

REFERENCE D24/14310
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Aboriginal Engagement, Planning & Lands Branch
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions
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Shire of Esperance – Proposed South Coast Marine Park Submission

To whom it may concern,

Shire of Esperance acknowledges the WA Labor State Government election commitment to establishing the proposed South Coast Marine Park.

We appreciate the Minister for Environment and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) decision to delay the plans release and extend the statutory consultation period. This has empowered our community to contribute meaningful submissions.

Our interaction with the DBCA Marine Park Planning Team over the recent months has been highly constructive, and we wish to acknowledge the regular meetings facilitating a transparent and effective dialogue. The flexible approach by DBCA, with the implementation of vital engagement support to our community by the way of the DBCA Information Station at Lotteries House, is to be commended.

The Shire of Esperance exists to meet the needs of current and future generations through an integration of environmental protection, social advancement and economic prosperity¹. To ensure the Shire's submission reflects the diverse views of the community, the Shire Council strategically employed the Council Plan as a framework to integrate community and organisational recommendations. This approach underscores the Shire's commitment to a balanced and inclusive advocacy process that honors the voices of our community.

¹ Our plan for the future – Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2023

Employment and Development² - Economy

The Shire of Esperance strongly advocates for a balanced approach to terrestrial and marine planning and conservation, one that facilitates diversity of business and industry whilst safeguarding our environment and social values.

The Shire believes that the current draft of the South Coast Marine Park plan and associated zoning fails to adhere to Councils expectation of a balanced approach to planning, and does not reflect the well-balanced Marine Park the Government has been promising.

This is primarily due to the absence of vital triple bottom line information; scientific data analysis that underpins the reason for proposed sanctuary zoning size and placement, and a thorough socio-economic analysis. Without this information, the magnitude of impacts on the commercial and recreational fishing sectors, associated businesses and the social values of the community is unknown, which has led to some very divisive opinions and mental health issues within the Esperance community.

Recommendation:

- 1. We urge for the release of comprehensive socio-economic impact assessment and scientific reports that substantiate the planning and management decisions prior to the gazetting of the South Coast Marine Park.**
- 2. It is vital that the State Government continue to work with impacted fishing and associated maritime industry to review the size and positioning of sanctuary zones to reduce impacts on industry.**
- 3. A 'Community Support Package' is swiftly released to help transition the Esperance community to maximise the social and economic opportunities of the proposed Marine Park, and to offset the negative impacts to industry, small business and families.**
- 4. The success and sustainable management of the proposed South Coast Marine Park, along with the satisfaction of all stakeholders, will require significant resources in the region for at least ten years. It is important to employ new park management staff directly in the towns adjacent to the park, including Esperance. Additionally, whenever possible, new equipment, facilities, and any capital works should be purchased and contracted locally.**

Connection to Wadarn Boodja³

The Shire of Esperance supports the engagement and role of Traditional Owners as joint managers of the proposed Marine Park, in particular around the cultural management zones. We respect Aboriginal knowledge and connection to Country, and appreciate the significant work they will undertake as joint managers of the South Coast Marine Park.

² Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: Employment and development

³ Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: Connection to Wadarn Boodja

The Shire welcomes the funding in the 2024 State Budget that will support Aboriginal land and sea Country rangers, joint management coordinators and trainees. However, continued funding from the State Government is essential to enable Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (ETNTAC) and other Traditional Owner groups to fulfil their role as joint managers of the South Coast Marine Park into the future.

Recommendation

The State Government guarantees an ongoing funding commitment to ETNTAC and other Traditional Owner groups to ensure the organisations can successfully fulfil their joint management obligations now and into the future.

Clarification

In the Wudjari Marine Park joint management plan (the Plan) Appendix 2⁴ refers to ‘special Wudjari places that are important to the Wudjari people’. However, this document was not included in the Plan. We believe this document is crucial for facilitating an informed public discussion and for educating our community and Council about the significance of these areas. The Shire urgently requests clarification from the DBCA why Appendix 2 was not included in the Plan.

Caring for Country⁵ - Environment and Conservation

The Shire of Esperance is committed to environmental conservation and aspires to preserve our natural environment for the enjoyment of all⁶. We recognise through our Council Plan, that protecting our environment and fostering climate action and environmental sustainability is a shared responsibility—one that we are fully dedicated to upholding. We believe a balanced Marine Park can add value to our focus on this aspiration.

However, our Council is at an impasse regarding the proposed zoning schemes due to the lack of detailed scientific information from DBCA. There is scepticism that due to the vast area and high energy environment with large swells generated by the Southern Ocean, very little research exists on our marine ecosystem, including fish stocks.

It is crucial for us to have access to comprehensive data to offer informed feedback that reflects the best interests and addresses the concerns of our community and the environment. Equally it is imperative that once the Marine Park is established the community is informed on how the State Government will resource and undertake further scientific research, assessment and reporting of how the marine ecosystem is progressing.

⁴ Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: Special Wudjari places and ancient cultural corridors

⁵ Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: Management Objective: Enhance, maintain and conserve a healthy sea-Country, including marine biodiversity and ecological integrity.

⁶ Our plan for the future: Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032

The Shire of Esperance supports sanctuary zones that complement the Commonwealths South-West Corner Marine Park's National Parks zone, aligning with existing legislation and resource capabilities.

The Shire of Esperance has a number of reserves that abut proposed sanctuary and cultural management zones. The Shire has undertaken a review and analysis of Shire managed reserves and infrastructure adjacent to the proposed Marine Park zones. Appendix 1 is included with this submission to provide comprehensive feedback on how proposed zones interact with these reserves, the community values and use of these reserves. Appendix 1 suggests alternative options recommendations and opportunities to enhance the Marine Park zoning⁷.

