

SHIRE OF KOJONUP E-NEWS

Edition 180 – 29 May 2020

COUNCIL MEETING OUTCOMES

Council Decisions from 19 May 2020 Council Meeting. Background reports can be found on the Shire of Kojonup Website.

Kevin O’Halloran Memorial Swimming Pool Safety Assessment

“That the 2020 Royal Life Saving Society of Western Australia Safety Assessment and Safety Improvement Plan for the Kevin O’Halloran Memorial Pool be received”.

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2020 – 2025

“That Council formally endorse the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2020-2025 and lodge with the Department of Communities”.

Proposed Amalgamation of Reserves 24160, 24161, 22994, 21026 and 1006 into New Reserve for Conservation and Recreation

1. *“Request the Minister for Lands/Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage amalgamate Reserves 21460, 24161, 22994, 21026 and 1006 to create a new reserve for the purposes of Conservation and Recreation with the Management Order in favour of the Shire of Kojonup.*
2. *Include Reserves 22994, 24160 and 21026 as Recreation Local Scheme Reserves in the new draft local planning scheme”.*

Proposed Drainage Works within Kojonup Retail Centre Yard - Lot 555 Albany Highway, Kojonup

1. *“Grant Development Approval for the ‘undergrounding’ of the existing open drain at the rear of the Kojonup Retail Centre on Lot 555 Albany Highway, Kojonup subject to the following conditions:*
 - a) *The development to be carried out and fully implemented in accordance with the attached stamped approved plans unless a variation has been approved by the CEO in writing.*
 - b) *The works shall be completed at the landowner’s cost to the specifications and satisfaction of the Shire of Kojonup.*

Advice Notes:

- i) *This development approval does not constitute approval for any encroachment or use or works on any adjoining land.*
2. *Include the rear Retail Centre yard as Commercial zoned land in the new draft local planning scheme”.*

Covid-19 Policy – Springhaven

“That Council endorse the new Infection Control Policy SS1”

National Redress Scheme - Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

- 1) *“Notes the consultation undertaken and information provided by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries regarding the National Redress Scheme and the participation of WA local governments;*

- 2) *Notes that the Shire of Kojonup will be included in the WA Government's amended participation declaration (and afforded the associated financial and administrative coverage);*
- 3) *Endorses the participation of the Shire of Kojonup in the National Redress Scheme as a State Government institution and included as part of the State Government's declaration;*
- 4) *Grants authority to Chief Executive Officer to execute a service agreement with the State, if a Redress application is received; and*
- 5) *Notes that a confidential report will be provided if a Redress application is received."*

Bushfire Control Officer Recommendation 2020/21

"That Council appoint to the following positions for the 2020/2021 year:

1. *Tony Fisher - Chief Bushfire Control Officer and Fire Weather Officer*
2. *Roger House - Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer and Deputy Fire Weather Officer*
3. *Ross Fryer-Smith and Myles Reid - Senior Bushfire Control Officers*
4. *The Chief Bushfire Control Officer and the Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer be appointed as authorised officers to issue permits to burn for the collection of clover seed in the Shire; and*
5. *The Chief Bushfire Control Officer, Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer and the two Senior Bush Fire Control Officer's be authorised to recommend to the Chief Executive Officer on the imposition of Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans".*

Fire Break Order 2020/2021

"That Council adopt the 2020/2021 Fire Break Order as presented

Review of Shire of Kojonup Town Planning Scheme No. 3 Report

"That Council approve the attached Review of Shire of Kojonup Town Planning Scheme No. 3 report and submit it to the WA Planning Commission as required by Regulation 66 of the Planning and Development (local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 for their approval".

Staff Housing Policy Review

"That Council Policy 2.2.7 – Staff Housing be amended."

Policy 2.1.2 – Purchasing and Creditor Control – Amendment

"That Policy 2.1.2 Purchasing and Creditor Control be amended."

Covid-19 Financial Hardship Policy – Property Rates

"That Council adopt 12.1.2 Covid-19 Financial Hardship Policy as presented."

