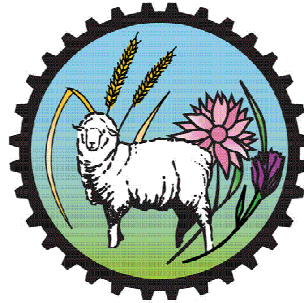


SHIRE OF NORTHAM



ANNUAL REPORT 2006:2007



*Providing a customer focus quality service and infrastructure
that will cater for the residents' needs within the Municipality*

GENERAL

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Shire of Northam Administration Building

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Shire of Northam is a Statutory Organisation responsible to the Minister for Local Government, The Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich, MLC. It operates under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995.

Shire Administration Office	395 Fitzgerald Street, NORTHAM
Postal Address	PO Box 613, NORTHAM WA 6401
Telephone	9622 1099
Facsimile	9622 3952
Email	records@northamshire.wa.gov.au
Website	www.northamshire.wa.gov.au
Office hours	8.30 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday
Cashier	8.30 am to 4.30 pm Monday to Friday

The Shire of Northam covers an area of 1,419 square kilometres and has a population of 3,600 persons. The Shire encompasses the one major town of Wundowie with urban nodes based at Bakers Hill, Clackline and Grass Valley. In addition there are concentrated areas of small rural subdivisions strategically located throughout the western portion of the Municipality.

The Shire of Northam has three wards West, Central and East. Three Councillors represent each ward. The Shire of Northam is also represented at both a State and Federal Government level. The western boundary of the Shire of Northam is located 60 km from the Perth CBD and its eastern boundary 130 km from the Perth CBD.

The largest town within the Shire of Northam is Wundowie located approximately four (4) km off Great Eastern Highway and approximately 70 km from Perth. The town has a population of approximately 700 people in the urban heart of town and 200 people on the fringe of the townsite itself. Wundowie is primarily an industrial area with Wundowie Foundry Pty Ltd operating a foundry on the outskirts of the townsite.

Situated within the Shire of Northam, being a Municipality in its own right, is the Town of Northam. Northam is a regional townsite for the agriculture area. The townsite has a population of 7,000 people. It houses major Government Departments and provides business, government and commercial services for the regional hinterland. The Northam townsite offers the advantages of the metropolitan area in terms of commercial, professional, educational and community facilities.

The activities within the Shire of Northam are predominantly based on primary production with wheat and livestock providing the majority of the source of income. Other activities include two abattoirs, educational facilities (Muresk Institute of Agriculture, Allandale Research Farm and two government schools). The foundry provides the basis for employment within the Wundowie townsite. A eucalyptus distillation plant is to be constructed on an old part of the foundry.

The Avon Industrial Park, situated East of Grass Valley, has been commissioned and boasts several industries – Swan River Kaolin, Bushman Tanks, Grass Valley Formulators, Interquip Group, Outback Power, Oz Tek T/A Country Style Homes and APA Property Group.

The Shire of Northam will continue to experience rural development pressure west of Northam where continued interest is shown in special rural development. The Municipality will promote industrial and commercial development in a controlled manner to create employment and commercial growth.

ELECTED MEMBERS

COUNCILLORS
SHIRE PRESIDENT A W (Bert) Llewellyn
DEPUTY PRESIDENT L J (Les) Pettitt
I (Ian) Fullerton
T M (Michael) Letch
T M (Terry) Little
N R A (Rupert) Poulton
R L (Robert) Hitchcock
R D (Richard) Marris
A D (Doug) Morgan

MANAGEMENT

NAME	POSITION HELD	CONTACT DETAILS
Mr Allan Middleton	Chief Executive Officer	9622 6100
Mr Phil Steven	Manager Environmental Health & Building	0407 385 419 (Mobile)
Mr Stuart Billingham	Manager Finance & Administration	0418 908 506 (Mobile)

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Residents of the Shire of Northam, it gives me much pleasure to submit this report on the overall activities of your Council for the year ending 30th June 2007. It is most pleasing to note that in completing the programme of works for the year, the Shire of Northam has maintained a very financial position.

The demand for housing and land within many areas in the Shire has seen prices increase dramatically. This has seen an increase in the applications for subdivision in rural areas. The Council is also seeking through LandCorp the release of light industrial and residential lots within the Wundowie town area. Activity in this form will continue to create positive growth within the Western end of the Shire with the benefits adding to the sustainability of the Shire of Northam.

