



MINUTES

CERTIFICATION OF CONFIRMATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

1 APRIL 2014

I, Mr Bob Jarvis, hereby certify that the minutes from the Chief Executive Officers Advisory Committee Meeting held on 1 April 2014 pages (1) to (56) were confirmed at a Committee meeting held on 5 August 2014.



Signature

Mr Bob Jarvis
Person presiding at Meeting

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

1 April 2014

(REF: D2014/00103)

A meeting of the Chief Executive Officers Advisory Committee was held at the EMRC Administration Office, 1st Floor, 226 Great Eastern Highway, BELMONT WA 6104 on **Tuesday, 1 April 2014**. The meeting commenced at **12:30pm**.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS	1
2	ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)	1
3	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS	1
4	ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN OR PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION	1
5	PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS	
6	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS	1
	6.1 <i>MINUTES OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2013 (Ref: DMDOC/184905)</i>	
7	QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN	2
8	QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS WITHOUT NOTICE	2
9	ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS FOR WHICH MEETINGS MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC	2
10	BUSINESS NOT DEALT WITH FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING	2
11	REPORTS OF EMPLOYEES	3
	11.1 <i>REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION ACTION PLAN 2013-2016 (Ref: D2014/02399)</i>	3
	11.2 <i>REGIONAL SERVICES CONSULTING RATES 2014/2015 AND MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATION FEES (Ref: D2014/00105)</i>	40
	11.3 <i>REGIONAL ADVOCACY 2014/2015 (Ref: D2104/02982)</i>	46
	11.4 <i>ITEMS CONTAINED IN THE INFORMATION BULLETIN (Ref:02959)</i>	55
12	REPORTS OF DELEGATES	55
13	NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE APPROVED BY THE CHAIRMAN OR PRESIDING MEMBER OR BY DECISION OF MEETING	56
14	CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC	56
15	GENERAL BUSINESS	56
	15.1 <i>EVENTS IN THE REGION</i>	56
	15.2 <i>OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS</i>	56
16	FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	56
17	DECLARATION OF CLOSURE OF MEETING	56



1 DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairman opened the meeting at 12:34pm.

2 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)

Committee Members

Mr Bob Jarvis (Chairman)	Chief Executive Officer	Town of Bassendean
Mr Stuart Cole (Deputy Chairman)	Chief Executive Officer	City of Belmont
Ms Francesca Lefante	Chief Executive Officer	City of Bayswater
Ms Rhonda Hardy	Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Kalamunda
Mr Mike Foley	Chief Executive Officer	City of Swan
Mr Peter Schneider	Chief Executive Officer	EMRC

Apologies

Mr Jonathan Throssell	Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Mundaring
-----------------------	-------------------------	--------------------

EMRC Officers

Mrs Marilyn Horgan	Director Regional Services
Ms Theresa Eckstein	Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer (Minutes)

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN OR PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

5 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 MINUTES OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2013

That the minutes of the Chief Executive Officers Advisory Committee meeting held on 19 November 2013, which have been distributed, be confirmed.

CEOAC RESOLUTION(S)

MOVED MR COLE

SECONDED MS LEFANTE

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2013 WHICH HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED, BE CONFIRMED.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



7 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

8 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

9 ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS FOR WHICH MEETINGS MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Nil

10 BUSINESS NOT DEALT WITH FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil



11 REPORTS OF EMPLOYEES

11.1 REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION ACTION PLAN 2013-2016

REFERENCE: D2014/02399

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Council approval of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2013-2016.

KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATION(S)

- In 2012, Council approved the review of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan (RCCAAP) 2009-2013 and the development of a new RCCAAP 2013-2016.
- In 2013, Council approved the recommendations from the review and the continuation of the Future Proofing Program until 2016.
- In 2013-2014, the RCCAAP 2013-2016 was developed to include updated scientific information, identify completed actions and achievements of the RCCAAP 2009-2013, additional actions and timeframes.
- The RCCAAP 2013-2016 has been reviewed and updated with input from member Council officers and highlights the following issues:
 - Climate change is already upon us. The summer of 2012-2013 was the hottest on record. Coined the 'Angry Summer', more than 120 weather records were broken in 90 days.
 - Some of the impacts of climate change will develop slowly while others will be in the form of big events that will adversely affect communities.
 - The economic cost of the 2009 Black Saturday fires in Victoria resulted in the loss of 173 lives, more than 2,000 homes, 8,000 – 11,000 stock lives and \$1.266 billion in insurance loss.
 - Falling groundwater tables and pressure for inner city high-rise density development in and around waterways have the potential to expose acid sulfate soils.
- A seminar series is being delivered in 2014 for member Council staff to increase knowledge and awareness of climate change risks and adaptation.
- The EMRC and its member Councils need to continue to lead the way in relation to climate change adaptation through the Future Proofing program and delivery of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan.

Recommendation(s)

That Council approves the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2013-2016.

SOURCE OF REPORT

Director Regional Services
Manager Environmental Services

BACKGROUND

In May 2008, the Australian Government provided EMRC with \$50,000 through the Local Adaptation Pathways Programme which gave the opportunity to undertake climate change risk assessments and adaptation planning within Perth's Eastern Region. Council agreed to contribute funding of \$43,375 to the program.



Item 11.1 continued

Development of the Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region Program and a regional adaptation action plan occurred through close collaboration with member Councils and, in September 2009, Council approved the *Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan (RCCAAP) 2009-2013*.

The RCCAAP identified risks and actions that would assist local government operations and services at a regional level. Each of EMRC's member Councils undertook a similar risk assessment process and developed individual Local Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans (LCCAAPs). The combination of the RCCAAP and LCCAAPs has resulted in the EMRC and its member Councils leading the way and exemplifying best practice for local governments in relation to climate change adaptation.

A major review of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan (RCCAAP) 2009-2013 was undertaken in 2012/2013 to identify future actions and to seek member council support and agreement to continue to pursue climate change action.

Council approved the extension of the Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region Program until 2016 and the development of the RCCAAP 2013-2016 at the Council meeting on 20 June 2013 (Ref: DMDOC/180100).

"COUNCIL SUPPORTS CONTINUED ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUTURE PROOFING PERTH'S EASTERN REGION PROJECT UNTIL JUNE 2016."

"COUNCIL APPROVES THE PROPOSED ACTIONS OUTLINED IN THE ATTACHED REPORT REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION ACTION PLAN 2009-2013 MAJOR REVIEW FOR INCLUSION IN A NEW REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION ACTION PLAN FOR 2013-2014 TO 2015-2016."

Major achievements of the RCCAAP for 2009-2013 include:

- EMRC and member Councils became signatories to the Western Australian Local Government Declaration on Climate Change, a commitment which recognises the significant and continuing efforts that WA local governments are making in relation to adapting to climate change;
- Assistance and support for other program initiatives for the Region such as Perth Solar City, ICLEI Water Campaign, Water and Energy Auditing, ACER program and various Swan-Helena River initiatives, along with the employment of a Regional TravelSmart Officer;
- Recognition of the *Future Proofing* program as a leading program in climate change adaptation and mitigation in the Local Government Sector and granted a 2011 NCCARF Climate Change Champions Finalist Award;
- Recognised by the Australian Government as a leader in adaptation in November 2013 which led to a meeting with representatives from the Department of Environment's Adaptation and Science Division. The Department sought information and feedback on the EMRC's experiences from developing and implementing the Regional and Local Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans;
- Submission to the Australian Government's National Outlook Framework. The framework is intended to assist business and government with reviewing and monitoring adaptation and to provide consistency and monitoring in relation to Australia's adaptation efforts; and
- Launched the EMRC's Climate Change Risk Awareness Seminar Series in 2013. The seminars are being rolled out in 2014 and aim to raise the profile of climate change within the Region and to assist staff in understanding that climate change adaptation is everyone's responsibility.

REPORT

Adapting to climate change, particularly in south west WA, continues to represent the biggest challenge and opportunity faced by local governments now and into the future. The Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan (RCCAAP) is the EMRC's key strategic document developed to assist with future proofing Perth's Eastern Region. The RCCAAP's key purpose is to address high level advocacy issues which are generally aimed at state and federal government from a regional level.



Item 11.1 continued

The RCCAAP comprises of 10 priority risk areas which contain actions for implementing climate change adaptation across Perth's Eastern Region. They include:

- Infrastructure Failure;
- Impacts on Essential Services;
- Watercourse Damage and Loss;
- Increasing Bushfires;
- Water Decline and Reduced Water Quality;
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Related Air Pollution;
- Loss of Ecosystems and Provision of Public Open Space;
- Decline in Population Health and Wellbeing;
- Economic Challenges and Opportunities; and
- Changing Leadership and Development Requirements.

The RCCAAP 2013-2016 highlights the following issues:

- Climate change is already upon us. The summer of 2012-2013 was the hottest on record. Coined the 'Angry Summer', more than 120 weather records were broken in 90 days;
- Some of the impacts of climate change will develop slowly while others will be in the form of big events that will adversely affect communities such as the recent fires in Parkerville where 57 homes were destroyed and 386 hectares burnt;
- The economic cost of the 2009 Black Saturday fires in Victoria resulted in the loss of 173 lives, more than 2,000 homes lost, between 8,000 – 11,800 stock lives and \$1.266 billion in insurance loss (Climate Council, 2013); and
- Falling groundwater tables and pressure for inner city high-rise density development in and around waterways have the potential to expose acid sulfate soils. Soils with a high to moderate Potential Acid Sulfate Soils risk occur in the interdunal swales, flats and creeklines such as Ashfield Flats, Baigup, parts of Ascot and Viveash.

The Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region Program, RCCAAP, LCCAAPs and associated project plans have been closely aligned with each of the member Council's Strategic Community and Corporate Business Plans.

The RCCAAP will be monitored annually to determine progress and an annual progress bulletin will be developed for member Councils outlining achievements to date and reporting on any issues or changes that may have occurred. The bulletin will be provided to Council and to member Council Regional Environmental Advisory Group members. A major review of the strategy will be undertaken in 2016.

The implementation of the RCCAAP 2013-2016 has already commenced with the development and delivery of the Climate Change Risk Awareness Seminar Series. The first seminar entitled *Know the Risks: How will climate change impact you in your workplace?* was held on 6 March 2014 and hosted by the Town of Bassendean. The keynote speaker was Dr Bryson Bates, 2007 shared Nobel Peace Prize winner, Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, Australia and former Leader for the Pathways to Adaptation Theme in CSIRO's Climate Adaptation National Flagship. The seminar was very well received and attended by a mix of member Council officers and external stakeholders including the Office of Bushfire Risk Management, Curtin University and other local governments.

The EMRC and member Councils are encouraged to formally embed climate change into mainstream management and governance decision making to meet future challenges and opportunities. In doing so, climate change impacts and risks would be explicitly recognised and incorporated across all local government plans and procedures.



Item 11.1 continued

Climate change can also present new opportunities whereby action taken to adapt will generate significant social, economic and environmental benefits and this will lead to more vibrant and resilient societies.

This report is seeking approval of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2013-2016 as attached.

STRATEGIC/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Key Result Area 1 – Environmental Sustainability

- 1.5 To contribute towards improved regional air, water and land quality and regional biodiversity conservation
- 1.6 To address climate change issues within the Region

Key Result Area 4 – Good Governance

- 4.1 To provide advice and advocacy on issues affecting Perth's Eastern Region

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no additional financial implication in relation to the approval of the RCCAAP above and beyond the funding that has already been allocated to the program through EMRC and member Councils' participation.

The EMRC will keep member Councils abreast of funding opportunities that arise.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The impacts of a changing climate will affect Perth's Eastern Region financially, environmentally and socially. The decision to not prepare or adapt is no longer a viable decision for local governments. Some of the potential impacts for local governments in Perth's Eastern include:

Financial

- Infrastructure failure or reduced life expectancy of infrastructure through exposure to heat, water, acid sulfate soils, etc;
- Increased energy costs due to increases in temperature;
- Essential services failure affecting energy, water, transport, etc; and
- Potential liability due to maladaptation.

