

Sea to Scarp

SHIRE OF WAROONA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MAY 2026



SHIRE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



In mid April, notification came through from the Office of the Auditor General that our council had again been recognised as one of the 2025 best practise entities for financial reporting and controls. Keeping sound processes in place in local government is

demanding and through quality reporting combined with good financial management, the Shire of Waroona was again awarded best practise status. This will be the third time in four years that this has occurred and such is the stringent criteria in being recognised, a signature on one document was all the precluded us from four years in succession. Our council commends Director Ash Nuttal and Manager of Corporate Services Kathy

Simpson and their team for their financial acumen and leadership.

The diversity and demands of local government are large. They are also not diminishing. One such decision taken a few years ago was to facilitate the services that occur on Anzac Day in Waroona. When our sub-branch of the RSL drew to a close in 2021, they asked, and Council took on organising the dawn and mid-morning services with support from a few past members and assistance from the community. This also coincided with a relocation of the war memorial to Railside Park, as requested by the RSL. These developments have lead to very well attended services and a more functional and appealing setting. This year, the addition of the St Josephs children's choir was a highlight. Our community development team orchestrated a tremendous morning and we thank you sincerely for your work.

Regional Economic Development Grants encourage businesses in our state to expand projects and ultimately create employment and

stimulate economic activity. The Peel region this year had significant applications for these grants and it's pleasing to note that our shire businesses were successful in attracting almost half of this \$1.104 million grant round. Congratulations to the Drakesbrook Tavern, Mitchells Transport, Lake Navarino Holiday Park and Boodja Ventures on successful applications and strategic funding proposals. We look forward to seeing these expansions and visions take hold.

While the finishing touches of a dedicated walk trail to the Drakesbrook Weir is still a little bit away, the section that has been completed so far is looking great. Attracting grant funding to shovel ready projects is always a balancing act and requires constant advocacy. I'm pleased to say that this community driven project was pushed by a small but dedicated committee under the banner of the Friends of Drakesbrook Weir. To Keven and Jeanne-Marie with members who demonstrated passion for this project, I hope you enjoy this trail and the safety that it will provide.

CR MIKE WALMSLEY
SHIRE PRESIDENT

BEST PRACTICE SHIRE

Waroona recognised for strong financial management

The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) independently audits all local governments each year to ensure public funds are managed responsibly and financial reports are accurate, timely, and compliant.

As part of this process, within their report to Parliament, the OAG highlights councils that demonstrate best practice in financial management and reporting. We're proud to share that the Shire of Waroona has been recognised on the 2025 list, marking our third inclusion in recent years and reflecting a strong and consistent performance.

This recognition reflects the Shire's commitment to sound financial management, well-maintained systems, and a proactive approach to meeting audit requirements. The latest OAG report notes that many local governments continue to face challenges with complex accounting standards, asset valuations, and tight reporting timeframes—making consistent recognition an even more meaningful achievement.

For our community, this provides reassurance that ratepayer funds are being managed carefully, transparently, and with a focus on long-term sustainability. Strong financial management underpins everything the Shire delivers, from maintaining local infrastructure to planning for future growth.

While we will always continue to improve, being recognised multiple times demonstrates that the Shire is performing strongly in an area that matters to every resident. It's a result our organisation—and our community—can be proud of.



TRAIL PROGRESS

The sealing of the Waroona Town to Weir Trail was completed last week. While there had been some concern that recent rain may delay the project, conditions remained favourable, allowing the sealing works to proceed as planned.

Once complete, the upgraded trail will provide a fully sealed pathway from McLarty Street through to the Weir, delivering improved safety, accessibility and stability for all users including walkers, cyclists, families and visitors.

There are some things to complete still with fencing, lines and signs and tidy up, so please ensure that you comply with the contractor's instructions while this work is done.

While this first stage is very close to being operational now, the next stage of the trail is being finalised now and will be built once the weather permits. This links from the north end of the weir entry road down to the carpark area.

This important upgrade represents a significant improvement to the community's recreational infrastructure and will create a more enjoyable and reliable connection between town and one of the area's key attractions.

An official opening of the sealed trail will be held in late 2026, once all the works are completed.

We are grateful to the Australian Government for providing \$1,236,724 towards the Waroona Trail works as one of six projects being delivered under the Peel Regional Trails project. The Peel Regional Trails project is supported by Australian Government with funding of \$8,000,000 across the six sub-projects to support community and sporting infrastructure, and open space improvements across the Peel Region.

This contribution has helped deliver a valuable community asset that will be enjoyed for years to come.



VACANCY

Plant Operator / Labourer - Casual

The Shire of Waroona, located in Western Australia's Peel Region, offers residents a desirable small-town country lifestyle nestled between the scenic forests of the Darling Scarp and the fishing-friendly beaches of the Indian Ocean. Conveniently located between Mandurah and Bunbury, Waroona provides the best of regional living with easy access to major urban centres.

An opportunity has arisen for Plant Operator/Labourer to join our Works team on a casual basis. This is a hands-on role contributing directly to the construction and maintenance of the Shire's roads, drainage, and other infrastructure, helping deliver high-quality outcomes for our local community.

The successful applicant will assist with a variety of civil works, including operating and maintaining plant and general works to support the Shire's capital and maintenance programs. Opportunities also exist to learn and build your skills in plant operation under the guidance of experienced staff.

