



Avon Regional Organisation of Councils

AROC Governance Group Meeting

18 November 2024

Commencement at 11.00 am

MINUTES

To: AROC Members

Here within are the minutes of the AROC Governance Group (President's & CEO's) meeting held on the abovementioned date and commencement time, in Council Chambers at the Shire of Toodyay, 15 Fiennes St, Toodyay.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Bowman".

Aaron Bowman
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
AROC Secretariat

27 November 2024

Preface

These Minutes will remain "Unconfirmed" until the next AROC Meeting, where the Minutes will be tabled and confirmed subject to any amendments.

The "Confirmed" Minutes are then signed off by the Chairperson.

Attachments that formed part of the Agenda, in addition to those tabled at the Meeting are incorporated into a separate attachment to these Minutes

Distribution

These minutes were approved for distribution on _____ 2024.



Aaron Bowman
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Confirmation

These minutes of meeting were confirmed at a meeting held on

..... 17/3/2025 2024.

Signed: 

Note: The Presiding Member at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed is the person who signs above.

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ATTACHMENTS with separate index follows item 5.

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The AROC in-person meeting commenced at 11.01 am.

1.1. Announcement of Visitors

Renee Manning, A/CEO Wheatbelt Development Commission
Josh Pomykala, Director Regional Development, RDA Wheatbelt (online)

Apologies

Basil Paulose, A/Regional Nursing & Midwifery Director, WA Country Health Service

1.2. Record of Attendance and Apologies

Cr M McKeown	Shire President, Shire of Toodyay
Mr A Bowman	CEO, Shire of Toodyay
Cr P Bantock	Shire President, Shire of Victoria Plains
Mr S Fletcher	CEO, Shire of Victoria Plains
Mr S Bryce	CEO, Shire of Goomalling (arrived 11.14 am)
Cr J Chester	Shire President, Shire of Goomalling
Cr K Trent	Shire President, Shire of York
Mr C Linnell	CEO, Shire of York
Cr C Antonio	Shire President, Shire of Northam
Ms D Terelinck	CEO, Shire of Northam
Mrs K Murray	Executive Officer, AROC

2. MINUTES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

2.1 Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION/AROC RES. NO.01/11/24

MOVED Cr Trent **SECONDED** Cr Chester

That the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Avon Regional Organisation of Councils meeting held on 2 September 2024 be accepted as a true and correct record.

MOTION CARRIED

2.2 Review of Status Report

Review of actions and progress arising from previous meetings and decisions. Points raised as follows:

Climate Change Initiatives – on hold. WALGA is seeking funding for Regional Climate Alliances in the 2025 State budget.

Corella Management – Next steering group meeting is on 4 December via Teams. Second quarterly report has been distributed for feedback.

Housing shortage – Waiting on advice of outcomes for the State IDF (stream 3) on and the Federal Housing Support Program (stream 2) application.

Regional collaboration on waste – EO to follow-up with RDA mid-west Gascoyne regarding a project with four local governments develop a regional waste strategy.

Live sheep export ban – Letter sent to the Hon Julie Collins MP, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and copied to Darren West (Agricultural region/Labor), Shane Love (Moore/Nationals) and Mia Davies (Bullwinkle/Nationals). Response received from Shane Love.

SF – At a recent election briefing the federal coalition identified overturning the ban on live sheep export as one of their top 8 priorities.

Branding & Promotion - Brief was distributed to seven providers (including 3 from WALGA's preferred supplier) directly. Three proposals were received by the closing date of 15 November.

2.3 Inward / Outward Correspondence

2.3.1 Financial Report

RECOMMENDATION/AROC RES. NO.02/11/24	
MOVED Cr Antonio	SECONDED Cr Bantock
That the financial report, as forwarded, be received.	
MOTION CARRIED	

3. OTHER BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE

3.1 Submissions, presentations or representations from third parties;

3.1.1 WA Country Health Service – community transport needs

Guest speaker was unable to attend the meeting.