Recommendation:

- 1. That DBCA review the size and positioning of proposed sanctuary zones based on spatial data and catch rates, and work with industries and stakeholders that will be negatively impacted by the proposed sanctuary zones to achieve triple bottom line outcomes supportive of industry, stakeholder and conservation goals.**
- 2. To truly engage and earn the backing of our community, it is essential that sanctuary zones are established on a foundation of robust scientific evidence and clear reasoning. The projected conservation outcomes of these sanctuary zones need to be clearly articulated to the community and stakeholders.**
- 3. The State Government commits to a dedicated research team for the South Coast Marine Park based in the region and outlines to the community how this will be resourced and how the work will be reported back to the community.**

People on Country⁸ - Industry

The State Government must address the potential impacts on regional industry, particularly concerning commercial fishing and the size and positioning of proposed sanctuary zones. The Esperance region already has a lack of diverse industry types and employment opportunities. To diminish the industry count further will have an impact on the economic performance, population and wellbeing of the region as a whole.

The fishing industry is a cornerstone of the South Coast region's economic and social structure. The introduction of sanctuary zones, as outlined in the proposed Marine Park plan, is poised to negatively affect both commercial and recreational fishing activities. While we recognise the environmental benefits these zones intend to provide, there is a significant lack of clarity regarding the extent of their impact on current fishing practices. Feedback from industry stakeholders indicates a detrimental effect, yet this has not been adequately detailed in the plan.

⁷ Appendix 1 Shire of Esperance Reserves and Infrastructure

⁸ Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: Management Objective: Provide equitable and sustainable opportunities for recreational and commercial activities by allowing opportunities to safely utilise the marine environment as a source of income, food and enjoyment.

The commercial fishing sector has also raised concerns about significant delays that have occurred in providing legislated financial compensation with the establishment of other Western Australian Marine Parks.

Moreover, the Plan does not sufficiently articulate existing risks which require the establishment of sanctuary zones of this size, nor does it explain how these zones will mitigate such risks effectively.

Depending on the size of the impact on commercial fishers in the South Coast region, there could be a flow on impact that will change the socio-economic profile of the region. This could result from reduced viability of the businesses that directly rely on the industry, and the potential loss of people employed in the industry and the businesses that directly support it. If these impacts are significant, they could cause population to move away from the region⁹.

Given the above statement, from the 'social and economic value of the South Coast region Final Report', and the importance of the fishing industry to our region¹⁰, it is imperative that a thorough assessment of the socio-economic impacts be conducted prior to the gazetting of the Marine Park. This will allow stakeholders to better understand investment prospects, offset possible impacts, and more reliably identify opportunities a Marine Park could bring to the Esperance region.

Recommendation:

- 1. It is vital the State Government continue to work with impacted fishing and associated maritime industry to review the size and positioning of sanctuary zones to reduce impacts on industry.**
- 2. Where industry is negatively affected, the Shire of Esperance strongly urge the State Government to expedite support (compensation, transition support) to businesses, not just license holders, negatively impacted by the park's establishment. This support is crucial for sustaining local business and the community during the transition period.**
- 3. The Shire of Esperance advocate for a consistent 200-metre offshore buffer, adjacent to all sanctuary zones, along all existing beach access and infrastructure currently used for recreational activities. Coastal 4wd driving, fishing and camping are cherished and foundational recreational activities to this region, and as such, we strongly recommend that every sanctuary zone accommodates recreational fishing which supports these pastimes.**
- 4. To reduce confusion and maintain uniformity for residents and visitors, we recommend the 200-metre offshore buffer, adjacent to all sanctuary zones, be applied across the Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park, Wudjari Marine Park, Western Bight Marine Park and Mirning Marine Park. This will allow for safe recreational and commercial activities and provide consistency across the South Coast Marine Park.**

⁹ The social and economic value of the South Coast region Final Report

¹⁰ The social and economic value of the South Coast region Final Report

Understanding Country¹¹ - Research and Education

The Shire advocates for the State Government to allocate adequate resources and infrastructure for the Marine Park's implementation, encompassing management, research, equipment, and facilities in the Esperance Region. This investment is essential to maximising the park's benefits for Traditional Owners, local residents, businesses, and visitors.

It is important that the Wudjari Marine Park management plan encourages community and local industry involvement in research and education programs¹². This will help to facilitate access to quality education, training and development opportunities in the Esperance region, as well as attract diverse industries.

Recommendation:

- 1. Realising the unique opportunities a Marine Park could bring to the region, we urge the State Government to fund the development of a research facility in the Esperance Region.**
- 2. The establishment of a regional university link, like Kalgoorlie and Broome, which will allow for research and education programs at a higher education level.**
- 3. Set aside adequate funding to implement an interpretive signage and marketing strategy across the whole Marine Park, adding to the visitor and community education experience¹³.**

Plan implementation and operation¹⁴ - Infrastructure

The Shire can appreciate the new opportunities a Marine Park could bring to our communities and region. The Shire of Esperance actively plans for high quality infrastructure to serve local needs, including access to adequate, safe and affordable housing. We develop attractive and welcoming places, deliver efficient and safe road network, and public and shared transport services¹⁵. With a substantial Marine Park, implementation of new or upgrades to established infrastructure will be needed to manage the possible economic and tourist growth of the region.

Recommendation:

We strongly urge the State Government to undertake a 'Community and Industries Opportunities Report' to better understand investment prospects, offset possible impacts, and identify the opportunities that a Marine Park could bring to the Esperance region.

¹¹ Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: Management Objective: Encourage and promote research and monitoring and the sharing of Knowledge from Traditional Owners, scientists and local community to guide and inform best-practice management.

¹² Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: Cultural and evidence-based management. Management Strategies, point 7.

¹³ Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: Cultural and evidence-based management. Management Strategies, point 8.

¹⁴ Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: Plan implementation and operation

¹⁵ Our plan for the future: Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032

The Shire of Esperance stands behind the principles of economic, social and environmental stewardship and cultural respect. The above comments and recommendations are genuine views from the community about the Marine Park and We trust that the State Government will consider these concerns with the gravity they warrant and take prompt action to support our community through this significant change.