A Regional Sheep Saleyard is still a project on the agenda as at 30th June 2007. A further boost to the sustainability of this area for this project to proceed is the private construction of two new abattoirs to export standard within this region.

As President, and on behalf of Council, I take this opportunity to sincerely thank and convey deep appreciation to the volunteers and residents of the community, who have contributed to the projects that are undertaken on a voluntary basis, namely Bush Fire Brigades, St John Ambulance, Land Care groups, Progress Associations and all the other Community Committees, without your efforts, the district would not function so effectively.

My thanks to the Deputy President, Councillor Les Pettitt, for his support and wisdom throughout the year, to all other Councillors thanks for your dedication and teamwork which has enabled Council to function so well to achieve progress. At times difficult decisions need to be made, all I believe have been made in the best interests of the Shire of Northam.

Robust discussions have continued in regard to the Merger of the Town of Northam and Shire of Northam, with some rate payers strongly opposed, a referendum was held to decide the issue with the outcome clearly supporting the merger to proceed. I take this opportunity to remind Shire residents of the conditions which were secured by the Shire, for the protection of your representation, **(no ward changes for eight years)** and the financial reserve funds, **(must be committed for the projects they were allocated to for at least the next four years)** under the combined new Shire of Northam, which will become operative from 1st July 2007.

At this time I wish to pay tribute to Allan Middleton our CEO and all Senior Staff together with all internal and external staff for the very dedicated service you have provided in carrying out your duties towards delivering an excellent service for the benefit of the Shire of Northam.

As President and on behalf of all Councillors who have served on this Council since 1980, I wish to record, our very sincere and deepest appreciation to Allan Middleton our Chief Executive Officer who for 27 years provided dedicated service, sound financial and management advice, good staff support, and a sincere desire to encourage progress and development for the benefit of the Shire of Northam. Allan and Kay we wish you all that you desire in retirement, and trust you will both retain good health to enjoy the years ahead.

**A W (BERT) LLEWELLYN
SHIRE PRESIDENT**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

The Shire of Northam has concluded the 2006:2007 financial year in a healthy financial position. The increase in surplus primarily resulted from some activities not being undertaken or savings made through tighter control or harder bargaining by staff on materials or equipment.

The larger savings came in the area of Governance, Animal Control, Law and Order, Town Planning and Recreation. Income increased through Private Works, Health Inspection, Sale of Assets and General Purpose Income.

The surplus has allowed Council to undertake a progressive capital works programme in 2006:2007 without having to substantially increase rates.

The major achievements during the year were the commencement and near completion of the Fire and Emergency Fire Station in Wundowie, completion of a \$1.5 million road construction and maintenance programme, upgrading of plant and equipment and most importantly increasing reserve funds to undertake capital works in the coming years.

The year's works programme has been extensive and the following is a brief of what has occurred throughout the year.

Road Group Funding

- Chitty Road Construction – 2.2kms

Special Project

- Wundowie Dam Upgrade

State Black Spot / Roads to Recovery Funded Projects

- Mokine Road, Vegetation removal, re-sheet and signage – 4.7kms

Roads to Recovery Projects.

- Brockman Street - Sealing
- Tait Street – Sealing
- Jordi Road – Asphalt Intersection
- Meenaar South Road – Tree Lopping
- Parker Road – Tree Lopping
- Peacock Road – Tree Lopping
- Malabaine Road – Gravel re-sheet – 3km
- Haddrill Road – Shoulder Construction – 3km
- Jennapullin Road – Shoulder Construction – 3km
- Grass Valley South Road – Shoulder Construction – 3km

General Funding Maintenance Works

- Tree Lopping on various roads;
- Winter, Summer and Shoulder Grading Works;
- Culvert Replacement;
- Drainage Maintenance;
- Road Maintenance;
- Bridge Maintenance;

- Townsite Maintenance - Grass Valley, Wundowie, Bakers Hill and Clackline;
- Noxious Weed Spraying Program;
- Traffic Management Works (sign replacement);
- Various Private Works
- Works to the Proposed Sheep Sale Yard Site.