Action - EO to contact WA Country Health Service to reschedule presentation for a meeting next year.

3.1.2 Regional Development Australia - Wheatbelt

Josh Pomykala, Director Regional Development (online)

- RDA is drafting a new strategic plan, first time in 5 years, outline federal charter responsibilities.
- Will be offering an economic development training course for LG officers and elected members to be delivered by subregions in 2025.
- Recent release of Wheatbelt LG economic data provided by sub region and LG.
- Advocating for better resourcing of education and more support for regional educators.
- Providing support for LG projects seeking funding.

- Defence manufacturing industry project is progressing with the Wheatbelt Business Network.
- Will be in Toodyay mid-December, happy to meet face to face.

Questions:

CA - Any news about further university hubs?

JP - No news about the rural application but a metro hub has been approved for Ellenbrook.

3.1.3 Wheatbelt Development Commission

Presentation by Renee Manning, A/CEO, Wheatbelt Development Commission.

Regional Housing

- WDC is working with 16 LGAs to undertake sub regional housing demand and options assessments. An additional 10 LGA are seeking to undertake similar assessments.
- 6 Shires were successful (\$900K) in Stream 1 of the Commonwealth Governments Housing Support Program.
- 10 Shire have applied for Stream 2 of the Housing Support Program. Seeking \$32M with 60% LGA co-contribution to activate 200 lots with an initial development of 182 houses and full development of 400.
- 8 Shires have applied for Round 3 of the State Governments Infrastructure Development Fund.

Tourism

- Tourism WA has released the Wheatbelt Tourism Strategy building upon the Destination Perth, Golden Outback and Australia's Coral Coast Destination Management Plans – link here <https://assets.australiasgoldenoutback.com/images/WHEATBELT-RTDS.pdf>
- Regional Development Portfolio actively engaged in the Tourism development opportunities and advocating for key Wheatbelt priorities.

Telecommunications

- \$2.9M for the establishment of 80 Automatic Transfer Units across the Wheatbelt and Goldfields.
- WDC, LGAs and ROCs have been advocating for these. Enable third parties to connect generators to towers and exchange sites.
- Locations will be determined based upon historical outages (including 2024 supercell storm event) and strategic upstream and downstream connection points.
- The program is a pilot.
- Generators will be stored in key regional centres to enable ease of deployment if required.
- WDC continuing to work on the network hardening and resilience programs (22 Wheatbelt locations secure additional battery backup capacity earlier this year).

- Working with Telstra on opportunities for the intercity fibre program including getting some offtake points near Northam for freight and logistics and data centre development.

Regional Drought Resilience Plan

- Wheatbelt RDRP in development, consultation near completion. Funded by Future Drought Fund and RforR.
- Plan will be high-level, though aims to identify key projects/actions to progress drought and climate resilience in the region.

Industrial land, Freight and Logistics

- Working with the private sector and the Shire of Northam on a number of key freight and logistics projects and the repositioning of Northam as a key intermodal transport Hub.
- Continued priority if the expansion of the Avon Industrial Park including road and rail investment and State 3 expansion.

RED Round 7

- Announced in October
- \$1.16M across 10 projects.
- Program was highly competitive.

Renewable energy

- Continuing to work with LGAs, proponents and PoweringWA on capturing regional opportunities and managing impacts from the energy transition.
- Regional forums held in Moora and Darkan and a session at the Central Country Zone (Wandering).
- WDC focus is on ensuring community benefit frameworks/outcomes are suitable and Skills and Workforce development (noting \$70M commitment to WA clean energy skills centre of excellence), Local procurement and housing.
- Wheatbelt currently produces ~1000MW, with ~8000MW in planning – can't decarbonise the SWIS without the Wheatbelt.

Living Well in the Wheatbelt

- Wheatbelt District Leadership Group is finalising a 10 year Strategy.
- First region in WA to develop one.
- Focus on Starting Well, Growing Well, Living and Working Well, and Aging Well.
- The DLG includes the senior leads of all health and wellbeing agencies, representatives from the 3 WALGA zones and the CEO of the 3 Noongar Corporations, CEO WDC.

