCC was for the removal of the three gates located along Stevens Street and Swanbourne Street.

City officers were reluctant to remove the gates due to the increased risk of a dog or child exiting the reserve via the ungated pedestrian entry points. Instead the City embarked on a campaign to educate the users of Stevens Reserve. The campaign included;

- Installation of new signage at the reserve to highlight the history of the FCC and reasons why areas within the reserve are dog prohibited areas.
- The use of red flags at the reserve entry points to indicate authorised sporting activity taking place.
- Information brochures handed out by the City's officers while patrolling the reserve.
- Increase in patrols by the City's officers to educate users of the reserve.
- Increase in written warnings and infringements handed out.
- Newsbites advertorial in Herald.
- Social media channels used to educate reserve users.

While the campaign appeared to be doing well during the busy months of December, January and February, by early March 2021 the FCC had requested another meeting with the City officers, during which they once again requested the removal of the three gates at Stevens Reserve.

City officers agreed to remove the gates for a trial period of 1 month beginning on the 17 March and ending on the 16 April. In return the FCC was requested to install a fence or barrier to protect the centre cricket wickets during the week.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **CONSULTATION**

Should any future changes be made in relation to dog management at Stevens Reserve, the City will undertake a consultation process with any relevant stakeholders.

## **OFFICER COMMENT**

There has been ongoing dialogue between the City and Club on this issue for a while with various options to help protect the pitches being discussed. While initially reluctant to remove the three gates from Stevens Reserve, the City eventually agreed to a one-month trial after the ongoing requests from the FCC.

The City acknowledges that the popularity of Stevens Reserve has increased over time which in turn has impacted on the number of incidents where the cricket pitches have been damaged.

The only definitive term of measurement to determine if this trial was a success is damage to the pitches during the trial. This can only be ascertained through feedback from the Club.

The City will continue to work with the Club and appropriate stakeholders to consider appropriate options to improve the relationship between the different uses of the oval.

## **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority Required

Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge moved part 1 and 2 of the Officer's Recommendation separately, as follows:

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ITEM FPOL2104-5**  
(Officer's recommendation)

Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge

Seconded: Cr Jenny Archibald

Council:

1. Receive the petition requesting the City to immediately stop the one-month trial period as part of dog management at Stevens Reserve, Fremantle and reinstall all the gates at Stevens Reserve.

Carried: 6/0

Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ITEM FPOL2104-5**  
(Officer's recommendation)

Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge

Seconded: Cr Jenny Archibald

Council:

2. Note that the trial is due to finish on the 16 April 2021 and all gates will be reinstated on this date.

Carried: 4/2

For

Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright

Against

Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Doug Thompson

The above item is referred to the Ordinary Meeting of Council for determination in accordance with the City of Fremantle Delegated Authority Register which requires that at least 5 members of the committee vote in favour of the Committee Recommendation in order to exercise its delegation.

**FPOL2104-6      FREMANTLE OVAL MASTERPLAN**

**Meeting date:** 14 April 2021  
**Responsible officer:** Manager City Design  
**Decision making authority:** Council  
**Agenda attachments:** Fremantle Oval Masterplan

**SUMMARY**

One of five key strategic projects in Council's FREO2029 Transformational Moves is improvements to the Oval Precinct. Due to the complexities of the site, as well as the uncertainty around the nature and timing of neighbouring sites (for example: Hospital, Police HQ) the Council resolved to develop a masterplan that had a clear focus on football facilities and infrastructure. This work is now complete.

The attached masterplan document is the result of intensive and collaborative work between the following key project partners over the past 6 months:

- South Fremantle Football Club
- West Australian Football Commission
- Fremantle Football Club
- City of Fremantle

The work has been guided by the City's Key Principles Diagram adopted by Council in August 2020 that established an urban design framework for future planning and design.

