



Shire of
Katanning
Heart of the Great Southern

‘A prosperous, vibrant and diverse community working together.’

**MINUTES OF
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

Dear Council Member

The next Ordinary Council Meeting of the Shire of Katanning will be held on
Tuesday 23 March 2021 in the Shire of Katanning Council Chambers,
52 Austral Terrace, Katanning.

DISCLAIMER

The Council of the Shire of Katanning hereby
advises that before taking any action on an application or a
decision of the Council, any applicant or members of the
public should wait for written advice from the Council.

PRESIDING MEMBER _____

DATE SIGNED _____



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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 6:02pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**PRESENT**

Presiding Member: Cr Liz Guidera - President

Members: Cr John Goodheart – Deputy President
Cr Danny McGrath
Cr Serena Sandwell
Cr Martin van Koldenhoven
Cr Owen Boxall
Cr Ernie Menghini
Cr Kristy D’Aprile
Cr Mark Stephens

Council Officers: Julian Murphy, Chief Executive Officer
Denise Gobbart, Executive Manager Corporate & Community
Sue Eastcott, Executive Assistant to CEO

Gallery: Freddie Penaverde
Ivory Penaverde
Cara Watts
Hugh Sharpe
Nigel Heard
Vaelli Heard
Phally Oun
Matt Collis
Trevor Kowald
Helen Kowald
Tom Shanahan

Media:

Apologies: Sam Bryce, Executive Manager Infrastructure & Assets

Leave of Absence:

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION

President Liz Guidera remarked on the amazing day everyone had at the Harmony Festival. She said it was testament to the community that we could have such a fantastic day given the restrictions and changes we needed to make. All the feedback that she received was positive and that it was situated in a great position this year and the kids zone was particularly loved being on the grass. She said she would like to pay credit to the Shire staff for the preparation and organisation over the months and for coming to volunteer on the day to make it run smoothly.

4. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil.

5. DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL/IMPARTIALITY INTERESTS

Nil.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION/STATEMENT TIME**Matt Collis Statement**

Mr Collis thanked everyone involved in organising the Harmony Festival and he said that it was situated in a great location and gave credit to Katanning.

7. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**7.1 Application for Leave of Absence Cr John Goodheart**

MOVED: CR MARTIN VAN KOLDENHOVEN

SECONDED: CR KRISTY D'APRILE

OC24/20 That Council grants Cr Goodheart leave of absence from 14 April 2021 – 4 May 2021.

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

CARRIED 9/0

8. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Benita Cattalini from the Great Southern Online Business Network introduced herself and made the presentation.

Benita Cattalini stated that the Great Southern Online Business Network had to offer was is much more than an online directory. They are creating a single space that can be used to attract traffic, promote the region, strengthen existing networks and make stronger connections within the region.

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**9.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – Tuesday 23 February 2021**
(SEE ATTACHED MINUTES)**MOVED: CR OWEN BOXALL****SECONDED: CR MARK STEPHENS****OC25/21 That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23 February 2021 confirmed as a true record of proceedings.****Voting Requirement:** Simple Majority**CARRIED: 9/0****10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS**

Nil

10.1 EXECUTIVE MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS

Nil

10.2 EXECUTIVE MANAGER CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

10.2.1 Schedule of Accounts (ATTACHMENTS)

File Ref: FM.FI.4
Reporting Officer: Shenae Watts, Creditor Officer
Report Prepared: 03 March 2021

Body/Background:

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. A Local Government is to develop procedures for the authorisation of, and payment of, accounts to ensure that there is effective security for, which money or other benefits may be obtained.

