

ANNUAL REPORT

TOWN OF EAST FREMANTLE

For the Year ending 30 June 2013



TOWN OF EAST FREMANTLE

The Municipality of East Fremantle was created in 1897, when it separated from the Town of Fremantle to become an independent local authority. The Town has a population of approximately 7,700 and is 3.2 square kilometres in area. It is bounded to the north and west by the Swan River, across which many properties enjoy expansive views. To the east it shares a common boundary with the City of Melville, to the south and west with the City of Fremantle.

The Town has a rich history. The local Aboriginal tribe known as Nyungar obtained food and drinking water from the river foreshore and open grassy areas. The track that linked the fledgling Swan River Colony based in Fremantle to the future city centre of Perth in 1831 is documented traversing along the East Fremantle cliff edge finishing at the river ferry crossing at Preston Point. Early settlement of the area consisted of large farm holdings, however as the colony prospered during the 1890s gold rush the nature of settlement altered dramatically, rapidly changing to a residential area.

The Plympton precinct today contains many charming worker's cottages which were established largely between 1890 and 1910. Riverside was established by the merchant elite of Fremantle and is perched high on the cliffs overlooking the River. Gracious homes, some from the goldrush era, are dotted along the escarpment. Further northwards, the Preston Point area was developed in the 1950s with houses typical of the period also enjoying the expansive views over the river.

The Woodside and Richmond precincts contain many homes dating from 1900–1940. Described as 'sweetness and light' this area is characterised by its fine brick and tile bungalows on generous sites with mature garden settings.

The Town of East Fremantle has strongly resisted the push for inappropriate infill development and encouraged the retention of the many heritage homes in the municipality. Whilst pressure from various sources to increase densities will continue to occur, the Town will seek to ensure appropriate development takes place, in a way which preserves the Town's character and streetscapes, protects its heritage and maintains residential amenity.

The Town At A Glance

Established as a Municipality:	2 April 1897
Population:	7462
Number of Dwellings:	3,065
Number of Rate Assessments:	3,222
Area:	3.2km ²
Area of Parks & Gardens:	65ha
Location:	25km from Perth GPO
Length of Roads:	46km
Annual Operating Expenditure (actual):	\$ 7,792,764
Rate Revenue (actual):	\$ 5,715,246
Employees:	37
Principal Officers	
Chief Executive Officer	Stuart Wearne
Executive Manager Finance & Admin	Les Mainwaring
Manager Planning Services	Jamie Douglas
Environmental Health Officer	Shelley Cocks
Operations Manager	Kevin White
Office Location:	135 Canning Highway East Fremantle
Telephone:	(08) 9339 9339
Facsimile:	(08) 9339 3399
Email:	admin@eastfremantle.wa.gov.au
Office Hours:	8.30am-5.00pm Monday-Friday

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Annual Report 2012/2013

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Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

Mayor & Councillors

Mayor's Report

Alan Ferris, Mayor

On 21 May 2013 I formally resigned from Council effective 30 June 2013.

I had been thinking about my role as Mayor and particularly whether to re run as Mayor once my term finished in October 2013 as having a full time job and being an elected member is testing at times and does takes its toll.

At that time I had accepted a role to act in the position of Director General of the Department of Culture and the Arts which was a step up in responsibility and one which I needed to devote my time to. I believed I could not give the required time to do the job of Mayor properly. Whilst I had really enjoyed the almost eight years it was time to concentrate on my new role and also give someone else the opportunity to step up.

I would like to thank members of the East Fremantle community, elected members, the CEO and staff for your support whilst I have been on Council and particularly in my role as Mayor. I believe that as a Council we continually punch above our weight and that is in a large part due to the dedication, passion and efforts of you all.

I look back on my experience in Local Government as a very positive one.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Stuart Wearne, Chief Executive Officer

INTRODUCTION

The 2012-2013 financial year saw ongoing good governance of the Town and various achievements by elected members and staff for the benefit of the East Fremantle community.

With respect to governance, Council's auditors once again provided an unqualified audit report (ie there were no statutory or compliance breaches), and, in addition, neither the Department of Local Government, nor the Western Australian Planning Commission, nor the Department of Housing, nor the Ombudsman, nor the Public Sector Standards Commissioner, nor the Disability Services Commissioner, nor the Information Commissioner, or any other agency, raised any concerns with respect to the governance of the Town.

With respect to the more noteworthy outcomes regarding improved services and facilities, these are reflected in the reports from the Departmental heads, which I commend to you.

In terms of providing an update on some issues raised in last year's Annual Report, the following comments are made:

TOWN CENTRE

It had been anticipated that site works would commence in the first half of 2013.

Due to some redesign issues this had not occurred by 30 June 2013, however works were expected to commence shortly after that date.

The application approved is for a Mixed Use Activity Centre incorporating a pedestrian Plaza, two storeys of shops and offices with apartments above and a roof top tavern. The proposed development is a maximum of six storeys in height and is subject to a number of approval conditions.

There is no doubt the approved development, when implemented, will be a significant benefit to the Town. Equally importantly it will undoubtedly trigger further redevelopment of the entire Town Centre site.

EAST FREMANTLE OVAL RECREATIONAL PRECINCT REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Manager Planning Services has written in some detail on this issue in his report.

As of June 30 2013, the main development had been the formation of the Community Reference Group, which was established in June 2013, following a Council decision taken in February 2013 which in turn followed an Electors' Meeting held earlier that month.

It is intended that the Reference Group, which meets regularly, will present a report to Council early in 2014.

This is a very difficult matter for Council to resolve, given the number of vested interests and issues of principle involved, and the significant financial issues at stake.

PRESTON POINT ROAD BLACK SPOT SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

A report on this project was included in the CEO's previous report.

The project was designed to improve road safety, aimed specifically at reducing the number and severity of crashes on Preston Point Road.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

The design by the Roadswest Engineering Group followed an independent road safety audit and the approved design included:

- lowering the speed environment by reducing lane widths and installing low points.
- new pedestrian crossing points and new footpaths.
- on-street parking, in accordance with current standards.
- removal of road side obstacles.
- widening of the verges and embankments along the sporting grounds to provide clear zones to provide recovery for errant vehicles.
- minor drainage improvements.
- new kerbing.
- new asphalt surfacing.
- better delineation using new signs and pavement markings.

Whilst the long term results remain to be seen, the outcomes to date have been positive.

As discussed in the CEO's previous Annual Report, whilst part of the project, no works had been carried out on the proposed roundabout at the Pier Street intersection as at 30.6.12, due to considerable technical difficulties involving this site, however these issues were overcome by early in 2013 and the roundabout was completed in March 2013.

The Operations Manager's report contains details of this project.

LEEWIN BOAT RAMP UPGRADE

This had been intended as a \$1,050,000 project, with Council's contribution over \$330,000 and the balance of the works funded by the State Government on a 3:1 basis, under the Recreational Boating Facilities Scheme, which is managed by the Department of Transport and in itself is entirely funded by recreational boaters' licence charges.

However, a late request for additional works by the Swan River Trust left the Town facing extra costs of \$207,299.

Whilst it had been clearly understood from the Department of Transport officers that the additional costs would be funded by the State Government under the same 3:1 funding ratio, this ultimately did not eventuate as the State Government ultimately advised no further funds were available under the Scheme.

As a result, the Town's final contribution was \$537,335.

The project was completed in December 2012.

The new facilities include three launching ramps, finger jetties and rock armour protection. The parking area has been upgraded to cater for additional boat trailer parking and includes new lighting, drainage, landscaping and asphalt re-surfacing.

Council staff undertook many of the works which were originally intended to be contracted, as part of an exercise to improve Council's budget position.

This is a significant regional facility. In statistical terms the use of the launching ramp by East Fremantle residents is very minor, at most about 3%. The project thus represents a major contribution by the Town to regional infrastructure and as with the Underground Power Program (the Town of East Fremantle was almost the first local government in Western Australia to implement such an program) demonstrates the Town's capacity to take on such

Chief Executive Officer's Report

large projects, the contrary views of the Minister, Premier and Review Panel regarding the ability of small local governments to do so, notwithstanding.

SWAN RIVER FORESHORE EROSION CONTROL WORKS

Council has carried out a large amount of erosion control works over the past several years. Whilst the assistance of Swan River Trust funding, where this has occurred, has been appreciated, there is a growing issue for those local governments which are spending considerable sums in this regard, despite, in planning terms, the Swan River and surrounding management area being the statutory responsibility of the Swan River Trust. Many of the walls which have been repaired or replaced were originally built by the State Government, yet with no discussion or any form of compensation, this responsibility is deemed to have been passed to local government.

In recent time, Perth metropolitan local governments with river boundaries established the C21 partnership to help progress issues such as the above, on a joint basis with the State Government.

However the C21 initiative appears to have been ignored by the Government and has foundered.

It appears significant that one of the recommendations of the Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel, in their final report (see below), was that the new local government boundaries arising out of their amalgamation proposals, should encompass all of the Swan and Canning Rivers. Whilst this in itself would not, in theory, greatly affect East Fremantle, as the Town is almost unique in already having its boundaries extend to the middle of the Swan River, it is widely believed that if this proposal is implemented, this will make it even easier for the state government to pass costs associated with river and foreshore management, on to local government, through legislation if necessary.

Notwithstanding the above, the Town greatly values the role and work of the Swan River Trust, in protecting the river and its environs.

PLYMPTON FOOTPATHS PROJECT

As previously reported, this issue was at something of an impasse for a number of years, largely due to the issue of street trees. Most Plympton Streets do not have verges and the roots of street trees (in many cases involving inappropriate species having been planted) have adversely impacted on many footpaths. In addition to removing kerbing, all previous footpath upgrade or replacement plans drawn up for Council consideration had entailed the removal and replacement of all street trees. However the CEO had been opposed to this on streetscape and other grounds.

A design commissioned in 2012 however, provided a cost effective solution, entailing an innovative approach using liquid limestone which maintained almost every street tree and existing parking.

Following community support for the design, it was then implemented in respect of upper King Street. The resulting works have been deemed a success. The next such works were Sewell Street between George Street and St Peters Road and Glyde Street between Marmion Street and George Street.