This report recommends that Council adopts the masterplan as a high-level strategic document for the purposes of:

- Enabling all project partners to advocate for the project and pursue funding opportunities.
- Communicating the project vision with the broader Fremantle community and building support for the project.
- Developing and refining certain aspects of the project, in particular, the community facilities and programs that could be incorporated.

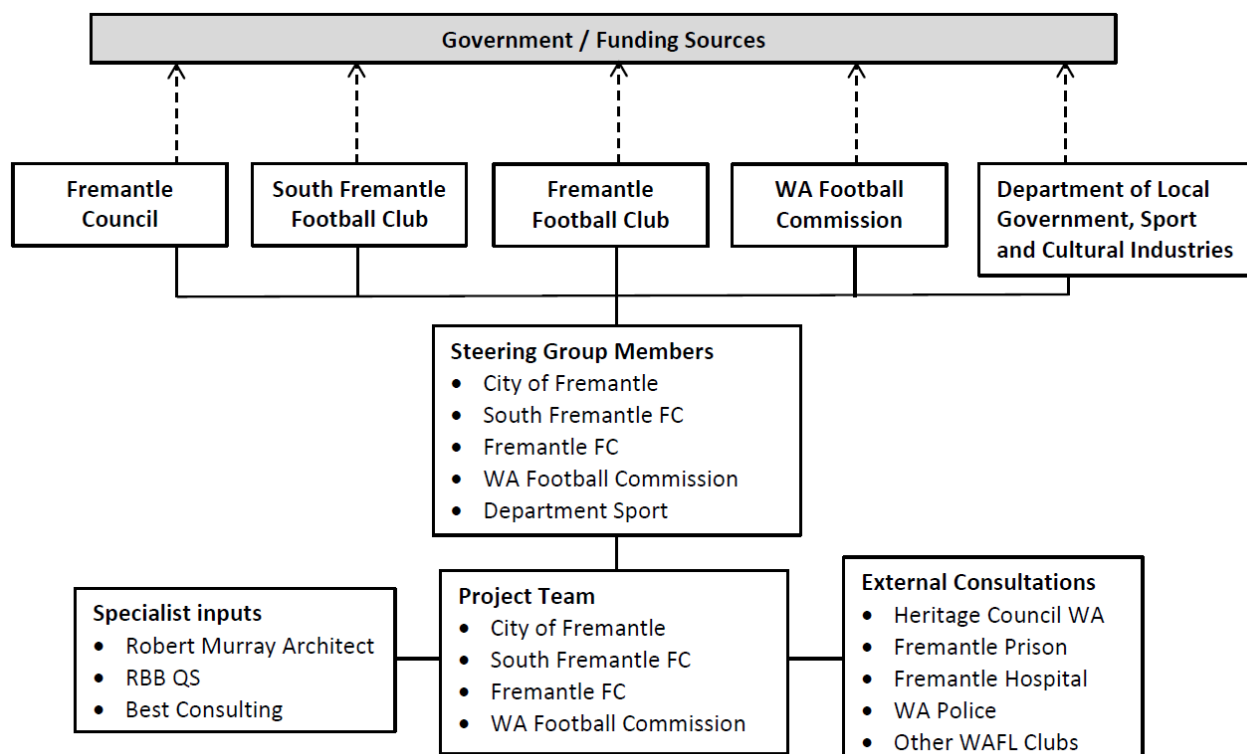
**BACKGROUND**

At its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2020 the Council adopted the Key Principles Diagram to guide planning and design of the precinct and requested that the City finalise a football masterplan as a matter of urgency.

At its meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 the Council considered the implications of a Police HQ on the Stan Reilly site and agreed, amongst other things, to request that the State Government provides a public access road off South Terrace to secure critical access to the Oval Precinct from the southern end.

At its meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021 the Council considered further details around its request to State Government regarding the Stan Reilly site – with a particular emphasis on protecting the future development options for the Oval precinct, e.g., a future public road and internal laneways that may be critical for future planning within the Oval Precinct.