Local Government Investment preparedness

- \$18B pipeline of private sector investment

Questions:

CL – Regarding end of life considerations and decommissioning for renewable energy infrastructure, who is responsible?

RM – No real answer, supposed to be identified as part of the development application process, however the question needs to be asked.

KM – Can WDC be a partner is planning for regional waste services?

RM – Contact Chris Sharples (WDC); WEROC and NEWROC regarding collaborative waste planning.

3.2 Matters referred by the Officer's Group for consideration or decision;

3.2.1 Bullwinkle Electorate Discussion

Members to identify common ground and refine issues to address at a meeting to be arranged with candidates of the Bullwinkle electorate and AROC members.

What issues do we have in common?

- Federal Assistance Grants
- Regional Waste Servicing & Infrastructure (State)
- Housing
- Road native vegetation clearing permits (State)

What is our combined approach? I.e. collaboration from a regional perspective on three key issues affecting electorate LGs (and AROC members and/or other Wheatbelt LGs).

CL – Attended WALGA election workshop, asked staff if there is value in speaking to candidates? Who is behind the candidate, the real people we need to influence?

SF - Suggested reaching out to GRA partners, lobbying experts to seek advice on how to approach.

AB – may have missed the boat with advocacy as were asked to provide a list of priorities some time ago.

PB – can you write to the candidates instead of meet with them?

SF – March election date is most likely.

AB - AROC is small fry (low population) compared to other LGs in the Bullwinkle electorate, need to demonstrate commonality to have an impact.

CL – Suggested AROC write to candidates outlining AROC priorities, ask them to outline their position on those issues, and request to meet to discuss actions required.

AB – suggested AROC invite the three known candidates (and any others identified in future) to attend a public forum ‘politics at the pub’ to meet with LG representatives and members of the public.

RECOMMENDATION/AROC RES. NO.03/11/24

MOVED Cr Antonio

SECONDED Cr Trent

That AROC invite the three known candidates (and any others identified in future) to attend a public forum to meet with LG representatives and members of the public, at a date, time and place to be determined and arranged by the Shire of Toodyay.

MOTION CARRIED

3.3 Matters raised by individual member local governments for consideration;

3.3.1 Interest from Shire of Wongan to join AROC

Mr Sam Dolzadelli, CEO, for the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu has expressed interest in the Shire becoming a member of AROC. The Shire of Wongan-Ballidu is not currently a member of a ROC.

The AROC MOU allows for the Governance Group to allow or invite new members to join provided the Governance Group is in unanimous agreement. Any new member will be required to buy in to AROC, the buy in figure is to be determined by preparing a balance sheet for AROC and dividing the net equity position by the number of members.

RECOMMENDATION

That AROC members consider the probable advantages and/or any disadvantages of accepting an additional member to AROC, and determine whether to formally invite the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu to join AROC.

Discussion

SF – Summarised preliminary discussion with Sam Dolzadelli, CEO, Shire of Wongan, regarding the possibility of joining AROC.

AB – Asked if the Shire of Wongan was currently a member of another ROC? SF – No.

CA – Cunderdin has expressed interest in joining too.

AB – Should we consider reviewing AROC membership before determining to invite Wongan to join?

CL – AROC’s advantage is in neighbouring the metro area (an arc), strategic move would be to add Chittering and Beverley, which border metro arc. More in common than further eastern LGs.

Formation of Bullwinkle electorate provides opportunity to review and be more strategic.

CA – Suggested that AROC reviews its strategic plan to determine the advantages and disadvantages of expanding its memberships.

CL – Suggested AROC undertake a SWOT analysis of membership to determine strategic members for AROC.

KM – Question to Renee Manning – would WDC facilitate discussions with other Wheatbelt LGs not currently linked into a ROC, to determine the most strategic regional alignment of LGs?

RM – Defining commonality helps to determine ROC memberships e.g. WEROC members have the Great Eastern Highway freight route as a common factor; agreed with the value in considering strategic memberships to strengthen ROCs.