With respect to two strategic issues raised in last year's Annual Report, the following comments are made:

Chief Executive Officer's Report

FINANCIAL REFORM IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

I have written on this matter in several previous annual reports. It is a far more critical issue for the future of local government, in this State and indeed Australia wide, than the number or size of local governments. It remains extraordinary it is an issue which the former Minister and Premier have ignored in their so called "reform" agenda and continues to be ignored by the new Minister. Equally extraordinarily, the issue was not referred to in any of the Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel's various reports.

In my previous comments I referred to the findings of the earlier Federal "Fair Share" Inquiry into local government financing and cost shifting, which concluded there was an Australia wide financial sustainability crisis in the local government sector and recommended significant improvements in regard to local government financing.

Yet not only has this not occurred, across Australia there is a growing regulatory burden imposed on councils by other levels of government.

For example, a recent Productivity Commission report on local government regulation found that state governments are significantly increasing the regulatory burden on local governments by requiring them to undertake more and more functions on their behalf.

Despite the resulting increase in Council responsibilities, property rates have generally continued to remain local government's principal source of revenue. Nevertheless, nationally, rates in local government have for many years increased by a lesser amount than Commonwealth taxation revenue. Despite this increase in Commonwealth taxation and Commonwealth grants to the States, Federal and State grants to local government have, in relative terms, declined whilst, as indicated, services shifted to local government have increased.

As a result councils are forced to ask ratepayers to pick up the revenue shortfall, or face service cuts, until other levels of government properly fund the real costs of responsibilities they impose on local government.

Whilst the Minister, Premier and the Review Panel's Report bemoan the resulting council rate rises, they all fail to acknowledge that in relative terms, Council rates are an almost insignificant component of taxes Australia wide, representing only 3.5% of taxes, whilst Federal taxes constitute 80.1% and State taxes 16.4%.

As a result of the abovementioned financial pressures, local government generally faces the choice of reducing services, ignoring its deteriorating physical infrastructure and/or increasing rates and charges.

In the foreseeable future, the ability of local government to meet the legitimate aspirations of its communities will significantly depend on how Federal and State Governments respond to the issues referred to above.

No amount of State Government imposed amalgamations will change the fact that if local governments are underfunded for the tasks that the State and Commonwealth governments expect them to carry out, then they will not be able to satisfactorily carry out those tasks, regardless of their size.

This has been the experience in other States where widespread amalgamations have already been carried out.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

This will particularly be the case if amalgamations occur which are not subject to appropriate state government funding.

The recent suggestion by the Minister that he may impose a freeze on rate rises by post amalgamation new local governments, despite no advice on how the amalgamations are to be funded, is to be condemned.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM PROGRAM

This refers to the program, and ongoing processes, which was initiated by the former Minister for Local Government, Mr Castrilli, in February 2009 to “reform” local government in Western Australia. The program has the strong support of the Premier.

By “reform”, the Premier and Minister’s key objective is to significantly reduce the number of local governments in Western Australia.

This issue, including advice on a range of tasks which Council has been obliged to undertake in respect of the process, has been discussed in detail in previous reports by the CEO.

In June 2011 the focus switched entirely from country local governments to the metropolitan area councils, via the appointment by the Minister of the Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel.

As the intended outcome of the Minister’s “reform” program, consistent with the Minister’s and the Premier’s long stated personal views, is that the Town ceases to exist, it is clearly the most critical issue facing the Town.

Further to previous reports on the issue, it is advised the final report of the Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel was publicly released by the Minister for Local Government, John Castrilli, on 25 October 2012.

The Panel recommended that the Government cut the number of councils in Perth from 30 to 12.

The three member Panel had been appointed by the Minister in June 2011, to review the structure of local government in metropolitan Perth.

The Panel’s appointment followed the almost complete failure of the Minister’s earlier Statewide review, which he had commenced in February 2009. At that time the Minister stated that he wished to achieve a significant reduction in the number of local governments in WA and that if sufficient local governments did not amalgamate voluntarily, forced amalgamations would occur. The subsequent review was particularly targeted at abolishing a number of local governments in the Wheatbelt which the Minister considered were financially unsustainable. He referred to those local governments as “withering on the vine”.

However the Minister encountered significant opposition from those local governments, and the Government’s coalition partner, the National Party.

Despite the Minister and Premier seeking a minimum of 40 amalgamations across the State, after 2½ years and a great deal of time and expense being expended on the Minister’s review by every local government in WA, the Minister ultimately achieved only *one* amalgamation, this being the Shire of Mullewa (population 1200), which combined with Geraldton.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Undaunted at the failure of this exercise, the cost of which has been estimated at \$25 million, the Premier and Minister, decided to forget about country local governments and switch their attention entirely to the Perth metropolitan area.

Since Perth metropolitan councils are all financially viable, a new rationale for Council amalgamations had to be devised. The new rationale, albeit expressed in extremely vague terms, was all about allegedly positioning Perth for future population growth and removing unspecified impediments to that growth.

The primary task which the Minister set for the “independent” Panel (chaired by Professor Robson, an agricultural scientist with no background in local government) was to recommend a significant reduction of the number of local governments in Perth – in fact this was stipulated as one of the Panel’s Terms of Reference. Thus the Government had a pre-determined outcome for the Panel, well before the Panel commenced their “independent” research into the supposed need for such metropolitan amalgamations.

The Panel’s Draft Findings were released for public comment in April 2012 and subsequently reviewed by the CEO at the request of Council. The CEO’s highly critical response to that report, in particular citing the almost complete lack of evidence for the Panel’s finding that widespread metropolitan amalgamations were necessary, was submitted to the Panel.

In the Panel’s Final Report, the Panel proposed two amalgamation models – Option A and Option B (the Panel’s preferred option).

Under Option A, the Town of East Fremantle would disappear, with the suburb becoming a very minor part of a large Council comprising the former City of Melville, former Town of East Fremantle, former City of Fremantle and Rottnest Island. The Council would have a population of approximately 141,000 and be “focused” on Fremantle.

Option B was similar, except for some minor boundary changes such as the inclusion of Coolbellup, North Lake and part of Hamilton Hill.

The immediate point that could thus be made was that either option would obviously mean a massive reduction in the existing level of elected member representation of the East Fremantle community.

Currently in East Fremantle, the Mayor and eight Councillors serve a population of approximately 7,700, a ratio of one elected member per 855 residents. Under what was being proposed (to 30 June 2012), at best (it could be less), a maximum of 12 Councillors and a Mayor would serve a population of between 118,000 (Option B) and 141,000 (Option A). In the case of Option A, the ratio would then become one elected member per 10,846 residents and in the case of Option B, it would become one elected member per 9,077 residents, with the ratios getting even greater as the population grows.

Under these ratios, it was statistically likely that *not one* elected member of the proposed new council would even live in East Fremantle.

It is thus fair to ask how such a massive change in representation would affect all of East Fremantle’s residents and ratepayers and all of the Town’s sporting clubs and other community organisations, such as Glyde-In and Neighbourhood Watch – which all currently have such ready access to the Council’s staff and elected members.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

The Town, together with a number of other local governments, attempted to raise this issue with the Panel, only to have the Panel dismiss such concerns as motivated by “self interest” and not “*in the interests of the community of the whole metropolitan region*”.

The Panel in fact appeared quite disinterested in the views of local governments or members of the communities they served, stating “*The Review is not about the performance of individual local governments*”.

Despite this self serving statement, the following points should be made:

- The Town is financially strong. It is almost totally financially self reliant and could easily manage without the small government grants which it receives.
- The Review Panel itself, in its report, stated “*The Town's financial position is considered as sustainable*”, and went on to cite “*a strong operating result*”, “*low debt*” and sizeable reserve funds. In fact the Panel singled out the Town, when it wrote “*size does not appear to be an impediment to strong and consistent financial performance for the Town of East Fremantle*”. In addition, the Department of Local Government assessed the Town as operating “*well above the required benchmarks*”.
- In an earlier survey of every elector in the Town, which had a very high response rate, the great majority (about 90%) of respondents stated they did not support amalgamation. Only 4% were in favour of amalgamation and 6% were undecided. However neither the Minister nor the Panel was interested in this information.

Underlining that result is a more recent survey of all local governments in the metropolitan area bar one (Peppermint Grove), which was carried out approximately two years ago and was the biggest of its type ever carried out in Perth. This survey found that the Council with the highest level of community satisfaction was the Town of East Fremantle. Equally significantly, this independent survey also found, generally speaking, the larger the local government, the less the community satisfaction. However the Government, and the Panel, were not interested and still claimed “*bigger is best*”.

The Report advised that regional local governments (such as the SMRC, which handles the waste and recycling of our Town and a number of other local governments on a regional basis and through such a shared service approach, offer a very cost effective alternative to amalgamations), should be abolished.

The Report also recommended that political parties be allowed to run candidates in local government elections, along with the introduction of compulsory voting. It is considered this would almost certainly result in party politicised councils in many cases.

It is no surprise that the major developers and their various lobby groups were the most enthusiastic supporters of the Panel's amalgamation proposals. Such developers tend to see local governments and their planning schemes as impediments to maximising profits and, would prefer to deal with as few local governments and as few town planning schemes as possible.

If the proposed amalgamations proceed, current town planning provisions which the Town has carefully developed, in consultation with the community, to help ensure good building design, the amenity of neighbouring residents and the protection of streetscapes, would almost certainly be lost, under a unified Town Planning Scheme covering the area from Melville to Rottnest Island, which would ultimately be adopted.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

The Report contains no evidence of savings through the proposed amalgamations. Despite the Minister and Premier claiming savings of 10-15% from amalgamations, Professor Dollery, Australia's most acknowledged and most published academic on local government issues and in particular on amalgamations, disagrees. For example, according to Professor Dollery, the proposed amalgamated councils were unlikely to result in staff savings, noting that following recent amalgamations in Queensland the number of local government employees actually increased. Professor Dollery also advised he would not expect Council rates to fall as a result of the proposed amalgamations.

The above is of no surprise. There is a substantial body of research which indicates the supposed significant financial benefits of amalgamations is generally illusory, with negligible savings at best and in a great many instances with costs actually increasing.