Local Progress Associations continue to contribute to the well being of their locality and without that contribution the life style and amenities enjoyed would not be to the standards they are.

The Clackline Muresk Bush Fire Brigade receiving a new Fire Shed funded through the Emergency Services Levy. The volunteer bush fire brigades continue to work tirelessly and enthusiastically to ensure properties are protected. The dedication and efforts of those members of the community cannot be underestimated and all residents need to be appreciative of the altruistic service given.

The Shire of Northam can look forward to continued growth and progress. The eastward pressure from the metropolitan area is becoming more evident and the district will experience continued demand for the creation of residential and lifestyle type lots.

From 1 July 2007 the Shire of Northam is to be merged with the Town of Northam to form a new bigger Local Government entity to be called the Shire of Northam. This will be my last report, having served 27 years as the Chief Executive Officer at the Shire of Northam. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Shire President and Councillors for their continued support through the merger process. I wish the new Shire of Northam, Commissioner, the new elected Council and staff all the best in the new entity.

A J MIDDLETON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH & BUILDING ANNUAL REPORT

DISABILITY SERVICES

The Shire of Northam has continued its commitment in providing wheelchair access for Disabled people. The new Clackline Fire Station incorporates disabled toilets. The upgrade of the Wundowie Swimming Pool included a wet-deck to make it easier to get in and out of the pool, plus walk-in steps were installed.

The Shire requires provisions for disabled people in new commercial buildings and where major alterations have been undertaken.

Consultation was undertaken via the Shire newsletter in July and August 2006, seeking input into the Shire's Disability Access & Inclusion Plan, to improve Shire facilities and customer service for people with disabilities. A number of valuable comments were received including requests for handrails and benches near Shire buildings.

HEALTH

- Inspections of 12 food premises in the Shire of Northam have been conducted on an ongoing basis.
- Septic Systems were inspected as they were installed. In the 2006/ 2007 fiscal year 36 septic systems were approved.
- There have been relatively few cases of reported communicable diseases from within the Shire. These cases include:

	2006/2007	2005/2006
Enteric diseases	6	18
Vector-borne diseases	3	4
Vaccine preventable diseases	2	9
Blood-borne viral diseases	3	8
Other diseases	0	1
Zoonotic diseases	0	0
Total	14	40

Notifications of communicable diseases in the Northam Shire in 2006/2007 were well down on the previous year. The reason is unknown.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Approximately 236 tonnes of scrap metal was diverted from the landfill at Inkpen Road, and sent away for recycling at no extra cost to the Shire.

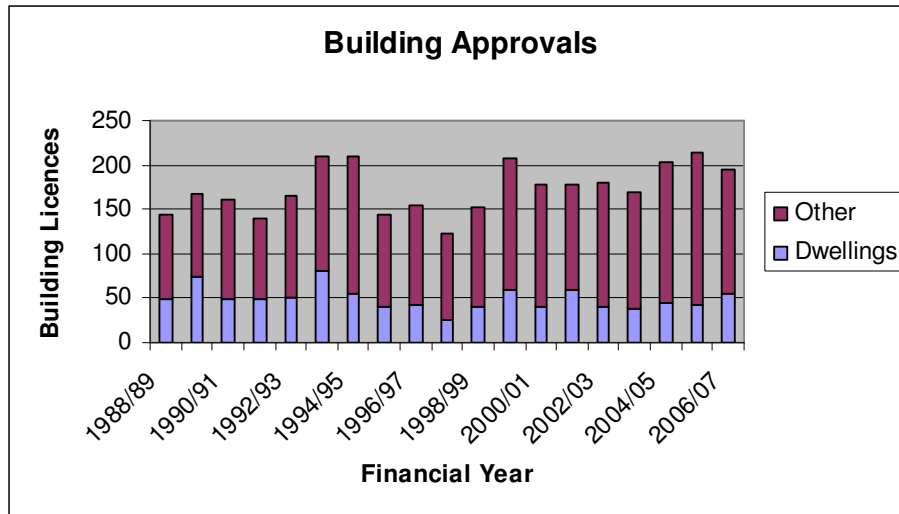
The Shire's oil acceptance facility at the Inkpen Landfill Site has allowed members of the public to dispose of used oil at no cost, which is sent to a processor for re-refining and reuse. Over 6000L of waste oil was received and collected for recycling in 2006/2007.