In trust of these views and recommendations being considered, the Shire of Esperance stands ready to support a well-balanced Marine Park that is equitable and beneficial for all. We look forward to continuing our work with the State Government and the DBCA Marine Park Planning Team to realise a Marine Park that truly reflects the aspirations of our diverse community.

Regards

Ron Chambers

Shire President

Appendix 1 – Shire of Esperance Reserves and Infrastructure

Appendix 2 – Connecting to the Council Plan

Analysis and Recommendations Shire of Esperance Reserves and Infrastructure – South Coast Marine Plans

The Shire of Esperance (the Shire) manages reserves and infrastructure that are within proximity to the proposed sanctuary and cultural management zones. The Shire has undertaken a review and analysis of Shire managed reserves and infrastructure, associated community and community values, and use of these reserves and infrastructure in relation to the proposed Marine Park Management Plans and zoning.

Appendix 1 (the Appendix) provides a comprehensive feedback on how the proposed zones impact Shire managed reserves and infrastructure, and the values and use of these reserves and infrastructure by our community. The Appendix also puts forward alternate options, recommendations and opportunities to enhance Marine Park zoning.

General Analysis and Recommendations:

- The Shire of Esperance advocate for a consistent 200-metre offshore buffer, from proposed sanctuary zones, along all existing beach access and infrastructure, i.e. rock bolts, currently used for recreational activities. Coastal 4WD driving, fishing and camping are cherished and foundational recreational activities to this region, and as such, we strongly recommend that every sanctuary zone accommodates recreational beach fishing, which supports these pastimes.
- To reduce confusion and maintain uniformity for residents and visitors, we recommend the 200-metre offshore buffer, from proposed sanctuary zones, be applied across the Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park, Wudjari Marine Park, Western Bight Marine Park and Mirning Marine Park. This will provide consistency across the South Coast Marine Park.
- The South Coast Marine Park zoning needs to be reviewed to align with the terrestrial reserve boundaries. The mapping in the proposed indicative joint management plans shows marine park zoning overlapping into terrestrial reserve boundaries managed by the Shire of Esperance and others.
- The Shire of Esperance seeks clarification on proposed zoning that continues into estuarine and creek environments, and how this proposed zoning can be applied to systems that are beyond the highwater mark and are not permanently open to the marine environment.
- The Shire of Esperance seeks clarification on why Appendix 2, which refers to Cultural Management Zones, was not included in the proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan. The absence of Appendix 2 from the Wudjari Marine Park joint management plan is a matter of concern: we believe this document is vital to educate our community on the importance of these zones and ensure a well-informed public discussion.

Analysis and recommendations on Shire reserves, community values and infrastructure in relation to proposed marine park zoning is provided in Table 1 & 2. Due to the absence of triple bottom line information; scientific data analysis that underpins the reason for each proposed sanctuary zoning size and placement, and a thorough socio-economic report the analysis to balance these zonings; recommendations are focused on management implications around Shire of Esperance managed reserves and infrastructure.

The Shire of Esperance will be more than happy to work further with the DBCA Marine Park Planning Team on any points of clarification or to discuss further any information or recommendations in the Appendix and submission on the proposed South Coast Marine Park.

Table 1. Wudjari Marine Park

<u>Location</u>	<u>SoE Reserve</u>	<u>DBCA Marine Park Zone</u>	<u>Community Values and Infrastructure</u>	<u>DBCA Wudjari Marine Park Implications and Notes</u>	<u>SoE Recommendations</u>
Munglinup	R 32337 R 32338 Class C Camping and Recreation	Munglinup Wardan special purpose zone (cultural management) Munglinup sanctuary zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camping and coastal recreation. • 4wd beach driving • Beach fishing including inlet area and west of Oldfield river and inlet. • Near shore fishing with beach launching small boats and kayaks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanctuary Zone starts approximately 600m west of Oldfield river and inlet and covers beach, implications on values associated with beach fishing when mouth of river is open. • Sanctuary Zone starts approximately 800m offshore from campground, implications on values associated with near shore fishing with beach launching small boats and kayaks. • Shire of Esperance campground and reserve outside sanctuary zone with sanctuary zone approximately 800m offshore and 2500m west from campsite and beach access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend moving Sanctuary Zone 200m offshore to allow for beach fishing and Sanctuary Zone offshore to allow for nearshore fishing.
Quagi Beach	R 40943 Class C Camping and Recreation	Quagi special purpose zone (cultural management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camping and coastal recreation. • Beach fishing and rock fishing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No direct implications, special purpose zone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the proposed zoning.

