

## CITY OF JOONDALUP

**MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM 3, CIVIC CENTRE, BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP ON WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2006.**

### **ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

#### **Committee Members:**

CR Steve MAGYAR	Presiding Person	
CR John PARK		
CR Michele JOHN		<i>arrived 19.15hrs</i>
CR Brian CORR		
CR Sue HART		<i>arrived 19.15hrs</i>
MRS Marilyn ZAKREVSKY	Deputy Presiding Person	
MRS Cherie WOOD	Community Representative	
DR Marjorie APHORPE	Community Representative	
MR Ralph HENDERSON	Community Representative	
MR Barry FITZSIMMONS	Community Representative	
MR John CHESTER	Community Representative	
MS Alice STUBBER	Community Representative	

#### **Officers**

MR Murray RALPH	Manager Infrastructure Management Services
MR Keith ARMSTRONG	Conservation Coordinator
MS Glenda BLAKE	Manager Organisational Development <i>departed 19.15 hrs</i>
MRS Sandra WEST	Administration Coordinator

### **DECLARATION OF OPENING**

The Presiding Person declared the meeting open at 1805 hrs

### **APOLOGIES**

Ms Phyllis ROBERTSON  
Ms Wendy HERBERT  
Ms Sue BAILEY

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2006.

**MOVED A Stubber SECONDED M Zakrevsky that the Minutes of the meeting of the Conservation Advisory Committee held on 27 September 2006 is CONFIRMED as a true and correct record.**

**CARRIED (10/0)**

**In favour of the Motion** Crs Magyar, Corr, Park, Mrs M Zakrevsky, Mrs C Wood, Ms A Stubber, Dr M Apthorpe, Mr R Henderson, Mr B Fitzsimmons, Mr J Chester

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

Presiding Person introduced Cr Corr as a new Committee Member. Cr Corr gave a short introduction.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Nil.

**IDENTIFICATION OF MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY SIT BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

Nil.

**PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS**

Nil.

**REPORTS****ITEM 1                    CJ174-10/06        -        REVIEW OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL – (15058)**

**WARD:**                    All

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:**        Mr David Djulbic  
Infrastructure Services

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**PURPOSE**

To introduce to the Conservation Advisory Committee the above report.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the Council Meeting held on 10 October 2006, the report titled "Review of Advisory Committees of Council" was considered. The report examined the future operations of the

City's Advisory Committees, these being the Conservation Advisory Committee, the Seniors Interest Advisory Committee and the Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Council resolved at the 10 October 2006 meeting as follows:

*"4 REFERS Report CJ174-10/06 to the Committees for their information and comment."*

## **BACKGROUND**

Council currently operates with three Advisory Committees which contain both Council members and members of the public. These are the:

- Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) - established to provide advice on actions to promote sustainability.
- Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC) – established to provide advice on the conservation and management of the City's natural biodiversity.
- Seniors' Interest Advisory Committee (SIAC) – established to ensure the concerns of seniors are relayed to the City.

## **DETAILS**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1995, the Current Council appointed members to the three Advisory Committees. However it is now considered timely to review the operations of the Committees.

The presentation of the Report to the October 2006 meeting forms part of this review.

### **Issues and options considered:**

Not Applicable.

### **Link to Strategic Plan:**

Strategy 2.1.1 - Maintain and protect natural assets to retain biodiversity.

### **Risk Management considerations:**

Not Applicable.

### **Financial/Budget Implications:**

Not Applicable.

### **Policy Implications:**

Not Applicable.

### **Regional Significance:**

Not Applicable.

### **Sustainability Implications:**

Not Applicable.

**Consultation:**

The tabling of the report titled 'Review of Advisory Committees of Council'.

**COMMENT**

Council has determined that the report titled 'Review of Advisory Committees of Council' be tabled at the 25 October 2006 for information and comment. This document forms the attachment to this report.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 Members and Terms of Reference for Sustainability Advisory Committee, Conservation Advisory Committee and Seniors' Interests Advisory Committee

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Report CJ174-10/06 – Review of Advisory Committees of Council be tabled for consideration at the 25 October 2006 Meeting of the Conservation Advisory Committee for information and comment.**

The Manager of Organisational Development informed the CAC that the report was tabled at Council on 10 October 2006 and was to be forwarded onto the Council Advisory Committees for discussion and comment.