Over 17 tonnes of aluminium cans, steel cans, glass and plastic containers, cardboard and paper were collected at the drop-off points at Bakers Hill, Clackline, Grass Valley and Wundowie.

The Shire of Northam, in conjunction with Drummuster recycled 3009 chemical containers during the 2006/07 Financial Year.

BUILDING CONTROL

A total of 195 building applications were approved this year, which included 56 new dwellings. The number of approvals was approximately the same as the previous year, but the number of new dwellings increased. The Shire is also offering Health and Building services to the Shires of Cunderdin and Tammin.



MEAT INSPECTION

In the 06/07 financial year 38,612 cattle carcasses were inspected at PR Hepple & Sons Abattoir, this figure is up on the previous year of 33,092. The trend is towards a reduction in veal processing due to market demand.

Month	Beef			Veal		
	2006	2005	2004	2006	2005	2004
July	3280	2952	2584	0	0	0
August	3428	2376	2135	0	0	0
September	4352	3123	2589	0	0	1
October	3149	2532	3525	0	0	1
November	3427	2493	2669	0	0	9
December	3687	2837	3489	0	0	3
	2007	2006	2005	2007	2006	2005
January	2409	2071	2960	2	0	4
February	2751	2536	2879	0	0	0
March	3442	3039	2313	0	0	0
April	2570	2284	2792	0	0	0
May	2872	2941	2296	0	0	0
June	3245	3908	2122	0	0	0
TOTAL	38612	33092	32353	2	0	18

RANGER SERVICES

FIRE CONTROL

ESL Funding

The purpose of the Fire and Emergency Services Authority's, Emergency Services Levy (ESL) is to provide funding to the state's Emergency Services for all its operational requirements and the purchase of new Capital items including Appliances, Equipment and new Stations. This year the Shire of Northam was allocated \$55,300.00

A breakdown of how this was spent is set out below.

EXPENDITURE ITEM	2005/2006 ACTUAL \$ Spent
Purchase of Plant & Equipment <\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Maintenance of Plant & Equipment	\$1,141.74
Maintenance of Vehicles	\$14,198.43
Maintenance of Land & Buildings	\$1,291.02
Clothing and Accessories	\$13,102.29
Utilities, Rates and Taxes	\$3,949.96
Other Goods and Services	\$898.65
Insurances	\$14,751.89
TOTAL	\$58,443
Approved ESL 2006/07 Budget	\$55,300
Over Budget	\$3,143

TRAINING

In conjunction with FESA, formal training sessions were provided to BFB Volunteers to gain competencies in fire fighting skills. Over 15 sessions were made available and well attended.

Fires (information prepared by Eric Fox from his records)

Northam Bushfire Brigade members attended 76 fires, involving 220 fire unit attendances. The fire units attendances were made up of 91 Brigade units and 129 private units. Four of these fires were in other local authority areas, 11 involved more than one brigade and 3 were structural fires, namely 2 houses and 1 shed.

The main causes of the fires were: 24 escaped from burn-offs necessitating a brigade being called, 8 power line and pole fires, 7 vehicle accidents, 6 lightning strikes, 2 from harvesting, 1 lawnmower, 1 whipper snipper and 1 angle grinder.

INFRINGEMENTS

NOTICES ISSUED BY LOCATION	NUMBER	AMOUNT
BAKERS HILL	15	\$ 2800.00
WUNDOWIE	8	\$ 1100.00
WARRANINE	1	\$ 100.00
GRASS VALLEY	1	\$ 0.00
CLACKLINE	3	\$ 750.00
SOUTHERN BROOK	1	\$ 250.00
NORTHAM	1	\$ 250.00
NOTICES CANCELLED	-1	\$ 0.00
TOTAL	29	\$ 5250.00