<u>Location</u>	<u>SoE Reserve</u>	<u>DBCA Marine Park Zone</u>	<u>Community Values and Infrastructure</u>	<u>DBCA Wudjari Marine Park Implications and Notes</u>	<u>SoE Recommendations</u>
Tjaltjraak Boodja Park (Duke of Orleans Bay)	R 41097 Class C Recreation	Victoria Harbour Beach to Hammer Head offshore sanctuary zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal Recreation. • 4wd beach driving. • Beach fishing and rock fishing. • Near shore fishing with beach launching small boats and kayaks. • Boat launching offshore fishing Duke of Orleans Bay boat ramp and Nares Island. • Commercial caravan park within the reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanctuary Zone covers two sheltered bays within the Hammerhead area with potential implications on values with shore based fishing, near shore fishing with small boats and kayaks. • The Victoria Harbour offshore sanctuary zone may potentially impact offshore fishing facilitated from infrastructure at the Duke of Orleans Bay boat ramp and Nares Island and beach access in the reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend moving Sanctuary Zone 200m offshore to allow for beach fishing and rezone the Sanctuary Zone offshore outside the sheltered bays of the Hammerhead area to allow for nearshore fishing. • The southern exposed area of the Hammerhead that is harder to access may be more suitable to include within the proposed sanctuary zone. • Review the size and positioning of the zoning to minimise the impact on smaller fishing boats and safe boating opportunities in close proximity to boat launching infrastructure.
Tjaltjraak Boodja Park (Membinup)	R 41097 Class C Recreation	Membinup special purpose zone (cultural management) Membinup Beach offshore sanctuary zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal Recreation. • 4wd, informal self-sufficient camping. • Beach fishing and rock fishing. • Near shore fishing with beach launching small boats and kayaks. • Boat launching offshore fishing Duke of Orleans Bay boat ramp and Nares Island. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No direct implications Membinup, special purpose zone. • Membinup Beach offshore sanctuary zone may potentially impact offshore fishing facilitated from infrastructure at the Duke of Orleans Bay boat ramp and Nares Island and beach access in the reserve. • The sanctuary zone appears to not include no offshore areas adjacent to islands or minimal bombies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No direct recommendations for the Membinup special purpose zone (cultural management) • Review the size and positioning of the Membinup Beach offshore sanctuary zone to minimise the impact on smaller fishing boats and safe boating opportunities in close proximity to boat launching infrastructure.

<u>Location</u>	<u>SoE Reserve</u>	<u>DBCAs Marine Park Zone</u>	<u>Community Values and Infrastructure</u>	<u>DBCAs Wudjari Marine Park Implications and Notes</u>	<u>SoE Recommendations</u>
Kennedy Beach	R 40772 Class C Recreation and camping	Kennedy Beach and offshore sanctuary zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal Recreation. • 4wd, informal self-sufficient camping. • Beach fishing and rock fishing. • Near shore fishing with beach launching small boats and kayaks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanctuary Zone covers Kennedy Beach shoreline and headlands implications on values with shorebased fishing, near shore fishing with small boats and kayaks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend moving Sanctuary Zone 200m offshore to allow for beach fishing and Sanctuary Zone offshore to allow for nearshore fishing. • Tagon Beach, Little Tagon, Dolphin Cove and the headland at Thomas River more suitable to include within the proposed sanctuary zone as a shore and near shore zone and is within the Cape Arid National Park. • Management Plan references Recherche Archipelago Nature Reserve and sanctuary zone will provide complementarity but it is unclear how sanctuary zoning on the near shore and shore recreation areas will be complementary. • Complementary zoning to national parks would be more appropriate in achieving this outcome.

<u>Location</u>	<u>SoE Reserve</u>	<u>DBCAs Marine Park Zone</u>	<u>Community Values and Infrastructure</u>	<u>DBCAs Wudjari Marine Park Implications and Notes</u>	<u>SoE Recommendations</u>
Woody Island		Kepa Kurl sanctuary zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecotourism and recreational values Woody Island. • Recreational fishing and nearshore boat and kayak, snorkelling and shorebased diving, spearfishing. Shearwater Bay is valued for nearshore fishing, snorkelling and Skinny Dip Bay is valued for nearshore fishing, snorkelling, including spearfishing. • Shire of Esperance boat launching facilities and infrastructure Esperance Bay and DoT Bandy Creek. Near shore boating and recreational fishing values for smaller boats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational fishing and nearshore boat and kayak, snorkelling and shorebased diving, spearfishing impacts at Woody Island. • Potential impacts on safe boating and recreational fishing by smaller vessels using the islands for shelter and protection and easy access from Esperance Bay and Bandy Creek infrastructure and facilities. • Potential impact on commercial fishing operations but detailed analysis and assessment can not be undertaken as social economic study and report has not been undertaken to quantify the value and impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential conservation outcomes with the zoning of the island group but in-depth analysis can not be undertaken as a detailed scientific study or report for justification has not been provided. • Conservation outcomes with the zoning to link with eco-tourism and education opportunities with the island and natural environment. • For a community values balance recommend making Shearwater Bay, Woody Island general use zone, aligning with its current use. • Recommend making Skinny Dip Bay, Woody Island a general use zone aligning with its current use. • Review the size and positioning of the zoning to minimise the impact on smaller fishing boats and safe boating opportunities in close proximity to boat launching infrastructure.

<u>Location</u>	<u>SoE Reserve</u>	<u>DBCA Marine Park Zone</u>	<u>Community Values and Infrastructure</u>	<u>DBCA Wudjari Marine Park Implications and Notes</u>	<u>SoE Recommendations</u>
Figure Eight Island		West Group Islands sanctuary zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire of Esperance boat launching facilities and infrastructure Esperance Bay and DoT Bandy Creek. Near shore boating and recreational fishing values for larger boats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential conservation outcomes with the zoning of the island group but in-depth analysis can not be undertaken as a detailed scientific study or report for justification has not been provided. • Potential impact on commercial fishing operations but detailed analysis and assessment can not be undertaken as social economic study and report has not been undertaken to quantify the value and impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend a combination of sanctuary zoning and multi-use zoning may offer a balanced approach for the community to provide boating access to northern sheltered areas of the island group.
Termination Island		Termination Island sanctuary zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire of Esperance boat launching facilities and infrastructure Esperance Bay and DoT Bandy Creek. Near shore boating and recreational fishing values for larger boats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential conservation outcomes with the zoning of the island group but in-depth analysis can not be undertaken as a detailed scientific study or report for justification has not been provided. • Potential impact on commercial fishing operations but detailed analysis and assessment can not be undertaken as social economic study and report has not been undertaken to quantify the value and impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend a combination of sanctuary zoning and multi-use zoning may offer a balanced approach for the community to provide boating access to northern sheltered areas of the island group.