Environmental

- River bank erosion;
- Loss of flora and fauna;
- Reduced air and water quality; and
- Alteration to climatic conditions and the flow-on effect on natural systems.

Social

- Urban heat island effect;
- Increased cases of motility and morbidity;
- Increased spread of vector born diseases; and
- Reduced health and wellbeing of residents.



Item 11.1 continued

MEMBER COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS

Member Council

Town of Bassendean
City of Bayswater
City of Belmont
Shire of Kalamunda
Shire of Mundaring
City of Swan

Implication Details

The RCCAAP provides an overarching research, advocacy and educational aspect that strongly assists with member Council's LCCAAP.

Nil, the City of Swan withdrew from the program in 2010.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2013-2016 (Ref: D2014/03168)

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council approves the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2013-2016.

It was requested that a presentation from the Department of Water and Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Water Sensitive Cities be arranged for a future Councillors Strategy/Briefing Session. This session will provide an overview of State Government responsibilities and actions in delivering water availability and an update from the CRC on the latest research on best management water practices including stormwater harvesting; groundwater management and water sensitive urban design.

CEOAC RECOMMENDATION(S)

MOVED MR FOLEY

SECONDED MR COLE

That Council approves the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2013-2016.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Protecting Perth's Eastern Region ↻



REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION ACTION PLAN 2013-2016



Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed in the report are not necessarily those of the EMRC or its member councils. The contents of this report have been compiled using a range of source materials and while reasonable care has been taken in its compilation, the EMRC and its member councils shall not accept responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the contents of this report and shall not be liable for any loss or damage that may be occasioned directly or indirectly through the use of or reliance of the contents of this report.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	5
BACKGROUND	7
MONITORING AND REVIEW.....	7
ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2009-2013.....	8
VISION STATEMENT	11
AIM AND PRINCIPLES.....	11
REGIONAL STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION	12
THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN ADAPTATION.....	12
PRIORITY RISK AREAS.....	13
TIMELINES.....	13
Priority Risk Area 1 – Infrastructure Failure.....	15
Priority Risk Area 2 – Impacts on Essential Services.....	16
Priority Risk Area 3 – Watercourse Damage and Loss	18
Priority Risk Area 4 – Increasing Bushfires	21
Priority Risk Area 6 – Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Related Air Pollution	23
Priority Risk Area 7 – Loss of Ecosystems and Provision of Public Open Space	24
Priority Risk Area 8 – Decline in Population Health and Wellbeing	25
Priority Risk Area 9 – Economic Challenges and Opportunities.....	27
Priority Risk Area 10 – Changing Leadership and Development Requirements	28
REFERENCE LIST.....	31





Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region – Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan (RCCAAP) 2013-2016

INTRODUCTION

In 2013, the World Economic Forum ranked failure to adapt to the impacts of climate change as one of the five highest impact global risks.

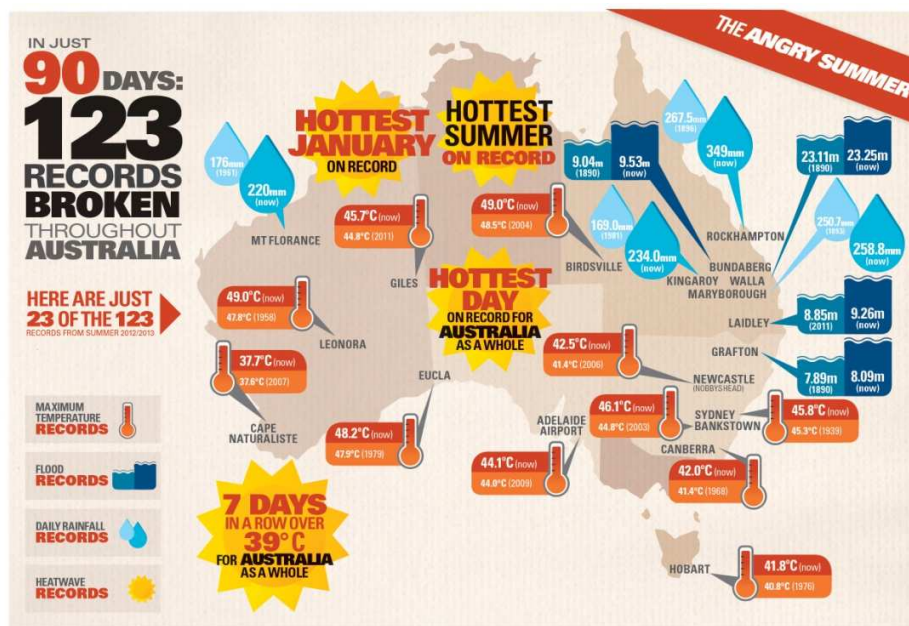
Department of Industry, Innovation, Climate Change, Science, Research and Tertiary Education

Climate change is already upon us. The evidence is clear. The summer of 2012-2013 was the hottest on record. Coined the 'Angry Summer', more than 120 weather records were broken in 90 days (Climate Council, 2013). On a global scale, 2013 was the fourth hottest on record (NOAA, 2013). The catalyst behind the rapidly increasing climatic conditions is unequivocally due to human interference (IPCC, 2013).

Adapting to a changing climate, particularly in south west WA, continues to represent the biggest challenge and opportunity faced by local governments now and into the future. Climate change is not just an environmental issue, it is also a social and economic issue that if not managed could result in devastating outcomes.

In September 2013, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) announced in its fifth assessment report (AR5-2013) that we are now tracking what was previously (AR4-2007) the worst case scenario. The key outcomes from the AR5 report relate to strengthening the certainty that climate change is happening, has been considerably accelerated by human activities and will have significant impact on human health and the natural environment.

Some of the impacts of climate change will develop slowly while others will be in the form of big events that will affect communities, such as the recent fires in Parkerville where 57 homes were destroyed and 386 hectares burnt (Shire of Mundaring, 2014). Perth's Eastern Region needs to adapt and be prepared for these events.



(Source: Climate Commission, 2013)







Climate change presents a huge challenge for local government with possible impacts including infrastructure failure, changes in land-use, loss or migration of biodiversity, reduction in environmental health and increased intensity and frequency of fire and emergency events. Other broader key risks include the potential for changing economic viability of local industries, social dislocation and impacts on human health and wellbeing.





Climate change can also present new opportunities whereby action taken to adapt will generate significant social, economic and environmental benefits and this will lead to more vibrant and resilient societies.

The following Plan outlines regional scale actions required to future proof Perth's Eastern Region.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS FOR PERTH'S EASTERN REGION BY 2070

-  Minimum 4°C temperature rise
-  Annual number of days above 35°C to increase from the current 28 days to between 36 and 67 days
-  Rainfall reduction by 20-40%
-  Sea level rise by 25 to 75cm

FLOW ON EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON PERTH'S EASTERN REGION

-  Reduced water—quality and quantity
-  Loss of biodiversity
-  Increased bushfires and heatwaves
-  Reduced air quality, health and wellbeing

(Information sourced from IPCC 2007, IPCC 2011)

BACKGROUND



Since 2008, EMRC has implemented the Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region: Adapting to Climate Change Program to actively implement actions to assist and prepare the Region to adapt to the threatening impacts of climate change.

In September 2009, EMRC's Council approved the *Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region - Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan (RCCAAP) 2009-2013* which identified regional risks and actions that would assist local government operations and services at a regional level.

Development of the Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region Program and a regional adaptation action plan occurred through close collaboration with member councils Town of Bassendean, City of Bayswater, City of Belmont, Shire of Kalamunda, Shire of Mundaring and City of Swan.

As a result of the development of the RCCAAP, each of EMRC's member councils undertook a similar risk assessment process and developed their own individual Local Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans (LCCAAPs).

The combination of the RCCAAP and LCCAAPs has resulted in the EMRC and its member councils being at the forefront of adapting to climate change.

In 2010, the City of Swan withdrew its participation from the Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region Program.

EMRC has been acknowledged by the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) as a champion in climate change adaptation (2011) due to the leading work undertaken under the Future Proofing program.

In 2013, the EMRC's Council approved the extension of the Future Proofing Program until 2016. This included the review of the *Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2009-2013* and the development of the new 2013-2016 Plan which occurred in close consultation with member council officers. The RCCAAP 2013-2016 will continue to progress and build upon the work that was started under the previous plan. This ensures that EMRC remains a leader in local government climate change adaptation planning.

The achievements of the past four years are outlined on the following page. EMRC and its member councils anticipate ongoing success as the program continues to lead the way for local governments in relation to climate adaptation.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

The RCCAAP will be monitored annually to determine progress against the plan. An annual progress bulletin will be developed for member councils outlining achievements to date and reporting on any issues or changes that may have occurred. The bulletin will be delivered through EMRC's Council and directly to the Regional Environmental Advisory Group members.

There are currently no national standards to benchmark climate change adaptation actions however the Australian Government is working on the development of the National Adaptation Outlook Framework which is due for release late 2014 or early 2015. EMRC has provided feedback into the draft Framework.

A major review of the RCCAAP will be undertaken in 2016. This review will include a review of the National Adaptation Outlook Framework to identify any strategic linkages.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2009-2013



- EMRC and its member councils became signatories to the Western Australian Local Government Declaration on Climate Change, a commitment which recognises the significant and continuing efforts that WA local governments are making in relation to adapting to climate change;
- Advocated for more localised flood modelling for the Region, via Geoscience Australia, the Department of Water (DoW), and the University of Western Australia;
- Provided a submission on *State Planning Policy 2.6 - State Coastal Planning Policy*, particularly regarding the possible effects of sea level rise on EMRC's four river-based councils;
- Advocated local government needs to the Department of Planning and WALGA to ensure appropriate planning frameworks are in place to address climate change;
- Advocated to the Department of Water for mapping of areas in the Region at high risk of subsidence due to lowering of the groundwater table;
- Provided information for member council staff on accessing mapping of Acid Sulfate Soils (ASS) in the Region, as well as information on training in ASS for local government officers;
- Advocated and provided information to member councils on changes to communications for emergency management;
- Continued advocacy for increased funding and support for alternatives to overhead power;
- Assisted and supported other program initiatives for the Region such as Perth Solar City, ICLEI Water Campaign, Water and Energy Auditing, ACER program, and various Swan-Helena River initiatives, along with the employment of a Regional TravelSmart Officer;
- Advocated to the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the former Department of Environment and Conservation (Climate Change Unit) to develop a policy position and to build policy cohesion across all agencies in regards to climate change adaptation;
- Ongoing monitoring of emerging funding opportunities, including National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) grants, and the former federal government's suite of Clean Energy Future grants;
- Recognition of the *Future Proofing* program as a leading program in climate change adaptation and mitigation in the Local Government Sector and granted a 2011 NCCARF Climate Change Champions Finalist Award;
- Coordination of a Climate Change Forum in April 2011, to inform local government elected members and key staff about the legal implications to local governments associated with exposure to climate change impacts, implications for planning approvals and building designs, and factoring climate change adaptation into decision making and emergency management;
- Review of all actions within the RCCAAP and LCCAAPs to identify their strategic alignment with all Strategic Community and Corporate Business Plans, as well as alignment with other projects and programs being implemented by EMRC and member councils;
- Approval in 2013 of the extension of the Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region Program until 2016 by EMRC's Council;
- Recognition by the Australian Government as a leader in adaptation in November 2013 which led to a meeting with representatives from the Department of Environment's Adaptation and Science Division. At this meeting the Department was seeking information and feedback on EMRC's lessons and learning's from developing and implementing the Regional and Local Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans;

- Submission to the Australian Government in relation to the development of the National Outlook Framework. The framework is intended to assist businesses and governments with reviewing and monitoring adaptation and provide some consistency and monitoring in relation to Australia's adaptation efforts and
- Launched the EMRC's Climate Change Risk Awareness Seminar Series in 2013. The series will be rolled out in 2014 and aims to raise the profile of climate change within the Region and to assist staff in understanding that climate change adaptation is everyone's responsibility.