It has been reliably estimated the proposed amalgamations would cost in excess of \$200 million to achieve. With the Government currently cash strapped, there has been no verification it will pay these costs. In that event, if the proposals are to proceed, ordinary ratepayers, very few of whom sought these proposed amalgamations, would have to pay, through increased rates.

In respect of the proposals, the Minister and Premier allowed a six month response period, with this period due to end on 5 April 2013, which was after the State election. This move appeared designed to reduce the chances of the amalgamation proposals, which have immediately attracted widespread criticism, becoming an election issue.

Surely on such a significant issue, the government should have been prepared to face the scrutiny of electors and seek a mandate for change.

In Council's response it continued to oppose any amalgamation. After the deadline for responses passed, the Government stated it would consider all submissions received and then issue its own response. As of 30 June 2013, this had not occurred.

As at 30 June 2013, with the government returned to power, the key question was whether the government would embark on forced amalgamations.

This is a fundamental issue of local democracy.

Whilst the Premier had previously agreed to no forced amalgamations prior to the 2013 election, he had refused to guarantee this would remain the case after the election. In fact earlier this year the Premier stated that if he won the election he would take that as a mandate for forced amalgamations. Given the nature and scope of the recommended amalgamations, which involve almost every local government in Perth, and the degree of opposition, it is inconceivable the plan could be carried out without forced amalgamations.

Meanwhile Mark McGowan had stated WA Labor remains opposed to forced amalgamations under any circumstances, as had the Nationals and the Greens.

This has been a politically based review, which, in the Town's case, has produced a predictable outcome. Both the Premier and Minister have long sought the end of the Town and well before this Review. Thus the outcome of this Review simply appears as a means to that objective.

It is worth noting that whilst the constantly repeated argument in the Robson Review is that the proposed amalgamations are necessary to manage Perth's predicted population increase of 1 million over the next 20 years, the fact is that Perth experienced a population

Chief Executive Officer's Report

increase of 1 million over the last 30 years and until the Minister's review, no one had suggested the existing local government structure had been a handicap to managing that growth. On the contrary it could be argued the existing structure met the challenge, as reflected in the fact Perth is rated amongst the most liveable cities in the world.

However despite the recommendations of the Robson Review and whatever pro amalgamation stance the government ultimately takes, this need not be the end of the matter.

Since the Town was founded in 1897, the East Fremantle community, supported by its Council, has successfully opposed a number of attempts by State governments to abolish the Council, dating back to 1918! However it has been the strength of the community's opposition which has prevented this from occurring.

It is hoped the community will, once again, make its views clear on this occasion and perhaps if there is sufficient opposition, the Government will again be prepared to listen.

As at 30 June 2012 all elected members were opposed to amalgamation and opposed in the knowledge the overwhelming majority of the East Fremantle community were also opposed.

Elected members are aware that their statutory obligation, under the Act, is to "*represent the interests of electors, ratepayers and residents of the district*" ie it is not their role to proceed to carry out the dictates of the State Government, unless they genuinely believe it is in the interests of those electors, ratepayers and residents to do so.

Indeed there is a sound argument that they would be in breach of their oath of office if they were to do so.

Neither the Review Panel nor the State Government, as at 30 June 2013, had provided any business case in support of their proposed amalgamations and thus there was no evidence upon which elected members could honestly say that an amalgamation would be in the East Fremantle community's interest.

Whilst the Government's response to the Review Panel's Report was still awaited at 30 June 2012, meanwhile, for the Mayor, Councillors and staff, it was very much business as usual and as can be seen from this Annual Report, a great deal has been achieved in the Town this year, for the benefit of the East Fremantle community.

DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

In accordance with the Disability Services Act 1993 (amended 2004), the Town of East Fremantle is committed to achieving the six desired outcomes of its disability Access and Inclusion Plan:

1. People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the services of and any events organised by a public authority.
2. People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the buildings and other facilities of a public authority.
3. People with disabilities receive information from a public authority in a format that will enable them to access the information as readily as other people are able to access it.
4. People with disabilities receive the same level and quality of service from the staff of a public authority as other people receive from the staff of that public authority.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

5. People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to make complaints to a public authority.
6. People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to participate in any public consultations by a public authority.

During the 2012-13 year the following progress was made in regard to improving disability access and inclusion.

The Town continues its footpath replacement program whereby all slab footpaths are being replaced with concrete, and all bituminised footpaths are being resurfaced. In 2012-13 footpaths were upgraded in Glyde Street between Marmion Street and George Street and Sewell Street between St Peter's Road and George Street.

Glasson Park was upgraded with new play equipment and disability accessible pathing provided. Wheelchair friendly drinking fountains were also installed.

Every year sees the construction pram ramps, during footpath upgrades, and bus stops continue to be upgraded to disability compliance standards.

Approximately 20 pram ramp upgrades were installed in the Woodside and Preston Point Wards.

New pram ramps and improved footpaths were provided in conjunction with the construction of the roundabout on the corner of Preston Point Road and Pier Street.

A bus shelter upgrade on Marmion Street between Oakover and Petra Street was completed to disability compliance standards including the provision of tactile paving.

The East Fremantle-Fremantle Library Service continues to improve its services. An Easyread machine was purchased for use by vision impaired residents. Documents can be magnified dramatically onto a seventeen inch monitor, to the point where one word at a time can be displayed if necessary. Alternately documents can electronically be converted to text and listened to via the machine.

The library's homebound delivery service caters for eleven residents in East Fremantle. This service caters to aged, frail or disabled members who cannot physically visit the library.

Finally, following a review of its existing Plan, Council endorsed an updated Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2012-2016 at its Council meeting held on 20 November 2012.

SENIOR EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION DETAILS

This report is made pursuant to section 5.53(2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 19B of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996.

Number of employees of the Council, in bands of \$10,000, entitled to an annual salary of \$100,000 or more:

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Salary Range	2012/2013 No of Employees
\$100,000 - 109,999	1
\$150,000 – 159,999	1 (Note 1)

Note 1

The increase in the CEO's salary from the last report should be seen in the context of backdated increases after no previous salary increase since 2009.

ELECTED MEMBER CONDUCT

This report is made pursuant to sections 5.53(hb) and 5.121 of the Local Government Act 1995.

In the financial year ending 30 June 2013, no complaints were received by the CEO (the "complaints officer" pursuant to s.5.107 of the Local Government Act) regarding the conduct of elected members pursuant to sections 5.107-5.109 and 5.121 of the Local Government Act 1995.

PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF THE DISTRICT

This report is made pursuant to s.5.53(3) of the Local Government Act 1995.

Council adopted a Plan for the Future of the District on 20 June 2010.

Under the Plan's "Strategic Direction" it was stated there would be a focus on:

"Our strategic direction is based on linking the built and natural environments with the Town's strong sense of community and positive lifestyle, with a focus on:

- *Community involvement*
- *Creating a vibrant Town Centre and working with the community to gain maximum community benefit from the redevelopment of the Old Royal George Hotel, Woodside Hospital, East Fremantle Oval Precinct and Leeuwin Barracks.*
- *Conserving and restoring the Town's heritage buildings.*
- *Encouraging walking and cycling.*
- *Fostering a range of recreation and physical activities.*
- *Sponsoring community arts, festivals and events.*
- *Promoting environmental sustainability.*
- *Maintaining the financial viability of the Town."*

Comment on most of these issues can be found in the various managers' reports.

The exceptions are the Royal George Hotel, Woodside Hospital and Leeuwin Barracks.

No works have been carried out on the Royal George Hotel since the CEO's last report, although the National Trust, the owners of the building, recently reported that they were in discussion with a consortium concerning the building's conservation and redevelopment.

At the time the Plan for the Future was formulated, the future of Woodside Hospital was unclear, after maternity services had been transferred to Kaleeya.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

At present however Woodside Hospital remains in the hands of the Health Department and is used for administration purposes. There had been no indications that the Health Department is planning to dispose of the property.

A similar situation exists with Leeuwin Barracks. Whilst its disposal was also being mooted at the time, the Defence Department has, several times, delayed a decision in this regards and the Barracks continue to be used for defence purposes.

The Plan lists as "Major Projects included within the Plan" the following:

- *Roadworks renewal*
- *Footpath improvements*
- *Kerbing replacement*
- *Street tree replacement*
- *Drainage upgrades*
- *Parks, gardens and reserve improvements*
- *Playground equipment upgrades*
- *Plant and light vehicle replacement and*
- *Civic buildings improvements and maintenance.*

Comment on all of these issues can be found in the various managers' reports.

It should be noted that whilst the abovementioned provisions of the Act have not changed, new regulations, pursuant to that section of the Act, now reflect the requirements of the newly introduced Integrated Planning Framework.

Accordingly, as at 30 June 2013, the former Plan for the Future of the District was redundant and soon to be replaced by other requirements, in this case, most relevantly, the Strategic Community Plan and the Corporate Business Plan.

As of 30 June 2013 Council officers had almost finalised these two plans, and associated plans, for presentation to elected members.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Once again I wish to acknowledge the important role the various sporting clubs and community organisations play in the Town. Council enjoys excellent relations with all of the East Fremantle clubs and community organisations.

They include the East Fremantle Yacht Club, Swan Yacht Club, East Fremantle Lawn Tennis Club, East Fremantle Football Club, East Fremantle Junior Football Club, East Fremantle Tricolore Soccer Club, East Fremantle Bowling Club, East Fremantle Croquet Club, Fremantle Rowing Club, East Fremantle Cricket Club, East Fremantle Junior Cricket Club, East Fremantle Lacrosse Club, 1st Fremantle Scout Group, 1st Leeuwin Scout Group, Neighbourhood Watch, Neighbourhood Link, East Fremantle Playgroup and Glyde-In.

None of these Clubs could exist without the hard work of their volunteers and the work of these many volunteers is acknowledged.

Council again acknowledges and expresses continued support for the wonderful and longstanding work of Noel Nimmo, Council's Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator, and his team of volunteers.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Council also acknowledges the work and dedication of Sue Limbert and her many HACC volunteers, who have made that service the envy of many other local governments.

Finally, Council acknowledges the significant assistance of the Town Planning Advisory Panel, all volunteers and whose advice is invaluable.

I particularly wish to acknowledge the support I have received from staff and elected members in my role as CEO.

The East Fremantle community should feel very fortunate to have such an able and dedicated group at its helm.

