



Shire of  
Serpentine  
Jarrahdale



# Community Recovery Plan

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COVID-19 Pandemic









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# Executive Summary

*"A coordinated effort from every single one of us ... will lead the important work of rebooting our economy, regrouping our community and rethinking our future."*

(Sharyn O'Neil, State Recovery Controller)

Globally, the COVID-19 pandemic is resulting in serious and widespread illness, deaths and the disruption of society's normal functions.

The pandemic has had, and continues to have, serious global, national, state and local implications, made more challenging by the complexity of its on-going nature.

To ensure we understood the challenges of COVID-19 and its distinct difference to traditional emergencies, the Shire established a Local Recovery Coordination Group to guide our community and economic response to the pandemic.

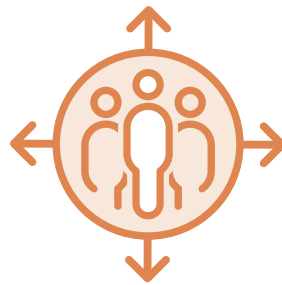
A recommendation from this group was the development of our COVID-19 Community Recovery Plan.

Our Plan focuses on eight Recovery Strategies, with the actions and opportunities for each strategy detailed under the three recovery phases of protect, pivot and prosper.



## Protect

Actions undertaken to support community and businesses to continue to survive and function in an uncertain environment.



## Pivot

Actions undertaken to respond to new opportunities, changes in the way we live, and changes in consumer behaviours.



## Prosper

Actions undertaken to create a new future, and build long-term sustainability acknowledging that things won't be as they were.

The Plan aligns to the Western Australian Government's WA Recovery Plan to maximise opportunities for resource procurement and working partnerships with State and Federal departments and agencies as well as non-government organisations.



Our Plan has eight Recovery Strategies, which are:



Major infrastructure investment



Local building and maintenance



Major road construction



Building community infrastructure



Housing construction



Supporting small business



Investing in local tourism



Connecting our community

The Plan is a result of extensive feedback and input from Shire Councillors, staff, community, businesses, government agencies and non-government service providers. It has also captured the impact COVID-19 has had on our local community and the ideas and initiatives for a progressive recovery into the future.

The results of our community and stakeholder engagement, which has been used to inform the development of this Plan, can be found at Appendix 1. The data has been assessed by key Local Recovery Coordination Group members and priority issues have been considered in the Plan's Recovery Strategies.

As a global pandemic, we also need to be mindful of issues outside our local sphere of influence.

Importantly, it is to be recognised that a disaster of this complexity has far-reaching implications that may not have even been considered or experienced yet.

It is for this reason that this Plan will always be flexible and observant of situational change so that the Shire can change direction to address new, upcoming and unforeseen issues affecting our community, and do so with alacrity.

The following pages outline our Recovery Strategies and actions and initiatives that the Shire will take into consideration to implement over the next 18 months, aligned carefully with the State Government's WA Recovery Plan.

# Recovery Strategies



## Major infrastructure investment

### Alignment to the **WA Recovery Plan**:

- Building METRONET
- Rebuilding TAFE and reskilling our workforce
- Building infrastructure
- Boosting local manufacturing
- Driving industry development
- Unlocking barriers to investment

The State Government's METRONET program will see an 8km extension of the Armadale rail line to the Byford Town Centre. Planning is also underway for the \$505 million, 14km extension of the Tonkin Highway from Thomas Road, Oakford, to South Western Highway, Mundijong. The Shire has also commenced a feasibility study for a TAFE in the Byford Town Centre.

These projects will support employment opportunities, sustainable education pathways, new private sector business investment and help unlock the potential of the Byford Town Centre and West Mundijong Industrial Area.

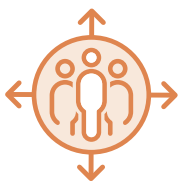


### Protect

Ensure that infrastructure delivery is coordinated to minimise delays and to maximise peak use of overlapping construction schedules.

Develop a Business Case for a TAFE in the Byford Town Centre.

Secure land in the Byford Town Centre for public space and community facilities.



### Pivot

Work in partnership with the State Government and METRONET to develop Byford METRONET.