NOTICES ISSUED BY INFRINGEMENT	NUMBER	AMOUNT
DOG CAUSING NUISANCE	1	\$ 100.00
UNREGISTERED DOG	3	\$ 300.00
OWNERS NAME AND ADDRESS NOT ON COLLAR	1	\$ 50.00
FAILURE TO CONTROL DOG IN EXERCISE/RURAL AREA	2	\$ 200.00
KEEPING MORE THAN THE PRESCRIBED NUMBER OF DOGS	2	\$ 200.00
DOG IN PLACE WITHOUT CONSENT	2	\$ 200.00
DOG UNLEASHED IN CERTAIN PUBLIC PLACE	2	\$ 200.00
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FIREBREAK REQUIREMENTS 33(3)	14	\$ 3500.00
SETTING FIRE TO BUSH DURING PROHIBITED BURNING TIMES 17(12)	1	\$ 250.00
OFFENCE RELATING TO LIGHTING FIRE DURING RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD 18	1	\$ 250.00
TOTAL	29	\$ 5250.00

MANAGER OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

The Shire of Northam in the 2006/2007 financial year has produced a healthy operating surplus result of \$1,005,524. This represents an increase of \$82,796 from previous financial years operating surplus result of \$922,728.

The main contributors for the change being an increase in overall revenue of \$961,156 and increase in overall expenditure of \$878,360 from the previous year's figures. This was \$329,094 more than expected on the 2006/07 budget-operating surplus bottom line. Total depreciation for the year up \$521,070 from the 2006/07 budget figure.

- Grants and Subsidies - Operating Income for the 2006/2007 financial year in excess of budget estimates by \$85,881. Grant and Subsidies - Non Operating Income up \$18,206.

The Shire continues to reduce its overall level of debt for 2006/2007 with again no new loans being raised and a total principal loan liability reducing from \$3,894 to \$2,687 outstanding as at the 30 June 2007.

- **DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE - VEHICLE LICENSING**
In 2006/2007 the Shire of Northam has again extended its contract to provide Licensing agency services on behalf of the Department of Planning & Infrastructure (previously known as Dept of Transport) to the Northam Region.
- **RESERVE FUNDS**
In 2006/2007 the Shire of Northam Reserve Funds increased from \$2,119,964 to \$2,693,460 as at 30 June 2007. Again all major purchases of IT equipment and Office Furniture have been funded out of the 'Office Equipment Reserve'. All major Plant and Equipment acquisitions funded out of the 'Plant & Equipment Reserve'.
In view of upcoming amalgamation the 'Employee Liability Reserve' has now been increased from \$196,275 to \$381,776 to cash back Unused Long Service and Annual Leave current and non current provisions totalling \$233,352.

The 2006/07 financial year has once again seen a strong financial performance by the Shire of Northam. The Shire of Northam continues to meet the growing demands and compliance requirements placed upon it, including cost shifting by both State and Federal Government Agencies. With the impending amalgamation of the Shire of Northam and Town of Northam on the 1 July 2007 this will be the last Annual Report for the old Shire of Northam.

The Shire of Northam Administration Office staff, continue to meet these growing demands and challenges, remaining professional and delivering an efficient courteous customer service to its residents and customers. I am confident the Shire staff will meet the challenges that lay ahead with the merger of the two Northam Local Governments.

I wish to extend my thanks and gratitude to them for their efforts throughout the 2006/07 year. I also wish to take this opportunity to thank the Shire Councillors, Officers, Ratepayers and Residents for their understanding, cooperation and assistance over the last year.

STUART BILLINGHAM
MANAGER OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

The Local Government Act 1995 s5.56 requires a Local Government to develop a 'Plan for the Future'. The Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 r19C requires the Plan to cover at least 2 financial years. The Plan is a blueprint for the future of the district where the Council will be undertaking major activities in the near future; it enables residents to examine the direction of expenditure and to have input into the decision making process.

The plan is a summary of proposed future major works to be undertaken during the forthcoming four-year period, and has formed the basis of Council's budget for 2006/2007. The plan also identifies the sources of funds for these projects.

The plan must be developed in conjunction with the community and, when finalised, is to be the basis for the adoption of the annual budget for the Shire.

A draft of the Plan for the Future for the Shire of Northam is now available for comment and perusal by members of the public at the Council Offices during normal opening hours as required by Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 r19C(7).

The plan contains details of the Council's principal activities that are proposed to be commenced or to be continued in each financial year. It is designed to be an overview of the next four (4) financial years. It contains activities proposed by the Council over those years.