At the Shire of Waroona, you'll be part of a friendly and supportive team in a welcoming community. We offer excellent employee benefits, including a nine-day fortnight, ongoing training and development, and the chance to contribute to meaningful local projects that directly benefit our community. This casual position has been created to support the Shire's existing works team and address a current workforce gap. The role will be employed under the Shire of Waroona Outside Workforce Enterprise Agreement Level 3 to 4 (\$33.62 to \$35.53 per/hr) + 25% casual loading dependent on skills and experience.

The Shire reserves the right to close applications prior to the advertised closing date of Friday, 26th June 2026 @ 4pm, should a suitable applicant be identified.

To apply, please submit a cover letter, resume and address the selection criteria, as outlined in the application package available by visiting www.waroona.wa.gov.au/employment/plant-operator-labourer-casual/114 or by request via email to hr@waroona.wa.gov.au. Applications should be clearly marked "Private and Confidential – HR.2526.033 – Plant Operator/Labourer. Further information about the position can be obtained by contacting Eden Pisconeri, Workplace Services Officer, on (08) 9733 7800.

The Shire of Waroona is an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees.

MARK GOODLET
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SURVEY EXTENDED

The Shire of Waroona recently held a Community Conversations session with the Preston Beach community to discuss the draft Preston Beach Management Plan.

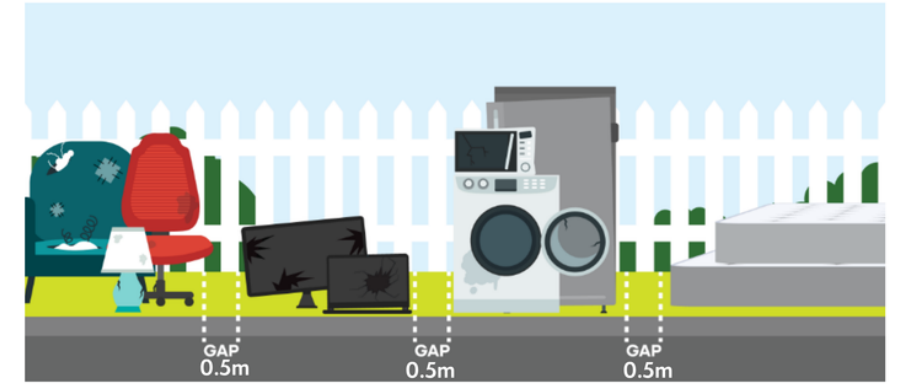
The meeting was extremely well attended, and most importantly, it led to really positive, constructive conversations. There was a great level of engagement from the community, with valuable insights shared not only about the draft plan, but also broader matters impacting Preston Beach.

We would like to sincerely thank everyone who attended and contributed to such a productive discussion, as well as those who have already taken the time to complete the survey; your input is incredibly important in shaping the future of Preston Beach.

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Shire of Waroona Hard Waste Collection Guidelines



Collection Start: Monday 15 June 2026

The Shire's hard waste collection is scheduled to commence on above mentioned dates at the specified locations as outlined in the collection maps which are available on the Shire website.

It is important that residents pay close attention to the requirements of the verge collections. Noncompliance with these requirements may result in some of the waste remaining on the verge and or a possible infringement notice being issued in accordance with the Litter Act 1979.

General Conditions

- Please note that all items of hard refuse will be collected by hand. A maximum weight will apply, and as a general rule two people should be able to lift the item easily to shoulder height.
- All waste is to be placed in four separate piles as per the guidelines neatly on the verge no earlier than seven days prior to the advertised collection week and no later than 6:00am on the scheduled start date for your area as streets will only be checked once.
- Please allow five to seven working days for your collection.
- Place all waste on the verge without obstructing footpaths, your normal bin service or the line of sight of pedestrians, cyclist and cars.
- Waste inside your property boundary will not be collected.
- Waste will not be collected from vacant properties, public land or outside the specified town sites.

What **WILL** be collected:

- WHITE GOODS (fridges, stoves, microwaves etc) Fridges and freezers must have their doors removed for safety reasons. Doors will be collected.
- TELEVISIONS/ E-WASTE
- SCRAP METAL
- GENERAL JUNK (furniture and general house hold items)

What **WILL NOT** be collected:

- Sand, bricks, concrete or building rubble
- Tyres, car bodies or vehicle parts
- Batteries
- Food products
- Hazardous waste (paints, chemicals, oil or gas cylinders)
- Asbestos products
- Glass or mirrors
- Green waste (grass clippings, tree prunings etc).

These items can be disposed of at the Buller Road Refuse Disposal Site using a Shire tip pass.

During the session, it became clear that some community members hadn't yet had the opportunity to view the plan, particularly those who don't regularly use computers. To help ensure everyone can participate:

Paper copies of the draft plan and survey will be available from the Preston Beach General Store, many thanks to the generous support of the new owners of the Preston Beach One Stop Shop, who have kindly agreed to act as a collection point.

Survey closing date extended to 15 May to allow more time for submissions.

You can also complete the survey online here www.surveymonkey.com/r/SYS7KCH

We're really encouraged by the strong community interest and the positive conversations so far, and we look forward to receiving more feedback.