Advocate that the State Government fund a business case to establish an Equine Business Park and relocation of the State Equestrian Centre from Brigadoon.

Advocate that the State Government provide \$1.5 million funding for the engagement, planning, and development of public spaces in the Byford Town Centre.



### Prosper

Partner with METRONET and community to ensure the design of a transit orientated Byford Town Centre.

Advocate that the State Government purchase land within the Byford METRONET Station Precinct for the future delivery of Byford TAFE.

Advocate to the State Government to transfer State Government Reserve land into Freehold to facilitate development and jobs.

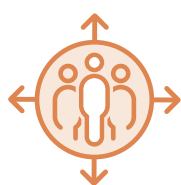


## Local building and maintenance

### Alignment to the **WA Recovery Plan**:

- Building infrastructure
- Maintenance blitz
- Building community infrastructure
- Supporting small businesses

Investment in maintenance and building of infrastructure ensures that our community has an opportunity to enjoy quality infrastructure close to home, that supports community connectivity and capacity, while also supporting jobs and injecting funds into the local and Western Australian economy to assist in the recovery of our community.



**Pivot**

\$2.6 million on maintenance and renewal of facilities\*.

\$545,000 in trails renewal and development.

\$5.38 million on maintenance and renewal of parks and gardens in the Shire



**Prosper**

\$600,000 investment in a waste transfer station and waste management.

\$3.12 million on gravel, drainage, footpath renewal and construction of the Soldiers Road shared path\*.

\$1.5 million on the renewal of bridges.

\*subject to State and Federal Government funding.





## Major Road Construction

### Alignment to the **WA Recovery Plan**:

- Building infrastructure
- Major road construction
- Supporting small businesses
- Unlocking barriers to investment

The safety of our residents is paramount to our community wellbeing. The demand for use of our roads has outgrown their design and capacity.

Through careful analysis of the Shire's road network and Main Roads WA crash data, the Shire has identified 15 local roads, totalling 129km, that require urgent upgrades and improvements.

Our Hypergrowth Road Network Implementation Plan lists the roads in their priority, rationale for priority listing, the works and treatments required.

We will work with Federal and State Governments to secure funding to implement our Hypergrowth Road Network Implementation Plan and to build major road projects to support our growth into the future.



**Pivot**

\$1.8 million working with the State Government to improve safety and save lives by building a roundabout at the intersection of Mundijong Road and Kargotich Road.

\$2 million working with the State Government to improve safety and save lives at four black spot roads in the Shire.

\$9.4 million on road upgrades in the Shire to improve safety and drivability.



**Prosper**

Advocate to the State and Federal Governments to secure \$79 million over 10 years to fund the Shire's Hypergrowth Road Network Implementation Plan to improve the safety of our roads.

Advocate to the State and Federal Governments to secure \$80 million for Thomas Road dual carriageway upgrades and Main Roads to take control of Thomas Road from Tonkin Highway to South Western Highway.

Work in partnership with the Federal and State Governments to support the delivery of the Tonkin Highway construction project and advocate for the realignment of the freight rail line.








## Building Community Infrastructure

### Alignment to the **WA Recovery Plan**:

- Building infrastructure
- Building community infrastructure
- Supporting small businesses
- Supporting our most vulnerable

Community infrastructure provides places for community to meet, socialise and recreate. As the fastest growing local government in Western Australia, the Shire is working with State and Federal partners to provide community infrastructure that meets the needs of our community now and into the future.

 <p><b>Protect</b></p>	<p>Provide hand sanitiser and cleaning products and necessary resources in Shire-run community halls, pavilions and facilities in order to comply with COVID-19 restrictions.</p>	<p>Deliver an annual works program for maintenance and renewal of community infrastructure.</p>	<p>Support community and not-for-profit groups in their applications for funding for community infrastructure.</p>
 <p><b>Pivot</b></p>	<p>Masterplan and progress the delivery of the Keirnan Park Recreation Precinct.</p>	<p>Provide a Community Infrastructure Fund to enable community groups to request improvement activities on Shire owned or managed community facilities or reserves.</p>	<p>Progress business case and design development for trails infrastructure.</p>
 <p><b>Prosper</b></p>	<p>Advocate for State Government approval of Amendment 207-Community Infrastructure Development Contribution Plan, to ensure funds are available to support infrastructure development.</p>	<p>Seek partnerships and funding through State and Federal grant programs for new infrastructure and renewal of existing infrastructure.</p>	<p>Provide information sessions to assist local business to participate in procurement opportunities for community infrastructure development.</p>