Below is a summary of the payments made for the financial year:

Month	Cheques 2020/21	EFT Payments 2020/21	Direct Debits 2020/21	Credit Card 2020/21	Payroll 2020/21	Trust 2020/21	Total Payments 2020/21
July	1,065.35	1,327,621.42	37,190.14	5,109.64	248,178.73	0.00	1,619,165.25
August	14,612.21	1,426,957.07	29,249.32	2,292.54	243,501.24	0.00	1,716,612.38
September	15,827.22	1,344,053.88	47,884.08	13,384.94	404,488.03	0.00	1,825,638.15
October	6,666.86	2,685,453.19	48,261.12	3,216.50	231,162.66	0.00	2,974,760.33
November	1,093.00	1,606,306.84	32,568.21	5,544.62	251,198.61	0.00	1,896,711.28
December	719.95	1,834,821.40	85,167.50	6,144.81	245,526.71	0.00	2,172,380.37
January	827.90	2,053,898.21	31,400.98	6,542.22	215,052.79	0.00	2,307,722.10
February	773.90	843,290.57	33,260.31	3,809.49	226,389.25	0.00	1,107,523.52
March							
April							
May							
June							
Total	41,586.39	13,122,402.58	344,981.66	46,044.76	2,065,498.02	0.00	15,620,513.38

Officer's Comment:

The schedule of accounts for the month of February 2021 are attached.

The Finance Forum held on 11 February 2021 gave attending Councillors an opportunity to ask questions regarding the presented accounts paid.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

Policy Implications:

There are no direct policy implications in relation to this item.

Financial Implications:

Expenditure in accordance with the 2020/21 Annual Budget.

Risk Implications:

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Katanning's Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be "Low" risk and can be managed by routine procedures and with current resources.

Strategic Implications:

Shire of Katanning Strategic Community Plan 2017 – 2027

PRIORITY	LEADERSHIP	
ASPIRATION	L2	A collaborative, progressive and resilient local government which is sustainably resourced.
OBJECTIVE	L2.1	Optimise use of shire resources – improve organisational systems.

Officer's Recommendation/Council Motion:

MOVED: CR SERENA SANDWELL

SECONDED: CR KRISTY D'APRILE

OC26/21 That Council endorses the Schedule of Accounts as presented, being cheques 42360-42361 totalling \$773.90, EFT payments 31390-31560 totalling \$843,290.57, direct payments totalling \$32,260.31 and credit card payments totalling \$3,809.49 authorised and paid in February 2021.

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority.

CARRIED: 9/0

10.2.2 Monthly Financial Reports **(ATTACHMENTS)**

File Ref: FM.FI.4
Reporting Officer: Libby French, Manager Finance
Report Prepared: 15 March 2021

Body/Background:

This item presents the Monthly Financial Report, which contains the 'Statement of Financial Activity' for the period ending 28 February 2021.

Section 6.4 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires a local government to prepare financial reports.

Regulation 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 sets out the form and content of the financial reports, which have been prepared and are presented to Council.

Council adopted (in conjunction with the Annual Budget) a material reporting variance threshold of 10% with a minimum value of \$10,000. Material variances between budgeted and actual expenditure are reported at Note 17 of the Monthly Financial Report.

Officer's Comment:

A variance report is included with the monthly financial statement's attachment.

The Finance Forum held on 11/03/2021 gave attending Councillors an opportunity to ask questions regarding the presented financial statements.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995

Section 6.4 Financial Report

- (1) A local government is to prepare an annual financial report for the preceding financial year and such other financial reports as are prescribed.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

Regulation 34 Financial activity statement required each month (Act s.6.4)

Policy Implications:

The Shire has several financial management policies. The finances have been managed in accordance with these policies.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications for this report.

Risk Implications:

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Katanning's Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be "Low" risk and can be managed by routine procedures and with current resources.

Strategic Implications:

Shire of Katanning Strategic Community Plan 2017 – 2027

PRIORITY	LEADERSHIP	
ASPIRATION	L2	A collaborative, progressive and resilient local government which is sustainably resourced.
OBJECTIVE	L2.1	Optimise use of shire resources – improve organisational systems.

Officer's Recommendation/Council Motion:**MOVED: CR KRISTY D'APRILE****SECONDED: CR SERENA SANDWELL**

OC27/21 That Council, in accordance with Regulation 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, receive the Monthly Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending 28 February 2021, as presented.

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority.**CARRIED:** 9/0

10.2.3 Local Government Child Safety Officers & Proposed Reportable Conduct Scheme
(ATTACHMENTS)

File Ref: GR.SL.2
Reporting Officer: Denise Gobbart, Executive Manager Corporate & Community
Date Report Prepared: 26 February 2021

Issue:

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) on behalf of the Western Australian Government (State Government) is implementing reforms from the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission).