Proposed Piggery - 163 (Lot 12) Fulcher Road, Ryansbrook – Consideration under Shire of Kojonup Health Local-Laws 2000

"That the proposed extensive outdoor, rotational piggery of less than 500 pigs at 163 (Lot 12) Fulcher Road, Ryansbrook be approved under the provisions of the Shire of Kojonup Health Local-Laws 2000 noting:

1. *The reduced (i.e. nil) separation distance to Fulcher Road;*
2. *The reduced (i.e. nil) separation distance to the neighbouring property boundary; and;*
3. *The reduced (i.e. less than 300m) separation distance to onsite water storage and neighbouring property dams".*

Minister for Planning – Local Planning Schemes Exemption Notice

"That Council note the Notice of Exemption from certain planning requirements under Town Planning Scheme No. 3 signed by the Minister for Planning on 8 April 2020 and authorise the Chief Executive Officer/Town

Planner to implement the directions contained within the Notice until such time as the Notice of Exemption expires”.

Drought Communities Programme Grant

1. “The Drought Communities Programme grant funding application be progressed with the following proposed projects

Project	Estimated Cost	Proposed Grant
a. Quin Quin Reserve Retarding Basin & Landscaped Park	\$150,000	\$150,000
b. Blackwood Road Dam (Lot 162)	\$50,000	\$50,000
c. Apex Park Carpark and Drainage	\$300,000	\$300,000
d. Stock Road to Turkey Nest Dam System	\$300,000	\$300,000
e. Apex Park to RV (wool wagon) zone	\$50,000	\$50,000
f. Netball Court Roof Structure	\$900,000	\$150,000
	\$1,800,000	\$1,000,000

2. Budgeting allowances are made in the 2020/2021 budget to have the projects completed by 30 June 2021 to satisfy the Grant requirements”.

Request for Tender 12/2019/20 – Carpark & Driveway Access – 73 Soldier Road, Kojonup

1. The offer from WCP Civil for a total of \$202,003.65 (including GST) for the carpark and driveway access at 73 Soldier Road, Kojonup in accordance with Shire of Kojonup Request for Tender 12/2019/20, be accepted noting that construction activity is to occur Monday to Sunday, 7:00am to 6:00pm; and:
2. The 2019/2020 annual budget be amended as follows:

Account	Description	Amount
C142	Staff House - 8 Soldier Road	Reduce by \$5,000
C402	All Halls – New Furniture	Reduce by \$5,000
C238	The Kodja Place – Rose Maze Structures	Reduce by \$5,000
C363	The Kodja Place – Car Park	Reduce by \$10,000
C054	Promotional Signage at Airport	Reduce by \$25,000
C286	Depot – ICT Development	Reduce by \$5,000
C266	Springhaven Lodge - Soldier Rd Car Park	Increase by \$55,000

COVID-19 UPDATE

Western Australia's remaining regional travel boundaries will be reduced further, as part of the State Government's gradual and safe easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

From this Friday, May 29 (or 11.59pm on Thursday, May 28), the regional boundaries will be lifted except for regions that are bound by the Commonwealth's designated biosecurity determination and 274 remote Aboriginal communities.

This means we as a community will see increased travel through our region over the Western Australia Day long weekend. If you are travelling yourself, please take care on our roads.

By now all community groups should have received a blank copy of their relevant COVID-19 Safety Plan and the guidelines for completing this document. Once these have been returned to the Shire we will be in a better position for a return of most community activities, providing the Safety Plan and relevant Guidelines are adhered to. If your community group is yet to receive a copy and requires one, please contact the Administration Office.

The Library, Main Administration Office and Kodja Place have completed their respective Safety Plans, and have re-opened to the public with continued safety measures in place. The public are still encouraged to complete business with the Shire via telephone or email if possible, to continue to reduce the risks to staff and community wellbeing. If you are able to complete your Department of Transport business through their online portal then please continue to do so.

The COVID-19 Safety plans require all those who enter the premises to complete a 'Sign In' sheet, to enable contact tracing if it is required. We also require a 5 person at a time limit for the customer side of the Main Admin Front Counter.

Public Toilet and Playground restrictions will be reviewed upon Phase 3 implementation by the State Government.

Present arrangements at Springhaven remain unchanged and will be monitored in order to protect the health and well-being of residents.

The Council Meeting for June 2020 will revert to 'In-person', along with briefing sessions for Councillors but subject to social distancing and limit capacity per room.