Community consultation during the development of the Plan for the Future of the District includes Local Public Notice of the availability of the Draft Plan, available for inspection at the Council Offices during normal opening hours and on the Shire Website as required by Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 r19C(8).

What is a Plan for the Future of the District?

The Shire of Northam is required by the Local Government Act 1995 s5.56 to prepare a 'Plan for the Future' for at least the next two (2) financial years

The plan contains details of the Council's principal activities that are proposed to be commenced or to be continued in each financial year. It is designed to be an overview of the next four (4) financial years. It contains activities proposed by the Council over those years.

A principal activity includes:

- A major capital works project to be undertaken
- A major service to be provided
- A major assets replacement program
- A major land transaction
- A major trading undertaking

The following is a list of the Shire's principal activities, as detailed in its Plan for the Future, together with a report on each in terms of the agreed performance measures.

Principal Activities commenced or continued during financial year	Principal Activities Objectives	Local Government Performance against Measures
<p>Asset Acquisition and Replacement</p> <p>The purchase or replacement of assets excluding activities relating to roads, major land transactions and major capital works projects.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimising plant & vehicle replacement costs through efficient changeover. 2. Optimising the performance of plant items through efficient replacement policy. 3. Spreading replacement costs evenly to avoid expenditure peaks and troughs. 4. Facilitating an efficient work environment that encourages ongoing increases in productivity. 5. Provision of facilities and equipment necessary to maintain a high level of service to the community 6. Investigate the development of Community Housing, Facilities and Amenities to make the area more attractive to prospective residents and enhance the lifestyle of existing residents. 7. Investigate the acquisition of land to develop Residential, Commercial and Industrial lots. 	<p>Senior Management has undertaken a review of the plant and equipment activity for the 2007/08 financial year and is satisfied that the objectives have been met for this activity.</p>
<p>Road Asset Management</p> <p>The management of the road infrastructure system including the road pavement, footpaths, drainage, street lighting, verge maintenance and signs.</p>	<p>To maintain and improve the quality and useful economic life of the road infrastructure system in the most efficient manner possible.</p>	<p>Measurement currently under way for 2007/08.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feedback from Elected Members to establish the extent of complaints or comments on the quality of the road surfaces within the district. 2. The comparison of road

		<p>maintenance costs between years to establish a benchmark of average costs of road maintenance.</p> <p>3. An annual inspection and review by the Chief Executive Officer and Elected Members to determine the adequacy and quality of road facilities within the district.</p> <p>4. Benchmarking with neighbouring and other similar size Local Governments to ensure costs are comparable.</p>
<p>Recreational Facilities</p> <p>The development and maintenance of facilities, parks, reserves, and other public open space facilities for passive and active recreation.</p>	<p>To provide and maintain the aesthetic and functional amenity of parks and recreation facilities for the benefit and enjoyment of visitors and residents of the district.</p>	<p>Measurement currently under way for 2007/08.</p> <p>1. Feedback from the community regarding the provision of passive and active recreation facilities measured by annual comparison.</p> <p>2. An annual inspection and review by the Chief Executive Officer and Elected Members to determine the adequacy of recreation facilities within the district.</p> <p>3. Six (6) monthly progress report to Council.</p>

OVERVIEW OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

PROPOSED TO COMMENCE OR TO CONTINUE IN THE 2007/2008 FINANCIAL YEAR

<i>Principal Activity</i>	Time Frame	Description
Plant Replacement program	10 year forward looking programme	Programme for replacement of Works Heavy Plant
Bush Fire Brigade Appliance replacement program	15 year forward looking replacement program. (FESA 5yr Appliance Program)	Seven (7) Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades Appliance replacement programme
Northam Visitors Centre	Listed on 2006/2007 Budget	Ongoing financial support for Visitor Servicing at Visitors Centre

DISABILITY SERVICES PLAN

During the 2006/2007 financial year Council continued its commitment to improving access to Shire buildings and facilities.

This includes the provision of:

- Modifying existing toilet facilities and ensuring new public toilet facilities meet the needs of people with disabilities.
- Improving wheelchair and disabled access to new and existing buildings and facilities, such as the Wundowie Swimming Pool disable hoist access to pool and wheel chair access to toilets and change rooms.