The Royal Commission was established to investigate systemic failures by institutions in relation to allegations and incidents of child sexual abuse. The Royal Commission found that across many decades, many of society's institutions failed to protect children.

In response to the Royal Commission, the State Government is:

- developing a system of independent oversight to improve child safety in organisations;
- developing a State policy position on the Royal Commission's recommendation 6.12 specifying that local governments should designate child safety officers from within existing staff profiles. The DLGSC is seeking the Council's response to that suggestion.

Body/Background:

The Royal Commission's final report contained 409 recommendations directed towards the development of effective government regulation, improvement in institutional governance and increased community awareness of child sexual abuse in institutions.

The development of an independent oversight system comprises the following four areas:

- organisations to report certain types of misconduct by their employees (including contractors and volunteers) involving children (known as reportable conduct) to an independent oversight body;
- organisations engaged in child related work to comply with child safe standards (known as the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations) and their compliance be monitored by an independent oversight body;
- out-of-home care providers be accredited by an independent oversight body;
- youth detention environment to comply with the National Principles and their compliance be monitored by an independent oversight body.

Ombudsman WA has drafted the Parliamentary Commissioners Amendment (Reportable Conduct) Bill 2020 (Attachment 2).

The Bill obliges heads of organisations, including local governments, to notify an independent body of misconduct involving children, known as reportable conduct, by their employees, volunteers and contractors. Consultation on the draft legislation closed 31 January 2021.

The Royal Commission recommended 10 child safe standards to improve child safe cultures and practices across all sectors providing services to children and young people. The standards have since been incorporated into the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations which were endorsed by the Council of Australian Governments in February 2019. The National Principles guide organisations to create child safe cultures and practices (Appendix 4). The Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) is leading community consultation about how the legal compliance with the National Principles should be implemented. Organisations undertaking child-related work, such as local governments, were encouraged to provide comment by completing an online survey before 26 February 2021.

Royal Commission Recommendation 6.12 states that local governments should designate child safety officer positions from within existing staff profiles. The Department of Communities and DLGSC have drafted a discussion paper for the WA Local Government sector to better understand and respond to this recommendation (Attachment 1).

The State Government is seeking a formal response to the discussion paper, preferably through the relevant council, from local governments by 2 April 2021. Responses will inform the development of the State Government's policy position.

The State Government acknowledges that local governments will have differing levels of understanding of the Royal Commission and child safeguarding reforms.

Further information relating to the Independent Oversight System including how to provide a response is available on wa.gov.au.

Officer's Comment:

Critically, the Royal Commission cited the fundamental role local governments play in assisting and resourcing communities across Australia, particularly in regional and remote areas, where access to resources and services is often more limited than for their urban counterparts.

The Royal Commission highlighted the important roles local governments play in communities that impact on the safety of children including:

- providing services to children, for example libraries, swimming pools and childcare;
- providing spaces for community activities, for example halls, theatres and sports grounds;
- funding or contracting services;
- facilitating community education or outreach programs;
- regulating planning and development approvals, infrastructure and property services; and
- water and food inspection .

The active role local governments take in community development and community safety, particularly roles that impact on child safety, was recognised as an opportunity to integrate their direct responsibilities to children with their wider role within the community.

The Commission adds *“Local governments are recognised as well placed to support smaller organisations within their communities to implement the National Principles and create child safe environments”*.

Through this consultation process the State Government has two key aims:

- to develop a better understanding of the current role of local governments in promoting child safety and how the outcomes of this work are reported internally, to executive and to council; and
- to use this understanding of current work promoting child safety to inform development of an approach to meet recommendation 6.12 of the Royal Commission in implementing the child safety officer role.

The State Government notes:

“As part of the response to this consultation process it would be useful for local governments to consider how to engage their local communities in relation to this issue. This active engagement can ensure that the community’s expectations and the local government’s outcomes and investment in child safety are well understood.

Local governments undertaking the required periodical review of their Integrated Planning and Reporting, may choose to include discussions on child safety as part of the engagement with the local community.”