AB – Suggested that AROC review its strategic plan to determine the advantages and disadvantages of expanding its memberships.

RECOMMENDATION/AROC RES. NO.04/11/24

MOVED Cr Antonio

SECONDED Cr Bantock

That AROC review its strategic plan to determine the advantages and disadvantages of expanding its memberships.

MOTION CARRIED

4. CONFIRMATION OF MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2025

CA – Requested a change of date for the Governance Group meetings in March, July and September as he is unable to attend those dates.

2025	Officer's Group (CEO) Meetings	Governance Group (President's) Meetings
	11.00am	11.00am
	Zoom Meetings	Council Chambers
JAN	No meeting	No meeting
FEB	10/02/2025	
MAR		10/03/2025
APR	07/04/2025	

MINUTES – AROC GOVERNANCE GROUP
AVON REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
 18 NOVEMBER 2024

MAY		12/05/2025
JUNE	9/06/2025	
JULY		21/07/2025
AUG	11/08/2025	
SEPT		15/09/2025
OCT	13/10/2025	
NOV		17/11/2025
DEC	No meeting	No meeting

WALGA Avon-Midland Country Zone (tbc)		State Council Meeting (tbc)	
Third Friday of the month		First Wed of the month	
21 February	Shire of Dandaragan	5 March	
April	Shire of York	7 May	
20 June		2 July	
15 August		3 September	
21 November		3 December	

5. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 12.33 pm.



AROC Governance Group Meeting

Attachments to Minutes – Monday 18 November 2024

Minutes and additional information

2.2 Status report

2.3 Inward / outward correspondence

2.3.1 Financial report to 31 October 2024

Other business / new business of an urgent nature

3.1 Submissions, presentations or representations from third parties;

3.1.3 Presentation slides provided by Renee Manning, A/CEO, Wheatbelt Development Commission.

AROC STATUS REPORT

Avon Regional Organisation of Councils

Secretariat
CEO - Shire of Toodyay

Purpose	Meeting Date	Resolution	Target date for completion	Actioned by	Completion Date	Meeting Commentary
2.1 Confirmation of Minutes	2/9/2024	That the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Avon Regional Organisation of Councils Governance Group meeting held on 2 September 2024 be accepted as a true and correct record.	18/11/2024	EO	18/11/2024	21.10.24: Minutes to be confirmed and signed at the 18 November 2024 Governance Group meeting.
Climate Change Initiative	12/07/2021	AROC CEOs to work together to identify a project we could apply for funding on a regional level.	Ongoing	ALL		14.11.24: On hold. WALGA is seeking funding for Regional Climate Alliances in the 2025 State budget and has updated the Climate Change advocacy position.
Corella Management	13/03/2023	AROC RES. NO.02/03/23: That AROC members individually commit \$5,000 per annum in 2023, 2024 and 2025, and commit \$25,000 pa from AROC funds for three years, towards corella management activities.	2026	ALL	2026	21.10.24: WNRM hosted a steering group meeting on 10 September via Teams, adopted ToR, reviewed project budget, scope & deliverables. Letter of agreement between WNRM and AROC has been signed by both parties. 4.11.24: WNRM draft report (Q1 24/25) was circulated to members. Feedback requested to Jacquie Lucas by 15 November.
Water sustainability	10/05/2021	Avon River health & access to funding.	Ongoing	Northam, York & Toodyay		15.4.24: No recent action.