VISION STATEMENT

Perth's Eastern Region will continue to be a leader in climate change adaptation by taking advantage of the opportunities created in a carbon constrained economy and evoking a sense of security, awareness and empowerment for residents living in the Region.

AIM AND PRINCIPLES

The aim of the RCCAAP is to continue to provide best practice adaptation action planning through a risk management approach. The past four years have seen the work undertaken by EMRC as a leading example of best practice adaptation.

The priority risk area, actions and objectives have been developed to assist the Region with reducing the risk of climate change impacts.

The RCCAAP provides a direct link to *EMRC 2022 – 10 Year Strategic Plan*.

Key Result Area 1 – Environmental Sustainability

1.5 To contribute towards improved regional air, water and land quality and regional biodiversity conservation.

1.6 To address climate change issues within the Region.

Key Result Area 4 – Good Governance

4.1 To provide advice and advocacy on issues affecting Perth's Eastern Region.

The RCCAAP continues to address priority risk areas through:

- Promoting resilience and supporting local communities in partnership with local government to improve the management of the local environment and community public assets;
- Securing future-focussed transport, planning and building systems that support low emissions and accommodate a changed climate;
- Identifying and supporting vulnerable communities in the Region to adjust to the cost of a low emissions economy so they are not further disadvantaged as a result of climate change; and
- Promoting innovation and regional security in order to position Perth's Eastern Region as an ideal location for economic opportunities which may result from climate change such as new industry, markets and technologies to locate in the Region.

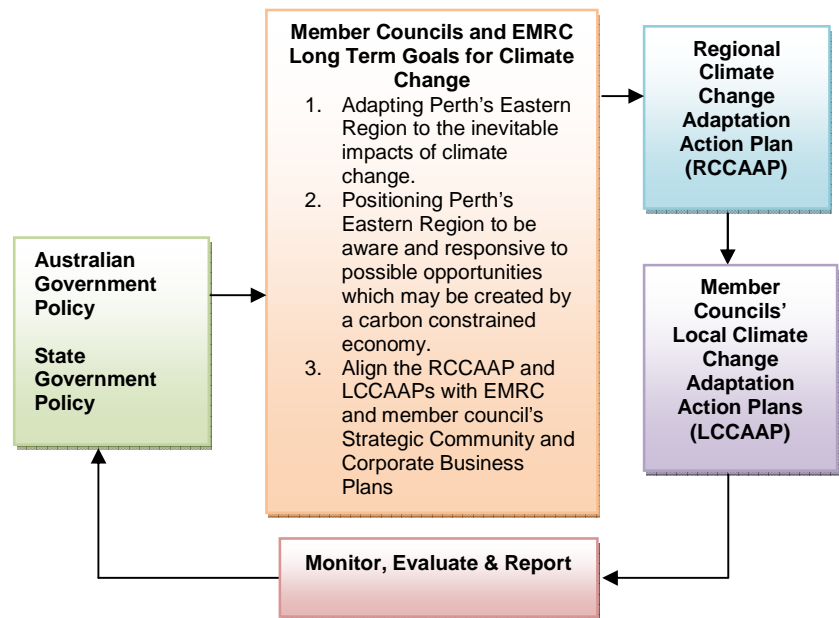
The following principles underpin all future planning of initiatives relating to climate change adaptation within the Region, whilst also addressing the key drivers for change:

- Value and engage with all stakeholders in planning for climate change and provide opportunities for networking and information sharing across stakeholder groups;
- Enable and involve senior local government officers in the integration of climate change adaptation into local government planning and operations;
- Gain support and momentum for climate change action in Perth's Eastern Region;
- Identify, analyse and evaluate key climate change risks to local government;
- Identify priorities and partnerships to fill information gaps;
- Identify and plan local and regional adaptation responses to address climate change risks;
- Gain the endorsement and ongoing support of all member councils to implement actions required to effectively future proof Perth's Eastern Region;
- Demonstrate that the EMRC and member councils are leaders in understanding and adapting to climate change;
- Implement the principles of betterment, resilience and sustainability in relation to climate change into day-to-day practices;
- Encourage local government planning schemes and development plans for commercial and residential development to reflect the principles of future proofing Perth's Eastern Region for climate change;
- Encourage and support community engagement during planning and implementation processes; and
- Identify opportunities that can arise from climate change that could benefit the Region.

REGIONAL STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION FOR PERTH'S EASTERN REGION

The RCCAAP continues to be a lead document that outlines what actions should be undertaken at the regional level to adapt to climate change within Perth's Eastern Region. The RCCAAP is a key component of the regional strategic framework for climate change.

In conjunction with member council's LCCAAPs, the two levels of planning will enable alignment of the continued work that needs to be undertaken within the Region. This assists member councils to be better placed to adapt to the challenges that will be presented by climate change and allow EMRC to focus on regional adaptation.



THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN ADAPTATION

Climate change adaptation involves all levels of government (federal, state and local), as well as business and residential communities. While government is a key player, the roles of businesses and individuals in the community are critical as scope and scale of adaptation is different to mitigation.

The Australian Government continues to have an important role to provide research on national priorities, to share knowledge and provide funding for adaptation measures. The Australian Government is working on the development of the *National Climate Adaptation Outlook Framework* which aims to assist organisations with undertaking adaptation planning and providing information back to the Australian Government to monitor Australia's adaptation progress.

The Australian Government's *Direct Action Plan* will have an impact on national carbon emissions. If there is no funding opportunity available to local governments through the *Direct Action Plan*, there may be an opportunity to gain access to resources through other programs such as the Green Army.

State and local government continue to have a clear role in leading and implementing adaptation strategies into communities. The relationship between the state and local government continues to be a critical success factor in achieving the action required. State government continues to have a key role in relation to providing vulnerability assessment research and climate modelling so that local governments can make good planning decisions around the provision of community infrastructure.

In addressing climate change effectively for Perth's Eastern Region, there will need to be significant pressure continually placed upon the state and federal government to act in relation to their roles. This will come through the EMRC's advocacy role under the RCCAAP.

PRIORITY RISK AREAS

The RCCAAP comprises 10 priority risk areas which contain actions for implementing climate change adaptation across Perth's Eastern Region. Actions identified include continuing actions from the 2009 Plan and new actions that have been identified in close consultation with member councils.

Note: Some actions cross over more than one priority but they have been placed under the most appropriate priority risk area.

Priority Risk Areas
Infrastructure Failure
Impacts on Essential Services (Power Loss and Water Availability)
Watercourse Damage and Loss
Increasing Bushfires
Water Decline and Reduced Water Quality
Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Related Air Pollution
Loss of Ecosystems and Provision of Public Open Space
Decline in Population Health and Wellbeing
Economic Challenges and Opportunities
Changing Leadership and Development Requirements

TIMEFRAMES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIONS

The timeframes link to local government planning and budget cycles and were selected based on an understanding of the regional context in which the action would be implemented.

* Some activities within the RCCAAP have already commenced by virtue of other programs/projects being undertaken to date or are part of ongoing management activities.

Timeframes	Time
Immediate	2013-2014
Short-term	2014-2015
Medium-term	2015-2016
Long-term	2016-onwards
Ongoing	In progress*



Priority Risk Area 1 – Infrastructure Failure



Climate change factors such as drought, bushfires and extreme temperatures have the potential to impact upon physical infrastructure. Australia’s infrastructure will face major challenges in responding to climate change. Consideration needs to be given to planning for secure infrastructure that can withstand extreme climatic events. The design of buildings and open spaces needs to ensure that climatic extremes are considered from structural, environmental, social, economic and health perspectives (NCCARF, 2013).

Local government infrastructure, including roads, buildings and drainage, may require higher costs for maintenance from more frequent repair and maintenance schedules and additional costs for upgrading. Water tables may drop if the demand on aquifers increases during drier summers, and shrinking and drying of clay soil may increase subsidence. As soil dries, trees send out longer and deeper roots, which may cause problems with foundations and drains.

Shallow foundations of buildings can be vulnerable to the natural expansion and contraction of the ground

particularly in areas where clay dominates. Acid sulfate soils exposed by falling groundwater tables can degrade belowground infrastructure such as drainage pipes.

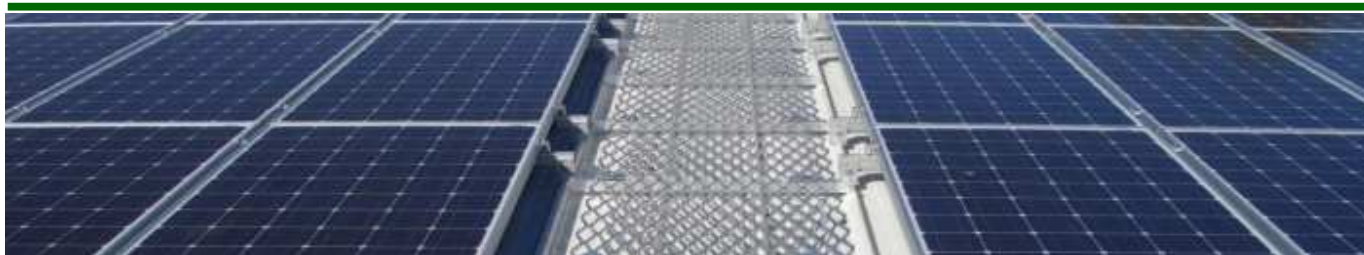
Climate change also poses risks to regional transport links and transport mechanisms. This relates to several factors including the high number of population centres in the Region that are not yet well served by public transport networks. EMRC and its member councils have a role in ensuring that the Region’s needs are well understood by all government agencies.

Objectives

- Ensure that local government infrastructure in Perth’s Eastern Region is resilient to the impacts of climate change.
- Ensure local government has the skills and training to deliver new and higher standards for infrastructure provision.

	Adaptation Action Required	Timeframe for implementation
1.1	Advocate to relevant agencies such as Department of Environmental Regulation and the WA Planning Commission for ongoing awareness and education of member council planners so that climate change adaptation is incorporated into planning frameworks at a local level.	Medium
1.2	Engage with relevant agencies such as the Department of Planning in relation to increasing awareness of local government’s obligations and responsibilities under a changing climate.	Medium
1.3	Advocate to relevant agencies such as Department of Water for more specific flood modelling for the Region, including the influence of sea level rise and storm surge, so that member councils can phase in more robust and appropriate actions to adapt.	Medium
1.4	Advocate to relevant agencies such as Department of Water for mapping of groundwater levels and subsidence risks in the Region so that appropriate planning considerations may be made.	Medium
1.5	Advocate to relevant agencies such as the Water Corporation to phase in appropriate upgrades to drainage systems in order to cope with flash flooding from the more intense storm events associated with climate change.	Long-term
1.6	Provide member councils with best practice approaches for assessing the risk to their infrastructure from climate change.	Long-term

Priority Risk Area 2 – Impacts on Essential Services



2.1 Power Loss

The provision of power and energy are essential services provided by the state government and as such, local government has limited ability to influence future proofing of these services other than through advocacy.

Disruption to electricity and fuel supplies may result in consequences such as increased electricity and fuel costs, lack of access to air conditioning and lighting and disruptions to medical equipment, refrigeration and commercial equipment resulting in various negative health and financial consequences.

In Australia, street lighting can account for up to 50% of the energy allocation for local governments (WALGA, 2011). In WA, the infrastructure for street lighting is owned by the state and local government pays tariffs for the power consumed. Street lighting is an area that local governments need to continue to consider under a climate change scenario as the stresses on power supply will continue to increase as temperatures rise.

Underground power continues to be an important mitigating option for disruption to power services, however the state operates the underground power program and has supported a funding policy that is not financially viable to many residents in Perth's Eastern Region.

Increased fuel costs are likely to have flow-on impacts to food production, food transport and transport mobility for member council residents.