Mayor Alan Ferris, who resigned as Mayor effective 30 June 2013, has been a hardworking Mayor who and has maintained a harmonious team of Councillors.

That team: Deputy Mayor Cr Alex Wilson, Cr Barry de Jong, Cr Maria Rico, Cr Cliff Collinson, Cr Dean Nardi, Cr Siân Martin, Cr Rob Lilleyman and Cr Richard Olson deserve to be applauded for their commitment and teamwork over the past year.

With respect to staff, I believe Council has done well to attract and retain the competent, multiskilled and loyal staff to the degree which it has.

For many years, in tables prepared by the WA Local Government Association, the Town of East Fremantle has stood out as having extremely low rates of staff turnover. Yet, with limited career paths and support staff and given the ever present threat of amalgamation, a quite different result would normally have been expected.

As Chief Executive Officer, I am proud of what Council staff have achieved this year through their dedication, hard work and professionalism.

In that regard the excellent work of the five managers: Les Mainwaring (Executive Manager Finance & Administration), Jamie Douglas (Manager Planning Services), Ken Dyer (Operations Manager) and his replacement Kevin White, and Shelley Cocks (Principal Environmental Health Officer) is particularly acknowledged.

I also wish to make special mention of Peta Cooper, Council's long serving Planning and Building Coordinator, whose efforts in maintaining the smooth operation of planning and building has been invaluable.

Finally, as always, and as thoroughly deserved, a heartfelt thank you to my Personal Assistant, Ms Janine May. Janine has served the Town almost all of her working life and is personally known to a large number of the Town's residents. Janine has given another year of sterling service, frequently working beyond the call of duty yet always cheerful and continuously supportive, both to myself and other staff.

Janine, thanks once again, for all your support, your patience and tolerance in what has been another very busy year. Your good grace, lack of complaint and most of all your irrepressible good humour has continued undiminished and is a joy. You are irreplaceable.

Finally and most importantly, East Fremantle residents and ratepayers are thanked for their strong support of Council over the past year.

With such support it has not only made it easier to face the various challenges, but also helped make Council's efforts feel all the more worthwhile.

Finance Report

Les Mainwaring, Executive Manager Finance & Administration

The function of the Finance and Administration staff of the Town covers a broad range of activities including financial management and reporting, accounting, information technology, rating, debt collection, asset management, treasury, records management, human resource management, accounts payable, payroll and Council support.

The primary focus is financial management and statutory compliance in terms of accountability, disclosure and corporate planning. During the period the Town developed a process of integrated planning which included the completion of a Strategic Community Plan 2013-2023, Corporate Business Plan 2013-2017, Long Term Financial Plan 2012-2022, Asset Management Framework 2013 and a Workforce Plan 2013-2017. Integrated planning will form the basis of integrated reporting for following periods.

During the year monthly financial reporting is used to assist the Council in the role of managing Council's financial and physical resources, according to the annual budget, and this is measured in the audited annual financial statements.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

2012/2013 Annual Budget

The Town of East Fremantle's 2012/2013 Budget was adopted at a Special Council meeting held on Tuesday 21 August 2012.

The 2012/2013 budget had capital works totalling \$4,588,000 providing for a number of significant items for the benefit of the community which included:

• Leeuwin boat ramp upgrade	\$1,160,000
• Plympton Ward footpaths program	\$355,000
• Preston Point Rd/Pier St roundabout	\$304,000
• Town Hall heritage restoration	\$289,000
• Old Police Station heritage restoration	\$100,000
• Glasson Park playground upgrade	\$120,000
• Fletcher Street drainage upgrade	\$105,000
• Tennis court renewal	\$58,000
• Wauhop Park lights upgrade	\$35,000

Operating programs include extensive works on streets, verges, footpaths, trees, ovals and passive recreation areas.

Council's introduced a full weekly service for recycling and waste management, together with three green waste and one bulk rubbish collection provided annually.

Support has continued to be provided for community services such as Council's Home and Community Care services; the Fremantle Library; Fremantle Toy Library; the Glyde-In Centre; Infant Health Clinic; Community Midwifery Program; East Fremantle Family Playgroup; and the colourful George Street Festival.

Funding for these services was underpinned by an overall rate income increase of 5% for residential and commercial rates.

Finance Report

2012/2013 Annual Financial Statements

The Annual Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2013 has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and complies with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and associated regulations. The audit was completed by Anderson Munroe and Wylie on the 29 November 2013. A copy of the Audited Financial Statements is included at the end of this document.

Operating Statement

The year ended with a small operating surplus of \$262,170. The operating surplus can be attributed to the balance of an additional 5% in operating revenue against an additional 3% of operating expenditure. The areas of significant revenue variation include \$110,000 in pre-paid federal general purpose grants; \$273,000 in back dated lease fees; \$90,000 in additional operating grants for recycling initiatives and the East Fremantle Oval study. Areas of significant expenditure variation include \$75,000 additional costs for landfill diversion of waste during the period of recycling plant shutdown, \$93,000 of additional depreciation on Home and Community Care transport, road infrastructure and works plant.

Consolidated Cash Position

The consolidated cash position of the Municipal and Reserve funds for the Town of East Fremantle for the year ended 30 June 2013 shows a balance of \$2,944,718. This includes Unrestricted Cash \$659,736 (LY \$592,384) and Reserves funds of \$2,944,718 (LY \$3,013,029). Reserves are used by Council to fund future development and renewal of assets of the Town of East Fremantle.

Council invests surplus funds in short term deposits with banks to provide a secure return on its investments, and no investment is subject to market linked variations of the capital sum. Interest earnings for 2012/2013 were \$275,761 (LY \$380,689), and included \$118,877 for the benefit of Council's Reserve Funds.

Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Changes in Equity

Property, Plant and Equipment Assets have a carrying value of \$7,928,572 (LY \$7,834,547) and Infrastructure is \$14,504,588 (LY \$12,558,165) which is an infrastructure increase of over \$2 million from the annual capital works program.

The statement provides for the net assets of the Town of East Fremantle, where the net assets have increased during 2012/2013 by \$1,515,323 (LY \$1,426,915).

Joint Venture Arrangements

Council has a 2.92% (\$47,304) stake in the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC), and a 3.3% (\$491,106) stake in the Regional Resource Recovery Centre, a major trading undertaking of the SMRC, which fulfils a strategic role in Councils recycling objectives. There is also 7.38% (\$13,472) stake in the South West Group of Councils which is concerned with shared service opportunities.

Financial Ratios

In assessing the performance trends of the Town's financial resources, the financial statements include ratios which provide a comparison between the last three financial years of reporting. For the 2012/2013 reporting year new ratios have been added to measure the financial sustainability of local governments. Generally the ratios give an indication of a low risk organisation with a high level of financial sustainability, which is a sound platform for continuing operations. All ratios include risk benchmarking from the Department of Local Government.

The ratios include:-

Finance Report

	2012/13	2011/12	2010/11
<p>Current Ratio Purpose: To assess adequacy of working capital and the ability to satisfy short term obligations. Risk: Low >100%, and the Town has maintained this level at balance date.</p>	110%	98%	68%
<p>Asset Sustainability Ratio Purpose: Measures the extent to which assets are being renewed/replaced compared to the amount consumed. Risk: Low >110% indicates investment in asset renewal/replacement to the degree that offsets the current consumption of assets 100% and provides for the effect of inflation. High <90% indicates difficulty undertaking a sustained capital investment program sufficient to renew/replace assets while also negating the effect of inflation on purchasing power over time.</p>	335%	267%	266%
<p>Debt Service Cover Ratio Purpose: Measures the ability to service debt out of surplus funds available from operations. Risk: Audit wisdom suggests Low >10 or High <5 for small councils dependant on external funding. The Department of Local Government Integrated Planning and Advisory Standard set a risk profile of Low >5 High <2 which may be a little low.</p>	9.3	10.7	7.4
<p>Operating Surplus Ratio Purpose: Effectively highlights the scale/extent of any operating surplus or deficit in relation to the overall size of the local government. Risk: Low >15% provides a strong operating surplus which gives future flexibility in relation to operational service levels and the asset base. High <0% indicates an operating deficit which if sustained will erode the ability to maintain operational service levels and the asset base.</p>	9%	13%	7%
<p>Own Source Revenue Coverage Ratio Purpose: Measures the ability to cover operating expenses from own source revenue. The higher the ratio the more self reliant allowing greater flexibility as less external funds are required for operational purposes. Risk: Audit wisdom suggests Low >90% High <60%. There are no Department of Local Government guidelines for this risk assessment.</p>	95%	100%	94%
<p>Asset Consumption Ratio Purpose: Measures the extent to which depreciable assets have been consumed by comparing their written down value to their replacement cost, highlighting the aged condition of depreciable assets. Risk: Low >60% indicates investment in asset renewal to a level where a high percentage of assets are in "as new" condition. High <50% indicates difficulty in undertaking a sustained capital investment program sufficient to maintain the average "aged" condition of the assets.</p>	87%	N/A	N/A
<p>Asset Renewal Funding Ratio Purpose: Measures the extent to which assets are being renewed compared to the amount consumed, providing an indication of financial capacity to fund asset renewals. Risk: Low >95% indicates investment in asset renewal to the degree that offsets the current consumption of assets. High <75% indicates difficulty in undertaking a sustained capital investment program sufficient to renew assets while also negating the effect of inflation on purchasing power over time. This ratio could not be measured until fair activities have been completed on all asset classes.</p>	N/A	N/A	N/A

Finance Report

RATING

The Town of East Fremantle levied \$5.7m of rates in 2012/2013 and also collected an Emergency Services Levy for the state of \$867,000. An outstanding rates ratio of less than 1% has been maintained and is well under the previous guidelines of 5%, indicating the successful efforts of staff in maintaining effective debt collection control, whilst continuing the endeavour of providing excellent customer service in a cost effective manner.

To ensure Council's continued compliance with rating legislation and procedures, Council is an active member of the Local Government Rates Officer Group. The group meets regularly to discuss compliance and clarification of current issues.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT

The Town of East Fremantle has demonstrated its ongoing commitment to good and compliant record keeping practices by adhering to its Record Keeping Plan which was reviewed in May 2013. The final plan is due for submission to the State Records Office in December 2013.