Since August 2020, the masterplan for football facilities and infrastructure has been developed by the City with support from the key project partners and specialist inputs. The following project organisational structure illustrates how the governance of the project was managed:



In January and February 2021, the draft masterplan design was presented informally to elected members as well as governing boards of key project partners and received strong support. The plan has now been refined into a masterplan document that can be shared with the wider Fremantle community, key stakeholders and interested groups.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications to this Report.

## LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications to this Report.

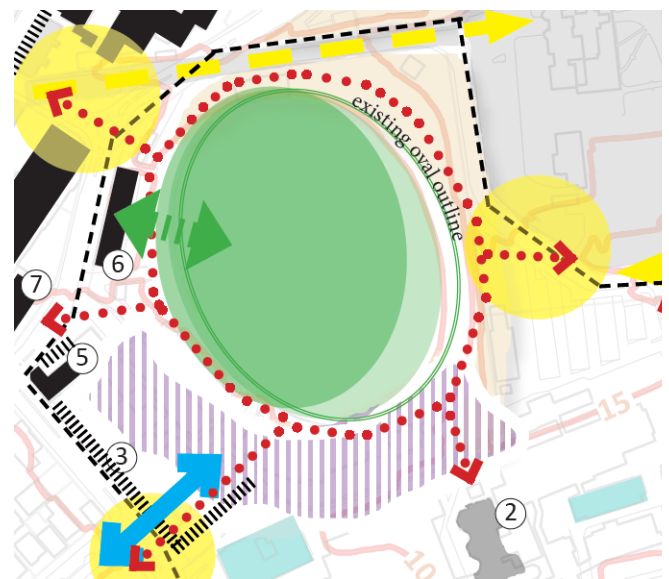
## OFFICER COMMENT

The masterplan has been prepared with a clear focus around the need for improvements to facilities and infrastructure for football. It has been developed within a robust strategic framework that has taken into consideration:

- An understanding of the high cultural significance of the place.
- The need to improve the public permeability, access and legibility of the precinct over time.
- Flexibility around the timing and nature of other developments in and around the precinct.
- AFL and WAFL guidelines for facilities to position Fremantle Oval strategically as a premier ground for WAFL, WAFLW, AFLW and WAFL finals.

The masterplan also responds to all the Key Principles adopted by the Council in August 2020:

1. **Upgrade the Fremantle Oval for football.**
2. **Improve pedestrian entry areas / axis points.**
3. **Improve pedestrian / cycling permeability.**
4. **Create clear, new major vehicular access points into precinct.**
5. **Protect and improve the heritage setting of the Fremantle Prison.**
6. **Future Potential Development:** To be focused around western and southern sides.
7. **Future Land Use Planning:** With football as the primary focus, other land uses to be encouraged within the precinct include residential, sports administration, community / cultural and public car-parking, which are commensurate with this location on the edge of the city centre, but also help support activity in the core of the city.



It is noted that the masterplan does not attempt to resolve the issues around future development of the former Dockers building, together with a future road that might go all the way through the precinct at the southern end. These matters will need a longer timeframe to resolve and are also likely to be dependent on the form and timing of future redevelopment within the hospital site.

The masterplan remains focussed on what can be done now. It sets a clear vision and objectives that, if implemented, would ensure the cultural importance of sport at Fremantle Oval continues well into the future. A critical component of this is recognising the importance of women's football and community development programs and ensuring that the facilities meet contemporary codes and standards (which they currently do not).

Underpinning the vision is acknowledgement of, and leveraging from, the unique qualities of the place – from its inner-city location and heritage setting, to the public transport and hospitality benefits – to make Fremantle Oval one of the best WAFL facilities in Western Australia.

The plan also recognises that, as part of City life, the oval must contribute to the day to day vibrancy of the Port City and be more than just about football. It is an essential 'green space' in the heart of the city and must remain a critical and integrated part of the public realm for the whole community. All project partners agree that this will be a key component to the ultimate success of the project.

With the high-level of support from the key project partners for this masterplan, the City now has an opportunity to broaden the conversation about the future of Fremantle Oval with the community, other key stakeholders and Government.