Objectives

- Strongly advocate for improved power services to minimise power disruption to the Region.
- Investigate and encourage means for introducing greater uptake of viable energy alternatives for the Region.
- Help communities and business understand the impact of climate change on essential services.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
2.1.1	Seek funding for regional projects that reduce energy use and engage in renewable technologies across the Region.	Ongoing
2.1.2	Continue to keep member councils informed of the latest power and fuel solutions and technologies (e.g. direct load controls, heat pumps etc).	Ongoing
2.1.3	Advocate to state government agencies to develop a public awareness campaign of the potential impacts of climate change in relation to power loss.	Medium
2.1.4	Advocate for the delivery of a reliable power supply with the ability to reduce risk in extreme natural disaster conditions (e.g. undergrounding power).	Long-term
2.1.5	Advocate to relevant government agencies for residential/industry rebates and incentives to assist energy efficiency and in the transition to renewable energy.	Long-term
2.1.6	Engage and educate the local community in relation to the impacts of climate change on essential services and how this may impact them.	Long-term
2.1.7	Engage and educate the local business community in relation to the impacts of climate change on essential services and how this may impact them.	Long-term



2.2 Water Availability

Rainfall in Perth has reduced 15% since the mid-1970's but more evident is the reduction in infiltration of water into dams. Between 1911 and 1974 the average infiltration was 338GL per year, between 1975 and 2000 infiltration fell 50% to 177GL and by 2001 to 2010 infiltration fell another 50% to 75GL per year. With Perth's population expected to increase by 2.2% per year, water demand is expected to increase by 2.4% (Department of Water, 2013)

Reduction in water availability adversely affects river health. Taking too much water out of Australia's river and groundwater systems can have detrimental economic and environmental consequences. There is added pressure on the system due to climatic conditions which affect native animal and plant populations, agricultural production and water availability for human consumption (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2012).

Climate is a fundamental driver of the water cycle. It determines how much water is available for use in the short and long-term. In addition to natural variability, increased concentrations of greenhouse gases are leading to a long-term trend which superimposes on the natural variability, as is the case with a winter drying trend over south-west WA since the late 1960s. All of the research and trend modeling undertaken by the

IPCC indicates that the south west of WA will continue to experience decreased rainfall.

The Department of Water released the *Securing Western Australia's Water Future Position Paper – Reforming Water Resource Management in September 2013*. The paper set out a proposed legislative and policy framework to help deliver new water management solutions in Western Australia. EMRC provided a submission to the Department in relation the paper and will continue to monitor its progress.

EMRC is a corporate member of the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Water Sensitive Cities which is a partnership between universities, state and local governments, business and industry undertaking research to ensure that Australia can adapt to the drying climate and ensure enough water for future generations.

Objectives

- Continue to encourage and raise awareness of increased water efficiency throughout the Region.
- Continue to advocate to state government to achieve positive outcomes in the area of sustainable water management.
- Ensure that member councils' water conservation issues are addressed.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
2.2.1	Work with relevant agencies to increase community awareness in relation to water availability.	Medium
2.2.2	Work with relevant agencies to improve water conservation measures, including tighter water efficiency targets, increase water recycling, re-use of water and capture and storage technologies.	Medium
2.2.3	Advocate to state government for increased resources for enforcement of regulations relating to downstream water supply.	Long-term
2.2.4	Advocate to the state government and other relevant agencies for stronger planning and infrastructure guidelines that account for future climate change impacts.	Long-term
2.2.5	Advocate to the state government for more funding to assist with future proofing existing infrastructure.	Long-term

Priority Risk Area 3 – Watercourse Damage and Loss



Perth's Eastern Region contains a major portion of Perth's most iconic strategic asset – the Swan River. In ensuring the ongoing future proofing of the Swan River, its tributaries and catchments within Perth's Eastern Region, four sub risk groups have been identified that require specific focus and attention.

The *Swan Helena River Management Framework*, provides a strategic approach to addressing the issues of foreshore erosion. Support for its ongoing implementation will be critical to providing for the increasing pressure that will be placed upon the river and its catchment under a climate change scenario.

3.1 Foreshore Erosion and Subsidence

Foreshore erosion and subsidence pose a significant risk to infrastructure, vegetation and habitat along waterways. It also can be a risk to public safety and amenity. Rigid building structures along the river foreshores such as dual use paths, bridges, jetties, retaining walls and sandy beach fronts are at risk from erosion and subsidence. As sea levels rise and flooding from increased storm activity occurs, the river and its community assets will be under threat unless adaptation measures are put in place

Objectives

- Increase community and political awareness of the impacts climate change will have on stream bank erosion and subsidence.
- Ensure that local government officers have best practice guidelines and information that assist in the management of stream bank erosion and subsidence.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
3.1.1	Continue to provide support for the use of the Swan River Trust's practice approaches for Foreshore Stabilisation Manual within member councils.	Ongoing
3.1.2	Factor climate change impacts into the major review of the Swan and Helena River Management Framework.	Short-term
3.1.3	Provide assistance to the Swan River Trust in relation to the implementation of the River Protection Strategy.	Short-term
3.1.4	Advocate for increased funding for regional projects to protect river foreshore assets.	Medium
3.1.5	Provide assistance to the Swan River Trust to protect the catchments and tributaries of the Swan River.	Medium
3.1.6	Liaise with relevant agencies to increase community awareness and action for the prevention of river bank erosion.	Medium
3.1.7	Partner with the Swan River Trust and other relevant agencies to work with private landholders in the Region to apply best practice stabilisation techniques to protect the foreshore.	Long-term



3.2 Acid Sulfate Soils (ASS) and Potential Acid Sulfate Soils (PASS)

Falling groundwater tables and pressure for inner city high-rise density development in and around waterways have the potential to expose acid sulfate soils. Soils with a high to moderate PASS risk occur in the interdunal swales, flats and creeklines such as Ashfield Flats, Baigup, parts of Ascot and Viveash. Rural areas such as Wooroloo also face potential threat from acid sulfate soils.

- Objectives**
- Increase community awareness of ASS and PASS.
 - Ensure that local government officers have access to the best practice information that will assist in management of ASS and PASS.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
3.2.1	Provide member councils with ongoing information in relation to ASS and PASS, such as mapping of risk location and management guidelines.	Medium
3.2.2	Educate the local community in relation to ASS and PASS and their potential impacts.	Long-term

3.3 Flooding

Riverine systems are likely to be impacted by alterations to sea levels and tidal and saltwater incursion further up the Swan River leading to salt water incursion into wetlands and groundwater supplies, flooding of low-lying areas and altered biodiversity.

The consequences of increased periodic river flooding events include:

- Damage to infrastructure;
- Higher risks to public safety and therefore higher costs for management, e.g. signage for peak events, temporary road and park closures and diversion of traffic;

- Higher costs for storm water drainage maintenance, repairs and upgrades;
- Higher emergency management and response costs; and
- Salt water intrusion into tributaries of the Swan will impact on the vegetation and ecology of affected areas.

- Objectives**
- Ensure that Perth's Eastern Region's community infrastructure is resilient to flooding.
 - Increase the level of understanding of the ecological implications of sea level rise.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
3.3.1	Seek funding to undertake vulnerability assessments of assets along the river foreshores to identify high risk assets.	Medium
3.3.2	Advocate to all levels of government for funding to upgrade or install resilient river infrastructure.	Medium
3.3.3	Advocate to the state government and relevant agencies for a consistent approach in relation riverbank planning and infrastructure.	Long-term
3.3.4	Advocate to the state government and relevant agencies for a cohesive approach to emergency management.	Long-term



3.4 Sedimentation

Drought conditions are likely to exacerbate erosion and downstream sedimentation. Higher sediment loads enter rivers following extreme rainfall events or extreme bushfire events, both of which are projected to increase with climate change. Changed climatic conditions are also likely to produce conditions that favour riparian and aquatic weeds and algal blooms.

Sedimentation may also lead to increased blockage of gutters and drains.

Nutrient loading has also been highlighted as being a key issue for the Region. Testing and monitoring of these changes in loads will provide a good indication on how the river is adapting.

- Objectives**
- Educate the community and raise awareness of sedimentation issues.
 - Ensure that local government officers have best practice guidelines and information to assist in the management of sedimentation.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
3.4.1	Monitor the Swan and Helena Rivers to profile nutrient loading, non-nutrient loading and river health.	Medium
3.4.2	Support Catchment groups to protect and enhance riparian areas along the tributaries of the Swan River.	Medium
3.4.3	Investigate opportunities to work with relevant agencies to minimise sediment in the stormwater system.	Long-term
3.4.4	Assist in education about runoff and sedimentation issues and the role the community can play in reducing impacts.	Long-term

Priority Risk Area 4 – Increasing Bushfires



Climate Change is already increasing the risk of bushfires (Climate Council, 2013). Bushfires have the potential to destroy infrastructure and property. Fires can alter ecosystems and lower the yield and quality of water within the vicinity of the fire. Bushfires also increase greenhouse emissions and particulates in the atmosphere impacting on people's health. In serious cases, bushfires can also take lives and seriously injure or harm human health. As a result of this, the social and economic fabric of local communities or regions can be devastated.

In the decade up to 30 June 2013 the insured losses due to bushfires in Australia totalled \$1.6 billion. These estimates of economic losses, however, do not account for the full range of costs associated with bushfires. Very few attempts have been made to account for the loss of life, social disruption and trauma, opportunity costs for volunteer fire fighters, fixed costs for bushfire services, government contributions for rebuilding and contributions for rebuilding and compensation, impacts on health, and ecosystems services.

The economic cost of the Black Saturday fires in Victoria 2009 resulted in the loss of 173 lives, more than 2,000 homes, 8,000 – 11,000 stock lives and \$1.27 billion in insurance losses (Climate Council, 2013).

Bushfire management is an issue that requires a shared response from all layers of government and the community. The bulk of scientific evidence argues that the magnitude and intensity of bushfires is expected to rise as a result of climate change.

The 2013/2014 summer, much like previous years, has seen above normal bushfire potential in Perth and the

south west due to the reduced rainfall, soil moisture shortage and high fuel loads (Bushfire CRC, 2013). The above normal range extends along the majority of WA's coast line and a large portion of WA's interior.

On 12 January 2014, the reality of climate change and the increasing impacts of bushfires was faced by the Shire of Mundaring's community after a faulty power pole ignited. The fire took hold due to climatic and environmental conditions. In total, 57 homes were destroyed by fire and a total 386 hectares was burnt throughout Parkerville, Stoneville and Mount Helena (Shire of Mundaring, 2014). This highlights the real impacts of climate change that Perth's Eastern Region has faced and will continue to face as climatic conditions worsen.

As a result of Perth's hot and dry summers, the impact of bushfire will continue to feature as a key discussion point for member councils. With such large portions of Perth's Eastern Region covered by natural bushland, the potential for large scale events is both probable and likely to become more frequent with climate change.

A balance between human safety and environmental protection needs to be achieved, without detriment to one or the other.

Objectives

- Ensure that the EMRC and its member councils and their communities recognise the shared responsibility for fire management and are well prepared for the challenge.
- Ensure that the Region has the best possible bush fire coordination response in place.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
4.1	Monitor outcomes from the Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) and relay this information to member councils.	Short-term
4.2	Work with Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) and other relevant agencies to increase awareness within the community about bushfire risks.	Medium
4.3	Hold community workshops in relation to the development of Community Fire Risk Management Plans.	Medium
4.4	Monitor the latest information and technologies in relation to fire and emergency response.	Long-term
4.5	Advocate to state government and relevant agencies to continue to improve emergency warning systems.	Long-term

Priority Risk Area 5 – Water Decline and Reduced Water Quality



Since the mid seventies rainfall has declined by about 10-15 per cent on average in the south-west of Western Australia and stream flow into the Perth reservoirs from jarrah forest catchments has dropped by around 70 per cent (Science Network WA, 2013).

The consequences of reduced rainfall and declining groundwater tables include higher costs for managing natural water features in parks and reserves such as creeklines, lakes and wetlands.