Please stay safe and remain vigilant of this silent killer.



Shire President
John Benn

Chief Executive Officer
Rick Mitchell-Collins

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

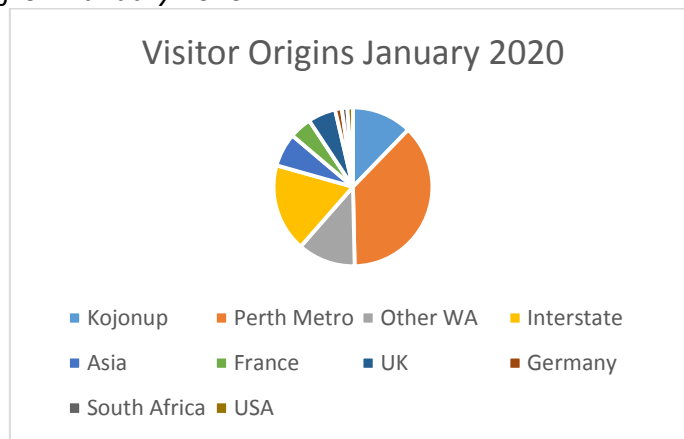
Kojonup Visitor Centre and Kodja Place

The Kojonup Visitor centre reopened its doors on Tuesday, 19 May 2020 and in accordance with Phase 2 requirements we are able to offer the following services:

- Gift shop
- Transwa bus ticketing
- Visitor information

Unfortunately, The Kodja Place Storyplace/Gallery, Driver Reviver and Toilets are not available to the public under Phase 2. It is anticipated that once Phase 3 of WA’s Roadmap out of COVID-19 is implemented we can reopen these areas in accordance with our approved COVID-19 Safety Plan.

Some interesting statistics from January 2020



Admin Staff Keep Physically and Mentally Active through COVID-19

Our Admin, Corporate Services, Management and Regulatory Staff have all been keeping physically and mentally active while we transition through the COVID-19 Pandemic.

CEO Rick Mitchell-Collins made the most of his isolation period in Tasmania, stocking up on wood for the winter, while Anthony Middleton, Manager Corporate and Community Services kept “in the swing of things”



NRM / Landcare

FRIENDS OF MYRTLE BENN WORKING BEE, back!

Wednesday, 3 June 2020

Join the Friends of Myrtle Benn group for a lovely walk through the bush removing weeds, no experience necessary!

WHEN? From 8:30am Wednesday, 3 June 2020

WHO? Anyone who wants to get a bit of exercise and fresh air whilst doing something positive for the environment.

WHY? To keep our bush areas as biodiverse and as natural as possible for the enjoyment of the community.

WHERE? At the Myrtle Benn Flora and Fauna Sanctuary car park.

COVID-19 restrictions apply. The Shire of Kojonup will provide hand sanitiser, liquid soap and paper towels. Social distancing with a strict minimum of 4 square meters per person will be adhered to. Please bring your own equipment where possible.



Clubbed Spider Orchid



Pink Enamel Orchid

Council approves proposed Reserve Amalgamation

At its meeting held 19 May 2020, Council has moved to request the Minister for Lands/Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage to amalgamate Reserves 21460, 24161, 22994, 21026 and 1006 to create a new reserve for the purposes of Conservation and Recreation with the Management Order in favour of the Shire of Kojonup.

The Reserves surround the Myrtle Benn Flora and Fauna Sanctuary which is highly prized by the community for its natural, spiritual and historical values. The amalgamation of the reserves would protect the natural assets of the 105Ha area, with a suggested zoning allowing use for recreation as well as conservation.

This shows the Shire's support for the Friends of Myrtle Benn Group who have been removing weeds from the area since 2016.

Fox Baiting – Free Baits!

Lambing is upon us and foxes are out and about. This collaborative project is funded by the Australian Government through the 'Communities Combating Pest and Weed Impacts during Drought Program – Biosecurity Management of Pests and Weeds'. Shire of Kent NRM officer, Paul Leoni, is leading the project which includes the Shires of Lake Grace, Kent, Jerramungup, Gnowangerup, Plantagenet, Cranbrook, Broomehill-Tambellup, Kojonup, Katanning, Woodanilling and Wagin.