As a component of the approval of the Town's Record Keeping Plan the Town is required by the State Records Office to remain compliant with the State Records Act 2000. A part of the actions necessary to maintain those requirements the Town adopted record keeping guidelines to assist elected members to manage the official records created or received by them in the course of their work for the Town of East Fremantle.

All correspondence is registered in Council's electronic document management records system and stored electronically for distribution and archival purposes. For the year ending 30 June 2013, approximately 8,000 individual items of correspondence were recorded, scanned and processed through this system.

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Council has completed a strategy to upgrade the existing server infrastructure, improve Depot ICT communications and provide for a more robust disaster recovery capability. This project plan was formulated from a review of the IT Strategy in June 2012 and was completed in November 2012.

On completion of the server upgrade Council will look to continue with a substantial desktop and software upgrade, review and upgrade the website design, as well as looking to take advantage of other IT initiatives that will improve customer services.

LOCAL LAWS

Council concluded its 8 year review of the Town's Local Laws in 2011. The next major review is scheduled for 2019.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Council has utilised the resources of the South West Group (SWG) to undertake an independent review of insurance arrangements for SWG member councils.

The SWG engaged external consultants to provide a thorough analysis of the price and appropriateness of Local Government Insurance Service (LGIS) products. Detailed findings were referred to the LGIS and WALGA where a number of changes to policy wording and client support were recognised as a result of the review during 2012/2013.

With funding from LGIS Risk Services, Council also utilised the services of Health On The Move to provide a comprehensive range of staff health checks including skin tests,

Finance Report

movement, respiratory, blood tests and strength testing. This is designed educate staff about their immediate health and encourage a healthier lifestyle and hence a healthier workplace.

PLANT AND LIGHT FLEET REPLACEMENT

The Town continues a regular replacement program for light and heavy fleet items in accordance with the plant replacement program, with sufficient funding made available to the Plant Reserve to cover the net cost of changeover.

During the 2012/13 period the Town replaced one Parks truck tilt/tipper and three light fleet vehicles.

Plant replacement proposed for 2013/14 is set to include one Works wheel loader, one Parks mower and three light fleet items.

OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEWS

In accordance with new legislative requirements, the Town undertook a review of all easements in gross, in favour of the Town of East Fremantle to determine the fair value of such easements, which are disclosed by note to the Annual Financial Statements. The Town was also required to complete a review of all Furniture and Equipment and all Plant and Equipment in order to determine the fair value of these class of asset by 30 June 2013. Further fair value activities will continue with the building and infrastructure classes of assets.

Operations Report

Kevin White, Operations Manager

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Preston Point Road/Pier Street Roundabout

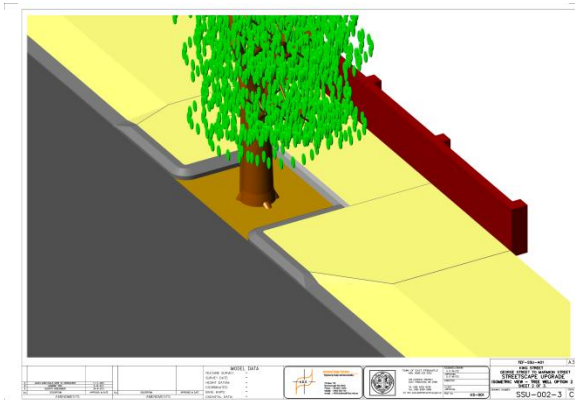
Prime Civil Contractors completed the constructed work in March 2013 for this Black-Spot funded roundabout at the Preston Point Road and Pier Street intersection. The Towns Parks Staff completed the planting of the central island in May 2013. This roundabout has an unconventional layout with significant misalignment of the east and west legs. The realignment of the carriageway to facilitate the roundabout and allow the retention of a Telstra Manhole required considerable fill to facilitate the existing steep gradient of Pier Street.

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Bus Stop Upgrades

The Marmion Street Bus stop immediately west of Petra Street was upgraded to disability standard with the placement of tactile paving. This was subject to 50% funding from the Department of Transport.

FOOTPATH IMPROVEMENTS



King Street Footpath/Verge Upgrade

The footpaths and roads in the Plympton Precinct have been identified as requiring upgrade as a priority due to their condition, and the high pedestrian usage due to the proximity of the George Street commercial precinct and East Fremantle Primary and Pre Primary Schools. King Street, between George and Marmion Streets was the subject of a design process to form a blueprint for the construction of all footpaths and roads in the precinct. The design process and the construction materials used have taken into account the heritage of the area, the position, species and suitability of the existing verge trees and the requirements for traffic movements and parking. The follow street sections were upgraded during the 2012/13 financial year with the same treatment as King Street.

Glyde Street – Plympton Precinct

Both sides of Glyde Street from Marmion Street to George Street have been upgraded in the King Street style with the liquid limestone concrete path and new kerbs.

Operations Report

Sewell Street – Plympton Precinct

Both sides of Sewell Street from George Street to St. Peters Road have received the same treatment as Glyde Street.

DRAINAGE UPGRADES

Fletcher Street Catchment

This upgrade consisted of the installation of 14 soak wells and the associated remedial works. The streets affected by this work were:

- Fletcher Street 5 soakwells.
- Oakover Street 3 soakwells.
- Irwin Street 2 soakwells.
- Fortescue Street 4 soakwells.

These soak wells were installed to reduce the volume of stormwater flowing to the existing stormwater drainage infrastructure on Fletcher Street near the intersection of Fortescue Street. This is a flood prone area of road, during intense rain events.

GRANT FUNDING PROGRAMS

The Town of East Fremantle is in receipt of grant funding for the following project:

Preston Point Rd/Pier St Roundabout Construction. \$153,978.00

RIVER FORSHORE FACILITIES

Leeuwin Boat Ramp & Car Park

The construction work for the upgrade of the boat ramp and jetties were completed in December 2012. This upgrade included the replacement of the two finger jetties and upgrading the existing two boat ramps with the construction of a third ramp. The contract for the construction work was awarded to Advantearing Civil Engineers.

The parking area's upgrade included asphalt overlay, line marking, lighting, drainage and planting. These works were undertaken by Town of East Fremantle engineering and parks department and completed in mid-December 2012. The parking area was rearranged to increase the number of bays and facilitate manoeuvring within the area. The lighting was substantially improved with increased number of poles and lights. The Town's drainage facilities within the parking area were diverted into swales to enable nutrient stripping before the stormwater is released into the Swan River. To improve nutrient stripping these swales were planted out by the Town's Staff. This planting was carried out in accordance with a planting design supplied by the landscape architects Apace. The Town's Staff also carried out extensive tree and shrub planting.

BUILDING HERITAGE WORKS

Old Police Station

Restoration works completed on the Police Station were a new galvanised iron roof, roof tie downs, gutters, downpipes and re-furbished veranda posts were installed to the old Police Station building adjacent to the Town Hall.

Operations Report

The following additional works began in 2012/2013 and will be completed in 2013/2014:-

- Primer treatment and painting of the building and the holding cells.
- Protection and redecoration to all external timbers including doors and window frames.
- Cleaning, re-pointing and some re-construction of the external limestone block work.
- Repair, replaster and apply protective coatings to the areas of damaged walls and ceilings of the upper floor internal rooms.
- Refurbish old external toilet and make operative.
- Install new electrical wiring to comply with Australian Standards.
- Refurbish internal floor areas.

Town Hall

Works undertaken to the Town Hall during 2012/2013 have included:-

- Installation of roof beams and steel truss.
- New galvanised iron roof.
- Continued repairs to areas of rising damp along internal areas of the front facade.
- Installation of coatings to internal offices, meeting rooms and toilets.
- Replacement of the external fire escape stairs on the west side of the building. Stair installation expected in October 2012.
- The following additional works began in 2012/2013 and will be completed in 2013/2014 :-

The following additional works began in 2012/2013 and will be completed in 2013/2014:-

- Exterior redecoration and crack repair.
- Re-coat the exterior of the building.
- Repair/replace woodwork

PARKS & RESERVES

Playground - Parks Equipment

The Glasson Park playground equipment and play area were renewed during this financial year. The playground equipment was chosen to provide opportunities for children of all age groups to enjoy the park's facilities.

Tree Planting/Pruning

The annual planting of street trees was carried out in July 2012:

- Approximately 70 trees planted throughout the Town.
- Trees are continually monitored and pruning was carried out as required.

Glasson Park

The renewal work carried out in Glasson park this financial year included:-

- New concrete path and hardstands
- New barbeques
- New seats and tables
- New Play equipment

Sporting Grounds Turf Management

Annual turf renovations were carried out to all our sports grounds in September/October. On lower Wauhup and Henry Jeffrey ovals, we trialed a compost insertion method. This trial proved successful, reducing the need to re-turf major areas. Also on Henry Jeffrey Oval we uncovered the cricket wicket and carried out remedial turfing work around the wicket. We

Operations Report

also carried out soil testing prior to applying any fertilizer, which we then carried out along with an application of water retention aid to all sports grounds.

Verge Maintenance

Council continues to provide a verge mowing service throughout the Town.

Health & Community Services Report

Shelley Cocks, Environmental Health Officer

Health and community services encompasses legislation including Health Act 1911 (as amended), Environmental Protection Act 1986 (as amended), Food Act 2008, Disability Services Act 1993, Emergency Management Act 2005, Tobacco Products Control Act 2006 and regulations made pursuant to those Acts; and Health Local Laws. It also implements the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan, liaises with Fremantle Library Services, Sumpton Green Community Centre, Glyde-In Community Centre, East Fremantle Community Health Services, East Fremantle Neighbourhood Watch and the East Fremantle Festival.

Technical matters coordinated by health and community services include environmental monitoring and projects such as the APACE subsidised native plant scheme, waste management including verge collections, hazardous waste and waste reduction workshops, graffiti management including urban art projects and liaison with sporting clubs in respect of grant opportunities and projects such as Kidsport.

All routine programs associated with the above issues progressed well throughout the year, and I draw your attention to the following achievements in the 2012-13 financial year.