Other costs may include management of botulism outbreaks at more locations and over longer periods than is current, replacement or re-establishment of vegetation lost through changing hydrology, higher costs for monitoring vegetation and for analysing and responding to observed changes.

Declining rainfall may also impact upon the orchards of the hills and the vineyards of the Swan Valley. These two industries provide direct economic benefit to the Region as well as visitor attractions linked to the identity of these areas.

Reduced water quality leading to illness and disease is also a concern. Salinity is another significant environmental problem exacerbated under a climate change scenario.

Objectives

- Ensure water resources are well managed within Perth's Eastern Region.
- Provide ongoing education to the community on best practice water management.
- Research and investigate ways to better manage water and vector borne disease.
- Develop a water regime that considers environmental water requirements.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
5.1	Continue to monitor research on changes in rainfall and the impact on regional water resources.	Ongoing
5.2	Continue to support participating member council's water quality and water conservation actions through their Water Action Plans.	Ongoing
5.3	Continue to support the CRC for Water Sensitive Cities.	Ongoing
5.4	Monitor the CRC for Water Sensitive Cities and relay relevant information to member councils.	Ongoing
5.5	Liaise to the relevant agencies to continue to support member councils in identifying sites for the use of recycled water.	Short-term
5.6	Assist and provide support to the Swan River Trust through the Eastern Hills Catchment Management Program (EHCMP).	Short-term
5.7	Advocate to state and federal government for more funding in relation to water conservation.	Short-term
5.8	Advocate to state government and relevant agencies to address water quality and leaching issues through the provision of sewerage services to industrial areas.	Long-term
5.9	Research and investigate ways to better manage water and vector borne disease within Perth's Eastern Region.	Long-term
5.10	Advocate for improvements to the urban drainage scheme for multiple outcomes including water quality and capacity to manage flush flood events.	Long-term
5.11	EHCMP to develop in situ water quality monitoring regime in collaboration with local governments and the Swan River Trust.	Long-term
5.12	Advocate to include water for the environment when calculating groundwater/surface water allocations.	Long-term

Priority Risk Area 6 – Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Related Air Pollution



Perth's Eastern Region faces some difficult challenges when it comes to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and potential air pollution. The Region contains Western Australia's major airport, heavy transport networks, large industrial sectors and significantly lacks in efficient public transportation services. All these aspects give rise to vehicle dependency and increasing pollution. It also creates opportunities for reducing air pollution from improved public transport networks and transitions to fuel efficient or hybrid vehicle technologies.

Local governments in Perth's Eastern Region have been actively reducing emissions through the ACER: Achieving Carbon Emissions Reduction program, however, it is recognised that this alone will not solve the issue. The Australian Government has a key role in providing regulatory mechanisms to reduce emissions with the State Government playing a key role in monitoring and driving policy and statutory mechanisms to reduce air pollution and improve air quality. Business and community sectors also have important roles.

The Australian Government's *Direct Action Plan* will have an impact on national carbon emissions. If there is no funding opportunity available under the *Direct Action Plan* to local governments there may be an opportunity to gain access to resources through programs such as the Green Army.

At the regional level, there is an ongoing need to keep

member councils abreast of new efficiency technologies, national and state policy making and funding, so that Perth's Eastern Region is well positioned not only to adapt for climate change but also to seize opportunities that may arise.

Objectives

- Facilitate the transition to a low carbon economy in Perth's Eastern Region.
- Provide education to the community of the need for emissions reduction.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
6.1	Continue to provide an emissions monitoring program for participating member councils to support mitigation actions (i.e. ACER program).	Ongoing
6.2	Advocate to state and federal government for more funding in relation to emissions mitigation and energy efficiency.	Short-term
6.3	Monitor developments at the Australian Government level in relation to energy efficiency and mitigation of greenhouse emissions.	Short-term
6.4	Monitor and review the <i>Direct Action Plan</i> to identify possible opportunities.	Short-term
6.5	Investigate opportunities to assist member councils and the community to adapt to a low carbon environment.	Medium
6.6	Engage with and educate the local community in relation to energy management and mitigation.	Medium

Priority Risk Area 7 – Loss of Ecosystems and Provision of Public Open Space



The natural ecosystems in Perth's Eastern Region are already under stress and climate change will add further pressure. Natural ecosystems are important as they provide ecosystem services essential for all life as well as supporting regional industries and economies. A healthy natural environment is also essential for the health and wellbeing of local communities.

Failure to build resilience into our natural ecosystems to help them to adapt to climate change, will result in far reaching consequences with many animal and plant species being lost forever.

It has been predicted (CSIRO, 2011) that up to 30% of local species may be lost in southwest ecosystems as reduced water availability and increasing temperatures adversely impact biodiversity. Climate change has the potential to change the nature and extent of threatening processes, the extent of which is still to be fully established through research, modelling and evidence.

Diverse and resilient ecosystems can better withstand disturbances such as fire, drought and invasive species and such systems can also store carbon over time. The interconnection between human and natural systems can be an opportunity to secure a better quality of life for Perth's Eastern Region.

EMRC has a strong commitment to natural resource management under the Eastern Hills Catchment Management Program (EHCMP). This program provides an avenue for research, funding, education, engagement and implementation of environmental protection actions.

Climate change additionally presents a real challenge for Perth's Eastern Region in maintaining the current level of provision and amenity of sporting, recreational and leisure facilities. Local government is required to balance finite resources against the community's expectations for increasing access to high quality public open spaces while also complying with a range of statutory obligations being placed upon them by state and federal agencies relating to aspects of public open space provision.

Objectives

- Build ecosystem resilience across Perth's Eastern Region.
- Promote, encourage and support sustainable land management within the community.
- Create, develop and implement improved sustainable public open space management practices.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
7.1	Work with relevant agencies to identify and protect aquatic ecosystems that are important for providing connectivity and potential refugia.	Medium
7.2	Assist landowners to mitigate the impacts of climate change on the natural features on their properties (particularly along the river, watercourses and bushland areas).	Medium
7.3	Develop a regional tree canopy monitoring program to audit and monitor existing canopy coverage.	Medium
7.4	Monitor emerging issues for pest and weed management in relation to climate change.	Long-term
7.5	Identify and develop research priorities for biodiversity adaptation to climate change.	Long-term
7.6	EHCMP to continue to assist community groups to maintain and improve the natural areas.	Long-term
7.7	EHCMP to develop, seek funding and implement regional scale projects that address and improve the resilience of natural areas.	Long-term

Priority Risk Area 8 – Decline in Population Health and Wellbeing



In the 2009 Black Saturday bushfires, 173 people tragically lost their lives. This information was heavily reported throughout the news coverage of the event. What was not reported as widely was that 374 people had passed away in the weeks preceding the fires due to the continuing heatwave (Victorian Government, 2009).

8.1 Health

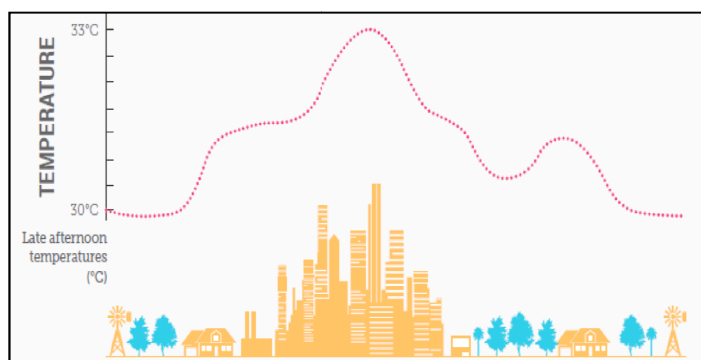
Heatwaves kill more Australians than any other natural disaster (Climate Council, 2014) and as a result there may be consequences for local governments whose facilities may not have adequate heating and cooling, particularly aged care and childcare facilities. There may also be additional occupational health and safety issues, particularly for outdoor workers.

One area of major concern is the urban heat island (UHI) effect and the impact this has on human health. An UHI is defined as an urbanised area that is significantly warmer than its surrounding areas due to human activity. This is in direct relation to the increase of manufactured materials such as roads and the decrease in green vegetation.

Manufactured material has the ability to absorb and retain heat while trees aid in cooling of the surrounding area. The removal of trees has increased the localised temperatures of urban areas above and beyond those impacts of climate change. This can be anywhere between a 5-10 degree increase in temperature in an already warming climate.

Diagram 1 represents a cross-sectional snapshot of an urban area. From the diagram we can see the dramatic increase in temperature within the city and the cooling temperature in the fringe where vegetation is much more abundant.

Diagram 1 – Urban Heat Island Profile



(Source: Climate Council, 2014)

There will be increased management requirements to deal with potential health risks associated with a changing climate. Possible impacts include increased risk of vector, food and water borne disease such as seasonal epidemics like Ross River Virus. Support needs to be provided to those in the community that will struggle to adapt to climate change, in particular infants, the elderly and those with a low income.

Objectives

- Ensure that the community is aware of the possible health impacts of climate change.
- Ensure that vulnerable groups are supported and able to adapt.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
8.1.1	Research the impacts of urban heat islands on the region and investigate management options.	Short-term
8.1.2	Advocate to state government for continued education of the community about heat stress and other potential impacts of climate change on human health.	Medium
8.1.3	Provide education/training for member council staff about heat stress and other potential impacts of climate change on human health.	Medium



8.2 Displaced People

Displaced populations has been identified as being a high risk to local government services and operations, with climate change possibly resulting in increased urban immigration on a regional, national and international level.

Rising sea levels could see 'climate refugees' relocate to Australia with consequences for local governments such as increased pressure for social services and social issues. There may also be pressure applied to develop currently undeveloped land to meet increasing housing pressure.

Table 1 highlights the number of people worldwide that have been displaced due to climate events.

Table 2 – Displacement due to climate events

2008-2012 Climate/weather- related hazard events	People displaced	% of total displaced
<i>Floods</i>	89,181,000	74.4%
<i>Storms</i>	29,051,000	24.2%
<i>Landslides (wet)</i>	577,000	0.5%
<i>Extreme cold/winter</i>	923,000	0.8%
<i>Wildfires</i>	103,000	0.1%
<i>Extreme heat waves</i>	2,000	0.0%
Total	119,836,000	100%

(Source: iDMC, 2013)

Objectives

- Ensure that vulnerable groups are supported and able to adapt.

Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
8.2.1	Monitor information on the potential impacts of 'climate refugees' on housing and community services in the Region.	Long-term
8.2.2	Work with relevant agencies for assistance with appropriate planning for 'climate refugees'.	Long-term
8.2.3	Advocate for emergency plans to be developed in the case of a sudden influx of 'climate refugees' after an extreme event.	Long-term

Priority Risk Area 9 – Economic Challenges and Opportunities



Business and industry across Perth's Eastern Region may experience displacement due to climate change impacts. Possible examples include loss of vineyards in the Swan Valley and orchards in the Perth Hills due to increases in temperature and humidity, as well as declining rainfall.

Business, local government, industry and community may incur increased financial pressure as service provider charges rise to meet rising costs in areas including water, fuel, electricity and gas.

Local government has always been at the forefront of supporting communities to deal with climate change. The growing role of local government in strategic planning to foster economic development provides it with the mandate to support adaptation and innovation in existing industries to facilitate a change in the industry mix to better match the altered climatic, economic, planning and regulatory conditions and to attract new industries offering solutions to climate change. Early adopters will reap the greatest benefit for their communities and local economy, as new product markets emerge in response to climate change and changing global economics.

In particular, industries that require high inputs of carbon/energy and imported materials will be vulnerable, whereas industries requiring low levels of imports and carbon energy will yield opportunities, such as service industries including health and education.

Perth's Eastern Region has a competitive advantage given its inland location away from vulnerable coastal conditions and its spread of existing residential, commercial and industrial areas. Employment self sufficiency and self containment rates are also much better than other corridors of Perth's Metropolitan Area.

The EMRC's *Regional Economic Development Strategy* (REDS) builds upon the Western Australian Planning Commission's *Directions 2031 and Beyond*. This document sets in place a vision for Perth and Peel for the next 20 to 25 years that embraces continued growth with the preservation of local environments and valued quality of life.