## **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Simple majority required.

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ITEM FPOL2104-6** **(Officer's recommendation)**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan**

#### **Council:**

- 1. Adopts the Fremantle Oval Masterplan for the purposes of:**
  - a. Enabling all project partners to advocate for the project and pursue funding opportunities.**
  - b. Communicating the vision with the broader Fremantle community.**
  - c. Developing and refining certain aspects of the project, in particular, the community facilities and programs that could be incorporated.**
- 2. Based on the Key Principles Diagram, adopted by Council on 26 August 2020, notes that other elements of the broader planning of Fremantle Oval precinct, such as development options for the former Dockers building and potential shared public road with the hospital site, will be developed at a later stage.**

**Carried: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

## **FPOL2104-11 ROUND HOUSE CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**

<b>Meeting date:</b>	14 April 2021
<b>Responsible officer:</b>	Manager Asset Management
<b>Decision making authority:</b>	Council
<b>Attachments:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Round House Conservation Management Plan – Recommendations (only)</li><li>2. Round House Conservation Management Plan – Prioritisation of works and cost estimates (only)</li></ol>
<b>Additional information:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Round House Conservation Management Plan</li><li>2. Round House Conservation Management Plan – Engagement Report</li></ol>

### **SUMMARY**

**The Round House is one of the most significant heritage buildings in Western Australia. It is the state's oldest public building and one of the biggest tourist attractions in Fremantle.**

**Due to its exposed location, vandalism and the well-intentioned but damaging repairs carried out during the twentieth century the building is now in need of some urgent conservation works.**

**The conservation of the Round House is currently guided by the Arthur Head Conservation Plan from 2011. Due to the significance of the Round House and the specific conservation issues impacting the place, a more in-depth investigation and analysis was required and included in the Round House's own Conservation Management Plan.**

**This report provides an overview of the issues facing the conservation of the building and the recommended response proposed in the new conservation plan. The report recommends that Council adopt the City of Fremantle Round House Conservation Management Plan recommendations and continue to advocate for the State government to fund the conservation works.**

### **BACKGROUND**

Character, Culture & Heritage is one of the seven key focus areas of the City's Strategic Community Plan. "*Fremantle celebrates its history and built heritage through active renewal and adaption*" is listed as a specific outcome in the Plan. In an effort towards helping the City to deliver on this outcome, a Conservation Management Plan has been developed for one of the City's and Western Australia's most iconic buildings, the Round House.

The Round House, which is recognised as being Western Australia's oldest public building and is one of this State's most significant heritage buildings, is one of the biggest attractions in Fremantle with an estimated 100,000 persons per year visiting the building annually.



The Round House has exceptional significance not just as the oldest public building in Western Australia but also for its role in the establishment of the colonial system of law and order when it served as a gaol, as the holding point for Aboriginal prisoners being transferred to Rottnest Island, and as a lock up for Ticket of Leave men from the Imperial Convict Establishment. The Round House is included on the State Register of Heritage Places as a part of the larger listing, Round House and Arthur Head.

Arthur Head Reserve, including the Round House was vested in the City of Fremantle in 1982. The management of the site is currently informed by the Arthur Head Reserve Conservation Plan prepared by Griffiths Architects in 2011. The conservation management plan superseded an earlier report by Naomi Lawrance Architecture + Heritage (1998) and more focused conservation plans of the Round House by Jack Kent (1988) and Rob McCampbell (1975). Numerous reports and technical investigations have also been carried out to better understand the place however, often with conflicting advice and recommendations.

Since 1998 the Fremantle Volunteer Heritage Guides Association has been managing the Round House as a heritage tourism site. The building is open every day to the public between except for Christmas Day and Good Friday. There are a number of interpretive displays in the courtyard and ground floor rooms of the Round House but the upper floor is currently inaccessible due to safety concerns about the narrow, steep staircase.