<u>Location</u>	<u>SoE Reserve</u>	<u>DBCA Marine Park Zone</u>	<u>Community Values and Infrastructure</u>	<u>DBCA Wudjari Marine Park Implications and Notes</u>	<u>SoE Recommendations</u>
Cape Le Grand		Cape Le Grand sanctuary zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational values with Cape Le Grand being a developed national park. Camping, beach and rock fishing, 4wd beach driving. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts beach and rock fishing Hellfire Bay and Thistle Cove. • Potential impacts on safe boating and recreational fishing by smaller vessels using the islands for shelter and protection and easy access from beach launching from Lucky Bay. • Potential conservation outcomes with the zoning of the island group but in-depth analysis can not be undertaken as a detailed scientific study or report for justification has not been provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend moving Sanctuary Zones 200m offshore to allow for beach and rock fishing Hellfire Bay and Thistle Cove to support current activities undertaken in the area. • Review the size and positioning of the zoning to minimise the impact on smaller fishing boats and safe boating opportunities in close proximity to infrastructure.

Table 2. Western Bight Marine Park

<u>Location</u>	<u>SoE Reserve</u>	<u>DBCA Marine Parks Zone</u>	<u>Community Values and Infrastructure</u>	<u>DBCA Western Bight Marine Park Implications and Notes</u>	<u>SoE Recommendations</u>
Israelite Bay	R 3805 Class C Recreation	Israelite Bay (south) sanctuary zone Bilbunya Beach (central) sanctuary zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal Recreation. • 4wd, informal self-sufficient camping. • Beach fishing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Israelite Bay (south) sanctuary zone covers shoreline and will impact beach fishing values. • Bilbunya Beach (central) sanctuary zone covers approximately 6000m shoreline and has some shoreline areas excluded from the sanctuary zone (middle 3000m approximately). Sanctuary zoning will impact beach fishing values. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend moving Sanctuary Zones 200m offshore to allow for beach fishing and Sanctuary Zone offshore to allow for nearshore fishing.

The Shire of Esperance exists to meet the needs of current and future generations through an integration of environmental protection, social advancement and economic prosperity.

To ensure the Shire’s submission reflects the diverse views of the community, the Shire Council strategically employed the Council Plan as a framework to integrate community and organisational recommendations.

The Community Scorecard enables Council to keep in touch with the wishes of local residents, determine priorities and make the best decisions possible on behalf of the community in line with our Council Plan. The Scorecard provides broad information regarding community opinions on services and facilities throughout the Shire. Councillors and Shire officers frequently refer to the results to support decision making and strategic planning. Community views and comments are highly valued and guide future planning activities.

In 2023, 1,267 residents completed the MARKYT Community Scorecard, underscoring the Shire’s commitment to a balanced and inclusive advocacy process that honors the voices of our community.

Appendix 2 shows the connection between what has been stated in the submission and how it aligns with the Shire of Esperance Council Plan and community stakeholder feedback.

The Shire of Esperance welcomes the opportunity to work with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Marine Park Planning Team on any points of clarification, or to discuss further any information or recommendations in Appendix 2 and the Submission on the proposed South Coast Marine Park.

Table 1. People: A healthy, inclusive, active and safe place to live

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
<p>There is concern around the potential future changes to coastal driving, camping and fishing access to public areas.</p>	<p>The Shire of Esperance recommends a consistent 200-metre offshore buffer along all existing beach access and infrastructure currently used for recreational activities. We strongly recommend that every sanctuary zone accommodates recreational near shore fishing which supports these pastimes.</p>	<p>Coastal 4wd driving, fishing and camping are cherished and foundational recreational activities to this region.</p> <p>Outdoor recreation, nature-based tourism and adventure recreation make a huge contribution to the health, wealth, wellbeing and happiness of individuals and communities in Western Australia. It builds resilience, fosters a spirit of identity and builds family and community structures. It also contributes greatly to the State's economy.</p>	<p>Community Stakeholders</p> <p>Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: 6.2 <i>Recreational fishing</i></p> <p>Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 3.1 - <i>A welcoming, inclusive and connected community</i></p> <p>Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries More People More Active Outdoors; A framework for Outdoor Recreation in Western Australia 2019</p>
<p>The Wudjari Marine Park embodies a vision where the Aboriginal community in Esperance thrives, living and working on their ancestral lands in roles that hold deep cultural and personal meaning. This initiative not only honours their traditional</p>	<p>We strongly urge the State Government to undertake a 'Community and Industries Opportunities Report' to better understand investment prospects, offset possible impacts, and identify the opportunities</p>	<p>Grow understanding and respect for cultural diversity, history and heritage.</p>	<p>Community Stakeholder</p> <p>Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: 4 <i>Connection to Wadarn Boodja</i></p>

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
connection to the land but also fosters a sustainable future, aligning with their values and aspirations. It is a forward-thinking approach that promises empowerment and continuity of their rich heritage.	that a Marine Park could bring to the Esperance region.		Shire of Esperance Council Plan Outcome 3.1 - <i>A welcoming, inclusive and connected community</i>
Removal/relocation of the Membinup Sanctuary zone because of its proximity to the Duke boat ramp which also happens to be the last boat ramp before the South Australian border	Review the size and positioning of the Membinup Beach offshore sanctuary zone to minimise the impact on smaller fishing boats and safe boating opportunities in close proximity to infrastructure.	The Duke of Orleans Bay is a popular holiday location for local residents and visitors. Coastal recreation, beach and rock fishing, and boating are valued pastimes.	Community Stakeholder
Opportunities that arise from the proposed South Coast Marine Park is the growth of Aboriginal opportunities and within this taking the lead in Closing the Gap in the Esperance Community.	We strongly urge the State Government to undertake a ‘Community and Industries Opportunities Report’ to better understand investment prospects, offset possible impacts, and identify the opportunities that a Marine Park could bring to the Esperance region.	Improve access to quality health services, education and employment	Community Stakeholder Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 2.1 <i>Improve access to quality health services</i>
Advocate for holistic closing the gap initiatives (such as access to affordable housing) so this community enjoys acceptable levels of health and wellbeing	We strongly urge the State Government to undertake a ‘Community and Industries Opportunities Report’ to better understand	Continue to grow as a strong, connected community. Meet the needs of current and future generations through an integration of environmental protection, social advancement and economic prosperity.	Community Stakeholder Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
needed to take up the opportunities from the marine park as they arise.	investment prospects, offset possible impacts, and identify the opportunities that a Marine Park could bring to the Esperance region.		Outcome 8: <i>Access to adequate, safe and affordable housing for everyone</i>
Preferred Removal of sanctuary zone at the Duke ranging from Hammerhead to Victoria Harbour however at the very least there must be a 200m setback from the shore at Hammerhead. This is for recreational purposes of the many people that frequent this popular holiday spot.	Review the size and positioning of the zoning to minimise the impact on smaller fishing boats and safe boating opportunities in close proximity to infrastructure.	The Duke of Orleans Bay is a popular holiday location for local residents and visitors. Coastal recreation, beach and rock fishing, and boating are valued pastimes.	Community Stakeholder