Recommendation 6.12 of the Royal Commission recommended that, with support from governments at the national, state and territory levels, local governments should designate child safety officer positions from existing staff profiles to carry out the following functions:

- a) developing child safe messages in local government venues, grounds and facilities;
- b) assisting local institutions to access online child safe resources;
- c) providing child safety information and support to local institutions on a need’s basis; and
- d) supporting local institutions to work collaboratively with key services to ensure child safe approaches are culturally safe, disability aware and appropriate for children from diverse backgrounds.

The following is extracted from the Royal Commission’s findings:

“Child safety officers are intended to promote child safety within the organisation and support smaller community-based organisations providing services to children to create child safe environments. The role would be expected to support local staff and volunteers to build existing capacity around child safety within their organisations by providing information and assistance.

The Royal Commission’s view was that a child safety officer proximate to services and local industries would be especially important in regional and remote areas, given these communities are known to routinely miss out on resources and access to services that are available in urban centres. In regional and remote communities, child safety officers could be a conduit for information.

The Royal Commission’s view was that child safety officers should work closely with the independent state oversight body responsible for monitoring and enforcing the National Principles, as they would be well placed to support smaller organisations to understand how they can be child safe.

The intent of the Royal Commission is for local governments to identify where they already have existing staff who could fulfil a role of promoting child safety within the organisation and supporting smaller local organisations to develop capacity in this area.

Local governments could create new positions to facilitate implementation of this role where desired and resourcing allows. Volume 6 and Volume 14 of the Royal Commission's Final Report provide this recommendation in detail.

Acknowledging the existing investment local governments make to promoting community safety, including child safety, the Royal Commission stated that local governments do not need to provide additional financial investment into implementing a child safety officer role and suggest that existing community safety positions within local governments could be expanded to align existing responsibility to strengthen child safety.

The following portfolios may have existing roles that could be considered for alignment with child safety responsibilities and it is recognised that significant work is already occurring in these areas within some local governments to promote child safety, as recommended by the Royal Commission:

- Community Safety;
- Community and Club Development;
- Governance and Risk;
- Communications; and
- Disability Access and Inclusion.

It is also recognised that not all local governments have existing community safety positions or have limited capacity to expand the functions of these roles to include child safety. In fulfilling the functions of the child safety officer role, it is recognised that local government staff will need access to appropriate training. Where local governments have limited resources to create child safety officer positions the Royal Commission suggested that state and territory governments may be able to provide assistance.

3.1 Functions of the child safety officer

The four key functions of child safety officers, recommended by the Royal Commission, are outlined below with suggestions as to how each function may look in practice. It is noted that some of these examples may represent work already occurring in many local governments.

a) Developing child safe messages in local government venues, grounds and facilities

Developing child safe messages in local government venues, grounds and facilities promotes the knowledge and understanding of child safety by community members. Public messaging promotes the rights of children to feel safe as well as increasing the understanding of child safety by staff, volunteers and community members and acting as a deterrent for those who may intend to cause harm to children.

To implement this function would include:

- *Working with key stakeholders including CCYP and the Working with Children Screening Unit to ensure that nationally consistent child safe messages are identified for use in local governments' venues, grounds and facilities.*
- *Working with internal communication teams to print posters/signs outlining nationally consistent child safe messages for their various venues, grounds and facilities.*

b) Assisting local institutions to access online child safe resources

Institutions in local communities such as sole traders (i.e. music teachers, tennis coaches), private and community organisations (i.e. arts, cultural, community, sport and recreation groups, clubs and associations) may require assistance to access online child safe resources.

To implement this function would include:

- Facilitating the inclusion of information about child safety on their local government website including links to online child safe resource created by CCYP and the National Office of Child Safety. This would be in line with the current practice of many local governments in providing information and a link to Kidsport on their websites.
- Signposting local government staff and local organisations to CCYP, the National Office of Child Safety, and other relevant resources on the local government's website.

Other local government resources may also assist in facilitating this function. Community Resource Centres and libraries provide physical access to computers and the internet, and library staff could provide support to access suitable online child safe resources. Community, Club Development and Community Safety Officers may signpost to online resources within newsletters.

c) Provide child safety information and support to local institutions on a need's basis

Child safety officers are expected to provide general advice around promoting child safety and the implementation of the National Principles within organisations. For some local governments this may include hosting workshops/seminars with external providers.