## Housing Construction

### Alignment to the **WA Recovery Plan**:

- Housing construction
- Supporting small businesses

Extensive development and building growth within the Shire is set to continue unabated with planning approvals being expedited for a release of approximately 500 lots onto the market. The Shire is working with developers and home owners to build our community, protect our natural environment and enhance the country lifestyle that our residents value.



#### Protect

Ensure planning and building approvals are dealt with efficiently by adequately resourcing these functions of the Shire, and being agile to respond to peak increases in applications.

Ensure that development outcomes reflect the strategic planning for the Shire's future, and help deliver upon the agreed vision that underpins the Shire's future.

Progress key infrastructure contribution projects and updated District Structure Plans for Byford and Mundijong.



#### Pivot

Provide targeted communications to home builders outlining requirements, processes and how to seek further assistance.

Establish Serpentine Jarrahdale as a nature based lifestyle option outside of Perth.

Ensure appropriate resourcing to process subdivision, planning and building applications within statutory timeframes.



#### Prosper

Continue to reinforce confidence for the Serpentine Jarrahdale business sector and community, based on Serpentine Jarrahdale asset base and stability of the operating, geographical and political environment.

Work in partnership with residential developers to ensure well planned communities that embrace the natural environment of Serpentine Jarrahdale.

Work in partnership with the WA State Government on transport initiatives including METRONET and Tonkin Highway projects.





## Supporting Small Business

### Alignment to the **WA Recovery Plan**:

- Supporting small businesses
- Buying local

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been felt in different ways across the Shire's small business community. At the heart of community, small businesses supports local jobs, provides opportunities to access products and services close to home, and have provided much needed support to the community during uncertain times. The Shire will work to support small business adaption and growth and encourage residents to buy local and support our local economy.



### Protect

Provide support to small businesses to ensure that COVID-19 health and operating requirements are met and businesses operate in line with COVID-19 restrictions.

Maintain a COVID-19 page on the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale website that provides links to Government grants and support for small business.

Provide free Small Business Support Sessions in partnership with Business Foundations and Business Advisory South West and Peel.

Work in partnership with the Peel CCI and Business SJ to support local small businesses.

Promote local businesses and buy local via Shire communication channels.

Implement a small business buy local campaign.



### Pivot

Provide free professional and business development opportunities to assist Serpentine Jarrahdale businesses to pivot and prosper.

Provide workshops on accessing Government procurement opportunities including supply chain delivery for Byford METRONET.

Activate the Byford Town Centre through a strategic place-based approach.



### Prosper

Continue to reinforce confidence for Serpentine Jarrahdale business sector and community based on Serpentine Jarrahdale asset base and stability of operating, geographical and political environment.

Ensure timely response and support of private sector investment opportunities in the Shire, with key engagement early between the development services functions of the Shire and potential applicants.

Share local business success stories through the COVID-19 period.

Support local small business producers to create supply chains to retail providers.

Develop and finalise the West Mundijong Structure Plan.

Seek opportunities to 'reduce red tape' and assist small businesses to adapt quickly in changing environments.



## Investing in local tourism

### Alignment to the **WA Recovery Plan**:

- Investing in our tourism sector
- Unlocking barriers to investment
- Supporting small businesses

The Shire offers an abundance of natural and historical attractions, opportunities to explore trails and bespoke food and beverage offerings, located only 45 minutes from the heart of Perth. With a renewed interest in local tourism opportunities, the Shire will support our local tourism operators to adapt and capitalise to market demand and invest in development of our unique tourism opportunities to ensure our tourism market can prosper into the future.

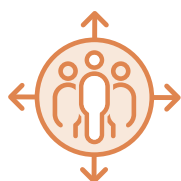


### Protect

Provide clarity in regards to what can and can't be done and what help is available under COVID-19 restrictions.