The last major conservation works of the Round House were undertaken in 2004. Since then small amounts of maintenance work have been carried out each year under the City's building maintenance budget.

Due to the exposed marine environment, vandalism and the well-intentioned but damaging repairs carried out during the twentieth century the building is now in need of some urgent conservation works. In particular, works are urgently required for the remediation and repair of the limestone walls.

As part of the City's focus on asset management and conservation of its heritage assets, the City engaged a consultant heritage architect to prepare a Conservation Management Plan for the Round House. This document will help record the important history of the building and guide its conservation and its ongoing management.

In response to a motion moved at Annual General Meeting of Electors, at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 10 June 2020 the council resolved to note:

1. *The process for national heritage registration and the intention to pursue nomination of the Round House in 2021.*
2. *The update of the Round House Conservation Plan currently in train and the framework this provides for formulating and considering budget proposals for maintenance, restoration and interpretation works, which can subsequently be considered as part of the annual budget process.*

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 24 June 2020 the council resolved that it:

1. *Recognises the Roundhouse is one of the most significant historic buildings in Western Australia that tells an important story of our State's history and is a popular cultural and tourist destination.*
2. *Commit to fund \$500,000 as a 50% contribution towards urgent works at Arthur Head for works in areas 1, 4, 7 and 8 as provided in the Arthur Head Cliff Stabilisation Report 2019 (as attached to this agenda), so that the unsightly scaffolding and fences can be removed from this historic site.*
3. *Formally request the State Government to contribute the remaining 50% portion from part 2 above, being \$500,000 for the urgent works at Arthur Head for works in priority areas 1, 4, 7 and 8 in the Arthur Head Cliff Stabilisation Report 2019, so that all the scaffolding and fences can be removed, and*
4. *Advises the State Government that the funds generated from the site will be inadequate to fund the remaining essential conservation works and that further funds for works will be required in State Government forward estimates.*

Since the resolutions in June 2020, the State Government, through the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, has contributed 50% to a \$1 million Cliff Stabilisation project at Arthur Head with staff verbally acknowledging that further works (informed by an up to date conservation management plan) would be desirable. The purpose of this report is to submit for adoption the Conservation Management Plan prepared for the Round House.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The identified conservation works deal with a multitude of building fabric issues, these works are very detailed and have been itemised at an elemental level.

The works cover a range of various aspects of the building including work and repairs to the roof, walls, steps, fixtures and surrounding ancillary items.

The estimated cost of all of the works identified in the Conservation Management Plan is \$652,000, these have been reviewed and are recommended in the following priority order:

Priority 1 – Immediate attention	\$300,060
Priority 2 - Urgent	\$302,260
Priority 3 – Medium term	\$39,900
Priority 4 – Long term	\$9,780
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$652,000</b>

Officers continue to seek funding to expedite the required works.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **CONSULTATION**

A programme of public consultation was carried out to assist with the preparation of the Round House Conservation Management Plan. In the first stage the public was

asked to contribute stories, memories and photos associated with the place and in the second stage they were asked to comment on the draft version of the report.

The Conservation Management Plan preparation has incorporated community consultation as outlined in the Round House Conservation Management Plan Engagement Report attached to this item in Additional Information attachment 2.

## **OFFICER COMMENT**

The Round House is one of the first buildings in Western Australia to be recognised and protected as a historic site when it was saved from demolition twice in the 1920s. It has now been a historic site longer than it served its original role. During this time it has been stabilised, repaired, preserved and conserved many times becoming a record of our changing attitudes to historic buildings and the evolution of conservation practice. The early conservation work were some of the first major conservation projects in the state, and pioneered heritage practices in Western Australia. Although well intentioned, not all past work is deemed to be appropriate in 2020. A number of these works have been reversed however there are still actions that need to be undertaken to ensure the on-going stability and viability of the place.

