



**Ordinary Council Meeting
Attachments
Tuesday, 28 July 2020**

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1.18 Elected Members Continuing Professional Development

Policy

The Shire of Dalwallinu recognises the importance of providing Elected Members with the knowledge and resources that will enable them to fulfil their role in accordance with statutory compliance and community expectations and make educated and informed decisions.

1. Elected Members Mandatory Training

An Elected Member must complete the course titled *Council Member Essentials*, in accordance with section 5.126(1) of the *Local Government Act 1995 and the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, within a period of twelve (12) months beginning the day on which the Elected Member commences their term of office. The *Council Member Essentials* incorporates the following modules:

1. Understanding Local Government
2. Conflicts of Interest
3. Serving on Council
4. Meeting Procedures
5. Understanding Financial Reports and Budgets

The mandatory training is valid for five (5) years.

An Elected Member is exempt from the requirements outlined in section 5.126 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1995* if the Elected Member passed either of the following courses within the period of five (5) years immediately before the day on which the Elected Member commences their term of office:

- Council Members Essentials;
- 52756WA Diploma of Local Government (Council Member);
- The Elected Member passed the course titled LGASS00002 Council Member Skill Set before 1 July 2019 and within a period of five (5) years ending immediately before the day on which the Elected Member commences their term of office.

Council's preferred provider for the training is Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA).

All modules and associated costs will be paid for by the Shire.

The Shire will publish, on the Shire's website, training undertaken by all Elected Members within one month after the end of the financial year pursuant to Section 5.127 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

It is Council's preference that the training is undertaken via the eLearning method which is the more cost efficient form of delivery. It is acknowledged however that there may be Elected Members who prefer to receive training face-to-face and/or opportunities to attend training which is being delivered in the region or in the Perth metropolitan area.

2. Elected Members Non Mandatory Training

Training and professional development activities which this policy applies shall generally be limited to the following:

- WA Local Government Association (WALGA) and Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) conferences;
- Special 'one off' conferences called for or sponsored by WALGA and/or ALGA on important issues;
- Annual conferences of the major professions in local government and other institutions of relevance to local government activities;
- Accredited organisations offering training relevant to the role and responsibilities of Elected Members;
- WALGA Council Member training and development;
- Other local government-specific training courses, workshops and forums, relating to such things as understanding the roles/responsibilities of Elected Members, meeting procedures etc;
- Subscriptions for professional memberships that assist an Elected Member in fulfilling their role on Council;
- Conferences or study tours that address the initiatives and projects that have been outlined in the Shire of Dalwallinu Strategic Community Plan, advocacy statements or Council resolutions.
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3. Continuous Professional Development

In accordance with section 5.128 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Elected Members are encouraged to identify their individual continuing professional development needs to enhance their effectiveness and address skill gaps as required.

As the needs of individual Elected Members may vary, each Elected member is encouraged to seek the assistance of the Chief Executive Officer and President in analysing their particular requirements and in

identifying appropriate courses, seminars and training to meet those ends.

In determining the professional development activities for individuals, Elected Members should consider the current or future strategic direction and activities of the Shire and its priorities and the skills that will be needed to give effect to the direction.

4. Budget Allocations

Each year an allocation is made within the Shire of Dalwallinu Annual budget for Elected Members training.

5. Procedures

Considerations for approval of the training or professional development activity include:

- The costs of attendance including registration, travel and accommodation, if required;
- The budget provisions allowed and the uncommitted or unspent funds remaining;
- Any justification provided by the applicant when the training request is submitted for approval;
- The benefits to the Shire of the person attending;
- Identified skills gaps of Elected Members both individually and as a collective;
- Alignment to the Shire's Strategic Objectives; and
- The number of Shire representatives already approved to attend.

Consideration of attendance at training or professional development courses, other than the online Council Member Essentials, which are deemed to be approved, are to be assessed as follows:

- Events for the Shire President must be approved by the Deputy Shire president, in conjunction with the Chief Executive Officer; and
- Events for Elected Members must be approved by either the Council or the Shire President, in conjunction with the Chief Executive Officer.

Objective

To ensure that Elected Members of the Shire of Dalwallinu receive appropriate information and training to enable them to understand and undertake their responsibilities and obligations.

Jean Knight

From: Executive Officer CWBA <eocwba@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 4 March 2020 9:34 AM
To: Jean Knight
Subject: Shire of Dalwallinu Financial Assistance Request for 2020-2021 Financial Year
Attachments: 2018-2019 CWBA Annual Report_Final.pdf

Dear Jean,

Shire of Dalwallinu Financial Assistance Request for 2020-2021 Financial Year

The Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association (CWBA) would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the Shire of Dalwallinu support of our Association. I have attached a copy of our 2018-2019 Annual Report for you to peruse. Outlined in the report are the many activities and achievements accomplished by the CWBA, which we hope may provide further background information as to our request with in this letter for financial assistance for the 2020-2021 Financial Year.