It is expected that child safety officers would be supported by relevant agencies, such as CCYP, the National of Office of Child Safety, or in the case of child protection concerns, the Western Australia Police Force or Department of Communities in meeting this function.

While it is not the intention of the Royal Commission for local government child safety officers to be a direct point of contact for community members or staff seeking advice on child protection matters, it would be important for anyone in this role to have appropriate knowledge and understanding of child abuse and neglect, as well as local child safeguarding procedures, in order to provide appropriate information, guidance and signposting. It is important for the local government to consider what support mechanisms are in place, to ensure the wellbeing of child safety officers when dealing with these matters and what specific areas of training would be required to build upon existing skills and knowledge of staff.

d) Support local institutions to work collaboratively with key services to ensure child safe approaches are culturally safe, disability aware and appropriate for children from diverse backgrounds

Communities within local government areas differ based on social demographics. The needs of supporting children from diverse backgrounds will differ based on the local population.

To implement this function would include:

- Identifying needs within the local community and key services providing support in meeting these needs.
- Working collaboratively with local government staff, responsible for supporting disability inclusion and access and promoting the needs of Aboriginal and culturally diverse children, to provide advice and support to local organisations on implementing child safe approaches that are accessible and inclusive for children with diverse needs.
- Linking local institutions with key services, including disability advocacy services, Aboriginal family support services or professional interpreters”.

Responses to the DLGSC consultation are due to the Department of Communities by close of business on Friday, 2 April 2021.

The National Principles for Child Safe Organisations are:

1. Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.
2. Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
3. Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
4. Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.
5. People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.
6. Processes to respond to complaints and concerns are child focused.
7. Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.
8. Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.
9. Implementation of the national child safe principles is regularly reviewed and improved.
10. Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

Statutory Environment:

There are no current relevant statutory implications. The proposal includes new legislation that will mandate the role of anyone involved in provision of children’s facilities or services to ensure that the relevant employee reports potential misconduct and the relevant organisation via its Principal Officer (or Chief Executive Officer) has appropriate mechanisms in place to encourage and receive reporting.

The requirement for every local government in Australia to mandate a Child Safety Officer, either as a new position dedicated to the role, or an existing employee with designated responsibility, is a suggested approach (by the Royal Commission and State Government) to meet the principles espoused by the Commonwealth via the Royal Commission.

Whilst hard to argue against the principle, there are two salient points – resources and funding to make it effective. Otherwise, in the opinion of the Administration, it is purely an example of cost shifting by the State and Commonwealth Governments, without any productive means to make it actionable at the local level. It runs the risk of being seen purely as a thought bubble and tokenism.

One can't simply give someone a title, in for example, an existing community development type role, without appropriate skillsets or training, and expect them to act as and be a 'Child Safety Officer'. It would be in name only and therefore in the opinion of the Administration, an attempt at cost shifting and a tokenistic approach.

What is the role of the State Government here with its various officers throughout the Regions and State in the Department of Child Protection's role?

A hub and spoke model with centralised officers in the Perth Metropolitan Region and community based officers at existing or expanded regional branches such as Katanning, Narrogin, Albany, Bunbury, is more practical and realistic, given the relative size of most local governments in WA that cannot afford or justify a standalone officer (or title of a position in name only) in such a role.

Policy Implications:

There are no policy implications for this report

Financial Implications:

The requirement to put in place appropriate mechanisms is largely administrative and of no direct financial outlay. The requirement or expectation to appoint (and implement) State and Commonwealth principles associated with Child Safety Officers at every local government in Australia however, will come at a cost, either by reducing services in another area or adding cost to rates, without appropriate financial and administrative resources from the government agencies already entrusted with this role.

The State Government Agency in WA entrusted with Child Welfare, is primarily the Department of Child Protection (and Police Department). Effectively the State is asking that local governments be 'an extension' or arm of this agency, without offering any promise of resources or financial assistance. Is this an acknowledgement of the failure of the current State Government Agency or inadequate funding for that Agency by the State?