The conservation and management of the Round House is currently guided by the Arthur Head Conservation Plan which was prepared by Griffiths Architects in 2011. The current Conservation Plan covers the whole reserve which is 97 Ha in size and contains 11 buildings as well as numerous structures and an archaeological site. The Arthur Head Conservation Plan only briefly describes and has recommendations for the Round House.

Due to the identified cultural heritage significance of the Round House and the conservation issues impacting the place, a more in-depth investigation and analysis was required and included in the Round House's own Conservation Management Plan.

The Round House Conservation Management Plan provided in Additional Information attachment 1, builds on the broader conservation recommendations of the Arthur Head Conservation Plan (2011) and develops recommendations which seek to conserve significance and reduce the occurrence of adverse impacts. The Plan makes 108 recommendations that cover different areas of interest over a broad range of issues and are designed to help inform decision-making and create a transparent decision making process. The Management Plan seeks to:

- Provide guidance regarding the significance of the place;
- Conserve the documented heritage values of Round House;
- To understand and prioritise conservation actions in a practical manner;
- To establish a monitoring and maintenance program to address and retard further conservation issues and deterioration of significant fabric; and
- To preserve the heritage values of Round House in accordance with best heritage practice.

The Round House Conservation Management Plan will inform the City's management practices and future capital works program. The identified works align with issues that officers are aware of through the City's asset management practices

and have been prioritised and sequenced to be carried out in stages subject to available funding.

Officers will also strive to progress all the recommended actions (as detailed in Attachment 1) subject to available funding and capacity.

Officers are currently considering opportunities to improve the visitor experience. An initial audit has been conducted to explore opportunities for improvement with further work required throughout 2021.

## **VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Simple majority required

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ITEM FPOL2104-11** **(Officer's recommendation)**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Jenny Archibald**

#### **Council:**

- 1. Note the submissions received during the consultation period, shown in the Round House Conservation Management Plan Engagement Report (additional information attachment 2).**
- 2. Note the City of Fremantle Round House Conservation Management Plan, shown in additional information attachment 1.**
- 3. Approve the recommendations contained within the Round House Conservation Management Plan as provided in attachment 1, subject to budget approval.**
- 4. Endorse the prioritisation of works as detailed in attachment 2 and note the estimated cost of \$652,000 will be included in the draft budget process for consideration.**
- 5. Continue to advocate for funding from the State government to facilitate progressing the recommended works as detailed in the Round House Conservation Management Plan.**

**Carried: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

**12. Urgent business**

Nil

**13. Late items**

Nil

**13. Confidential business**

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

At 7.55 pm the following procedural motion was moved:

**COMMITTEE DECISION**

Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge

Seconded: Cr Doug Thompson

That the meeting be moved behind closed doors to consider the confidential item/s on the agenda.

**Carried: 6/0**

Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright

**FPOL2104-14     7-9 QUARRY STREET SALES PROCESS UPDATE**

**Meeting date:** 14 April 2021  
**Responsible officer:** Manager Economic Development & Marketing  
**Decision making authority:** Committee  
**Attachments:** Nil  
**Additional information:** Nil

**REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY**

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 5.23(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995* which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- (c) a contract entered into, or which may be entered into, by the local government and which relates to a matter to be discussed at the meeting

**COMMITTEE DECISION ITEM FPOL2104-14**  
**(Officer's recommendation)**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Jenny Archibald**

**Council:**

- 1. Decline the current negotiated offer received from Locus Properties.**
- 2. Note that officers will now commence negotiations with the proponent who submitted the next highest purchase price offer as part of the Expression of Interest process for the sale of 7-9 Quarry Street.**

**Carried: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

**At 7.57 pm the following procedural motion was moved:**

**COMMITTEE DECISION**

**Moved: Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge**

**Seconded: Cr Andrew Sullivan**

**That the meeting come out from behind closed doors.**

**Carried: 6/0**

**Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Hannah Fitzhardinge, Cr Jenny Archibald,  
Cr Doug Thompson, Cr Adin Lang, Cr Sam Wainwright**

**15. Closure**

The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 7.57 pm.