Originally started as the Central Wheatbelt Declared Species Group in early 2012, it has grown significantly in support and structure during this time and is now a Recognised Biosecurity Group under the Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act 2007. A formal Committee consisting of Chair, Vice Chair, Executive Officer, Dogger Coordinator and Directors has been established to ensure effective and proactive management of the CWBA's activities. The support and participation from Landholders within the CWBA region have also greatly increased and continues to do so.

Our Priority Declared Pest are Wild Dogs, Feral Pigs, Foxes and Rabbits. In 2018-2019 we contracted three Local Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) for 344 days who trapped or shot 67 Wild Dogs, had throughout the year each had between 42 and 110 traps in the ground at any one time and laid 12,700 baits across the region by LPMTs through ground and aerial baiting. 40,500 dried meat baits were made by the CWBA of which 32,800 were used by landholders free of charge in coordinated community baiting programs in September 2018 and April 2019. We held 10 bait days for landholders to access baits for the control of wild dogs, feral pigs, foxes and rabbits and assisted 23 landholders to obtain Restricted Chemical Product Permits.

337 stock losses/attacks were reported to the CWBA during this period, which continues to be concerning for landholders and the CWBA Board of Management, particularly when anecdotally there's evidence of landholders continuing to destock or reduce flock numbers across the region for a range of management reasons including Wild Dog predation. Key hot spots are in the east of the area's region on agricultural land adjacent to the State Barrier Fence. The number of wild dog sightings reported has significantly decreased. Rabbit numbers across the region this year again appeared low with the release of the RHDV1 K5 and RHDV1 K2 strains of the calicivirus being effective biocontrol.

Significant effort has been put into the issue of Feral Pigs in the Shire of Morawa by the CWBA over the last twelve months with a total of 543 Feral Pigs culled in the western region of the Morawa Shire. This is only just the beginning of a longer term and sustained control program to ensure that if effective intervention is undertaken now that Feral Pigs do not become a problem to landholders like Wild Dogs have.

2018-2019 saw the CWBA implement its first Declared Pest Rate in the Shires of Dalwallinu, Koorda, Morawa and Perenjori, seeking funding of 0.0234 cents in the dollar on the unimproved value of freehold land from landholders who owned no less than 100ha and raised \$107,097.00 and this amount was matched by State Government making a total of \$214,194.00 available to the CWBA.

In 2019-2020, the CWBA again implemented a Declared Pest Rate in the Shires of Dalwallinu, Koorda, Morawa and Perenjori, seeking funding from landholders who owned no less than 100ha and was increased to 0.0314 cents in the dollar on the unimproved value of freehold land from landholders who owned no less than 100ha and raised \$133,046.00 and this amount was matched by State Government making a total of \$266,492.00.

The CWBA has been successful in past years in attracting a number of external funds to assist with on-ground activities and is something that it will continue to do where funding is available to ensure that the Declared Pest Rate remains as low as possible for landholders. We have identified that we need to raise funds of a minimum of \$300,000.00 per annum to run our existing control programs as outlined in our Operational Plans. For the 2020-2021 Financial Year we have identified that we will fall short of this due to current external funding programs ending unless we again increase the Declared Pest Rate to landholders to 0.0401 cents in the dollar. We are reluctant to do this and are exploring all other possible funding options.

The Local Governments of Dalwallinu, Koorda, Morawa and Perenjori have had a long association and partnership with the CWBA since its inception and in 2017-2018 contributed a total of \$70,000.00 to our Association for the implementation of the 2017-2018 Operational Plan.

Local Government	Amount
Shire of Dalwallinu	\$25,000.00
Shire of Koorda	\$10,000.00
Shire of Morawa	\$10,000.00
Shire of Perenjori	\$25,000.00
Total Funds Contributed	\$70,000.00

We therefore ask if you would consider as a part of your 2020-2021 Council Budget considerations for your ongoing support and financial assistance with a contribution of \$10,000.00 for the 2020/20201 financial year on behalf of all of your ratepayers?

These funds will be used to implement the 2020-2021 Operational Plan and ensure the continued coordinated baiting programs to combat Wild Dogs, Feral Pigs, Foxes and Rabbits continue across the entire CWBA area and will benefit all Landholders and communities involved to have a viable agricultural industry within their communities.


Please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself or our Chairperson Mr. Ricky Storer on 0429 844 088 as we would be more than happy to answer any of your questions or queries. Thank you for taking the time to consider this request.

Regards,

Linda Vernon

Executive Officer

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 www.cwba.org.au

Please note that I only work part-time and will respond as soon as possible.

