

Shire of Toodyay Environmental Management Strategy

Adopted by Council on 24 February 2015

Prepared for the Shire of Toodyay

By Essential Environmental

October 2014



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1 INTRODUCTION

The Shire of Toodyay Environmental Management Strategy provides a framework for the achievement of better environmental management outcomes, consistent with the overall vision and mission of the Shire. This Strategy provides direction for continuous improvement of environmental compliance and will assist in the integration of environmental management into the Shire's strategic and business planning cycle, providing direction to complimentary plans, policies and management systems once adopted.

This strategy reflects the Shire's commitment to improving environmental performance and leading by example. It applies predominantly to Shire managed assets and land and Shire activities including decision-making. It is hoped that it will also assist the community in guiding complementary activities to achieve shared outcomes to protect and enhance Toodyay's valued natural environments.

1.1 Strategy area

The Shire of Toodyay borders the north-eastern edge of the Perth Metropolitan Region, located within the Avon sub region of the Wheatbelt. It covers an area of 1,683 square kilometres and represents the localities of Bejoording, Bindoon Training Area, Condle, Culham, Dewars Pool, Dumbarton, Hoddy's Well, Julimar, Moondyne, Morangup, Nunile, Toodyay, Wattening and West Toodyay (Shire of Toodyay, 2013).

The resident population of Toodyay was 4,387 people in 2011. This is a population growth of 6.7% since 2006 or an average per annum growth of 1.3% (Census 2011, as stated in Shire of Toodyay, 2013).

1.2 Shire role in environmental management

The *Local Government Act 1995* provides a simple definition of the overarching outcomes of Local government as follows:

"In carrying out its functions, a local government is to use its best endeavours to meet the needs of current and future generations through integration of environmental protection, social advancement and economic prosperity".

The Shire's primary role in regard of the protection, rehabilitation and enhancement of the natural environment and the sustainable use of resources is with land or activities directly under its control. This includes both operational activities and management responsibilities. The Shire must meet all necessary environmental compliance and statutory requirements placed upon it. The key Acts that the Shire needs to comply with, in relation to environmental management and protection, are summarised in Appendix 1.

The Shire also recognises its role in influencing and providing civic leadership. The Shire notes the role of other agencies in environmental regulation and management and so will advocate to these agencies for recognition, funding, favourable policies or other forms of support that lead to improved environmental outcomes. The Shire will aim to provide strong leadership and form community partnerships so that actions and outcomes can extend beyond the defined roles of the Shire to embrace a more sustainable future and achieve the best possible environmental outcomes for Toodyay.

1.3 Report purpose

The Shire of Toodyay environmental management strategy aims to provide a framework for the achievement of environmental outcomes as part of shire operations, activities and decision-making. This document is a draft and has been prepared to enable input on its recommendations by the community during a period of public comment.

Subsequent to the close of the public comment period, all comments received will be reviewed and a response to submissions will be prepared. Changes to the environmental management strategy will be made as appropriate and the Strategy submitted to council for final endorsement and implementation.

1.4 Report preparation

This report has been prepared for the Shire of Toodyay on the basis of significant input from the Toodyay Council and community. It has also incorporated the substantial amount of work already undertaken by the Shire which was presented in the Draft Toodyay Environmental Strategy (2014).

The Shire of Toodyay hosted an Environmental Strategy Workshop on 1st July 2014, at the CWA Hall in Toodyay. The workshop was attended by over thirty members of the community including a number of Councillors and facilitated by Shelley Shepherd of Essential Environmental. The workshop aimed to obtain input on the elements that Council and the community felt were important for the Environmental Strategy through a consultative process that focussed on individual and group input. The process included an outline of the existing strategic guidance and then sought input on the key environmental issues, objectives, and strategies that were felt to be priorities of the community. Additional information on the workshop outcomes is provided in Appendix 2.

The outcomes of the workshop were further considered by Council on 12 August and their feedback used as the basis for the revision of the Environmental Management Strategy which is presented here.