The project proposes to implement three periods of regional fox baiting between ~Jan-2020 to ~Jun-2021 at strategically selected sheep farm properties (and adjacent buffer areas) across a ~11.5 Shire single continuous block in the Great Southern of WA, for the purpose of reducing potential fox predation impacts on the local sheep industry. Local organisations have been designated to each Shire/s to facilitate implementation of fox baiting interventions. This proposal will demonstrate the logistical efficiencies of collaborating a fox baiting program at a regional scale.

The first baiting period has gone, but there is still room for **more farmers to be involved**, with comments on the dried meat baits like:

"I am very impressed with these fox baits. As you know I have baited for many years with dried meat and sausages and it is rare to see more than one dead fox for about 20 baits taken (5%) (and even rarer to find red beads in any scat).

So far I am about half way through my baiting and without going out of my way to look for them the dead fox rate is about 12%. The baits get taken quickly too so I think the fact they are vac packed not dried makes a difference. "
Lynley Anderson, Boilup Farmer



"I am so pleased with our baiting success. 80 out of the 100 baits were taken and there are dead foxes all over our farm."

Jen Egerton-Warburton, Moberup Farmer

If you are interested, please contact your NRM/Landcare Officer on 0428712050 or landcare@kojonup.wa.gov.au.

Sustainability at home, without spending lots of \$\$

The disruption to our 'normal' over the last few months has filled our media with words like fear, anxiety and grief, just to name a few. There are things we can do though, to ease the pain, and make us feel connected to the outdoors and environment without costing a bomb, helping to lift our mood.

The Shire of Esperance has put together a short YouTube clip on how **to make your own compost bin**, using materials that you have around the house. Composting is great for the garden, it:

- Enriches soil, helping retain moisture and suppress plant diseases and pests;
- Reduces the need for chemical fertilizers;
- Encourages the production of beneficial bacteria and fungi that break down organic matter to create humus, a rich nutrient-filled material; and
- Reduces methane emissions from landfills and lowers your carbon footprint.

Watch the video by following the link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xr4LEfCgngs&fbclid=IwAR1jTtOXuf_TnNgTQeWqUBDyox1sLclVkaHJzg5JQ9TX9YiODK4wqU-jAke

Hydroponics is another low-cost, easy way to grow your own vegetables at home. The Kratky Method is easily set up with no electric pumps required. Perfect for growing vegetables in small spaces and filling the family table with nutritious food.

Southern Dirt’s Project Officer, Mel Jardine, has set up this Kratky method on her back porch, photos below and right, basil 6 weeks old. Watch the You Tube video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWUirDxgavc> for more information.

From this.....to this!



With large gatherings banned and social distancing laws in place, we've had to postpone our regular Clean Ups. Yet the amount of plastic waste is surging because of the coronavirus pandemic and it is feared the increase in single-use plastics will have long-term impacts on the environment.

We've heard a lot of you are going a bit stir-crazy with the lockdown and what could be better than getting fitter by picking up litter? So, step up, step out and start PLOGGING, with registrations for the inaugural Clean Up Australia PLOG-A-THON now open!

What's plogging? We're glad you asked! It's the combination of two words "jogging" and the Swedish phrase for pick up, "plocka upp". It means you keep up your fitness and make a difference – all while maintaining your social distance. And no, jogging is not mandatory – walking, hiking, plodding and paddling are all totally fine! How you participate is entirely up to you – the important part is picking up rubbish as you go.

To register, click the link below:

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Think we are clean and green in the Great Southern? WRONG!

Our Annual Environment Score Card is in and we scored 2.7 out of 10

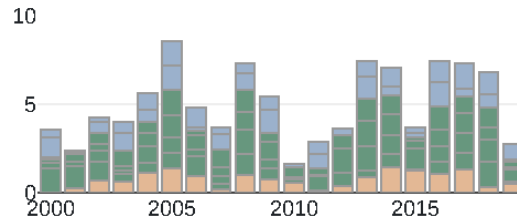
The Centre for Water and Landscape Dynamics, Fenner School of Environment and Society from the Australian National University summarises annually a large number of observations on the trajectory of our natural resources and ecosystems.

The overall environmental score (out of 10) was 2.7, down from 6.8 in 2018.