WASTE MANAGEMENT & RECYCLING

The tonnes of waste collected for composting totalled 2,601.58 tonnes. Of these, 1529.73 were converted to compost and 1071 tonnes went to landfill. Recycling totalled 1082.7 tonnes. The SMRC composting facility was commissioned and the waste composting and recycling program at the SMRC's Regional Resource Recovery Centre continues to provide agreed services to the Town of East Fremantle.

Weekly recycling commenced on 1 October 2012 and has seen a small increase in recycling tonnages. It has been well received by the community.

A new 5 year contract has been embarked upon with Cleanaway following quotations for contract as per WALGA procurement guidelines.

Waste reduction workshops were held throughout the year, conducted by Living Smart facilitators, Barry Healy and Annalise Truman. The workshops advised participants on the correct use of green and yellow bins, construction of a worm farm and compost bin was demonstrated, and then afternoon tea enjoyed. The workshops were held at Glyde Inn, East Freo Farm Inc and Sumpton Green. A tour of the SMRC was also conducted.

URBAN ART PROJECT

The Town of East Fremantle continues the implementation of its Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan in alignment with the State Community Safety and Crime Prevention Strategy (2004), local police and Neighbourhood Watch Groups, the local business community and residents.

May 2012 saw the commencement of urban art projects on three bus shelters in Marmion Street by artists Graeme Richards and his niece Monique. The designs were inspired by the local surrounds and have been well received by locals and passersby alike. The East Fremantle Football Club were pleased to be involved in their nearby bus shelter design and nominated photos of past players and club jerseys to be incorporated. Vibrantly coloured roses formed the theme of another shelter, and finally "grannys lounge" retro themed bus shelter has engendered many positive responses and a glowing article in the West Australian.

Health & Community Services Report

A further grant from the WA Police Strategic Crime Prevention Fund resulted in another \$20,000 becoming available for further bus shelter urban art projects. These will be completed in the next financial year and will be in Canning Highway.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Under the guidance of our Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator Noel Nimmo, ably assisted by area coordinators Barry Renouf and Rod Francis, Committee members Myrtle Nimmo and Joan Donaldson and volunteers, Neighbourhood Watch had another successful and busy year.

Monthly meetings were held in conjunction with Fremantle and Community Police and the Office of Road Safety and all matters related to crime, road safety, disability access and graffiti were considered and discussed. Newsletters are delivered to all homes every second month, containing information in relation to general safety and security especially for Seniors, home security information and methods of reporting crime.

The Town would like to thank all involved in Neighbourhood Watch in East Fremantle.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The Fremantle/East Fremantle Library continued to be well used by the community with notable increases in use of the Fre-info service, computer access and online searches on library databases. Loans were also higher during 2012-13 with 66% completed via the self serve stations. Library visitors numbered 220,000 with 123,000 people borrowing over 230,000 items, 25,600 using a library computer and over 20,000 using the wi-fi service.

Ebooks were introduced, and have proved popular with library members, most of whom seem to be using hard copy books interchangeably rather than going completely electronic. Downloadable music and audio books have grown in popularity as people become aware of them and the Navigator devices to access downloadable audio books remain popular, particularly for disabled members.

An Easy Read machine was introduced to assist sight impaired people's access to books, documents and other printed material. The reader scans text and converts it to an audio voice or to large type on a screen, with the type size able to be selected by the user.

A new teen area was created in the library with tablets, a dedicated computer and purpose bought furniture. A community art project will complete this area.

The Outdoor Reading Room in the square adjacent to the library continued for another summer encouraging people to read, visit the library and accept the trust that was placed in them with an unsupervised facility. A monthly guest speaker program continued to encourage reading and library use, attracting almost 750 people over the year.

Following the Heritage Festival, Glyde In organized one of their groups to visit the Local History collection to develop their understanding of the history of their area.

Students from Richmond and East Fremantle have been involved in the library's school visits and outreach programs for children. The Better Beginnings early literacy

Health & Community Services Report

program was extended to preschool and kindergarten children in 2013, and the Young People's Librarian has presented to school assemblies and encouraged participation by students. Regular presentations about Better Beginnings and library services were made by the Librarian to new parents groups at the East Fremantle child health clinic, with an arrangement for these groups to meet in the library for the presentation working well.

A library stall at the East Fremantle Festival resulted in several hundred children and their families making badges, taking library balloons and finding out about the library and toy library. A new location for the library stand in Glasson Park enabled the target audience of young people to be reached much better, and caused staff to maintain the stall for an hour longer than planned due to the level of interest.

The library also provided a stall at the Defence Force open day at the Leeuwin base, however it was determined that most families attending were not resident in the East Fremantle/Fremantle area so there was limited interest in local community services. Information about events and attractions in the area was popular.

Changes to the processing of applications and issuing of permits for East Fremantle active library member parking permits has streamlined this procedure and brought it in line with that for Fremantle resident permits.

EAST FREMANTLE FESTIVAL

The Town of East Fremantle's Festival was held on Sunday 2 December 2012 in George Street.

In true festival style, roving performers entertained the large crowd. The line-up this year included stilt walkers, clowns, a mime artist and the Ozmosis Catalan Street Band.

A mix of entertainment was performed on the Sewell Street stage. Cubbhouse Entertainment performed their show, 'No Sleep Til Bedtime' and were met with much applause. Crowds also enjoyed the catchy lyrics and rollicking beats of The Blue Celts and the Jook Joint Band. Captain Quirk amused all the family with his clever tricks and quirky show in front of the stage and the show stopper was Mama Red's Malt Licker Minstrels featuring Harry Deluxe. The Junkadelic Brass and Percussion Band performed the festival finale as they wound their way up and down George Street in true East Freo tradition. DJ Tim spun his vinyls down near the corner of Duke Street.

Glasson Park was the place to be for the young and the young-at-heart. Plaster painting, balloon sculptors, face painters and baby animals were enjoyed by the littlies. The new playground was enjoyed by all, and parents enjoyed sitting in the al fresco areas in the shade. The climbing wall was again, a most popular pastime with the festival crowd.

There were over 70 artisan market stalls lining the street selling handmade items. Festival food included offerings from the George Street cafes and restaurants. Temporary food vendors sold paella, pizza, satays, gozlemes, Japanese pastries, baked spuds, gourmet sausages, crepes, ice popsicles, juices, slushies, ice creams and other festival treats.

The Town would like to thank its festival coordinator Cynthia Williamson, the festival committee and staff, particularly Shelley Cocks and Ken Dyer, who worked to make

Health & Community Services Report

this Festival the success it was. We would also like to thank our sponsors Lotterywest and the Fremantle Herald.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Emissions Detail by Year

FINANCIAL YEAR	ENERGY	STREET LIGHTING	FLEET	WASTE	TOTAL
2011-2012	389	316	134	4	842 T Co2e
2012-2013	391.4	308.3	133	4	836 T Co2e

Emissions by Source (Averaged)

Street lighting 37%

Energy 47%

Fleet (Fuel) 16%

Waste 0.5%

Note that energy is comprised of electricity and gas supply to buildings and water usage.

Tricolore Community Centre

The 10kW installation of solar panels on Tricolore Community Centre was completed in the 2011-12 financial year. The energy consumption fell from 189 GJ in the 2010-2011 financial year to 155 GJ in the 2011-12 financial year. The energy consumption then rose to 177 GJ in the 2012-13 financial year. (Charges \$14,609.00)

Dovenby House

Energy consumption at Dovenby House (with a 5 kW solar panel array) fell from 34 GJ in 2010-11 to 33 GJ in 2011-12. Costs were consistent at around \$2,000 per annum. Energy consumption in 2012-13 was 33 GJ, so very consistent. (Charges \$2,472.00)

KIDSPORT

Last annual report it was reported that The Town of East Fremantle had recently signed up for Kidsport. It is now more than 20 months since the first Kidsport voucher was issued.

During that time, 125 local governments processed 26,000 applications assisting 21,000 kids to play sport. This also constitutes a substantial support boost to clubs and organisations involved.

In East Fremantle, 36 vouchers have been approved resulting in 33 children being paid their registration fees with Kidsport funding, totalling \$6,405. A total of 14 clubs are now on East Fremantle books with the top 10 being:

East Fremantle Junior Football Club, Tricolore Soccer Club, Kardinya Netball Club, St Christophers Netball Club, Melville City Football Club, PCYC Hilton, Willagee Bears Rugby Club, Palmyra Rebels Netball Club, Melville City Hockey Club and Cockburn Junior Football Club.

Health & Community Services Report

NEIGHBOURHOOD LINK

Sue Limbert, Community Services Officer

I am delighted to report on Neighbourhood Link's activities. Another year has quickly passed, again with much achieved over that time.

The Neighbourhood Link program constantly strives to provide quality HACC support services, to ensure community members can remain living independently with access to quality care programs such as:

- Domestic Assistance
- Social Support
- Respite Care
- Centre-based Day Care-Aged
- Centre-based Day Care-Young Adult Summer Holiday Program
- Transport-Bus Shopping service
- Transport CBDC
- Counselling/Support/Advocacy (Care Recipients)
- Gardening/Home Maintenance

Our annual customer survey enabled us to focus on improving our services and responding to client feedback.

Jenny Logan our HACC Contracts Officer has been extremely supportive and I would like to extend our thanks to her. Without the funding assistance and support we would not have been able to provide our much needed programs.

I am pleased to report that the WA HACC Assessment Framework is proving to provide improved service provision and a positive journey for our clients and carers. Neighbourhood Link staff have worked positively as part of a united sector with Commonwealth Respite and Care Link Centre and our two regional Assessment Services (Care Options and Silver Chain) to ensure that the best possible outcomes are achieved for our clients.

Key achievements for Neighbourhood Link included:

- All staff of Neighbourhood Link worked as an effective team towards achieving our purpose.
- Service was provided to all clients.
- Continued support was provided to Care-Options and Volunteer Home Support by sitting on the various boards and committees.
- Continued links and networking with other agencies within the disability and frail aged sectors.
- Support, supervision and assessment was provided for students on fieldwork placements from Central TAFE and Challenger TAFE
- Our Social Centre clients (over a 6 week period) on Thursdays participated in a fantastic 'Pamper Day' program provided by the Challenger TAFE Beauty Clinic.
- We were successful with our growth funding application 2011-2012 and received funds to enable us to replace our community bus, provide promotional materials and develop our policies and procedures.