Purpose	Meeting Date	Resolution	Target date for completion	Actioned by	Completion Date	Meeting Commentary
Road clearing permits and pre-funding for road projects.	08/05/2023	That AROC submit a motion to the WALGA Avon Zone meeting to advocate for specific changes to the native vegetation clearing permit system.	23/06/2023	EO	Ongoing	6.8.24: No further update to that provided 22.7.24: Rebecca Palumbo, Shire of York, met with DWER staff about the Native Vegetation Policy Implementation Roadmap and specifically the Action 4.1 Roadside Vegetation Advice.
Housing shortage	16/05/2022	AROC to advocate to relevant Ministers and Shadow Ministers (Housing & Local Government) to address a critical shortage of housing in the Avon Region.	August 2024	EO	Ongoing	14.11.24: State IDF (stream 3) on behalf of Victoria Plains, Goomalling, Toodyay and Dandaragan - a decision may not be made until next year. Federal Housing Support Program (stream 2) application for ten local governments (Toodyay, Goomalling, Victoria Plains, Dandaragan, Moora, West Arthur, Narrogin, Williams, Dumbleyung and Lake Grace) – a decision may be known by the end of the year.
Regional Collaboration on Waste	13/11/2023	That AROC submit a motion to the WALGA Avon Zone meeting to advocate for a metropolitan waste levy to fund investment in alternative waste management locations and technologies in regional areas.	2024	EO		14.11.24: EO to contact RDA Mid-West Gascoyne regarding a project led by RDA Australia in collaboration with four Local Governments to develop a new regional waste strategy.

Purpose	Meeting Date	Resolution	Target date for completion	Actioned by	Completion Date	Meeting Commentary
Officer of Auditor General Audit Fees	22/7/2024	Res.03/07/24: That AROC writes to the Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations to request a review of the OAG's performance of audits and increasing audit fees to Local Governments.	31/8/2024	EO		26.9.24: Response received from the Chair of the Committee, Minister Collier, regarding OAG's performance of audits and increased audit fees.
Live Sheep Export	22/7/2024	Res.05/07/24: That AROC writes to Minister Watt to express concerns about the impacts of the ban on live sheep export on rural communities, and request the Government repeal the decision.	31/8/2024	EO		14.11.24: Letter sent to the Minister's office, and cc'd to Darren West (Agricultural region/Labor), Shane Love (Moore/Nationals) and Mia Davies (Bullwinkle/Nationals). Response received from Shane Love.
Canberra Advocacy	22/7/2024	Res.04/07/24: That AROC members seek the support of their Council's for the Shire President and CEO to form an AROC delegation to lobby Ministers and Shadow Ministers regarding collective and individual priorities prior to the Federal Election.	30/9/24	ALL		22.8.24: The Officer's Group recommends deferring a delegation to Canberra until after the Federal election. It will provide adequate time to prepare AROC's advocacy approach, including identifiable branding, an online presence and advocacy materials to explain collective and individual priorities.
Branding & Promotions	2/9/2024	RES. NO.03/09/24: That the Officer's Group prepare a branding brief for AROC to be considered by the Governance Group.	18/11/2024	Officers		14.11.24: Brief was distributed to seven providers (including 3 from WALGA's preferred supplier) directly. The closing date for submissions is 15 November.



Wheatbelt Development Commission

Fostering long-term growth and prosperity in the Wheatbelt region



Acknowledgement of Country

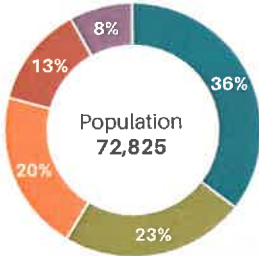
The Wheatbelt Development Commission respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands that we live and work on; the family and clan groups of the Ballardong, Goreng, Gubrun, Kalamala, Njaki-Njaki, Whadjuk, Wilman, Wudjari, Yued and Yamatji People, their Elders past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge their living culture and important role in the sustainable economic development and prosperity of the Wheatbelt region.

