

Council Plan Biannual Update-25/26



Primary	Update (Jan 25-Jun 25)	Project Status (Jan 25 - Jun 25)
1.2.2 Promote the availability of digital literacy classes for seniors at the Community Resource Centre through the Shire's communication channels.	The Shire promotes local community events and activities organised by the Donnybrook Community Resource Centre on an ongoing basis, via the Shire website and social media where relevant.	Achieved
2.1.4 Advocate for health and allied health services to ensure the provision of vital health services and facilities within our Shire.	Shire President and Deputy President Glover attend regular meetings of the Leschenault Wellington District Health Advisory Committee (DHAC).	In Progress
2.3.1 Leverage our communication channels and social media platforms to share community and road safety education, driving awareness and engagement.	Road safety continues to be a key theme in the Shire's communications. Messages are shared where relevant, including social media reminders and advice. A recent post focused on slowing down near emergencies, combining education with appreciation for emergency services. Road safety is also regularly highlighted in roadwork updates, such as the monthly Advice of Works and forwarded notices from external agencies. All content is reviewed by relevant staff and informed by guidance from governing bodies and professionals.	Achieved
2.3.3 Maintain safe practices within the Recreation Centre that align with federal and state government policies and procedures.	Successfully completed within the previous reporting period, and there are no new updates or developments to report on during this reporting period.	Achieved
3.1.2 Enable more opportunities for community volunteers, students, work for the dole, and prisoner release program participants to take part in environmental projects (i.e. river clean-up, weeding, tree planting, etc).	We continue to collaborate with the Leschenault Catchment Council (LCC) to have further weed management and revegetation along the Preston River in Donnybrook, to restore native habitat for biodiversity and erosion control. The LCC also intends to establish a community action group to assist with long-term management of the area.	Achieved
3.2.2 Partner with Department of Communities to ensure evacuation/welfare centres are fit for purpose.	Inspection of the recreation centre by the Department of Communities has been completed and the recreation centre has been deemed adequate. Funding is being sought for upgrades to the changing rooms to further improve the amenity of the center. Conversations are underway about the VC Mitchell Pavilions being used as overflow in the event of an emergency.	Achieved
3.2.4 Provide support for emergency services volunteers.	The Shire has hosted several training courses including Bushfire Safety Awareness, Firefighting Skills, IRS training and FCO course, the CESM has also promoted courses run in neighbouring Shires with uptake by a few of our volunteers. Deployment has been encouraged to support neighbouring regions. The Shires Bushfire brigades have assisted with the Chesapeake fires in March with several appliances being deployed to help contain fires near Windy Harbour, The Shires High Season appliance was manned and assisted with a prescribed burn near Northcliffe. Completed prescribed burn at Balingup Racecourse reserve with involvement of several Bushfire brigades. these opportunities builds capacity within our brigades and exposes our volunteers to learning new skills and gaining interagency experience with DFES and DBCA.	Achieved
4.2.1 Audit Shire buildings and facilities to determine opportunities and costs associated with introducing renewable energy infrastructure.	Funding secured to install solar and battery infrastructure at the Donnybrook Recreation Centre.	In Progress
4.2.2 Implement and expand climate action initiatives that improve energy efficiency, promote sustainability, and support community-led environmental engagement.	Nil progress. Requires external grant funding and Council co-contribution to progress.	Monitor
5.3.1 Implement the Landfill Closure Management Plan.	Contractor engaged to review specific capping methodology.	In Progress
5.3.2 Collaborate with neighbouring councils to review regional waste options to reduce landfill (such as waste to energy facilities).	The Shire continues to collaborate with surrounding local governments in trying to find an alternative to FOGO processing in the southwest. The recent tender process did not provide any short-term solutions and were rejected for not meeting the required specifications. The President of the Shire of Dardanup has written to the Minister for Environment; Community Services; Homelessness seeking assistance in providing a solution to the future of FOGO processing in the southwest.	Monitor
6.1.3 Review Local Planning Policies.	Budget submission for progressing the LPS for 2025-2026. Policy review contingent on outcome of review processes.	Defer
6.1.4 Advocate for provision of relevant services and infrastructure to facilitate appropriate land development.	Victory Lane project discussed with South West Development Commission. Further planning and advocacy work to be undertaken as part of the asset optimisation project. Economic Development and Tourism strategy development to occur in 25/26.	Monitor
6.2.1 Support the Energy Efficient Pilot Program (EPPP) to help residents and businesses build energy literacy and implement efficiency measures through home audit kits, workshops and resources.	An Energy Home Audit Kit has been received and is now available for loan at the Donnybrook Community Library. Information and reminders regarding its use have been shared via the Library and Shire social media pages, promoting the kit as a practical resource for both households and businesses.	In Progress