SUMMARY SCORE

-4.1
↓

2.7

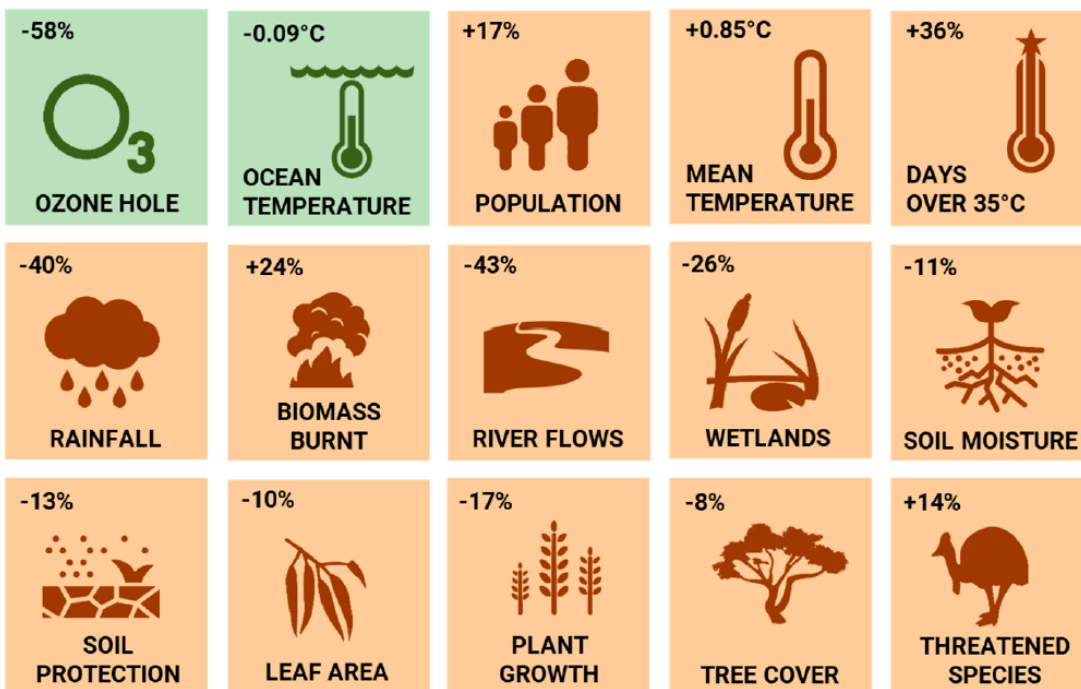


On the report website, <https://www.wenfo.org/aer/>, you can find a national summary report, as well as report cards for different types of administrative and geographical regions. In the accompanying data explorer, the spatial data can be viewed as maps, accounts or charts by region and land use type, and downloaded for further use.

If you can not access the report online, please email landcare@kojonup.wa.gov.au or call your NRM/Landcare Officer on 0428712050 to print a copy for you.

National context

Deviation from 2000-2018 average



Kojonup Library

HELLO & WELCOME BACK

It is just wonderful that we were able to comply with all the regulations to finally be open again. There are some changes that we must abide by to keep everyone safe, so it's not a big ask....but please,

- Sign in/out of the library
- Use the hand sanitizer provided
- Use the returns box in the front foyer
- We are closed between 12:30pm – 1:30pm (lunch break)

Yes, you may have noticed Kerry, Hayley and I have cleaned every shelf, plus we took the opportunity to change the library around, so if you can't find what you are looking for...please ask 😊

'Play Cafe', 'Play in the Park' & 'Story times' are still suspended, but we are trying to still make a difference with Storytime being live on our FB Page, so hop on have a look, yes it's for the children, and time for you to have a cuppa in peace.



It is with great pleasure to announce, our 'Free Little Library' is back at the APEX Park.

Many thanks to artist/illustrator, Annarine Chapman - MAHINA ARTS for her creativity and offer to paint joyful images on the Little Library.

Kojonupians truly enjoy the love of reading, and our gift of sharing books with others in our community and to the travellers the stop to enjoy and wander through our town.

If you have books at home and would be happy to share it with others, you are welcome to fill 'The Free Little Library'.

Forever the gift....

All our A Smart Start families with children aged 3-5 years should have received or collected their Health Packs from ASS & The Early Years Initiative.