The risk, over time, if not initially, is that this burden will grow and expectation of service delivery will grow, such that it will be seen as part of the 'business' of local government, without appropriate resources.

Risk Implications:

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Katanning's Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be "Low" risk and can be managed by routine procedures and with current resources.

Strategic Implications:

Shire of Katanning Strategic Community Plan 2017 – 2027

PRIORITY	SOCIAL	
ASPIRATION	S2	A safe community
OBJECTIVE	S2.1	Strive for a community where people feel safe and secure
PRIORITY	LEADERSHIP	
ASPIRATION	L1	An inclusive community, recognised as a great place to live and visit.
OBJECTIVE	L1.1	Operate with high ethical and professional standards, being open, transparent and responsive to the community and other stakeholders.

Officer's Recommendation/Council Motion:**MOVED: CR JOHN GOODHEART****SECONDED: CR ERNIE MENGHINI**

OC28/21 That with respect to Local Government Child Safety Officers and the proposed Reportable Conduct Scheme, Council:

1. Responds to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' Discussion Paper, in accordance with the comments contained within the Officers' Report and rejecting the notion that local governments in WA should appoint Child Safety Officers, either to an existing position, or as an role or additional employee, as this role is best delivered by an adequately administered and funded State Government Agency, such as the existing Department of Child Protection, with appropriate trained, skilled and supported officers at regional centres throughout WA, including Katanning, and not through the approach outlined by the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries.
2. Endorses the principles outlined in the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.
3. Endorses the principles of local governments being able to support and promote messages about child safety in its venues, facilities and services it provides to children.
4. Endorses the principles of the draft bill and request the Chief Executive Officer to ensure that the Shire and its employees comply with any requirements of the Shire, or its employees, in implementing any Child Safety Reportable Conduct Scheme, should such laws be enacted.

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

CARRIED: 9/0

Cr Goodheart spoke for the motion.

Cr Mark Stephens spoke for the motion.

Cr Liz Guidera spoke for the motion.

10.2.4 **Reconciliation Action Plan**

File Ref: CS.SV.1
Reporting Officer: Denise Gallanagh Wood, Community Development & Projects Coordinator
Date Report Prepared: 15 March 2021

Issue:

For Council to consider the development of a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

Body/Background:

It is proposed that the Shire of Katanning develop a RAP to confirm its commitment to reconciliation and strengthen engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

A RAP program through Reconciliation Australia provides a framework for organisations to support the national reconciliation movement. RAPs are designed to be the catalyst for social change and creation of economic opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

A RAP is a strategic document that supports an organisation's business plan. It includes practical actions that will drive an organisation's contribution to reconciliation both internally and in the communities in which it operates.

The RAP Program contributes to advancing the five dimensions of reconciliation by supporting organisations to develop respectful relationships and create meaningful opportunities with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

There are four RAP types (Reflect, Innovate, Stretch, Elevate) which set out the minimum elements required to build strong relationships, respect and opportunities within the organisation and community.

Reflect – Scoping reconciliation

A Reflect RAP clearly sets out the steps you should take to prepare your organisation for reconciliation initiatives in successive RAPs. Committing to a Reflect RAP allows your organisation to spend time scoping and developing relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, deciding on your vision for reconciliation and exploring your sphere of influence, before committing to specific actions or initiatives. This process will help to produce future RAPs that are meaningful, mutually beneficial and sustainable.

Innovate – Implementing reconciliation

An Innovate RAP outlines actions that work towards achieving your organisation's unique vision for reconciliation. Commitments within this RAP allow your organisation to be aspirational and innovative in order to help your organisation to gain a deeper understanding of its sphere of influence and establish the best approach to advance reconciliation. An Innovate RAP focuses on developing and strengthening relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, engaging staff and stakeholders in reconciliation, developing and piloting innovative strategies to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Stretch – Embedding reconciliation

A Stretch RAP is best suited to organisations that have developed strategies and established a strong approach towards advancing reconciliation internally and within the organisation's sphere of influence. This type of RAP is focused on implementing longer-term strategies and working towards defined measurable targets and goals. The Stretch RAP requires organisations to embed reconciliation initiatives into business strategies to become 'business as usual'.