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6.3.2 Support community groups to design and implement townscape works in Donnybrook, Balingup and Kirup.	The Shire continues to support the Donnybrook Towns Team (DTT) with an asphalt art initiative adjacent to the Apple Fun Park. In-principle support has also been received from MRWA for reduced speed zoning adjacent to the Apple Fun Park. Council endorsement of the speed zoning changes was received at the February 2025 OCM. Electrical infrastructure upgrades in Ayres Gardens facilitated an enhanced Christmas Lights display in December of 2024. This included the installation of new lighting and illuminated caricatures. The Balingup Townscape Committee has been supported in accordance with Council's policy (COMD/CP-4 - Community Townscape Activities), plus on site meetings with representatives to discuss Shire projects on Balingup Nannup Road and at the Balingup Cemetery.	Achieved
6.4.2 Enable growth of the urban tree canopy by funding the supply of suitable number of trees per annum to support a community tree planting program.	Ongoing; trees were successfully planted following the processing of applications through our annual process.	Achieved
8.1.1 Advocate via the Regional Road Group for State Government to upgrade and improve key regional transport infrastructure.	The RRG representatives actively participate to ensure the "ROADS 2040" strategic outcomes for regionally significant local government roads in Western Australia, is focusing on planning and funding for these roads.	Monitor
8.3.2 Provide a recreational loop extending from Bridge Street to Dale Street and consider extending upstream and downstream to facilitate longer recreational journeys.	The market did not respond to the original design which has been revised in early 2025, and was re-issued for tender in June 2025.	In Progress
9.4.1 Through the Workforce Plan explore opportunities for apprenticeships and traineeship to provide more employment opportunities in the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup organisation.	This action is identified for implementation through the Workforce Plan. However, it has not yet been undertaken due to higher priority HR initiatives and unforeseen operational demands. It remains a strategic focus and will be addressed in the upcoming Workforce Plan review.	Monitor
10.1.1 Partner with the Bunbury Geopark Tourism Partnership (BGTP) and Southern Forests Blackwood Valley Tourism Association (SFBVTA) to develop local tourism marketing initiatives.	Council has withdrawn from BunGeo Tourism Partnership. Staff and elected members are actively involved in WBAC initiatives including the 2026 UCI World Gravel Championships Steering Committee.	In Progress
11.1.1 Provide an annual review of key informing strategies to the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework to inform the Annual Budget.	A full annual review of key informing strategies was completed to support the development of the Annual Budget. This included: Workforce Plan reviewed – May 2025 Mid-Year Budget Review delivered – March 2025 Asset Management Plans and Financial Informing Plans reviewed and endorsed – April 2025 Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) reviewed and endorsed – May 2025	Achieved
11.1.3 Facilitate access to mandatory councillor training.	• Purchased a WALGA eLearning training subscription for Council (and staff) to undertake the five Council Member Essential Modules at their own pace, 7 of the 9 Councillors completed their Mandatory Training. • Councillors have completed training in Overseeing Asset Management and CEO Performance Reviews.	Achieved
12.1.1 Facilitate grants that reduce the Shire expenditures, uncover alternative revenue options, and leverage Council resources to address key community priorities and implement significant projects.	Australia Day was bolstered by a \$10,000 grant from the National Australia Day Council. The Shire received a \$3000 grant from the Department of Communities for Youth Week which was spent on 'Brook Fest' which was held on the 11th of April 2025. The DLGSC provided \$13,750 for the Bike Rescue Program. The Shire procured \$8390 from the National Australia Bank for two water tanks on behalf of the Yabberup Community Association for the Yabberup Hall.	In Progress
12.1.6 Provide a Building Service Level Hierarchy Framework.	This initiative has been identified as a future stage of the asset optimisation project.	Monitor
13.1.1 Support community initiatives through community grants, donations, and in-kind support via Shire Support Initiatives (SSI).	The Community Grants and Donations submission deadline was the 17th of January 2025. Thirteen groups applied, and 12 groups were successful on procuring grant funding. All funds allocated to the grants program were expended. There were also waivers on venue hire and rubbish services plus a total of two community donations made during this period.	In Progress
13.1.3 Provide annual events to encourage and recognise community volunteers.	A volunteer's event is planned for National Volunteers Week in May 2026, planning is in progress.	In Progress