**MOVED Cr S Magyar SECONDED Cr Park that the Conservation Advisory Committee defers Item 1 to its next meeting.**

*Cr John and Cr Hart entered the meeting at 1915 hrs*

The motion was put and

**CARRIED (12/0)**

**In favour of the Motion** Crs Magyar, Corr, Park, John, Hart, Mrs M Zakrevsky, Mrs C Wood, Ms A Stubber, Dr M Apthorpe, Mr R Henderson, Mr B Fitzsimmons, Mr J Chester

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## **ITEM 2                      STRATEGIC      PLAN      KEY      PERFORMANCE INDICATORS - [20560]**

**WARD:**                      All

**RESPONSIBLE**      Mr Ian Cowie  
**DIRECTOR:**              Governance and Strategy

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### **PURPOSE**

To seek advice from the Conservation Advisory Committee on the development of Environmental Key Performance Indicators for the Strategic Plan 2003-2008.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The 2005/06 Strategic Plan Key Performance Indicators (KPI) Report was presented to Council on 29 August 2006, in accordance with the Council's reporting framework. Council accepted the report, and requested that Key Focus Area 2 - Caring for the Environment be referred to the Conservation Advisory Committee to develop Key Performance Indicators for the preservation of Joondalup's natural biodiversity. (*Item CJ137 – 08/06 refers*).

### **BACKGROUND**

The Strategic Plan KPIs are intended to measure progress against the Strategic Plan 2003 – 2008, and reports against the KPIs are provided to the Council on an annual basis. The report is a component of the Corporate Reporting Framework endorsed by Council on 14 December 2004 (*Item CJ307-12/04 refers*).

### **DETAILS**

#### **Issues and options considered:**

The 2005/06 Strategic Plan KPI Report provided Council with information for the period 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.

The KPIs link directly to the outcomes and strategies in the Key Focus Areas of:

- Community Wellbeing;
- Caring for the Environment;
- City Development, and
- Organisational Development.

The KPIs are categorised according to their indicator type - social, economic, and/or environmental.

**Link to Strategic Plan:****Key Focus Area 4: Organisational Development**

Outcome: The City of Joondalup is a sustainable and accountable business.

Objective 4.1: To manage the business in a responsible and accountable manner.

Strategy 4.1.2: Develop a corporate reporting framework based on sustainable indicators.

**Key Focus Area 2: Caring for the Environment**

Outcome: The City of Joondalup is environmentally responsible in its activities.

Objective 2.1: Plan and manage our natural resources to ensure environmental sustainability.

Strategy 2.1.1: Maintain and protect natural assets to retain biodiversity.

**Legislation – Statutory Provisions:**

Section 2.7 of the Local Government Act 1995 states:

*The role of the council:*

(1) *The council:*

- (a) *directs and controls the local government's affairs; and*
- (b) *is responsible for the performance of the local government's functions.*

**Risk Management considerations:**

The KPI Report provides Council with an overall assessment of progress against the Strategic Plan.

**Financial/Budget Implications:**

Not Applicable.

**Policy Implications:**

The stated objective of Council's Communication Policy 2.3.2 is:

To indicate the City's high level of commitment to public consultation and to provide good, open and accountable government.

**Regional Significance:**

Not Applicable.

**Sustainability Implications:**

The Strategic Plan KPIs have been categorised as social, environmental and/or economic.

**Consultation:**

Not Applicable.

**COMMENT**

The Strategic Plan is due for a major review during 2006/07 and this will include a review of the KPIs against the revised Plan. This process will involve consultation with members of the community and key stakeholders, including the Conservation Advisory Committee.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Attachment 1 | Strategic Plan Key Focus Area 2 – Caring for the Environment.   |
| Attachment 2 | 2005/06 Strategic Plan Key Performance Indicators Performance Report – Key Focus Area 2 - Caring for the Environment. |

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Conservation Advisory Committee PROVIDES advice to the Council on the development of Key Performance Indicators for the preservation of Joondalup's natural biodiversity.**

**MOVED Cr S Magyar SECONDED Mrs C Wood that the Conservation Advisory Committee defers Item 2 to its next Meeting. Officers are to provide information to Committee Members on the City's Natural Areas KPI system that is currently operating.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (12/0)**

**In favour of the Motion** Crs Magyar, Corr, Park, John, Hart, Mrs M Zakrevsky, Mrs C Wood, Ms A Stubber, Dr M Apthorpe, Mr R Henderson, Mr B Fitzsimmons, Mr J Chester

*Appendix 2 refers*

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## **ITEM 3                    THE IMPACT OF RETICULATION ON BUSHLAND IN THE CITY OF JOONDALUP**

<b>WARD:</b>	All
<b>RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:</b>	Mr David Djulbic Infrastructure Services

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### **PURPOSE**

To inform Council of the effect of the overspray from reserve irrigation systems on bushland.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting held on 26 September 2006 the Committee requested staff to table a report considering the effects of irrigation on native bushland areas within the City's Reserves. The report was to address the outcomes associated with overspray from the City's irrigation systems on bushland and examine measures to reduce the overspray.