Provide assistance to local tourism businesses to improve their online promotions and bookings services as required.

Promote local tourism businesses via online platforms and social media channels.



### Pivot

Deliver targeted campaigns connecting visitor experiences with tourism business offerings in the Shire.

Participate in promotional and marketing activities as a member of the Perth Hills Tourism Alliance.

Prepare new local planning policies to help deliver nature based tourism outcomes for the Shire.

Deliver business development workshops for tourism businesses.

Develop a Business Plan for the Serpentine Heritage Precinct to provide for a tourism gateway into the Shire and connection with the Shire's trails networks.

Market Serpentine Jarrahdale to Perth and surrounding regions as an easy to access destination with a range of trails, food and beverage, historical and natural attractions.



### Prosper

Activate Jarrahdale Town Centre through a strategic place based approach.

Market Serpentine Jarrahdale to interstate travellers once internal borders reopen.

Progress development of Jarrahdale as a Trails Town.

Support delivery of events and activities that increase visitation to the Shire.

Provide activities that activate and encourage use of trails within the Shire by residents and visitors.

Work with Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and community to enhance the visitor experience when using trails within the Shire.





## Connecting our community

### Alignment to the **WA Recovery Plan**:

- Supporting our most vulnerable
- Revitalising culture and the arts

Our community came together in its time of need, supporting family and neighbours and strengthening connections with one another.

As social restrictions are lifted and our public places come back to life, we are committed to reconnecting our local community to positively move towards a new future.

We will support community and culture through our partnerships with State and non-government service providers, encourage our community groups to support social connection and enhance capacity and resilience in our community, and ensure that we are here to lend a helping hand as needed.



### Protect

Provide SJ Helping Hands to ensure those in the community who require assistance have a contact point to find support.

Assist community groups and community to continue to use Shire facilities in line with COVID-19 restrictions.

Encourage continued social distancing, and good hygiene practices in the community.

Encourage community members to connect with each other and to provide support and assistance as needed.

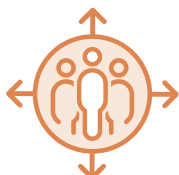
Continue to assess needs, levels of engagement, social connectedness and wellbeing in the community.

Support community groups and not-for-profit service providers to help those in need.

Provide positive messaging about the good things that are happening in the community.

Facilitate agency access with facilities, contacts and support available.

Maintain a COVID-19 webpage to provide links to services and assistance to community and communicate changes to COVID-19 restrictions via Shire communication channels.



### Pivot

Connecting with not-for-profit, State Government and private providing agencies to ensure they have an 'on the ground' presence in Serpentine Jarrahdale.

Provide information on how to access, and opportunities to connect with mental health service providers.

Deliver a community BBQ series throughout the Shire to encourage community connection.

Provide the Helping Households program to deliver workshops and activities that enhance community capacity and connection.

Help people to build their skills and capacity for change through provision of resources and support.

Provide Community Grants to support community groups to provide activities and services in the Shire.

Seek regular feedback from the community to ensure response is relevant to experience.

Provide financial hardship support to assist with payment of rates.

Provide a community events program to offer free events for community, to encourage connection and celebration.

## Connecting our community continued



### Prosper

Acknowledge, recognise and work with community champions.

Develop an action plan that aims to build resilience in young people and their families.

Facilitate discussion with community groups and service providing agencies to discuss and address existing and emerging issues.

Support local employment and employment for young people in the Shire.

Advocate for improved telecommunications and internet service provision in the Shire.

Encourage and celebrate volunteering.

Encourage community groups to collaborate to address identified community needs.

Develop a Business Case and advocate for the development of an integrated Health Hub in Byford.

Provide arts and culture activities that provide opportunities to celebrate creativity.





## Acknowledgements

The Shire acknowledges the following individuals and groups who have provided input, feedback and guidance in the development of this Plan:

- Business owners and operators
- Community members
- Lewis Winter of Lewis Winter Fire and Emergency Management
- Local Recovery Coordination Group
- Local Recovery Coordination Group – Community Wellbeing Sub Committee
- Local Recovery Coordination Group – Economic Recovery Sub Committee
- Shire Councillors and Staff







Shire of  
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## Connect with us

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