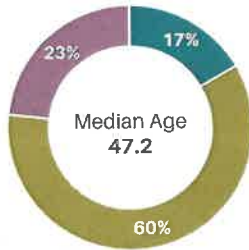


Our Region

Population per Local Government Area



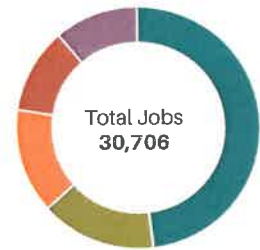
Age range across the Wheatbelt



Top 5 Industries by Regional Economic Output (\$M)



Top 5 Industries by Number of Jobs



Avon	25,901
Wheatbelt South	16,996
Central Coast	14,861
Central East	9,396
Central Midlands	5,770

Children (0 - 14)	17%
Working age (15 - 64)	60%
Retired (65+)	23%

Agriculture	\$4,997.244
Mining	\$4,237.905
Construction	\$1,234.345
Manufacturing	\$1,166.057
Rental & Hiring	\$1,042.877

Agriculture	9,039
Health Care	2,884
Education	2,631
Public Administration	2,147
Retail	2,092

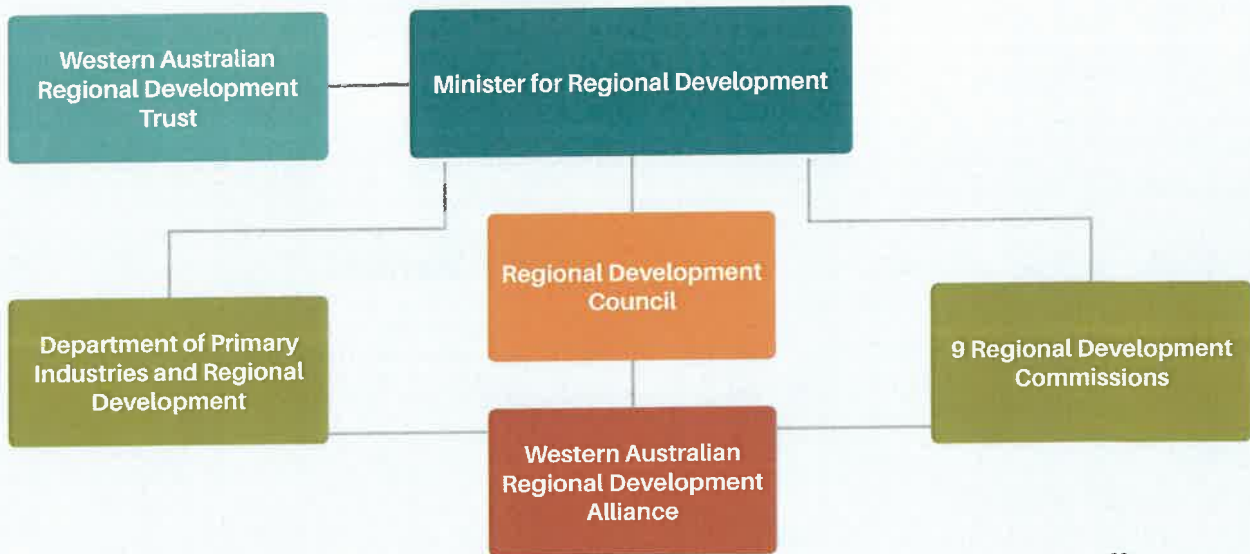
WDC Overview

Servicing 42 local governments across five sub-regions, the Wheatbelt Development Commission (WDC) is responsible for the coordination and promotion of the economic and social development of the Wheatbelt.

WDC is a statutory authority of the Western Australian Government, established in 1994 under the *Regional Development Commissions Act 1993*. It is one of nine Development Commissions, each serving a different region of Western Australia.



Regional Development Framework



© Wheatbelt Development Commission 2024



5

Our Vision and Purpose

Our Purpose

To maximise long-term positive outcomes for the Wheatbelt region. As a proactive and forward-thinking regional development agency we connect, collaborate and support stakeholders, harness the region's competitive advantages and address barriers to growth.

Vision

A resilient, diversified and growing Wheatbelt economy, with prosperous and sustainable communities, contributing to our region and Western Australia.