1.5 Report structure

This environmental management strategy contains background information in the form of relevant strategic guidance and key issues. The key issues were identified as part of the community consultation and have been used to formulate the key themes, which form the basis of the framework for this environmental management strategy.

Five themes have been identified to target particular areas of environmental management that require action. They are:

1. Governance and communication
2. Land
3. Biodiversity
4. Water
5. Energy and waste

Each theme follows the same format:

Background – provides a brief discussion of the issues and pressures specific to that theme.

Objectives – are specific statements identifying what the Shire aims to achieve when addressing this theme.

Strategies – are broad statements of intent that should be delivered in order to achieve the identified objectives.

Actions – are specific steps the Shire can take to implement the strategies and achieve the objectives. Note that only actions within the Shire's role and capacity to implement are identified. A timeframe and level of priority is proposed for each action. Responsibility for implementation of each action is allocated to a specific business unit within the Shire.

The timeframe reflects the ease in which the action can be implemented while the priority reflects the importance of the action in contributing to the overall aim of the Strategy. The priority and timeframe should be considered together; actions which are of low priority but have a short timeframe may represent some early achievements in the Strategy's implementation. Actions that are of high priority may require a long timeframe due to the complexity of the action. These identified timeframes and priority levels should be considered indicative only and should not hinder an action of low priority or long-term timeframe being undertaken if an opportunity should arise.

Timeframe	Actions to be completed	Priority	The approach actions require
Short term	2014 – 2015	Low	Of low importance, opportunities should be undertaken as they arise.
Medium term	2016 – 2019	Medium	Of medium importance, opportunities should be sought out.
Long term	2019 – 2023		
Ongoing	To occur throughout the implementation of the Strategy.	High	Of high importance, needs a strong proactive approach, opportunities should be created.

1.5.1 Responsibility and partnerships

The lead responsibility for implementation of the identified action has been allocated consistent with the services that each directorate performs, as depicted in the organisational structure in the Corporate Business Plan (2013). It is noted; however, that many actions will require input from other areas of the agency as well as the support and engagement of other agencies outside the Shire.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER			
Services S26 Governance, Advocacy and Collaboration S20 Economic Development		S30 Asset Management S14 Fire and Emergency	
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	WORKS & SERVICES	CORPORATE SERVICES
Services S1 Library S3 Museums S21 Visitors Centres S28 Consultation and Engagement S38 Communication and Marketing S6 Children and Youth S7 Seniors S8 Community Development and Grants S5 Sport and Recreation Program S9 Heritage, Culture and Public Art S22 Tourism S10 Events	Services S2 Halls and Community Facilities S35 Shire land and Property S12 Disability and Access Planning S16 Land Use Planning S17 Building and Regulatory Services S23 Environmental Management S24 Environmental Health S25 Waste Management	Services S4 Sport and Recreation Facilities S13 Parks, Playgrounds, Verges, Public Space S18 Roads and Drainage S19 Footpaths and Cycleways S15 Cemeteries S37 Plant, Equipment, Fleet, Private Works S11 Rangers	Services S29 Customer Service S27 Strategic and Corporate Planning S31 Financial Management S32 Human Resource Management S34 Records Management and IT S36 Licensing S33 Major Projects, Contracts and Tenders

Figure 1: Shire of Toodyay organisational structure (Shire of Toodyay, 2013)

1.5.2 Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are contained within the action tables in section 3.

AgWA	Department of Agriculture and Food
CEO	Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Toodyay
DER	Department of Environment Regulation
DoP	Department of Planning
DoT	Department of Transport
DoW	Department of Water
DPaW	Department of Park and Wildlife
DFES	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
NHT	National Heritage Trust (WA)
RCC	Roadside Conservation Committee
UDIA	Urban Development Institute of Australia (WA)
Water Corp	Water Corporation

2 CONTEXT

2.1 Strategic framework

The EMS is one of several key strategy documents that inform the Shire's Strategic Community Plan and the Corporate Business Plan that form part of the Integrated Planning Framework which outlines the Shire's Plan for the Future.

