

9.1 - Notice of Motion – Christmas Sundowner for community groups (SJ4089)

Elected Member	President Coales
Disclosure of Officers Interest:	No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has an interest to declare in accordance with the provisions of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> .

Notice of Motion

A Notice of Motion was received from President Coales via email on Monday, 13 November 2023. The Notice of Motion is “That Council REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer to arrange a Christmas Sundowner for community groups in the Shire with the following details:

1. Date: Wednesday, 20 December 2023.
2. Venue: Byford and Districts Country Club.
3. Invites: Two Representatives from each community group from the Shire’s community group database.
4. Time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm.
5. Shire providing: Finger food, coffee / tea, soft drink and water.
6. No alcohol provided by the Shire but a cash bar is available for attendees to purchase their own drinks.
7. Costs to be charged to GL 4300-15712.”

Relevant Previous Decisions of Council

Nil.

Officer Comment

Over the past 3 years, Thank A Volunteer Day on 5 December has been recognised by the Shire via the administration of vouchers, allowing community and sporting groups (or the individuals nominated within those groups) to have a luncheon or “coffee and cake” from the Shire, in recognition of their contributions over the year. In 2022, 95 community and sporting groups were invited to participate.

At the June 2022 OCM, the forward calendar of 2023/2024 events was endorsed by Council that supported Officers proposal for a broader program of activities in National Volunteer Week (May 2024) rather than Thank a Volunteer Day. This proposal was based on a format that would improve Officer’s ability to (a) recognise current volunteers as a *retention* strategy for organisations, but also (b) assist organisations in *attracting* new volunteers through community connections, volunteering programs and highlighting the personal mental health benefits.

With the breadth and scale of activities that now occur over the December period, this approach was dually beneficial for resourcing constraints throughout the December/New Year period and

Contact Us

Enquiries

Call: (08) 9526 1111
Fax: (08) 9525 5441
Email: info@sjshire.wa.gov.au

In Person

Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale
6 Paterson Street, Mundijong WA 6123
Open Monday to Friday 8.30am-5pm (closed public holidays)



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a budget of \$11,000 (Account:4300-15712) has been allocated in the Shire's 2023/24 budget for National Volunteer Week. Planning for National Volunteer Week in May is underway, with a sundowner, guest speaker and other partnership activities proposed. However, no financial commitments have yet been made and as such, the scope of activities proposed for National Volunteer Week could be reduced in order to deliver the sundowner proposed in this Notice of Motion.

Delivery of a Christmas Sundowner for community groups provides an additional opportunity for the Shire to recognise and celebrate the contributions made by community groups throughout the 2023 calendar year.

"Engaging with residents" is also one of the three goals of the Shire's Strategic Communications Plan 2023, with the following strategic tactic listed: *Utilise events to engage more meaningfully with residents*. A Christmas Sundowner for community groups aligns with the engagement goal of the Shire's Strategic Communications Plan 2023.

Shire Officers have done preliminary research for the event, should the Notice of Motion be supported:

Venue availability	Byford and Districts Country Club is available on the proposed date and time.
Venue Hire	Free of charge.
Catering	Catering is estimated at approximately \$10 per person.
Invitations	Invitations will be sent electronically and RSVPs managed by the Shire's online event booking system Humanatix.

Planning for the event can be accommodated within existing resources and costs incurred for delivery of the event would be costed against GL 4300-15712.

Attachments (available under separate cover)

Nil.

Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

Councillor Recommendation

That Council REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer to arrange a Christmas Sundowner for community groups in the Shire with the following details:

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