If you have not received your pack, please contact Lorreen on 9831 2412.

Parents have been doing an amazing as their little one's first teacher and the ideas and materials in the bag are to support what you have been doing.

As we are still unsure when and how our Early Years Activities will start again and the format to which we must adhere to, to keep us all safe and well, we hope you have a lot of fun making beautiful childhood memories with the children.

A huge thankyou to our schools, Play & Learn Centre for helping get the packs to the families.



Yes we are still receiving our Exchange from the SLWA, so I am feeling very grateful. Yet again changes, our exchange has been cut in half, we are now only receiving brand new books and resources. Just some of our new titles:



As of Wednesday 27 May, we welcome the 'Peel Library' into our **"Southern WA Libraries Consortium."** What changes for us you may ask? We now have further books/resources available for all to use. Our Consortium OPAC grows, you can now use your Kojonup Library card at the Peel Library if you are visiting. Only positives for all.

We have a new look to our OPAC (on-line catalogue), this should make it a lot easier for all to navigate and use. You will have the opportunity to sign up online, make reservations, link your library card to the Good Reads platform, leave a review of a book, plus much more.

<https://kojonup.spydus.com> is the link for all to use.

SPRINGHAVEN NEWS

We have been busy, giving the Springhaven veggie patch a face lift while the weather still permits. We have some very seasoned gardeners here and they have been sharing all their great gardening tips with me, top of the list is "Plenty of Water!" There's something about rolling up the sleeves and getting your hands dirty that is just so rewarding! Hopefully in a few months' time we will be nourishing the resident's bodies with some of this fresh produce.

On Mother's day we treated all of our beautiful mums to a lovely High Tea and gave them a good pampering with a nail manicure and a massage. We have such wonderful mums here.



It with great sadness that we have farewelled Mrs Jean Haig. She was a much loved resident of Springhaven and we all have fond memories of her and her antics. We are thinking of her brother and family at this time. Although Springhaven remains closed to the general public – only allowing family or close friends to visit under strict restrictions, we encourage the community to continue to think of the residents and maybe send them a letter or a wee parcel. They love to receive these parcels.

We currently have a respite room available and a permanent room. Please contact Jody or Ciara for further details on 98312800 or email acfi@kojonup.wa.gov.au

POSITION VACANT – PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANT - NIGHTSHIFT

If you are caring, enjoy communicating and interacting with people and have a passion to make a difference in an older person's life then this may be the position for you.

What we are looking for:

- Certificate III or IV in Aged Care is desirable, but not a necessity
- A current police clearance is essential.
- A current influenza vaccine is essential or willingness to obtain.
- An enthusiastic and genuine person with respect for the elderly.
- A reliable team player
- Available for a minimum of four (4) nights per week

What we can offer you:

- 5% above Aged Care Award pay rates.
- A friendly supportive multicultural team.
- A small rural homelike environment.
- Ongoing education and training.
- Assistance to complete aged care qualifications.

Night shift hours are 9pm - 6am

If you require further information please contact 98312800.

Applications including a covering letter and resume to be addressed to: Jody Stevens

Facility Coordinator, Springhaven Lodge, Barrack Place, Kojonup WA 6395 or email acfi@kojonup.wa.gov.au.

Applications close 4.00pm Friday 12 June 2020.

Rick Mitchell-Collins
Chief Executive Officer

COMMUNITY



Practical Driving Assessments

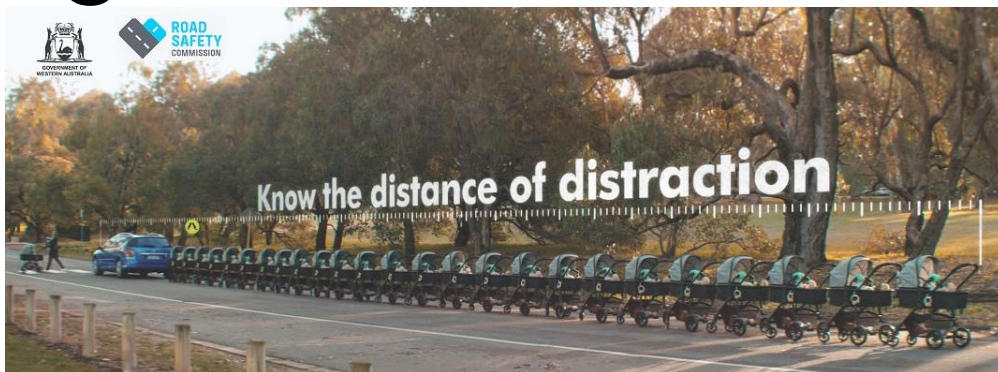
The next practical driving Assessor will be visiting Kojonup on **Friday, 26 June 2020** from 8:15am. Bookings are essential as there are only a small number of vacancies available.

