

Cr. Steven Carter
President
Shire of Dalwallinu
58 Johnston Street
Dalwallinu WA 6609

20th March 2018

Dear Cr. Steven Carter,

Proposed Mobile Tower – Goodlands

Thank you for the positive response we received in your letter dated 28th February 2018. Further to this, I wish to inform you of the progress made towards finding a solution to the 178,000 hectare mobile blackspot in Goodlands.

On Friday 23rd February 2018, I attended a meeting in Perth with Mr Bob Nixon, Mrs Amanda Nixon - ICPA, Mr Paul Tzaicos - DPIRD, Mr Boyd Brown Area General Manager WA - Telstra, and Mr Ian Pollock - Telstra. It was an extremely positive meeting with all parties expressing their willingness to work together to investigate building a mobile tower at Goodlands.

It was decided that the best course of action at this stage is to apply for the 'Digital Farms' grant through DPIRD in order to receive the additional funds required to satisfy the co-contribution prerequisites proposed by Telstra. It is also a requirement for both the Digital Farms grant and the Telstra Co-contribution program to have the local Shire contribute to the project. The estimated total cost of the project is \$750 000 and we are formally asking the Shire of Dalwallinu for a monetary contribution of \$100 000. Applications for the Digital Farm grants are due by April 13th 2018, so your timely written response by Thursday 5th April is much appreciated. If possible, can we please have the letter emailed to Rebecca.Chown@education.wa.edu.au so it can be included with the Digital Farms grant application.

The impact of limited/non-existent access to mobile phone and data service on businesses that operate in the Goodlands area is compounding at a rapid rate as technological advances in agriculture continue. In these marginal rainfall areas, profit margins are extremely tight and the ability to maximise efficiencies is crucial to the long-term survival of the agricultural industry in the Goodlands and surrounding areas.

Having mobile service will ensure the safety of our families and employees while also ensuring we are given equal opportunity to run and manage our businesses.

We look forward with anticipation to working with the Shire of Dalwallinu in ensuring a solution is established for what is a serious constraint to our families and agricultural businesses.



Rebecca Chown

On behalf of the Goodlands Agricultural Community
P.O. Box 3
Kalannie WA 6468
Ph. 9667 1026