Table 2. Planet: Our natural environment is conserved for everyone to enjoy

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
Environmental conservation & Protection	The DBCA review the size and positioning of proposed sanctuary zones, and work with industries that will be negatively impacted by the proposed sanctuary zones to achieve outcomes that will support industry, stakeholder and conservation goals that will achieve triple bottom line outcome.	<p>Protecting our environment and fostering climate action and environmental sustainability is a shared responsibility—one that we are fully dedicated to upholding, and believe a balanced marine park can add value to.</p> <p>However, we find ourselves at an impasse regarding the proposed zoning schemes due to the lack of detailed scientific information from DBCA. It is crucial to have access to comprehensive data to offer informed feedback and make decisions that reflect the best interests of our community and the environment.</p>	<p>Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: Management Objective: <i>Enhance, maintain and conserve a healthy sea-Country, including marine biodiversity and ecological integrity.</i></p> <p>Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 4. <i>The natural environment is valued, protected and enjoyed</i> Outcome 5. <i>Shared responsibility for climate action and sustainability</i></p>
The Shire of Esperance (the Shire) has a number of reserves that abut proposed sanctuary and cultural management zones, the coastal reserves and infrastructure managed by the Shire are Class C Reserves for the purpose of Recreation. The Shire has undertaken a review and analysis of Shire managed reserves and infrastructure, associated community and	Appendix 1	The Shire of Esperance is custodian of 3 Nature Based Campgrounds and 27 Beach Reserves. Most coastal reserves are accessible and have been enjoyed by generations of the public.	<p>Shire of Esperance Council Plan Outcome 4.1. <i>Sustainably care for, preserve and enhance natural habitats</i> 4.1.4 <i>Review the Coastal Management Plan</i></p>

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
community values, and use of these reserves and infrastructure in relation to the proposed marine park zones.			
<p>When it comes to fish and fish stocks, the tale of the cod fishery is one which is a cautionary fable. But climate change is the new thing...precautionary principles are allowing for that...It is the collapse of the cod fishery that lurks in the memory of conservation biologists: the catch may be high, but what is the reality?</p>	<p>It is essential that sanctuary zones are established on a foundation of robust scientific evidence and clear reasoning. The projected conservation outcomes of these sanctuary zones need to be clearly articulated to the community and stakeholders.</p> <p>The State Government commits to a dedicated research team for the South Coast Marine Park based in the region and outlines to the community how this will be resourced and how the work will be reported back to the community.</p>	<p>Protecting our environment and fostering climate action and environmental sustainability is a shared responsibility.</p>	<p>Community Stakeholder</p> <p>Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 4. <i>The natural environment is valued, protected and enjoyed</i> Outcome 5. <i>Shared responsibility for climate action and sustainability</i></p>

Table 3. Place: High quality planning and infrastructure serves local needs

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
Depending on the size of the impact on commercial fishers in the South Coast region, there could be a flow on impact that will change the socio-economic profile of the region. This could result from reduced viability of the businesses that directly rely on the industry, and the potential loss of people employed in the industry and the businesses that directly support it. If these impacts are significant, they could cause population to move away from the region.	As the magnitude of the impacts are unknown, the Shire requests the State Government to immediately undertake an in-depth socio-economic assessment once the planning process is complete and prior to the gazetting of the marine park.	The Shire believes that the current draft of the South Coast Marine Park indicative joint management plans do not reflect the well-balanced Marine Park the Government has been promising. We anticipate parts of our economy will be restricted rather than enhanced. This is primarily due to the absence of vital triple bottom line information; scientific data analysis that underpins the reason for proposed sanctuary zoning size and placement, and a thorough socio-economic analysis.	The social and economic value of the South Coast region Final Report
Where commercial fishing may be impacted, the Fishing and Related Industries Compensation (Marine Reserves) Act 1997 (FRICMA) compensation scheme will provide financial relief to those affected fishers.	Compensation and support for negatively impacted sectors is promptly provided to support business and the community with the establishment of the park.	The Esperance region already has a lack of diverse industry types and employment profile. To diminish the industry count further will have an impact on the economic performance, population and wellbeing of the region as a whole.	Community Stakeholder
	Provide appropriate funding into the region that will support the infrastructure needed to implement a marine park e.g. Signage, parking, shelters,	The Shire of Esperance actively plans for high quality infrastructure to serve local needs, including access to adequate, safe and affordable housing. We develop attractive and welcoming places, deliver efficient and safe road network, and public and shared transport services	Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 9: <i>Attractive and welcoming place</i>