Access and provision of transport in and around the Region will be a critical success factor for enabling local employment and local economic growth. The future of transport in the Region will need to shift from car dependency to alternative modes of transport and this issue will become a major responsibility for all levels of government.

To address escalating traffic congestion and related safety concerns, EMRC and its six member councils, in partnership with the Department of Planning and Transport, developed a *Regional Integrated Transport Strategy* (RITS) for Perth's Eastern Region.

In 2012, EMRC received funding through the Department of Transport for the employment of a full time Regional TravelSmart Officer. This role has enabled continued promotion of alternative transport within the region.

No actions have been included within this section of the report as actions are covered by the REDS and RITS. Please refer to these documents for more detailed information.

Objectives

- Position Perth's Eastern Region to recognise and seize opportunities for new and innovative business development and investment.
- Ensure that the EMRC and its member councils are prepared for potential economic impacts from climate change liability issues.
- Facilitate integrated land use and transport planning, encouraging alternative transport modes to reduce car dependency.

Priority Risk Area 10 – Changing Leadership and Development Requirements



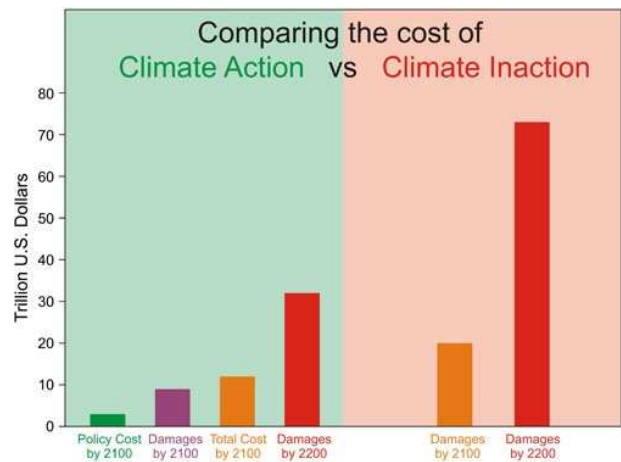
The impacts of a changing climate will affect Perth's Eastern Region financially, environmentally and socially. The decision to not prepare or adapt is no longer a viable decision for local governments.

Local government operations cover an extensive range of activities and extremely large asset portfolios. It is inevitable that most of these activities and assets will be impacted by climate change. Therefore, decision makers in local government should show leadership and equip themselves with the right tools and information to see problems differently and solve them creatively.

The EMRC and its member councils need to be prepared to formally embed climate change into mainstream management and governance decision making to meet the challenges and opportunities that climate change will bring. This would result in climate change impacts and risks being recognised and incorporated across all local government plans and procedures.

An improved decision making environment will enable capacity building so that those involved have access to the right skills development, training, education and information as it relates to climate change and a low carbon economy. By development and rollout of a range of new tools, such as lateral thinking and risk assessment, the region will be better equipped to deal with uncertainty and complexity.

A broader issue for climate change adaptation is to understand the legal liability environment. This will require the clarification of issues and associated legal responsibilities relating to climate change. Insurers will also need to be transparent on matters of indemnification in order to make a level playing field for all.



(Source: Antinuclear, 2013)

Objectives

- For Perth's Eastern Region to address climate change by demonstrable leadership and building community and institutional capacity.
- Ensure the EMRC and member councils have a clear understanding of their legal responsibilities for climate change and have a planned strategy to meet their statutory responsibilities.



Adaptation Action Required		Timeframe for implementation
10.1	Continue to provide assistance to member councils with implementing their LCCAAPs.	Ongoing
10.2	Continue to seek endorsement of the Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region program by member councils.	Ongoing
10.3	Continue to provide up-to-date and relevant climate change information to member councils in a timely manner.	Ongoing
10.4	Continue to promote the Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region program and its achievements.	Ongoing
10.5	Develop and implement a series of climate change risk awareness seminars to increase member council's staff knowledge and understanding in relation to climate change and how it impacts their roles.	Short-term
10.6	Develop an annual briefing document to council in relation to the progress of the RCCAAP.	Short
10.7	Advocate to WALGA to provide leadership in best practices for local government adaptation.	Short
10.8	Advocate to state government for funding to implement the proposed actions in the Government's ' <i>Adapting to our changing climate</i> '.	Medium
10.9	Identify stakeholders and key contacts within a variety of organisations that may be able to assist with the implementation of actions within the RCCAAP and LCCAAPs.	Medium
10.10	Investigate a methodology to be used to benchmark adaptation success and maladaptation.	Medium
10.11	Develop staff and elected member induction packages in relation to climate change and their responsibilities under the RCCAAP and LCCAAPs.	Medium
10.12	Monitor and inform member councils of changes in local government legal liability with respect to climate change.	Medium
10.13	Work with state government departments and relevant agencies to raise community awareness of the implications of climate change.	Medium
10.14	Investigate further studies on regional scenarios/analogues and the implications for member councils.	Medium
10.15	Review EMRC's policies and procedures to ensure the inclusion of climate change impacts and risks.	Medium
10.16	Incorporate climate change risks into EMRC's regional strategies and actions, such as transport and economic development.	Long-term
10.17	Explore the barriers relating to language and climate change communication and its impact on successful adaptation.	Long-term
10.18	Monitor job specific information, training and resources required by local government staff regarding adaptation.	Long-term



REFERENCE LIST

- Antinuclear (2013), *The grim costs of delaying action on climate change*, <http://antinuclear.net/2013/01/04/the-grim-costs-of-delaying-action-on-climate-change/> (Accessed 21 February 2014)
- Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) (2008). *Assessment of impacts of climate change on Australia's physical infrastructure*, Victoria
- Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (2012), *Environment*, <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/by%20Subject/1301.0~2012~Main%20Features~Water~279>, (Accessed 7 March 2014)
- Bushfire CRC (2013), *Southern Australia Seasonal Bushfire Outlook for 2013-2014*
- Climate Commission (2013), *The Angry Summer*
- Climate Council (2013), *Be Prepared: Climate Change and the Australian Bushfire Threat*
- Climate Council (2014), *Heatwaves: Hotter, Longer, More Often*
- CSIRO, Cleugh H, Stafford M, Battaglia M, Graham, (2011), *Science and Solutions for Australia: Climate Change*
- Department of Climate Change (2009), *Climate change adaptation actions for Local Government*
- Department of Industry, Innovation, Climate Change, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (2013), *Australian National Greenhouse Accounts, State and Territory Greenhouse Gas Inventories, 2010-11*, http://www.climatechange.gov.au/sites/climatechange/files/documents/05_2013/STIGGI-2011-PDF.pdf (Accessed 13 January 2014)
- Department of Water (2013), *Securing Western Australia's Water Future Position Paper: Reforming Water Resource Management*
- Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (2009), *Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2009-2013*
- Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (2009), *Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region – Adapting to Climate Change – Issues Paper*
- Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (2009), *Future Proofing Perth's Eastern Region – Adapting to Climate Change – Risk Analysis Report*
- iDMC (Internal displacement monitoring centre) (2013), *Global Estimates 2012: People displaced by disasters*
- Indian Ocean Climate Initiative (IOCI) (2005), *IOCI reports key findings of recent research into south-western climate*, Bulletin No. 6, 15 August 2005 http://www.ioci.org.au/pdf/IOCI_Bulletin6.pdf, (Accessed 28 February 2014)
- Indian Ocean Climate Initiative (IOCI) (2008), *The Future of WA's Climate*, <http://www.ioci.org.au/pdf/Fact%20Sheet%202.pdf> (Accessed 28 February 2014)
- International Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) (2013), *IPCC Fifth Assessment Report: Climate Change 2013 (AR5)*, <http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/wg1/> (Accessed 7 October 2013)
- International Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) (2007), *IPCC Fourth Assessment Report: Climate Change 2007 (AR4)*, http://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/publications_and_data_reports.htm (Accessed 7 October 2013)
- Swan River Trust (2007), *Potential impacts of climate change on the Swan and Canning rivers*
- NCCARF, *Factsheet 5 – Settlement and Infrastructure*, <http://www.nccarf.edu.au/content/impacts-climate-change> (Accessed 7 October 2013)
- NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) (2013), *Global Analysis – Annual 2013*, <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/global/2013/13> (Accessed 20 February 2014)
- Science Network WA (2013), *Declining runoff into Perth reservoirs linked to groundwater*, <http://www.sciencewa.net.au/topics/fisheries-a-water/item/1937-declining-runoff-into-perth-reservoirs-linked-to-groundwater.html> (Accessed 28 February 2014)
- Shire of Mundaring (2014), *Together Towards Recovery*, <http://www.mundaring.wa.gov.au/news/Lists/News/DispForm.aspx?List=ca942528-79bb-4f3e-a4d6-19cf412c5599&ID=535> (Accessed 20 February 2014)
- Victorian Government (2009), *January 2009 Heatwave in Victoria: an Assessment of Health Impacts*, [http://docs.health.vic.gov.au/docs/doc/F7EEA4050981101ACA257AD80074AE8B/\\$FILE/heat_health_impact_rpt_Vic2009.pdf](http://docs.health.vic.gov.au/docs/doc/F7EEA4050981101ACA257AD80074AE8B/$FILE/heat_health_impact_rpt_Vic2009.pdf) (Accessed 28 February 2014)
- WALGA (2011), *Street Lighting Bulk Replacement Program: Business Case*



Protecting Perth's Eastern Region ➔





11.2 REGIONAL SERVICES CONSULTING RATES 2014/2015 AND MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATION FEES

REFERENCE: D2014/00105

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval of the proposed 2014/2015 Regional Services consulting rates and Administration Fees and Charges for use in developing the draft budget for 2014/2015.

KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATION(S)

- Regional Services coordinates, facilitates, jointly funds and manages major regionally significant projects that aim to improve social, economic and environmental outcomes for Perth's Eastern Region.
- The Regional Services consulting rates have evolved over time to meet the needs of the member Councils by providing a mix of rates based on the diversity of tasks and experience required to fulfil consulting activities.
- The rates for member Councils have generally increased each year in accordance with CPI.
- For the 2014/2015 budget year, a rate increase of between 2.15% and 2.86% is proposed.
- The proposed Regional Services consulting rates will be used to develop the draft 2014/2015 budget.
- In order to recover costs, an administration fee for photocopying of documents provided to members of the public has been set.

Recommendation(s)

That the proposed 2014/2015 Regional Services Consulting Rates and Administration Fees and Charges, forming Attachment 1 and 2 to this Report, be utilised in developing the draft budget for 2014/2015.

SOURCE OF REPORT

Director Regional Services
Director Corporate Services

BACKGROUND

Consulting rates are reviewed on an annual basis as part of the preparation of the annual budget.

The Regional Services consulting rates have evolved over time to meet the needs of the member Councils by providing a mix of rates based on the diversity of tasks and experience required to fulfil consulting activities. The rates have generally increased each year in accordance with CPI or marginally lower than CPI.

The Regional Services Project Funding Summary 2014/2015 – 2017/2018 approved by Council on 5 December 2013 (Ref: DMDOC/185295), outlines proposed Regional Services projects. Project costs for these projects are determined using the proposed consulting rates.

An administration fee for the photocopying of documents provided to members of the public was first imposed by Council on 19 April 2012 to take effect from 1 July 2012 (Ref: DMDOC/161596).



Item 11.2 continued

Over the period 2013/2014, the EMRC Environmental Services team has provided external consulting services to the Town of Victoria Park, City of South Perth and the Shire of Broome expected to amount to approximately \$26,836 of revenue.

REPORT

EMRC recognises the importance of maintaining reasonable charge out rates for member Councils to maintain the current levels of utilisation in line with member Council budget expectations, as well as provide a service that is competitive in the marketplace to benefit member Councils.

