



Shire of Ashburton

2013/14

INFORMATION TO RATEPAYERS

Message from the Shire President



The 2013/14 Budget is a result of all the hard work done to establish our Corporate Business Plan (including a 4 year budget) which was approved by Council at the meeting held 20 August 2013.

The Corporate Business Plan is our guiding document for the next four years. This document is the result of robust community consultation and a process whereby Council determines the organisations priorities for the next four years. The document is available at the Shire's website, www.ashburton.wa.gov.au

This year's budget, is in many ways, a consolidation with a number of projects coming to an end –

- Tom Price Pavilion
- Onslow Air Strip and Airport Terminal

And other projects ramping up –

- Paraburdoo Town Centre Revitalisation
- Paraburdoo Child Care Centre

Significant planning work is also scheduled to occur this year to develop the Paraburdoo Sports Hub.

We believe the 2013/14 budget provides a fair balance of service provision to all communities within our large Shire.

Our goal continues to be focussed on making a positive and long term contribution to the strength and vitality of our towns.

Kerry White
SHIRE PRESIDENT

Administration Centre

Phone (08) 9188 4444 | Freecall 1800 679 232 | Fax (08) 9189 2252

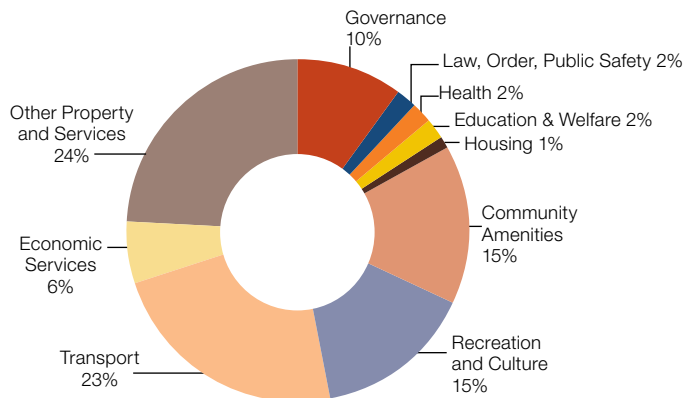
Freecall Fax 1800 655 086

Email soa@ashburton.wa.gov.au | Website www.ashburton.wa.gov.au

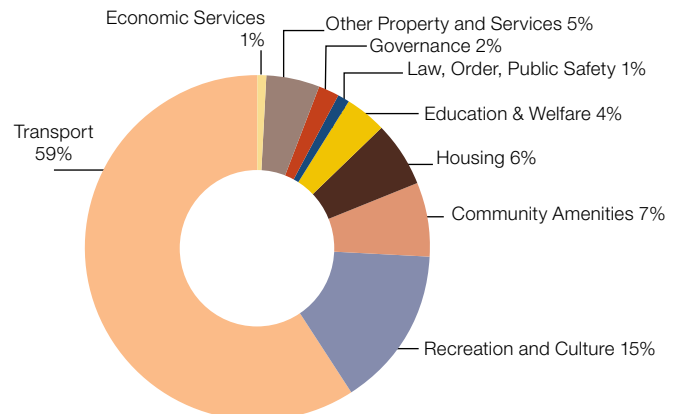
Office Hours 9am to 4pm Mon to Fri



Operating Expenditure



Capital Expenditure



Budget Overview

The Capital Works program totalling \$38.2 million has been provided for with investment in:

- Staff Housing – \$300,500 in renewals and \$2.1m for the construction of 4 staff housing units.
- Paraburdoo Child Care Centre Building – \$1.5m for the design and construction of a purpose-built child care facility including after-school care.
- Purchase of new Community Christmas Lights to install over 4 x Shire towns – \$17,000.
- Tom Price Swimming Pool – \$37,400 for increased storage capacity for lane ropes and pool blankets as well as a BBQ and seating near the kid's playground area.
- Four Mile Creek Revitalisation – \$204,800 to enable the revitalisation and upgrade of this amenity and provide access to the beach.
- Tom Price Sporting Pavilion – \$3.3m and Club Facility Development – \$100,000
- Paraburdoo Town Centre Revitalisation – \$1.58m
- Skate Park Lighting Tom Price – \$100,000
- Area W Master Plan – \$350,000
- Ian Blair Memorial Boardwalk Onslow upgrade – \$500,000
- Various upgrades to Community amenities across all 4 x Shire Towns – \$593,950 plus an additional \$200,000 for playground upgrades
- Information Technology – \$288,500 for Upgrade of AIMS Website – Phase 2 & 3
- Plant & Equipment – \$2.2m
- Finalise Onslow Airport and Terminal Construction – \$15.2m
- Land Development (Tom Price LIA, Tom Price Residential and Onslow Residential) – \$2.2m
- Upgrade of Onslow and Tom Price Dog Pounds – \$115,400
- Urban Storm Water Drainage for Paraburdoo, Tom Price and Onslow – \$670,000
- Improvement of street lighting in all 4 x Shire Town sites – \$100,000
- Maintenance and upgrades of roads across all 4 x Shire Town sites – \$3.8m
- Sanitation Upgrades of Paraburdoo and Onslow Landfill facilities – \$1.1m
- Footpaths (all Towns) – \$1.1m

Grant and Contributions income – \$19.6m including

- Onslow aerodrome terminal construction – \$6.75m
- Tom Price Sports Pavilion – \$4m
- Roads across the Shire – \$2.8m



BUSH FIRES ACT 1954 (Section 33)

NOTICE TO ALL OWNERS AND/OR OCCUPIERS OF LAND IN THE SHIRE OF ASHBURTON

Pursuant to the powers contained in Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, you are hereby required on or before the 1st day of October 2013, (or within fourteen days of your becoming owner or occupier of land should this be after the 1st day of October 2013), to clear firebreaks and reduce the fuel load from the land owned or occupied by you as specified hereunder and to have the specified land and firebreaks clear of all flammable material from the 1st day of October, up to and including the 30th day of April 2014.