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
With new staff working within the Marine Park, where will they live?	State Government to provide appropriate funding into the regions that will support Worker Accommodation for proposed research purposes.	The Shire can appreciate the new opportunities a Marine Park could bring to our communities and region. The Shire of Esperance actively plans for high quality infrastructure to serve local needs, including access to adequate, safe and affordable housing. With a substantial Marine Park, implementation of new or upgrades to established infrastructure, including housing, will be needed to manage the possible growth of the region.	Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 8: <i>Access to adequate, safe and affordable housing for everyone</i>
Our on-land processing facilities are not only used for the processing, freezing and storage of fish but also house the only high capacity cold/freezer storage for 400kms, and the only commercial quantity ice production and storage for 400kms.	We strongly urge the State Government to undertake a ‘Community and Industries Opportunities Report’ to better understand investment prospects, offset possible impacts, and identify the opportunities that a Marine Park could bring to the Esperance region.		Community Stakeholder Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 12.1: <i>Attract and retain diverse industries and enterprises to grow the economy and local jobs</i>

Table 4. Prosperity: Growing and thriving, the Esperance region is a great place to live, work, invest and visit

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
A prosperous and diverse economy and community	We still believe that a balance can be found between protecting the unique cultural and environmental values whilst	The Wudjari Marine Park embodies a vision where the Aboriginal community in Esperance thrives, living and working on their ancestral lands in roles that hold deep cultural and personal meaning. This initiative not only honours their traditional connection to the land	Community Stakeholder Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
	supporting recreational and commercial users	but also fosters a sustainable future, aligning with their values and aspirations. It is a forward-thinking approach that promises empowerment and continuity of their rich heritage.	management plan: Introduction
Proposed zoning scheme will have a severe impact on local commercial fishers.	Where industry is negatively affected, the Shire of Esperance strongly urge the State Government to expedite support (compensation, transition support) to businesses, not just license holders, negatively impacted by the park's establishment. This support is crucial for sustaining local business and the community during the transition period.		Community Stakeholder Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: 6.3 <i>Commercial fishing</i>
There are concerns around wording in the joint management plan of potential future changes, including restricting further area from public access. Business needs to be assured it can plan for a future unobstructed by more change. There is currently no confidence in the economic future for the commercial and recreational fishing industries.	Given statements from the 'social and economic value of the South Coast region Final Report', and the importance of the fishing industry to our region, it is imperative that a thorough assessment of the socio-economic impacts be conducted prior to the gazetting of the Marine Park.		Community Stakeholder Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2023 Outcome 12: <i>A prosperous and diverse economy</i>

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
<p>Support for marine training and research facilities available to serve the whole community, and create spaces to enable sharing of information and celebration of Wudjari sea country values with the community.</p>	<p>State Government to provide appropriate funding into a regional research facility - making all efforts to have people live, work and invest in this region.</p>	<p>Access to quality education, training and development opportunities in the Esperance region is important to the development of the region.</p>	<p>Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: 7.1.4 <i>Cultural and evidence-based management. Management Strategies</i></p> <p>Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 11 <i>Access to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities</i></p>
<p>Commercial Fishing Industry: Direct employment – 80 people Indirect employment – restaurants, tourism, freight, goods & services industries.</p> <p>Sustainable Fisheries - Dept Fisheries – assess risks as low to negligible.</p> <p>Proposed zoning scheme will force out 60%-80% local commercial fishers, leading to severe operational and economic challenges.</p>	<p>the State Government continue to work with impacted fishing and associated maritime industry to review the size and positioning of sanctuary zones to reduce impacts on industry.</p> <p>Where industry is negatively affected, the Shire of Esperance strongly urge the State Government to expedite support (compensation, transition support) to businesses, not just license holders, negatively impacted by the park's establishment. This support is crucial for</p>	<p>The fishing industry is the backbone of the South Coast region's economy and social fabric. It is interdependent and has cross-community benefits, such as providing essential services such as emergency response, fisheries science data collection, scientific studies, cold storage, and large-scale ice supplies (the closest being 400km away). The availability of fresh, high-quality, local seafood greatly benefits local businesses and boosts tourism.</p>	<p>Community Stakeholder</p> <p>Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 12.1: <i>Attract and retain diverse industries and enterprises to grow the economy and local jobs</i></p>

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
	sustaining local business and the community during the transition period.		
The fishing industry we have in the region supports all areas of the community. The State Government can still implement a marine park while supporting our critical fishing industry.	It is vital the State Government continue to work with impacted fishing and associated maritime industry to review the size and positioning of sanctuary zones to reduce impacts on industry.	The Esperance commercial fishing industry is small, sustainable and inter-generational. With 12 commercial fisheries operating in the region, the connection and services they provide to the isolated community is vital.	Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: 6.3 <i>Commercial Fishing</i> Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 12: <i>A prosperous and diverse economy</i>
Facilitate access to quality education, training and development opportunities	Realising the unique opportunities a Marine Park could bring to the region, we urge the State Government to fund the development of a research facility in the Esperance Region. The establishment of a regional University link, like Kalgoorlie and Broome, which will allow for research and education programs at a higher education Level.		Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 11 <i>Access to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities</i>
Infrastructure and Industry Opportunities	We strongly urge the State Government to undertake a ‘Community and Industries Opportunities Report’ to better understand	With a substantial Marine Park, implementation of new or upgrades to established infrastructure will be needed to manage the possible economic and tourist growth of the region.	Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 12: <i>A prosperous and diverse economy</i>