Regional Services Consulting Rates

The consulting rates are used to develop the draft 2014/2015 budget and form part of the Regional Services Project Funding Summary 2014/2015 – 2017/2018 presented to Council on 5 December 2013 (Ref: DMDOC/185295).

It is proposed that the Regional Services consulting rates for 2014/2015 for member Councils be increased by between 2.15% – 2.86%. The Schedule of Rates is shown as Attachment 1.

It is proposed that *Other Organisations Consulting Fees* are not increased as they are currently in line with commercial consulting rates. The rates are based around three levels of consultants in addition to Manager and Director. It is expected that most consulting activities would be undertaken by the Coordinators, Consultants and Project Officers in order to provide the best value for money proposition for member Councils.

Regional Services is committed to aligning its consulting service and regional project delivery activities to meet member Council needs as its highest priority.

Administration Fees and Charges – Photocopy Fees

Under section 6.16 of the Local Government Act 1995, a local government may impose and recover a fee or charge for any goods or service it provides, other than those for which a service charge is statutorily imposed. Under section 6.16(3), fees and charges are to be imposed in accordance with an annual budget but can be imposed during the financial year and amended from time to time.

Under section 6.17(1), Local Governments may determine the amount of a charge but are required to consider the costs of providing the service, its importance to the community and the price at which it can be provided by an alternative supplier.

From time to time, the EMRC receives requests to provide photocopies of various materials including, but not limited to, agendas and minutes. The schedule of fees proposed to deliver this service for black and white and colour photocopying shown in Attachment 2.



Item 11.2 continued

STRATEGIC/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Key Result Area 1 – Environmental Sustainability

- 1.5 To contribute towards improved regional air, water & land quality and regional biodiversity conservation
- 1.6 To address climate change issues within the region

Key Result Area 2 – Social Opportunities

- 2.1 To facilitate regional cultural and recreational activities

Key Result Area 3 – Economic Development

- 3.1 To facilitate increased investment in regional infrastructure
- 3.2 To facilitate regional economic development activities

Key Result Area 4 – Good Governance

- 4.2 To manage partnerships and relationships with stakeholders
- 4.3 To provide responsible and accountable governance and management of the EMRC
- 4.4 To continue to improve financial and asset management practices

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposed rates will be used to develop detailed budgets and project plans for Regional Services consulting activities.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The rates being proposed for the EMRC member Councils recognise the competing demands on budgets from other sources and have been designed to facilitate the achievement of a sustainable service delivery arrangement.

MEMBER COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS

Member Council

Town of Bassendean
City of Bayswater
City of Belmont
Shire of Kalamunda
Shire of Mundaring
City of Swan

Implication Details

The Regional Services Consulting Rates are used annually to assist with the formulation of budgets and for member Councils to be able to utilise EMRC consultancy services as and when required.



Item 11.2 continued

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. 2014/2015 Regional Services Consulting Rates (Ref: D2014/03178)
2. Administration Fees and Charges (Ref: D2014/03172)

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the proposed 2014/2015 Regional Services Consulting Rates and Administration Fees and Charges, forming Attachment 1 and 2 to this Report, be utilised in developing the draft budget for 2014/2015.

CEOAC RECOMMENDATION(S)

MOVED MR FOLEY

SECONDED MR COLE

That the proposed 2014/2015 Regional Services Consulting Rates and Administration Fees and Charges, forming Attachment 1 and 2 to this Report, be utilised in developing the draft budget for 2014/2015.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Proposed Regional Services (Environmental Services and Regional Development)
Consulting Rates 2014/2015**

	Prior Year Actuals					Proposed	
	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	% Change
<i>Member Council Consulting Fees</i>							
Consultant Director	\$92.00	\$96.00	\$99.00	\$102.00	\$105.00	\$108.00	2.86%
Consultant Manager	\$82.00	\$86.00	\$88.50	\$91.00	\$93.00	\$95.00	2.15%
Senior Consultant	\$71.00	\$74.00	\$76.00	\$78.00	\$80.00	\$82.00	2.50%
Consultant	\$63.00	\$66.00	\$68.00	\$70.00	\$72.00	\$74.00	2.78%
Project Officer	\$48.00	\$50.00	\$51.50	\$53.00	\$54.50	\$56.00	2.75%
<i>Other Organisations Consulting Fees</i>							
Consultant Director	\$174.00	\$182.00	\$187.50	\$187.50	\$187.50	\$187.50	0.00%
Consultant Manager	\$153.00	\$160.00	\$165.00	\$165.00	\$165.00	\$165.00	0.00%
Senior Consultant	\$153.00	\$160.00	\$165.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	0.00%
Consultant	\$139.00	\$145.00	\$149.50	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	0.00%
Project Officer	\$121.00	\$127.00	\$131.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	0.00%

* Note : All Rates are exclusive of GST

**PROPOSED 2014/2015
ADMINISTRATION FEES AND CHARGES**

DETAILS	\$ PER PAGE (inc GST)
Photocopy Fees	
Black & White A4 print	\$ 0.35
Black & White A3 print	\$ 0.50
Colour A4 print	\$ 0.45
Colour A3 print	\$ 0.60



11.3 REGIONAL ADVOCACY 2014/2015

REFERENCE: D2014/02982

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with an update on the progress of the Regional Advocacy Program and seek endorsement for regional advocacy actions for 2014/2015.

KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATION(S)

- EMRC has undertaken a program of regional advocacy since 2008.
- The Regional Advocacy Strategy 2013-2016 outlines the key components that will be used to develop advocacy campaigns and identifies three priority areas for actions:
 - Environmental sustainability;
 - Economic growth and diversity; and
 - Strong communities.
- A review of the Regional Advocacy Actions 2013/2014 has been undertaken and actions for 2014/2015 have been proposed.
- Recent visits to all member Councils as part of the annual budget project funding presentations have included discussions on major issues. Information from this process has been incorporated into the formulation of actions for 2014/2015.
- The advocacy framework is flexible enough to respond to emerging issues and opportunities for Perth's Eastern Region whilst providing an agreed agenda for targeted issues facing the region.
- Regular meetings with state ministers and local members of both Federal and State Parliament will continue throughout 2014/2015.
- It is proposed to undertake a visit to Canberra in the week beginning 25 August 2014 to increase awareness of Perth's Eastern Region.

Recommendation(s)

That Council endorses the advocacy actions identified for 2014/2015 as shown in Attachment 2 of this report.

SOURCE OF REPORT

Director Regional Services

BACKGROUND

At its 3 December 2009 meeting, Council adopted a Regional Advocacy Strategy (RAS) 2010-2013 (Ref: DMDOC/122766) to provide an overarching framework from which advocacy and leveraging activities would be guided. The strategy established principles, standard approaches and guidelines that underpin strategic advocacy activities and identified regional issues that needed to be addressed.



Item 11.3 continued

At its meeting held on 23 May 2013, Council adopted the revised Regional Advocacy Strategy (RAS) 2013-2016. (Ref: DMDOC/176755) The RAS 2013-2016 outlines the key components that will be used to develop advocacy campaigns, identifies three areas for focus and related actions to address advocacy priorities. The priority areas are:

1. Environmental sustainability;
2. Economic growth and diversity; and
3. Strong communities.

Areas of focus have been identified for each priority area and these are utilised to develop the Key Advocacy Actions on an annual basis using feedback from the various groups including the Chief Executive Officers Advisory Committee (CEOAC), Regional Integrated Transport Strategy Implementation Advisory Group (RITSIAG), Economic Development Officers Group (EDOG), Regional Environmental Advisory Group (REAG), Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Resource Recovery Committee (RRC).

REPORT

To ensure the currency and relevance of regional advocacy issues, an annual review of the RAS actions is undertaken and the results of this, together with revised actions for the forthcoming year are provided to Council. At its meeting held 23 May 2013, Council endorsed advocacy actions for 2013/2014 (Ref: DMDOC/176755).

Strategic Advocacy Outcomes 1 July 2013 - 31 March 2014

The focus of regional advocacy actions for 2013/2014 was on a range of strategic issues raised by member Councils and outlined in the EMRC strategies such as the Regional Economic Development Strategy (REDS), Regional Integrated Transport Strategy (RITS), the Regional Environment Strategy (RES) and the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan (RCCAAP).

A review of the Advocacy Actions 2013/2014, has been undertaken and these outcomes to 31 March 2014, are shown in Attachment 1. Topics raised at meetings with politicians have included issues facing the Swan and Helena River systems, rollout for the National Broadband Network, strategic transport and road infrastructure, including Great Eastern Highway Mundaring safety issues, the need for the Perth Airport rail link and the need for a university presence in the region.

The Perth's Eastern Region Investment and Opportunity document referred to in Attachment 1 has been completed and aims to attract investment and increase awareness of Perth's Eastern Region. This document has applicability to the achievement of outcomes in the Regional Economic Development Strategy 2010-2015 and also the Regional Advocacy Strategy 2013-2016.

The following submissions were developed in response to various strategic direction documents:

- Swan Valley Land Use and Management Discussion Paper;
- Draft State Planning Strategy;
- Securing Western Australia's Water Future – a position paper;
- Australian Government - Emissions Reduction Fund – Terms of Reference, Green Paper, White Paper;
- Australian Government – Repealing the Carbon Tax consultation;
- City of Belmont Bike Plan 2013-2018;
- Town of Bassendean Local Bike Plan;
- Draft Western Australian State Aviation Strategy;
- Review of the Swan Region Strategy for Natural Resource Management;
- Statement of Requirements for Green Army;
- Emissions Reduction Fund Green Paper; and
- Australian Government Climate Adaptation Outlook.



Item 11.3 continued

The EMRC provides representation for the region on numerous peak bodies and committees including:

- Gateway Project Coordination Group;
- Perth Region NRM - Swan NRM Committee;
- Regional Development Australia Perth;
- Swan Canning Riverpark Iconic Trails Steering Group;
- Swan River Trust Committees; including Technical Advisory Group, Catchment Management;
- WALGA Greensense Emissions Reporting Platform and Climate Change Senior Officers Group;
- Sustainability Officers Networking Group;
- CRC for Water Sensitive Cities;
- Forum of Regional Councils;
- Municipal Waste Advisory Council and committees - Officers Advisory Group, Household Hazardous Waste Committee, Contaminated Sites Committee;
- Australian Landfill Owners Association;
- Waste Management Association of Australia; and
- Strategic Waste Infrastructure Planning Working Group (Waste Authority).

Strategic Regional Advocacy for 2014/2015

Recent visits to all member Councils as part of the annual budget project funding presentations have included discussions on major issues. Information from this process has been incorporated into the formulation of actions for 2014/2015.

The advocacy framework is flexible enough to respond to emerging issues and opportunities for Perth's Eastern Region whilst providing an agreed agenda for targeted issues facing the region. A summary of the proposed actions for 2014/2015 is shown within Attachment 2.

Canberra Visit August 2014

Regular meetings with state ministers and local members of both Federal and State Parliament will continue throughout 2014/2015. A visit to Canberra was approved at the Council meeting of 20 March 2014 and will be undertaken in the week beginning 25 August 2014 to increase awareness of Perth's Eastern Region. (Ref: D2014/02932) This date has been selected upon advice from the Office of Mr Ken Wyatt Member for Hasluck.

This is a sitting week for both Houses of Parliament and should provide good access to Ministers, Shadow Ministers and their advisors. An August visit will also provide time for the programs and funding announced as part of the 2014/2015 Federal Budget in May 2014 to be analysed in relation to strategic regional priorities and where relevant, these priorities will be aligned with announced programs and policy direction.