Elevate – Leadership in reconciliation

An Elevate RAP is for organisations that have a proven track record of embedding effective RAP initiatives in their organisation through their Stretch RAPs and are ready to take on a leadership position to advance national reconciliation. Elevate RAP organisations have a strong strategic relationship with Reconciliation Australia and actively champion initiatives to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and create societal change. Elevate RAP organisations also require greater transparency and accountability through independent assessment of their activities.

If we are aspiring to undertake an Elevate RAP as there are unique requirements, expectations and processes to consider prior to commencement and we need to contact Reconciliation Australia.

Officer's Comment:

It is proposed that the Shire of Katanning use the Reflect framework to develop its RAP.

A RAP will raise internal and external awareness of the commitment to and actions to promote reconciliation across our business and sector. This will enable the council and community to develop and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities and organisations to support positive outcomes and is an important step in consolidating and strengthening our respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

It is recommended that Council agree to work with the Katanning Noongar Leadership Groups to develop a Reconciliation Action Plan and use the Reflect framework.

Statutory Environment:

There are no statutory implications for this report.

Policy Implications:

There are no policy implications for this report.

Financial Implications:

\$15,000 as allocated in the 2020/2021 budget.

Strategic Implications:

Shire of Katanning Strategic Community Plan 2017 – 2027

PRIORITY	SOCIAL	
ASPIRATION	S1	A Capable, vibrant, healthy & connected community
OBJECTIVE	S1.1	Provide sport, recreation and leisure opportunities that contribute to the health and wellbeing of our growing and diverse community.
ASPIRATION	S3	Build a united community that embraces its uniquely diverse cultural make-up
OBJECTIVE	S3.1	Build a united community that embraces its uniquely diverse cultural make-up.

Officer's Recommendation/Council Motion:**MOVED: CR JOHN GOODHEART****SECONDED: CR KRISTY D'APRILE****OC29/21 That Council, agrees to:**

- 1. Work with in partnership with the Katanning Noongar Leadership Group to develop a Reconciliation Action Plan; and**
- 2. Uses the Reflect framework to develop a Reconciliation Action Plan.**

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

CARRIED: 9/0

Cr John Goodheart spoke for the motion.

Cr Kristy D'Aprile spoke for the motion.

10.3 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS

Nil.

11. ELECTED MEMBERS MOTION OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil.

12. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING

Nil.

13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**PROCEDURAL MOTION****MOVED: CR SERENA SANDWELL****SECONDED: CR MARK STEPHENS**

- OC30/21** That Council closes the meeting to the public to consider the following item:
- **A3341 – Application to Register a Discharge of a Property (Seizure and Sale) Order**

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

CARRIED: 9/0

13.1 **A3341 – Application to Register a Discharge of a Property (Seizure and Sale) Order**
(ATTACHMENT)

File Ref: A3341**Reporting Officer:** Kristina O'Donnell, Rates & Debtors Officer**Date Report Prepared:** 15 March 2021**Reasons for Confidentiality**

The officer's report is confidential in accordance with Section 5.23 (2)(e) of the Local Government Act 1995 because it deals with a matter that if disclosed, would reveal —

- (i) a trade secret; or
- (ii) information that has a commercial value to a person; or
- (iii) information about the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of a person, where the trade secret or information is held by, or is about, a person other than the local government.

Officer's Recommendation/Council Motion:**MOVED: CR SERENA SANDWELL****SECONDED: CR KRISTY D'APRILE**

- OC31/21** That Council:
1. **Approves the Discharge of a Property (Seizure and Sale) Order Number O457886 on Lot 1706 on Deposited Plan 107642; and**
 2. **Authorises the Shire President and Chief Executive Officer to affix the common seal to the Application to Register a Discharge of a Property (Seizure and Sale) Order number O457886.**

Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

CARRIED: 9/10

Cr Serena Sandwell spoke for the motion.

Cr Kristy D'Aprile spoke for the motion.

Cr Liz Guidera spoke for the motion.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

MOVED: CR DANNY MCGRATH

SECONDED: CR MARK STEPHENS

OC32/21 That Council reopens the meeting to the public.

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

CARRIED: 9/0

14. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 6:36pm.