In closing, I would like to sincerely thank the staff, students and volunteers, for the great contribution they have made to ensuring Neighbourhood Link continues its great services to the community assisting and aspiring people to step up to a better

Health & Community Services Report

quality of life. These staff show exceptional talent and commitment. They give unstinting care and great passion to their busy roles. Finally, I would like to thank the CEO Stuart Wearne and the Mayor and Councillors for their continued leadership, commitment and support.

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RANGER SERVICES

Andrew Driver, Senior Ranger

OVERVIEW

For the year ending 30 June 2013, Ranger Services team provided a 7 day a week service based on 1.7 FTE Ranger staff.

SERVICES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Rangers are Authorised Officers under the following Acts and Regulations:

- Dog Act
- Animal Welfare Act
- Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Act
- Litter Act
- Bush Fires Act
- Off Road Vehicles Act
- Local Government Act
- Local Government(Miscellaneous Provisions Act
- Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Act
- Fish Resources Management Act
- Town of East Fremantle's Local Laws

Council's Ranger Services are also responsible for:

- Assisting with road closures
- Assisting emergency services at traffic accidents
- Parking
- Mooring pens / Launching Ramp
- Cash collections and banking
- Courier duties
- Community education programs
- Insurance applications
- Safety and security of Council property
- Emergency management response
- Liaising with emergency services
- Liaising with school authorities
- Liaising with business holders
- Liaising with residents and community members
- Liaising with community youth groups
- Liaising with Department of Defense

DOG STATISTICS

Infringement notices

Rangers issued a total of four (4) infringement notices for contraventions of the West Australian Dog Act.

Cautionary notices

Rangers issued three hundred and twenty-two (322) cautionary notices for contraventions of the West Australian Dog Act, 96% of cautionary notices were issued to non residents of the Town of East Fremantle

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Attacks

There was one (1) dog attack involving injuries to humans, which was settled with all medical costs and lost earnings recovered to the satisfaction of the injured party.

There were two (2) dog attacks involving injuries to other animals, these files have been closed and settled with the veterinary costs reimbursed to the injured dog's owner by the attacking dog's owner.

On average Rangers attended three (3) minor dog incidents per week, with numbers increasing during the summer months. These minor incidents usually involve a dog's alleged or perceived intimidating and aggressive behaviour or general nuisances.

A number of these cases occurred in off lead exercise areas and were generally the result of an owner throwing an object for their dog to chase and other off lead dogs chasing the same object.

In all cases the dog's owner was identified and a Ranger was able to work with the owner to ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities under the Dog Act, and to assist the owner with advice on behavioural control techniques available to train their dog safely and correctly.

A significant number of these reported cases were situations defined as lawful under the Dog Act (1976), such as a dog barking aggressively at pedestrians while lawfully contained behind satisfactory containment fencing or gates.

Education

Ranger Services have conducted an extensive "Dog Awareness" program in the Town of East Fremantle between the hours of 6.30am and 8pm, in areas of high dog usage (i.e. Foreshore areas, Niegerup track areas, Preston Point Road, Silas Street Park and Marmion Street).

Numerous dog owners were spoken to for various offences with verbal and written cautions being issued on each occasion, during the educational "dog owner awareness education programme" rangers suspended the issuance of infringement notices in general but were authorised to issue infringements to repeat offenders.

As a consequence of the educational programme, the ranger services team distributed a total of six hundred and twenty (620) informational brochures to dog owners to raise the levels of voluntary compliance with the Dog Act.

During this period Rangers also issued two hundred and seventy (270) complimentary dog leads to dog owners found to be walking dogs off lead within the Town of East Fremantle boundaries as part of the educational cautioning process.

Barking Complaints

Rangers have investigated eighty-five (85) official dog barking complaints, (official complaints usually involve at least three complainants, two from different residences, for each complaint). All of these complaints have now been resolved and closed to the satisfaction of both the complainant and the dog's owners.

Furthermore Rangers receive on average three (3) barking dog complaints a week with most resolved by verbal interaction between the owner and a ranger services team member. In general most owners are not aware of the dogs nuisance barking

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until the ranger brings the matter to their attention, and these extra complaints do not form part of the above recorded figures.

Rangers endeavour to provide the owners of barking dogs with advice and practical help in relation to the many alternatives to them to enable the owner to successfully modify the animal's behaviour.

The number of barking dog complaints received by Ranger Services is expected to increase each year as larger blocks are subdivided and property lines are drawn closer together and the number of small "house" dog's increase.

Stray/Impounded Dogs

Total dogs collected	87
Returned directly to owners	72
Total dogs impounded at Shenton Park	15
Dogs reclaimed by owners	11
Dogs unclaimed and re-homed	4
Dogs destroyed	0

Registrations

A total of 983 dogs were registered with the Town, with 890 (91%) of these dogs being sterilised.

Ranger Services staff conducted an extensive dog registration program, which included conducting a door knock to follow up expired dog registrations, canvassing dog owners in the streets and local parks, and the use of cautionary notices for follow up action.

FIRE BREAKS

Fire break inspections of all relevant properties were conducted in early November and all the relevant property owners were then advised in writing of the actions required to bring their land into compliance with the requirements of the Bush Fires Act.

A further check of all relevant properties was conducted in the first week of December with twelve (12) properties requiring attention as they did not comply with the November 30 deadline mandated by State Government.

From the twelve (12) properties receiving fire warning notices, all twelve (12) owners ensured that their properties were compliant by the date stated in the cautionary notices.

Bush Fire Act infringement notices were not issued to any of the twelve (12) property owners as there were verifiable mitigating factors in each case and the owners of each block ensured that their blocks were compliant with the Bushfires Act by the date stated on the issued cautionary notice.

PARKING

Launching Ramp

As Number 1 (Leeuwin) Car Park was closed to the public for a number of months to allow for maintenance, redesign and construction of both the car parking area and adjacent launching ramp facilities, the income from the two (2) parking ticket

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machines located at the Launching Ramp was about \$14,000 less than last year's return of \$130,000.

Parking Infringements

Council received an amount of \$112,000 (Last Year \$118,000) in paid parking infringement penalties and carries a further \$53,000 penalty fees currently outstanding for infringement notices that are currently on reminder notice, final notice and Fines Enforcement Registry status.

There were one thousand nine hundred and ninety three (1,993) parking infringement notices issued by Rangers, although no infringement notices proceeded to be heard before the Court.

Parking Cautionary Notices

A total of four thousand and eighty-one (4,081) parking cautionary notices were issued by Rangers with a notional value of \$245,000 had cautionary notices been issued as infringement notices.

LOCAL LAWS

As many residents and visitors to the Town of East Fremantle are generally unaware of the various Local Laws and penalties applicable within the Town of East Fremantle, Ranger Services employs a policy of "inform rather than infringe in the first instance" in relation to contraventions of Local Laws.

Rangers issued a total of three hundred and seventy-four (374) cautions for contraventions of various Local Laws. Upon issuance of each cautionary notice, Rangers advise the offender of the relevant Local Law, the reason for the Local Law and the potential penalties for future contravention of Local Laws.

In all but twenty-nine (29) occasions the issuance of the first cautionary notice was sufficient to rectify the contravention within the time frame set by Rangers, with the remainder rectified as soon as practical to do so after the issuance of the cautionary notice.

In each of these cases Rangers arranged for either a time extension or direct assistance via either other Council Departments, Voluntary Agencies, State Government agencies or by Rangers directly assisting the resident.

The notional value of local law cautionary notices was \$37,400 had they been issued as infringement notices.

LITTER ACT

Rangers issued a total of three hundred and eight (308) cautions for contraventions of the Litter Act.

A significant number of these were in relation to white goods being placed on verges during green waste only collections and vice versa.

A rise in the number of contraventions of the Litter Act was noted within the Town of East Fremantle each time that a neighbouring Council had an authorised waste collection.

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ABANDONED VEHICLES

There were a total of one hundred and nine (109) cars abandoned within the Town of East Fremantle during the period.

Rangers continued the policy of attempting to locate owners of abandoned vehicles prior to impoundment, identifying the owners of one hundred and seven (107) of these vehicles. Owners are then advised that should the vehicle reach the stage of becoming impounded, the owner would be liable for the cost of impoundment, towing, storage and that Council would seek to recover these costs via court action. Owners were also advised of an alternative to have the vehicle removed to a scrap dealer where the owner could recover a small sum after removal costs.

Of the remaining two (2) vehicles Rangers discovered that the owners had left Australia and therefore had no choice but to impound the vehicles and elected to donate the vehicles to DFES for rescue training purposes.

It should be noted that a significant proportion of the vehicles reported by residents as abandoned vehicles, were in fact found to be owned by neighbouring residents who had gone on leave, or were fly in / fly out workers, who for a variety of reasons had chosen not to park the vehicle immediately outside of their own home, but rather park further up the road in front of a neighbouring home causing a perceived detrimental impact on the complainant.

This problem is extremely prevalent within the Plympton Ward.

DAMAGED INFRASTRUCTURE REPORTS

Rangers recorded and reported one thousand, three hundred and thirty-three (1,333) cases of damage to infrastructure within the Town of East Fremantle during period.

In all cases Rangers notified the appropriate agency such as Main Roads, Western Power, Town of East Fremantle etc in order to ensure that repairs / replacement of the damaged asset was made as soon as possible by the relevant agency.

Town Planning

By Jamie Douglas, Manager Planning Services

The broad objective for Town Planning in the Town of East Fremantle is to provide for the current and future needs of the community in a sustainable manner. This is achieved through the application of Strategic Planning and Development Control functions by the Council.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Strategic Planning involves the analysis of issues and the development of policy and statutory documents which influence the activities of residents, the business community and government agencies now and in the future. During the year the Planning Department reviewed the various existing Local Planning Policies and the provisions of the Town Planning Scheme - Number 3 and implemented a program to update the various planning provisions to respond to current planning objectives and future challenges. This program involved the following;

New Residential Design Guidelines

New Residential Design Guidelines have been developed to protect and promote the existing and desired character of each Precinct within the Town. They have been developed to control the maintenance, conservation and adaptation of existing residential development, along with the development of new infill and replacement residential development.

