Shire committed to sustainable recycling program for Exmouth

The Shire of Exmouth recognises the value of recycling services and will continue to engage with key stakeholders and the community on the development of a sustainable recycling model for the town.

Chief Executive Officer Cameron Woods said it was clear the community was disappointed the Shire had withdrawn from its previous recycling proposal. However he believed the delay would ultimately deliver better environmental, social and economic outcomes for the community in the long term.

Mr Woods said that with the Strategic Community Planning process due to kick off soon, the Shire and community also had the opportunity to look at local waste management more broadly.

“Not only is there a community desire for recycling in Exmouth, there is also a very real need to consider our long term waste management strategies including planning for a new waste disposal site, priority waste streams and diversion from landfill,” he said.

“We need to consider a strategic plan that will deliver better waste management outcomes across the board in the context of the resources that are available to us.

“Recycling is clearly a key part of that, but our responsibilities for dealing with waste reach much further.”

Mr Woods said he welcomed the opportunity to work with key stakeholders including Cape Conservation Group to address waste management needs.

“This is a process that we believe will take another 12 months to resolve,” he said.

“Our aim as a community must be to deliver a recycling program that is socially, economically and environmentally responsible and is integrated into our ongoing waste management practices.”

More information on the Shire of Exmouth’s recycling commitment is available by contacting Executive Manager Engineering Services Keith Woodward on 9949 3000.

WASTE STREAMS: Cardboard is one of the priority waste streams that could be processed for recycling.

Commissioner’s term to be extended

Local Government Minister David Templeman has asked the Governor of Western Australia to extend Shire of Exmouth Commissioner Ian Fletcher’s tenure at the Shire of Exmouth following the resignation of suspended Councillors last month.

Under the Minister’s proposal, the Commissioner will remain at the Shire until Council elections are held in October.

Elections are scheduled to be held on October 21, 2017 with all six Council positions to be filled at the election.

Newsletter delivery information

This newsletter is distributed to all PO Boxes in Exmouth, and is available for pick-up at the shire offices and the Public Library. This newsletter can also be emailed electronically. Send an email to communications@exmouth.wa.gov.au to register your interest.

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 4 July, 2017.
Council considers rating strategy for 2017-18

The Shire of Exmouth has endorsed a resolution that will see no increase in differential rating values for the 2017/18 financial year.

The endorsement, made at June’s Ordinary Council Meeting, follows a commitment from Commissioner Ian Fletcher that the Shire would not increase rating values for Exmouth residents in the coming financial year.

The proposal will now be advertised for public comment with submissions to be considered by Council before the proposed rate and minimum payment is imposed.

Mr Fletcher said the rating decision underlined the importance of prudent financial management at the Shire going forward.

“We are a small community with a limited rate base,” he said.

“It is imperative that this Council consider the ongoing financial implications of the decisions it makes on behalf of Exmouth residents and how they will affect the long term financial sustainability of the Shire and the services it delivers going forward.

“Every $30,000 we spend represents about 1 per cent of rates and we must be aware of that when we are looking at ongoing project costs.”

Commissioner Fletcher said Council would soon undertake a review of its Strategic Community Plan which would form the basis of the Shire’s long term financial planning.

As part of this process the community will be asked to outline what it wants the Shire’s strategic priorities to be for the next 10 years.

October Council elections

Local residents are being urged to take an active role in local government elections being held on October 21, 2017. Whether you plan to participate by voting or standing as a candidate, following are some important dates to mark in your calendar:

**September 1, 2017**—Close of rolls. Make sure you are enrolled to vote before this date.

**September 7, 2017**—Nominations open. This is the first day for candidates to lodge completed nomination papers to the returning officer. Nominations close on September 13.

**October 17, 2017**—Last day for absentee votes and close of postal vote applications for voting in person elections.

**October 20, 2017**—Close of early voting for in-person elections.

**October 21, 2017**—Election Day.

Anyone seeking more information on running as a candidate can contact the Shire on 9949 3000.