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
	<p>investment prospects, offset possible impacts, and identify the opportunities that a Marine Park could bring to the Esperance region.</p>	<p>There may also be new industry or Aquaculture opportunities that will offset any disruption to the Commercial Fishing Industry.</p>	
<p>Opportunities & offsetting the possible changes How good for tourism?</p>	<p>A ‘Community Support Package’ is swiftly released to help transition the Esperance community to maximise the social and economic opportunities of the proposed Marine Park, and to offset the negative impacts to industry, small business and families.</p>		<p>The social and economic value of the South Coast region Final Report</p> <p>Shire of Esperance Council Plan Outcome 12: <i>A prosperous and diverse economy</i></p>
<p>If the current plan were implemented we feel there would be two directions we could take in regards to the business.</p> <p>Option 1. Significant expansion Which would require massive investment to purchase/build a large fishing vessel that has the capacity to hold fish in refrigerated recirculating cold water tanks (usually between 20 to 50 ton per catch) this type of vessel allows you to fish throughout the zone while keeping the catch at a</p>	<p>It is vital the State Government continue to work with impacted fishing and associated maritime industry to review the size and positioning of sanctuary zones to reduce impacts on industry.</p> <p>Where industry is negatively affected, the Shire of Esperance strongly urge the State Government to expedite support (compensation, transition support) to businesses, not</p>		<p>Community Stakeholder</p> <p>Shire of Esperance Council Plan Outcome 12: <i>A prosperous and diverse economy</i></p>

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
<p>constantly cold temperature until landing. There would also need to be massive investment in on land processing to be able to process this amount of fish on arrival.</p> <p>But with the many millions of dollars required to do this, and the ever looming review periods for the marine parks (which the outer boundary is proposed to encompass all state water). We feel this would not be a wise move.</p> <p>Option 2. Downsize/closure With significant amounts of our catch coming from the proposed sanctuary zones we would be forced to downsize/close, with less product being caught and produced, our share of the nationwide market would reduce, with a less profitable business less money would be invested in it.</p>	<p>just license holders, negatively impacted by the park's establishment. This support is crucial for sustaining local business and the community during the transition period.</p>		

Table 5. Performance: We have a clear direction for the future and a robust plan to make it happen

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
<p>There are concerns around wording in the joint management plan of potential future changes, including restricting further area from public access. Business needs to be assured it can plan for a future unobstructed by more change.</p> <p>There is currently no confidence in the economic future for the commercial and recreational fishing industries.</p>	<p>Given statements from the ‘social and economic value of the South Coast region Final Report’, and the importance of the fishing industry to our region, it is imperative that a thorough assessment of the socio-economic impacts be conducted prior to the gazetting of the Marine Park.</p>		<p>Community Stakeholder</p> <p>Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2023 Outcome 12: <i>A prosperous and diverse economy</i></p>
<p>Success of the Park</p>	<p>The State Government commit to adequately resourcing the indicative joint management plans, in the regions, for the 10 years of the Plan.</p>	<p>The Management Plan notes that the implementation of all strategies is ultimately subject to resource availability. We strongly believe that for the proposed South Coast Marine Park to be successful, sustainably managed and to achieve satisfaction for all stakeholders, the indicative joint management plans will need to be significantly resourced in the regions for the 10 years of the Plan. This will allow for industry confidence, and a clear direction for the future.</p>	<p>Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: 9 Implementation and operation</p> <p>Shire of Esperance Council Plan Outcome 4.1. <i>Sustainably care for, preserve and enhance natural habitats</i> 4.1.4 <i>Review the Coastal Management Plan</i></p>
<p>Depending on the size of the impact on commercial fishers in the South Coast region, there could be a flow on impact that will</p>	<p>As the magnitude of the impacts are unknown, the Shire requests the State Government to immediately</p>	<p>The Shire believes that the current draft of the South Coast Marine Park indicative joint management plans do not reflect the well-balanced Marine Park the Government has been promising. We anticipate parts</p>	<p>The social and economic value of the South Coast region Final Report</p>

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
change the socio-economic profile of the region. This could result from reduced viability of the businesses that directly rely on the industry, and the potential loss of people employed in the industry and the businesses that directly support it. If these impacts are significant, they could cause population to move away from the region.	undertake an in-depth socio-economic assessment once the planning process is complete and prior to the gazetting of the marine park.	of our economy will be restricted rather than enhanced. This is primarily due to the absence of vital triple bottom line information; scientific data analysis that underpins the reason for proposed sanctuary zoning size and placement, and a thorough socio-economic analysis. Without this information Council cannot appropriately forecast its own organisational Long Term Financial Plan.	Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032 Outcome 15: <i>Operational excellence and financial sustainability</i>
Transparency, Respect & Accountability	Support the Management objective - Wudjari people and the wider community work together to create a new, holistic management model for the proposed marine park that better aligns customary and contemporary management.	The Shire of Esperance looks forward to continuing our partnership with the Wudjari people, and working in a transparent, respectful and accountable way.	Proposed Wudjari Marine Park indicative joint management plan: Management Objective 9.1.2
This process hasn't been transparent - making feedback difficult.	To foster unity and clarity, we urge for the release of comprehensive socio-economic impact assessment and scientific reports that substantiate the planning and management decisions.	Our residents expect to be informed and are eager to be engaged in any projects or business that affects them. The Shire of Esperance strives to provide authentic, relevant and effective engagement and communications with our community, and advocate to any stakeholders that are falling behind in this area. We believe that the proposed marine park process hasn't been transparent, making engagement difficult.	Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2023 Outcome 16: <i>A well informed and engaged community</i>
Feels that the Shires process has been unclear, methodology has been flawed. Bias representation		The Shire of Esperance exists to meet the needs of current and future generations through an integration of environmental protection, social advancement and economic prosperity.	Community Stakeholder Shire of Esperance Council Plan 2022-2032



<u>Comment</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Community Value</u>	<u>Reference</u>
<p>of Council. May not be valid nor represent the whole community.</p>		<p>To ensure the Shire’s submission reflects the diverse views of the community, the Shire Council strategically employed the Council Plan as a framework to integrate community and Organisational recommendations. The Council Plan is advised by the biannual Community Scorecard, with 1,267 residents completing the 2023 Scorecard.</p> <p>This approach underscores the Shire’s commitment to a balanced and inclusive advocacy process that honors the voices of our community.</p>	