In August 2011, Council commissioned 'Griffiths Architects', together with 'Chris Antill Planning and Urban Design', to identify the important streetscape and built form features that contribute to the Town's 'sense of place'. To also consider the requirements of the previously existing twenty relevant Planning Policies and the current requirements of the R- Codes and Town Planning Scheme, and consolidate the guidelines into a comprehensive Local Planning Policy (LPP) to replace the current Local Planning Policies relevant to residential development.

Following an extensive program of public consultation new Residential Design Guidelines were approved by Council and implemented in March 2013.

Review of Local Planning Strategy and Town Planning Scheme No 3

The Town's Planning Scheme No 3. and the Local Planning Strategy which supports it were adopted eight years ago. It is therefore necessary to review and update these principal planning documents for the Town to better address emerging trends and future planning issues. Consultants have been appointed to undertake this project, and an initial report was considered by Council in April 2012.

The project comprises the following:

- review of the Town of East Fremantle Town Planning Scheme No 3 Local Planning Strategy,
- the identification of areas where infill development could be supported in conformity with the Town's planning objectives,
- scheme amendments to support guided infill development in the R12.5 residential zone, and to designate subdivision and plot ratio requirements for developments in the 'Mixed Use' zone.

A draft Local Planning Strategy and associated amendments to the Town Planning Scheme No 3 were endorsed by Council in May 2013 for the purposes of public notification. As a consequence of delays by the Western Australian Planning Commission in granting consent to advertise the draft Planning Strategy, a program

Town Planning

of Community Engagement to explain the proposed changes is to commence in early 2014.

Access and Parking Management Plan – George Street Precinct

Council selected GHD in April 2012 to undertake the Plan in response to competing demands between commercial and residential car parking and to facilitate future commercial and mixed uses developments in the Precinct.

The following objectives are identified for the Plan;

- The identification of the nature and volume of current and future access and parking needs
- The protection of a reasonable level of access to on street parking for residents
- The promotion of alternate modes of transport (other than private vehicle use) to and within, the Precinct
- Review efficacy and safety of the current restrictions on vehicular access in Hubble and Glyde Streets in the vicinity of the Trade Winds Hotel.
- To maximise the availability of existing parking
- Consider opportunities for additional public car parking to support existing and potential developments
- Maintain and promote an attractive and safe streetscape environment
- Promote linkages with the Town Centre and peripheral areas
- Provide a program of detailed works and actions for the implementation of the access and parking strategy.

The Plan was finally approved by Council in June 2013. A community consultation program was undertaken in the latter half of 2013 to explain the outcomes of the Plan and the works to be undertaken.

Heritage Listing of Properties

The Town of East Fremantle's existing Municipal Inventory (MI) is based upon a Heritage Survey conducted in 2006. The Inventory contains some 1,023 properties of varying significance. Council requires that the inventory be reviewed with regard to the existing building stock and that recommendations be made for inclusions on the inventory and the designation of Heritage Areas (where appropriate) be made. It is also required that all of the revised MI listings be included on the Heritage List under the Town of East Fremantle Town Planning Scheme No 3.

At its meeting on 20 August 2013, the Council resolved that a heritage review should be undertaken and Heritage Consultant Phillip Griffiths Architects was appointed in October 2013 to undertake:

- a review of the Municipal Inventory
- designation and establishment of Heritage Areas under clause 7.2 of the Planning Scheme.
- All actions necessary to achieve the inclusion of selected properties on the Heritage List under clause 7.1 of the Planning Scheme.

A comprehensive public consultation program will commence early in 2014 to advise the community of the method and implications of the Heritage Review.

East Fremantle Oval Recreation Precinct

In September 2012 Council approved a Concept Plan for the redevelopment of the Recreation Precinct which contains the East Fremantle Football Oval. The Concept

Town Planning

Plan builds upon past studies and community survey and describes the Town's vision for re-development.

The objectives of this Concept Plan are:

1. To establish a multi-functional community use, residential and recreational precinct within the area of the 'A Class Reserve' bounded by Fletcher, Allen, Marmion and Moss Streets.
2. To redevelop the East Fremantle Football Club facilities and expand and enhance Lock Park public open space.
3. Facilitate the development of service commercial uses and a range of diverse housing within the Precinct.

In response to outcomes from an Electors Meeting held on 4 February 2013, Council adopted the following motion at its meeting on 19 February 2013 in respect to the Redevelopment Project;

"That

1. *Council note the decision of the Electors Meeting*
2. *Council engage an appropriate consultant to undertake a detailed building condition assessment on the East Fremantle Football Club buildings and associated infrastructure*
3. *no further work to be undertaken on this project until Council has received and considered the report referred to above*
4. *Council facilitates the establishment of a community group to work with, and provide input to Council, in respect of any future development on the East Fremantle Oval Precinct".*

Consultants were appointed to report on the condition of the buildings and structures associated with the football oval.

A Community Reference Group was formed in June 2013 to provide a consultative forum that can effectively provide input and feedback to the Council on matters relating to planning for the Recreation Precinct. The CRG is comprised of representatives from sporting and community organisations that currently occupy the site, local residents who were selected from nominations received from residents from each of the Town's four wards (including at least one resident living adjacent to the site), a representative of the East Fremantle Advisory Panel and Elected Members and Council staff.

The CRG met seven times during 2013 and its outcomes can be viewed on the Town's website. The Group will present a report to Council in the New Year which it is envisaged will incorporate suggested development principals and the elements recommended for incorporation within any subsequent development concept.

The Council extends it's gratitude to the following community and club representatives for their involvement and commitment to the CRG;

Fiona Winfield (Chairperson)

Maureen Flynn

Darren Monument

Les Capes

Gerard McCann

Paul Smale

Adam Kelly

Pam Walker

Karee Sherwood

Town Planning

John Newton
Patrick Hayburn
Bill Turner

STATUTORY PLANNING

Statutory Planning involves the assessment of development proposals in respect to the Town's statutory planning provisions and (where necessary) enforcement proceedings to require development to occur in compliance with these provisions and Council's planning approvals.

The Planning Department received 170 applications for Planning Approval during the year. This compares with 196 applications in the previous year. The value of the approved developments for which Building Permits were issued increased from \$20,787,197 in 2011/2012 to \$24,774,467 in 2011/2012.

Of the Planning applications received only 5 were either refused or withdrawn.

Council's determinations were appealed to the State Administrative Appeals Tribunal on five occasions during the year. One appeal was subsequently withdrawn with Council's decision being upheld in respect to the remainder of the appeals.

PLANNING RESOURCES

The Town draws upon both staff, elected members, consultants and community representatives in undertaking the activities identified above.

Council's Planning and Building Services staff consisted of Mr Jamie Douglas as the Manager Planning Services, Mr Andrew Malone as Council's Town Planner, with professional assistance from Mrs Peta Cooper and part time assistance from Ms Tania Mlynarz. Part-time in-house consultant, Matt Deal carries out Council's building services.

Membership of the Town Planning & Building Committee as at 30 June 2013 consisted of Cr Alex Wilson as Presiding Member, Mayor Alan Ferris, Cr Barry de Jong, Cr Siân Martin, Cr Maria Rico, Cr Dean Nardi and Cr Cliff Collinson.

The Town Planning Advisory Panel comprises (as at 30 June 2013) Cr Alex Wilson (Chair), Ms Vanessa Collins, Mr Henty Farrar, Mr Nicholas Gurr, Mr David Johnston, Mr Michael Connor, Dr Jonathan Dalitz and Ms Pam Walker. The contributions from these voluntary community members and their expertise in respect to design assessment is acknowledged and greatly contributes to the achievement of good design outcomes for new development and the protection of heritage values.

Town Planning

PLANNING AND BUILDING STATISTICS

Town Planning

Approval to Commence Development 170

<i>Approved Council</i>	31
<i>Approved TP&BC (Delegated)</i>	47
<i>Delegated Approval</i>	70
<i>Approved in Principle</i>	1
<i>Approved – WAPC</i>	1
<i>Applications Deferred</i>	1
<i>Applications Withdrawn</i>	2
<i>Building Licence Only Required</i>	11
<i>Refusals</i>	3
<i>Approval Not Required</i>	3

Appeals

<i>Dismissed</i>	1
<i>Withdrawn (Revised Plans Approved)</i>	2
<i>Withdrawn</i>	1
<i>Continuing</i>	1

Subdivision

<i>Final Approval</i>	1
<i>Endorsement of Deposited Plan Only</i>	4
<i>Pending</i>	1

Value of Works

Residential Dwellings	18	\$12,706,525
Multiple Dwellings	1	3,800,000
Group Dwellings	1	650,000
Mixed Use	2	39,000,000
Re-Build (Fire Damage)	1	250,000
Alterations/Additions	41	9,972,950
Internal Alterations	2	28,500
Restoration	4	2,171,980
Ancillary Accommodation	3	152,000
Outbuilding/Studio/Shed	11	217,194
Patios/Alfrescos/Landscaping	19	304,980
Swimming Pools/Spas	15	403,399
Carports/Garages	1	6,196
Balcony/Verandah	4	57,000
Fencing/Retaining Walls	16	212,082
Roof Alterations	5	86,840
Solar Panels	1	4,000
Lift	1	150,000
Change of Use	2	18,000
Demolition	1	17,930
		\$70,041,646

Town Planning

Building

<u>Building Approvals:</u>		
Residential Dwellings	11	\$9,567,887
Alterations/Additions	41	13,097,690
Re-Build (fire damage)	1	250,000
Conversion to Habitable Room	2	89,500
Ancillary Accommodation	2	70,000
Outbuildings	7	173,114
Carports/Garages	3	116,196
Swimming Pools/Spas	14	367,699
Pool Fencing	1	5,000
Fencing	15	248,405
Patios/Alfresco	19	336,523
Balcony/Verandah	4	43,700
Roofing	7	187,273
Internal Alterations	3	151,480
Commercial Fitout	1	50,000
Commercial Alterations/Additions	2	20,000
	<u>133</u>	<u>\$24,774,467</u>
<u>Building Approval Certificates</u>		3
<u>Occupancy Certificates</u>		2
<u>Materials on Verge Permits:</u>		2
<u>Demolition Permits:</u>		9
<i>Residences</i>	5	
<i>Partial</i>	3	
<i>Car Yard</i>	1	