(1) Land in Townsites-

- 1.1 Where the area of land is 2000 square metres (approximately 1/2 an acre) or less, all flammable material should be reduced over the whole of the land. Grasses can be slashed, to a height no more than 75 mm.
- 1.2 Where the area of land exceeds 2000 square metres, firebreaks of at least three metres in width should be cleared of all flammable material immediately inside and along the boundaries of the land. Where there are buildings on the land additional firebreaks three metres in width shall be cleared immediately surrounding each building.

(2) Land outside Townsites-

- 2.1 Two firebreaks should surround all buildings on land that is outside townsites, not less than three metres wide and cleared of all flammable material. The inner firebreak is to be not more than twenty metres from the perimeter of the building or group of buildings and the outer firebreak not less than 100 metres from the inner firebreak.
- 2.2 If it is considered for any reason to be impractical to clear firebreaks or remove flammable material as required by this notice, you may apply to the Council or its duly authorised Officer no later than the 25th day of September 2013, for permission to provide firebreaks in alternative positions or take alternative action to remove or abate fire hazards. If permission is not granted by Council or its duly authorised Officer, you must comply with the requirement of this notice.

“Flammable material” does not include green growing trees or green growing plants in gardens.

If the requirements of this notice are carried out by burning, such burning must comply with the relevant provisions of the Bush Fires Act.

The penalty for failing to comply with this notice is a fine of **\$1000**. A person in default is also liable, whether prosecuted or not, to pay cost of performing the work directed in this notice, if it is not carried out by the owner or occupier by the date required by this notice.

NO FIRES TO BE LIT WITHIN THE SHIRE OF ASHBURTON WITHOUT A PERMIT

Frank Ludovico

Acting Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Ashburton

Permits are available from Shire of Ashburton Fire Control Officers.

Morgwn Jones CBFCO 0417 754 846

Ashley Robbins DCBFCO 0417 949 661

Chris O'Connell DCBFCO 0417 929 296

Matt Campbell FCO Pannawonica Only 0408 097 517

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: Why do I pay Rates?

A: Council Rates are supplemented by Government grants and fees revenue to cover the cost of supporting the community at a local level. The Shire of Ashburton is responsible for constructing and maintaining roads, parks and community infrastructure as well as delivering several different services to our residents. If you have attended a picnic in the park, attended a local event, borrowed a book from the library, jogged around a sports ground or enjoyed a coffee in the mall, then you've benefited from Council services.

Q: How are Rates calculated?

A: Rates are calculated based on the rateable properties within the Shire and are valued by Landgate using two different methods; Unimproved Valuation (UV) and Gross Rental Value (GRV). Landgate undertake the valuation of UV rated properties on an annual basis and GRV rated properties are valued once every four years. The valuation of your property is displayed in the box located at the top right of your rate notice.

The valuation is then multiplied by the Rate in the Dollar set by Council. If the total calculation is less than Council's minimum rate, the minimum rate applies.

Q: Can I make a special arrangement with the Shire?

A: Should none of the instalment options on your Rate Notice be suitable, Ratepayers are welcome to approach Council with an alternative payment plan. This plan must be agreed upon by both parties. An administrative fee will apply for each Special Arrangement and Penalty Interest of 11% per annum will also accrue daily.

Q: Is it important to notify Council of my change of address?

A: It is essential to notify the Council of your change of address. It's the property owner's responsibility to advise the Rates Department in writing via email or mail whenever a change of postal address occurs.

Q: Is it important to notify Council of my change of ownership?

A: Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995, when a person (whether as principal or agent) sells or disposes of land, the owner/agent must advise Council in writing within 21 days of the change in ownership, giving full details of the purchaser.

Waste and Recycling Information

For residential properties, a proportion of your rates is the domestic refuse collection charge, which entitles you to;

- Weekly collection of a 240 litre green lidded rubbish bin
- Recycling facilities (Tom Price & Paraburdoo)
- Free of charge domestic waste disposal at your local waste facility
- Annual verge side cyclone clean up (the Shire will advertise dates)

Commercial/Industrial refuse collection charges are levied through Accounts Receivable on a separate invoice. These charges are based on a signed agreement between owners/occupiers and the Shire of Ashburton.

Shire of Ashburton Waste Facilities

Tom Price: Tuesday to Saturday 7:30am – 3:30pm
Sunday: 7:30am – 12:30pm
Closed Mondays

Paraburdoo: Tuesday to Saturday 7:30am – 3:30pm
Sunday: 7:30am – 12:30pm
Closed Mondays

Onslow: Monday to Saturday: 8:00am to 3:00pm
Closed Sundays

All sites are closed Public Holidays

While domestic waste disposal is free of charge, some items may be subject to an additional fee. For further details, see the Fees and Charges on the Shire of Ashburton website www.ashburton.wa.gov.au Any enquires please contact the Waste Coordinator on 0459 152 005.