Proposed strategic regional issues to be discussed in Canberra will include:

- Awareness of the work undertaken by the EMRC in regards to waste treatment and disposal, gas capture and storage and recycling as key activities for reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions;
- Funding support for the proposed Waste to Energy or Anaerobic Digestion technology at the Resource Recovery Facility at Red Hill;
- Inclusion of road safety improvements for Great Eastern Highway in federal government funding programs;
- Consideration for Perth Adelaide - Highway Stage 2 works to progress to detailed design to enable funding through federal government funding programs;



Item 11.3 continued

- Funding support for the duplication of Reid Highway from Tonkin Highway to West Swan Road;
- Grade separation of Roe Highway and Berkshire Road to be considered for inclusion in the Gateway WA project;
- Awareness of the work undertaken by the EMRC in emission reduction, regional biodiversity conservation and addressing climate change issues;
- Resources to improve the health of the Swan Canning Catchment through the Plan for a Cleaner Environment; and
- Funding for the improvement and restoration of the Swan River built and natural foreshore areas, including riverbank stabilisation, interpretation and signage and recreational pathways.

Input has been sought from CEOAC to verify and further contribute to these proposed strategic regional issues.

The portfolios of Government Ministers, Shadow Ministers, advisors and agencies will be identified to reflect the priorities outlined and meetings arranged. Briefing notes and supporting documentation will be developed to underpin each of the strategic regional issues. A report will be provided to Council in October 2014.

STRATEGIC/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Key Result Area 3 – Economic Development

- 3.1 To facilitate increased investment in regional infrastructure

Key Result Area 4 – Good Governance

- 4.1 To provide advice and advocacy on issues affecting Perth's Eastern Region
4.2 To manage partnerships and relationships with stakeholders

This report aligns to the Regional Advocacy Strategy 2013-2016 and the EMRC Policy 1.8 Lobbying and Advocacy Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial cost of advocacy activities will be covered in the 2014/2015 budget.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The future sustainability of Perth's Eastern Region will be largely dependent on the strength and ability of the region to pool its resources to compete for and attract government funding into the region. An effective ongoing advocacy and leveraging strategy, supported by strategic and robust campaigns, is an essential tool for ensuring the region's ability to attract funding and investment.



Item 11.3 continued

MEMBER COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS

Member Council	Implication Details
Town of Bassendean City of Bayswater City of Belmont Shire of Kalamunda Shire of Mundaring City of Swan	Member Councils continuing to support and to promote the benefits of a regional approach to advocacy and continuing to endorse the EMRC as their peak advocacy body when dealing with regional issues for Perth's Eastern Region.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Regional Advocacy Strategy Actions and Outcomes to 31 March 2014 (Ref: D2014/03183)
2. Regional Advocacy Strategy Actions Framework 2014/2015 (Ref: D2014/03184)

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council endorses the advocacy actions identified for 2014/2015 as shown in Attachment 2 of this report.

Discussion was undertaken on strategic regional advocacy issues to be discussed in Canberra. It was requested that the duplication of Reid Highway from Tonkin Highway to West Swan Road and also grade separation of Roe Highway and Berkshire Road be included in the advocacy items to be discussed.

Discussion ensued on the impact of the closure of the Tier 3 rail network on the metropolitan road network. It was noted that the amenity and safety issues resulting from an increase in heavy vehicle traffic has been raised at East Zone meetings.

CEOAC RECOMMENDATION(S)

MOVED MS HARDY

SECONDED MR FOLEY

That Council endorses the advocacy actions identified for 2014/2015 as shown in Attachment 2 of this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Regional Advocacy Strategy - Actions and Outcomes to 31 March 2014

Priority Areas	Areas of Focus	Actions	Outcomes
Environmental Sustainability	1. The health, protection and sustainable use of the Swan and Helena Rivers.	Undertake advocacy as identified in Swan Helena Rivers Management Plan.	Issues raised at all meetings with state and federal politicians and will continue for 2014/2015. Swan Helena Rivers Management Plan reviewed to ensure currency.
	2. A natural environment that is protected, enhanced and maintained for future generations	Undertake advocacy as identified in Regional Climate Change Adaption Plan.	Issues raised at all meetings with state and federal politicians and will continue for 2014/2015. Regional Climate Change Adaption Plan reviewed and advocacy areas updated.
	3. The region is well placed to adapt to the impacts of climate change	Undertake advocacy as identified in Regional Climate Change Adaption Plan. Advocate for the delivery of a reliable power supply with the ability to reduce risks in extreme natural disaster conditions.	Climate Change Risk Awareness Seminar Series underway. Topics – Health, Water, Natural Environment and Infrastructure. Reviewed Regional Climate Change Adaption Plan includes actions to address the risk of power loss in natural disaster conditions.
	4. The continued improvement of regional resource recovery and waste management activities	Pursue avenues for funding of waste to energy technologies and resource recovery infrastructure. Pursue avenues for funding for assessment of and clean up of contaminated sites owned by member Councils.	Issues raised at all meetings with state and federal politicians and will continue for 2014/2015. Relevant funding options will continue to be sought.

Priority Areas	Areas of Focus	Actions	Outcomes
Economic Growth and Diversity	1. An effective and integrated transport system with improved public transport infrastructure and servicing.	Undertake advocacy for projects identified in the Priority Roads Project List including upgrade of Great Eastern Highway Greenmount Hill to Mundaring Town Site and Perth to Darwin Highway. Advocate for increased and effective public transport in Perth's Eastern Region. Continued membership of the Gateway Project Coordination Group. Ensure the needs of young people are considered in the planning for an integrated transport system for the Eastern region.	Issues raised at all meetings with state and federal politicians. Continued membership of the Gateway Project Coordination Group. Public transport issues raised at all meetings with state and federal politicians.
	2. The establishment and optimum utilisation of high speed, reliable broadband in the region.	Implement the Regional Digital Strategy. Monitor the progress of the rollout of broadband.	Strategy launched and projects underway. Rollout of broadband information has been impacted by the change of Federal government, monitoring of roll out continues and information is provided as received.
	3. The facilitation of economic development and investment opportunities.	Seek involvement with Department of Planning Directions 2031 and Beyond strategy to develop an economic development and employment strategy to support urban growth and facilitate increased employment self sufficiency in the Region. Promote the region as an attractive investment destination.	The economic development strategy has been developed by the Department of Planning and will be presented to Cabinet July 2014. EMRC involvement will be as part of the consultation stage to follow release of the Economic Development Strategy as part of a suite of documents from the Dept of Premier and Cabinet including Sub Regional Structure Plans, Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Future Plan. Perth's Eastern Region Investment and Opportunity document is available in hard copy and as an eBook.
Strong Communities	1. Enhanced social inclusion and access to facilities, health, education and community services for all residents.	Advocacy for improved services and regional facility provision for young people. Advocate for increased and effective public transport in Perth's Eastern Region.	Issues raised at all meetings with state and federal politicians.
	2. The provision of infrastructure that ensures quality education outcomes, health, cultural and lifestyle opportunities.	Advocate for university places to be allocated for Midland.	State Govt has pledged \$22 million and land for a university to open a new campus in Midland. Issue will continue to raised at meetings with federal politicians.

Regional Advocacy Strategy – Actions Framework 2014/2015		
Priority Areas	Areas of Focus	Actions for 2014/2015
Environmental Sustainability	1. The health, protection and sustainable use of the Swan and Helena Rivers.	Undertake advocacy as identified in Swan Helena Rivers Management Plan. Include issues facing the Swan and Helena Rivers in advocacy to the Federal Government under the Plan for a Cleaner Environment.
	2. A natural environment that is protected, enhanced and maintained for future generations	Undertake advocacy as identified in Regional Climate Change Adaption Plan. Seek opportunities to revegetate urban environments and strengthen natural resource management under the Federal Government Plan for a Cleaner Environment.
	3. The region is well placed to adapt to the impacts of climate change	Undertake advocacy as identified in Regional Climate Change Adaption Plan. Seek opportunities to strengthen the environments resilience to the impacts of climate change under the Federal Government Plan for a Cleaner Environment.
	4. The continued improvement of regional resource recovery and waste management activities	Pursue avenues for funding of resource recovery technologies and resource recovery infrastructure. Continue awareness raising of the role of regional councils in waste management and resource recovery.

Priority Areas	Areas of Focus	Actions for 2014/2015
<p style="text-align: center;">Economic Growth and Diversity</p>	<p>1. An effective and integrated transport system with improved public transport infrastructure and servicing.</p>	<p>Undertake advocacy for projects identified in the Priority Roads Project List including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade of Great Eastern Highway Greenmount Hill to Mundaring Town Site. • Perth Adelaide Highway – Stage 2 Works to progress to detailed design to enable funding. • Grade separation of Roe Highway and Berkshire Road to be included in the Gateway WA project. • Duplication of Reid Highway from Tonkin Highway to West Swan Road. <p>Continued membership of the Gateway Project Coordination Group.</p> <p>Advocate bringing forward the expansion of the eastern suburbs rail line linking Bayswater to Perth Airport Terminal and east to High Wycombe.</p> <p>Advocate for increased and effective public transport in Perth's Eastern Region.</p>
	<p>2. The establishment and optimum utilisation of high speed, reliable broadband in the region.</p>	<p>Implement the Regional Digital Strategy</p> <p>Monitor the progress of the rollout of broadband.</p>
	<p>3. The facilitation of economic development and investment opportunities.</p>	<p>Provide input into consultation process for the Department of Planning economic development strategy to support urban growth and facilitate increased employment self-sufficiency in the region.</p> <p>Promote the region as an attractive investment destination.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Strong Communities</p>	<p>1. Enhanced social inclusion and access to facilities, health, education and community services for all residents.</p>	<p>Advocacy for improved services and regional facility provision for young people.</p> <p>Advocate for increased and effective public transport in Perth's Eastern Region.</p>
	<p>2. The provision of infrastructure that ensures quality education outcomes, health, cultural and lifestyle opportunities.</p>	<p>Advocate for university places for Midland.</p>



11.4 ITEMS CONTAINED IN THE INFORMATION BULLETIN

REFERENCE: D201402959

The following items are included in the Information Bulletin, which accompanies the Agenda.

1. REGIONAL SERVICES

- 1.1 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY REPORT JANUARY - MARCH 2014
(Ref: D2014/02700)
- 1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT JANUARY - MARCH 2014
(Ref: D2014/02721)
- 1.3 RE-ENERGISING PERTH'S EASTERN REGION PROJECT UPDATED (Ref: D2014/02531)
- 1.4 IMPACTS OF THE DIRECT ACTION PLAN ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Ref: D2014/02400)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Chief Executive Officers Advisory Committee notes the items contained in the Information Bulletin.

CEOAC RESOLUTION

MOVED MS LEFANTE SECONDED MR FOLEY

THAT THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOTES THE ITEMS CONTAINED
IN THE INFORMATION BULLETIN.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



12 REPORTS OF DELEGATES

Nil

13 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE APPROVED BY THE CHAIRMAN OR PRESIDING MEMBER OR BY DECISION OF MEETING

Nil

14 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Nil

15 GENERAL BUSINESS

15.1 EVENTS IN THE REGION

10 May 2014	City of Swan	Mayoral Dinner
4 October 2014	City of Belmont	Mayoral Dinner
18 October 2014	City of Bayswater	Mayoral Dinner

15.2 OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS

Perth Airport Railway and Third Runway

Discussions ensued regarding use of sand from excavations of the Perth Airport Railway for the construction of the third runway. It was agreed that all parties should include the economic benefits of using sand from the excavations for the construction of the runway in discussions with Perth Airport and project partners.

Local Government Reform

It was discussed that the impact of possible changes to the membership on the EMRC's existing Establishment Agreement may be beneficial. In particular the relationship to the governance provisions post 1 July 2015.

16 FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Chief Executive Officers Advisory Committee will be held on **6 May 2014 (Informal)** at the Shire of Mundaring, 7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring WA 6073 commencing at 12:30pm with lunch at 12noon.

Future Meetings 2014

Chief Executive Officers' Advisory Committee (CEOAC) meetings commencing at 12 noon:

Tuesday	6	May (informal)	at	Shire of Mundaring
Tuesday	3	June	at	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	1	July (informal)	at	Shire of Kalamunda
Tuesday	5	August	at	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	2	September	at	City of Swan
Tuesday	7	October (informal)	at	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	18	November	at	EMRC Administration Office

17 DECLARATION OF CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1:36pm.