### **BACKGROUND**

Since its formation the CAC has promoted the use of native plant material in landscapes, with the intention of reducing the amount of water used to irrigate the landscaped public areas within the City of Joondalup.

Committee Members have also expressed a wider concern about the depletion of groundwater reserves on the Swan Coastal Plain. The management of irrigation sprinklers that currently irrigate some of our bushland remnant areas is viewed by members as a way of preserving groundwater as well as protecting the integrity of the bushland.

### **DETAILS**

The City manages 97 reserves that contain remnant native bushland, 90 of these reserves consist of both bushland and lawn areas. The City's lawn areas are reticulated by water pumped from groundwater reserves. Many of these irrigation systems are in excess of 20 years old and were installed at a time when the negative effects of irrigation on native vegetation were not fully recognised, consequently many of the sprinklers that form part of these systems throw water into native bushland areas.

#### **Issues and options considered:**

The watering of native Western Australian bushland is not recommended for a number of reasons these include:

- Irrigation in bushland promotes weed growth especially exotic grass species at the expense of local plants.



- The cost of removing these weeds can be time consuming and expensive.
- Watering can aid in the spread of fungal and bacterial plant pathogens.
- Native plant species have evolved over thousands of years and have adapted to very low levels of moisture in the summer months, irrigation water applied in the summer is often detrimental to their healthy growth.
- Ground water is a valuable and diminishing resource, its use should be targeted to areas it is needed, and it is not required in native vegetation.

It is recognised amongst natural resource managers that irrigation is detrimental to native bushland. City staff have applied for a \$50,000 grant from the Australian Government Water Fund Community Water Grants Scheme. The basis of the submission is that if successful grant monies will be spent to undertake an audit of the City's irrigation where it impacts native bushland, this will give us information on how many sprinklers overspray our bushland and what can be done to remedy the situation. The remainder of the funds will be utilised to make on ground changes to the systems to prevent irrigation water entering bushland.

**Link to Strategic Plan:**

Strategy 2.1.1- Maintain and protect natural assets to retain biodiversity.

**Risk Management considerations:**

Not Applicable.

**Financial/Budget Implications:**

Not Applicable.

**Policy Implications:**

Not Applicable.

**Regional Significance:**

Not Applicable.

**Sustainability Implications:**

Not Applicable.

**Consultation:**

The issue of irrigation water impacting on native bushland within reserves managed by the City has been the subject of general discussion at CAC Meetings over many years.

**COMMENT**

It is considered that irrigation being deposited into bushland within the City's reserves is detrimental to the health of the native plant species occurring in the bush and that ways of overcoming the problem should be explored. It is intended that this exercise be undertaken using grant funds. If the funding application is unsuccessful, further consideration will be given to the financing of this work.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Conservation Advisory Committee:**

- 1 RECEIVES the report titled "The Impact of Reticulation on Bushland in the City of Joondalup";**
- 2 NOTES that a grant from the Australian Government Water Fund Community Water Grants Scheme has been applied for by the City to assist in identifying bushland being effected by irrigation and applying on ground solutions to reduce the problem.**

**MOVED Cr Magyar, SECONDED Cr Park that the Conservation Advisory Committee:**

- 1. Receives a report titled the Impact of Reticulation on Bushland in the City of Joondalup**
- 2. Notes that a grant from the Australian Government Water Fund Community Water Grants Scheme has been applied for by the City to assist in identifying bushland being effected by irrigation and applying on ground solutions to reduce the problem.**
- 3. Notes positive verbal report on the successful trial of irrigation modification to protect bushland at Robin Reserve Sorrento.**
- 4. Advises Council of the positive outcomes both in savings of water and power that can be gained by modifying irrigation systems so they do not impact on natural vegetation.**
- 5. Requests Council to List \$50,000 as a high priority in the half-yearly budget review, the funding to assist in identifying bushland being effected by irrigation and applying on ground solutions to reduce the problem.**

**The Motion was Put and**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (12/0)**

**In favour of the Motion** Crs Magyar, Corr, Park, John, Hart, Mrs M Zakrevsky, Mrs C Wood, Ms A Stubber, Dr M Apthorpe, Mr R Henderson, Mr B Fitzsimmons, Mr J Chester.

**REQUESTS FOR REPORTS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

NIL

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC) will be held in Conference Room 2, Joondalup Civic Centre, Boas Avenue, Joondalup on Wednesday 29 November 2006 at 6.00 pm

**CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the Presiding Person declared the meeting closed at 21.45 hrs.