There are essentially five outcomes aimed at in the Disability Services Plan

1 Existing functions, facilities and services are adapted to ensure they meet the needs of people with disabilities.

This outcome is aimed at ensuring aspects of the management and delivery of services, which act as barriers to people with disabilities, are addressed.

2 Access to buildings and facilities is improved.

This outcome is aimed at ensuring the internal building space as well as the surrounding built environment is accessible for people with disabilities.

3 Information about function, facilities and services is provided in formats, which meet the communication requirements of people with disabilities.

This outcome is aimed at enhancing the different modes of communication and communication formats for people with disabilities.

4 Staff awareness of the needs of people with disabilities and skills in delivering advice and services are improved.

This outcome is aimed at ensuring services are delivered by staff who have the skills and knowledge to communicate appropriately with people with disabilities.

5 Opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in public consultation, grievance mechanisms and decision making processes are provided.

This outcome is aimed at ensuring that people with disabilities have the same opportunity to participate in consultation, grievance mechanisms and decision-making processes as the general public.

Council's eventual goal is to achieve all five outcomes in Shire of Northam Disability Services Plan. The Shire's main administration building catering for disabled parking, wheelchair access, counter enquires and toilets. The Bakers Hill Equestrian Park building providing disabled access to the main buildings two disabled toilets. The Bakers Hill Pavilion also catering for disabled access and providing disabled toilets. The Grass Valley Hall upgraded with disabled toilets. The Clackline Lion Park public toilets and picnic area catering for disabled access.

The Wundowie Public Swimming Pool facility recently upgraded with insitu concrete footpaths and main access and wheelchair access to the main pool improved, utilising a stainless steel hydraulic disabled pool hoist, proudly funded by Lottery West and the Shire of Northam.

NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY

A review of the Shire of Northam Local Laws was undertaken in 2000. The review identified those local laws which were outdated requiring repeal or have been made redundant by other legislation and those local laws requiring changes to comply with the National Competition Policy (NCP).

As required by the Local Government Act 1995 the Shire of Northam Local Laws are to be reviewed every (8) eight years. As part of the ongoing review process the requirements of the NCP will be addressed and changes made to Local Laws where required.

STATE RECORDS ACT 2000 COMPLIANCE

The Shire of Northam has developed a Record Keeping Policy and Record Keeping Plan to meet the compliance requirements of the State Records Act 2000 and the requirements of the State Records Commission of WA, Standard 2 – Record Keeping Plans and Principle 6 – Compliance.

The Records Keeping Plan is reviewed and evaluated at least once every 5 five years for efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation's record keeping systems. The Shire of Northam has in place a record keeping training program ensuring that all Councillors and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in operating and maintaining the Records Keeping System. The efficiency and effectiveness of the record keeping training program is reviewed on an annual basis. The Shire of Northam induction program addresses employee roles and responsibilities in regard to their compliance with the organisations record keeping plan.

COUNCIL & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Wundowie Telecentre

(Incorporating Wundowie LIBRARY)

Boronia Avenue Wundowie 9573 6205

Operating Hours:

Monday 12.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Tuesday 12.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Wednesday 12.00 am to 7.00 pm
Thursday 12.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Friday 9.00 am to 7.00 pm
Saturday 9.00 am to 12.00 noon

Recreation Ovals

..... Bookings
Bakers Hill 9574 0500
Grass Valley 9622 9626
Wundowie 9573 6205
& Shire of Northam 9622 1099

Community Halls

..... Bookings
Clackline 9574 1413
Bakers Hill 9574 0500
Grass Valley 9622 9626
Irishtown 0427 374 596
Southern Brook 9622 3494
Wundowie 9573 6205

Swimming Pool

Wundowie 9573 6344

Caravan Park

Bakers Hill 9574 1408

Tourist Information Bays

Opposite Store Clackline
Hooper Park Bakers Hill
Entry to Wundowie Wundowie

Air Strip

Withers Street 9622 3248
(Northam)

Aged Persons' Facilities

Wundowie 9622 1099

Rubbish Tip

Inkpen Road Inkpen

Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
..... 2.00pm to 5.00pm

Saturday, Sunday & Public Holidays
(Including Monday Public Holidays)

..... 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Mondays **Closed**

Rubbish Tip (Cont'd)

Enquiries:

Contact Shire of Northam Administration

Office 9622 1099

Emergency Services

Ambulance:

Wundowie 000

Northam 9622 2233

Or 000

Police:

Wundowie 9573 6244

Northam 131 444

Life Threatening Emergency only 000

Bush Fire Brigade 000

Shire Office 9622 1099

Eric Fox 9622 1364

Doug Morgan 9622 1002

(Chief Bush Fire Control Officer)

Fire & Rescue Service 000

State Emergency Service:

Northam 9622 3322

Or Northam Police 131 444

Western Power:

Enquiries 131 353

Emergency 131 351

Progress Associations

Clackline 9574 1413

Bakers Hill 9574 0500

Grass Valley 9622 9626

Spencers Brook 9622 7703

Wundowie 9397 6248

Townscape Committees

Contact your local Progress Association for details

Health Advisory Committee

Shire of Northam9622 1099

Private Works

Council is happy to undertake certain private works, provided the Works Program schedule is not disrupted. Contact Council's Works Coordinator for further information.

Septic Tank Pump Outs

The following contractor is licensed to undertake septic tank cleaning:

J C & M R Lupton9622 2731

Tourist Information

Contact Northam Visitors Centre
1 Grey Street9622 2100

Rubbish Removal

Council's contractor (Avon Waste) supplies the initial 240-litre bin. If a bin is lost or stolen, it is the responsibility of the ratepayer to replace the bin.

Ranger Services

The Shire of Northam now has a 'joint' Ranger Service with the Town of Northam and the Shire of Toodyay for enforcement of various Acts, Regulations and Local Laws. To contact Ranger Services call 9547 4555.

Dog Registrations

Dogs over the age of three months must be registered as from 1st November each year for 12 months ending the following 31st October.

Annual Registration – *Unsterilised* dog or bitch (unless a concession applies) **\$30.00**

Annual Registration - *Sterilised* dog or bitch\$10.00

(On production of a Veterinary Certificate or a Statutory Declaration that the animal of either sex has been effectively sterilised, the lesser charge will be made)

- Pensioners receive a 50% concession on these fees.

Dog Owners' Responsibilities

- Registering your dog with the Local Council;
- Ensuring your dog is wearing a tag showing your name and address, as well as the registration tag;
- Ensuring your dog is unable to escape from your yard;
- Leashing your dog in public;
- Taking responsibility for any damage your dog has caused.

A number of on-the-spot fines are applicable eg it is an offence not to register your dog and you could be fined \$100 on the spot.

Impoundment of Dog \$60.00
Sustenance.....\$11.00 per day

Shire of Northam Cat Local Laws

Poundage and permit fees are as follows:

Impoundment of Cat \$30.00
Sustenance.....\$4.00 per day
Destruction of Cat.....\$16.50 incl. GST
Permit to keep more than two cats.....\$20.00

Infringements issued under the local law as follows:

Failure to identify a cat\$100.00
'M' tattooed on cat when **no** microchip
.....\$100.00
Interference with or removal of identification of cat\$100.00
Keeping of three or more cats on premises without permit\$100.00
Unauthorised release of impounded cat
.....\$250.00
Destroy, break into, damage or interfere with pound or cat container.....\$250.00
Abandonment of a cat\$250.00

**DRIVER'S LICENCES, MOTOR VEHICLE LICENCES, LEARNER'S
PERMITS, FIREARM'S LICENCES**

Driver's licences, vehicle licences and firearm's licences may all be renewed at the Shire Administration Office. Licensing staff are also able to assist with the registration of new vehicles, motor vehicle transfers and ordering of personalised number plates.

Vehicle inspections are carried out by:

Host Auto Repairs..... 9622 2102
AutoPro Northam 9622 1178

Heavy Vehicle Inspections by

Western Power 9622 6233

SNIPPETS OF INFORMATION

Building Licences issued.....	195
Infringement Notices issued:	
Bush Fire (Firebreaks)	13
Dog Act.....	13
Number of Swimming Pools in Shire of Northam.....	191
Number of Dogs Registered.....	1030
Abattoir Statistics - Inspections (Health Act):	
Cattle Inspected.....	38,612
Length of Roads:	
Sealed (km)	347.34km
Unsealed (km)	292.63km
Total Length of Roads within the Shire of Northam	639.97km