Please contact the Shire Administration Office to book a place 98312400.

For more information about your Practical Driving Assessment follow this link:

https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/mediaFiles/licensing/LBU_DL_B_PDA.pdf

Driving after restrictions lifted



From this Friday, May 29 (or 11.59pm on Thursday, May 28), the regional boundaries will be lifted except for regions that are bound by the Commonwealth's designated biosecurity determination and 274 remote Aboriginal communities.

This means we as a community will see increased travel through our region over the Western Australia Day long weekend. If you are travelling, please take care on our roads.

National Redress Scheme

At the ordinary Council meeting held on May 19 Council endorsed the Shire of Kojonup to participate in the National Redress Scheme into Historical Child Sexual Abuse.

The Royal Commission's *Redress and Civil Litigation (September 2015)* Report recommended the establishment of a single National Redress Scheme (the Scheme) to recognise the harm suffered by survivors of institutional child sexual abuse.

The Scheme acknowledges that children were sexually abused, recognises the suffering endured, holds institutions accountable and helps those who have been abused access counselling, psychological services, an apology and a redress payment.

The Scheme commenced on 1 July 2018, will run for 10 years and offers eligible applicants three elements of Redress:

- A direct personal response (apology) from the responsible institution, if requested;
- Funds to access counselling and psychological care; and
- A monetary payment of up to \$150,000.

All State and Territory Governments and many major non-government organisations and church groups have joined the Scheme. For further information contact CEO Rick Mitchell-Collins e-mail ceo@kojonup.wa.gov.au

The final and updated 2020-2025 Disability Access and Inclusion Plan was endorsed by Council and has been lodged to the Department of Communities. Thank you to all those who gave feedback. If you would like a hard copy please e-mail cdo@kojonup.wa.gov.au. The next Disability Access and Advisory Committee meeting is to be held Tuesday 9 June at 9.00am.

Great Southern Suicide Prevention Advisory Group

Worried about someone suicidal? People who have thought about suicide say the most important thing family, friends and colleagues can do is listen, show they care and offer support. The ACE infographic (next page) shows actions that anyone can take to support someone who might be having thoughts or feelings of suicide.

If by reading this, you need support please phone lifeline on 131 114 or Beyond Blue on 1300 22 46 36

ACE HOW TO SUPPORT SOMEONE WHO MIGHT BE THINKING OF SUICIDE

Developed by the Great Southern Suicide Prevention Advisory Group



ASK *show you care*

- Are they OK?
- Let them know you CARE and that you are worried about them



COMMUNICATE *having a yarn*

- Listen to them
- leave space for silences
- Offer to help
- Work together to keep them safe



ENLIST *getting help*

Is there someone they prefer to talk with? Like...

- A close friend
- A close family member
- A trusted professional



IF THERE IS A CRISIS...

- ✓ Don't judge them, it is important to use caring words and be true & real
- ✓ Stay with them, never leave them alone
- ✓ Be patient and calm, show respect
- ✓ Reassure them that there is help available
- ✓ Involve them in seeking help
- ✓ Do not agree to keep any suicidal feelings a secret

...Connect them to professional help immediately...



Be aware of what might cause shame such as:

- Being in the spotlight
- Rudeness
- Lack of Respect

SEEK EMERGENCY HELP FROM...

Rural Link	1800 552 002
Suicide Call Back.....	1300 659 467
Lifeline.....	131 114
MensLine.....	1300 789 978
Kids Helpline.....	1800 551 800
Police.....	131 444
Person's Doctor	_____

For more information contact the Suicide Prevention Coordinator at Palmerston Association 08 9892 2100