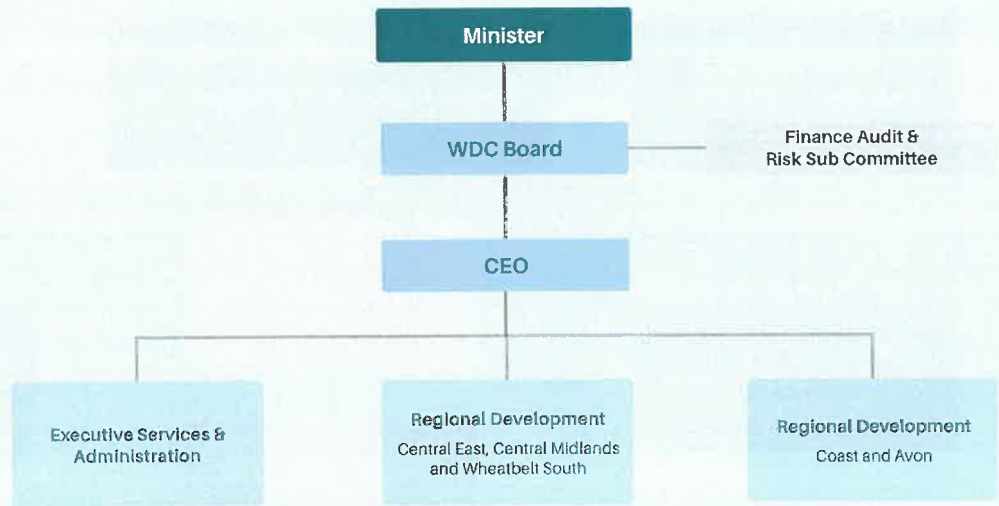
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6

WDC Governance and Operating Model

Board Members

- Robyn Sermon - Chair**
Representing Ministerial
- Oral McGuire - Deputy Chair**
Representing Ministerial
- Rosemary Madarski**
Representing Local Government
- Tony O'Gorman**
Representing Local Government
- Kerryn Chia**
Representing Community
- Shane Key**
Representing Community
- Rob Cossart**
CEO, Ex-officio



WDC Strategic Plan 2024-2026

Our vision for the Wheatbelt is a diversified and growing economy with vibrant and dynamic communities, creating a prosperous and sustainable future for Western Australia.

The Strategic Plan has a strong focus on facilitating economic diversification, building environmental and economic resilience and advocating for enabling infrastructure.

The strategic priorities identified for the Wheatbelt are:



Strategic Objective 1

Grow existing, and find and develop new industries

- Attract and facilitate regional investment that supports economic growth
- Unlock barriers for new and growing industry
- Support community preparedness and realisation of local benefits arising from economic growth and diversification across the region
- Support and grow sustainable resource management and energy generation practices and projects across the region

CASE STUDY

AvonWest Logistics Hub

- Procon is developing a 62ha freight and logistics hub in Northam. The Estate is forecast to house large multinational package and parcel operators providing east/west road freight operators with storage and final mile delivery both in and out of Greater Perth.
- Connectivity to the InterCity Fibre network will open up opportunities for robotics and data centres infrastructure investment.



CASE STUDY

Renewable Energy

- The Wheatbelt is critical to States renewable energy and decarbonization agenda. The regions renewable energy output expected to increase 1GW to 8GW over the next 10-15 years
- Renewable energy projects are likely to yield high CAPEX but low OPEX
- WDC is working with Local Government, renewable energy providers, Western Power and PoweringWA to secure long term positive outcomes for the region and its communities.



Strategic Objective 2

Enhance regional living standards

- Build, hold and share regional intelligence regarding liveability and living standards
- Support innovative delivery and governance models associated with community services and facilities
- Improve digital connectivity across the region
- Plan for, and support initiatives and programs that deliver housing outcomes across the region
- Promote the liveability and economic contribution of the Wheatbelt

CASE STUDY

Regional Housing

- The Wheatbelt is experiencing an acute housing shortage for over a 1000 workers in the next 10 years, resulting in an economic opportunity cost of up to \$265,000 for every worker that is not able to be accommodated
- WDC is working with the regions Local Government Authorities to support the activation of regional land assets and facilitate public and private investment into regional housing solutions.



CASE STUDY

Telecommunications

- 80 Automatic Transfer Units to be rolled out across the Wheatbelt and Goldfields regions
- Improved digital communications (network hardening and coverage expansion) are a key priority for the Wheatbelt region
- 22 Wheatbelt projects announced under Round 2 of the Mobile Network Hardening Program (MNHP) and 7 Wheatbelt projects currently underway through the Regional Connectivity Program (RCP) and Mobile Black Spot Program (MBSP)



Strategic Objective **3**

Increase Aboriginal participation in the regional economy

- Support Aboriginal economic opportunities arising from the SW Native Title Settlement as a significant economic development package
- Support Aboriginal economic participation and unlock barriers for opportunities to grow participation

CASE STUDY

South West Native Title Settlement

- The WDC is committed to working with the Ballardong, Yued, and Gnarla Kaarla Boodja Aboriginal corporations to foster economic development opportunities
- The WDC represents the Regional Development Commissions on the Noongar Economic Participation Framework (NEPF) Steering Committee. The NEPF seeks to optimize opportunities arising from the Settlement and to grow the Noongar business capability and capacity, and participation in the economy



CASE STUDY

Aboriginal Business procurement

- WDC is committed to working with the Noongar Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI) to build business capacity and capability through the regional implementation of the State Aboriginal Procurement Policy (APP), Buy Local Policy (BLP) and private sector partnerships
- The WDC is working with NCCI and MainRoadsWA to identify opportunities to maximise contracting, training and employment opportunities in regional road programs.



Strategic Objective **4**

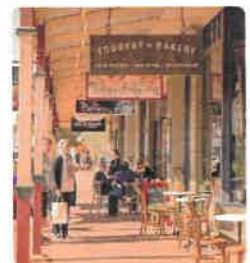
Organisational Excellence

- Develop and retain collaborative and trusted partnerships in regional development
- As an organisation, lead by example demonstrating effective organisational governance, systems, processes and behaviours

CASE STUDY

Living Well in the Wheatbelt

- The Wheatbelt District Leadership Group (DLG) is developing a *Living Well in the Wheatbelt Plan: Towards 2035 and Beyond* to guide investment and projects across the health and human services sectors
- The DLG seeks to ensure that we support the most vulnerable in our community and regardless of someone's circumstance they have the ability to start well, grow well, live and work well, and age well in the Wheatbelt.



CASE STUDY

Building Wheatbelt preparedness

- The WDC is working with the private sector to facilitate the delivery of a \$15 billion pipeline of regional projects across the agriculture, mining, renewable energy, decarbonization and freight and logistics sectors.
- Communities that have experienced limited growth in the past are often unprepared for incoming investment.
- WDC is working with local government aggregations to develop approaches to planning for economic growth.



Opportunities for Avon

Harness the potential of tourism growth

- The Avon Valley is part of the Destination Perth Regional Tourism Organisation, highlighting its popularity as a day trip and overnight destination.
- With the release of Tourism WA's Wheatbelt Regional Tourism Strategy, businesses should seize the new opportunities for regional tourism growth.

Maximise benefits from mining sector expansion

- Mining contributes \$4.28 billion to the Wheatbelt economy, nearing agriculture's \$4.32 billion, and may become the leading industry sector in coming years.
- The Avon sub-region hosts high-grade "green metal" deposits, with Chalice Mining's Gonneville project offering significant opportunities.

Enhance freight and logistics connectivity

- A WDC report estimates \$4.7 billion in freight passed through Northam between 2018 and 2022, with \$270 million in private investment planned for local infrastructure.
- Procon Development's AvonWest Logistics Hub at the Northam Road Train Assembly Area (RTAA) could unlock \$250 million in total investment, generating 686 jobs.

Unlock opportunities through industrial land development

- Demand for affordable, serviced industrial land is rising across the Avon and Wheatbelt regions. All Stage 1 and 2 lots at Northam's Avon Industrial Park are sold, with new lots expected within 12 months.

Wheatbelt Development Commission 2024



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