The integrated planning framework (Figure 2 and Figure 3) aims to establish local priorities and the ability to link this information to operational functions. The informing strategies enable the Shire to create action plans for specific issues where required. This EMS is an issue specific strategy and will provide an important input into the review of the Corporate Business Plan and Annual operating plan.



Figure 2: Integrated Planning Framework (Department of Local Government)

The Shire of Toodyay adopted the following plans as part of its Integrated Planning Process:

- *Strategic Community Plan*, adopted by Council on 21 May 2013; and
- *Shire of Toodyay Corporate Business Plan*, adopted by Council on 17 September 2013.

Both plans incorporate environmental objectives that the Shire is endeavouring to put into practice through the development of this Environmental Strategy. Those environmental objectives are detailed below:

2.1.1 Toodyay 2023 Strategic Community Plan

The Toodyay 2023 Strategic Community Plan (2013) articulates the Shire's vision for Toodyay as 'a vibrant rural community that celebrates our past and embraces a sustainable future'. The Shire's mission is to working together with the community "to obtain the best possible social, economic and environmental outcomes for the Toodyay Shire."

The Strategic Community Plan identifies a number of outcomes in order to meet the aspirations of Toodyay as a liveable and thriving Shire (Figure 2).



Figure 3: Community outcomes identified in the Toodyay Strategic Community Plan

Shire activities that contribute to a healthy natural and rural environment community outcome are identified as:

- Preservation of road-side vegetation;
- Waste Management; and
- Sustainable operating practices.

The Toodyay 2023 Strategic Community Plan (2013) also identified a number of strategic Priorities and actions. Those relating to Environmental Services include:

- Waste Minimisation including recycling including the introduction of kerb side recycling and review of Strategic Waste Management Plan (2008 – 2013); and
- Development of an environment plan covering the natural environment and resource efficiency and innovation.

2.1.2 Shire of Toodyay 2013-2017 Corporate Business Plan

Shire of Toodyay Corporate Business Plan 2013-2017 assists in the implementation of the Strategic Community Plan. It focuses on the following Environment Outcome areas for the next four (4) years:

- Waste minimisation including recycling;
 - Introduction of kerbside recycling;
 - Waste education;
 - Review of Strategic Waste Management Plan (2008-2013);
- Environmental Plan;
 - Develop an environmental plan covering the natural environment and resource efficiency and innovation;
- Building partnerships and support for community action on the environment; and
 - Reinvigorate the Landcare District Committee.

The contents of this document are intended to assist in the delivery of the objectives, strategies and actions listed above.

2.1.3 *Shire of Toodyay Local Planning Strategy and Scheme*

Development within the Shire of Toodyay is administered through the Local Planning Scheme and Local Planning Strategy. The Shire of Toodyay's Local Planning Scheme No 4 was gazetted on 13 February 2008. The Scheme divides the Shire into zones to identify areas for particular uses and identifies land reserved for public purpose. Most importantly, the Scheme controls the types of uses and development allowed in different zones. There are particular controls included for heritage and special control areas. The Scheme also sets out the requirements for planning approval, enforcement of the Scheme provisions and non-conforming uses and provides the framework for the adoption of Local Planning Policies.

The Shire of Toodyay's Local Planning Strategy was endorsed by the Western Australian Planning Commission in November 2007. The Strategy sets out the long-term planning direction for the Shire of Toodyay and provides the rationale for the zones and other provisions of the Scheme.

The Shire has no specific local planning policy for environmental management although some environmental aspects of are considered in several of the various local planning and operational policies that are currently in force.

2.2 Key issues

At a workshop held in July 2014, nearly 100 environmental issues were raised by participants from the local Toodyay community. Many of these issues related to specific circumstances and in many cases they can be sensibly considered as one collective 'key issue'. Accordingly, a more refined list of key issues is presented below. The complete list of issues is in Attachment 2.

Land management, particularly in relation to fire management and soils related issues such as salinity, soil acidity and erosion.

Biodiversity, which included the impacts of native vegetation clearing and effective revegetation as well as a desire to provide for protection of native fauna and control of weeds, disease, pests and feral animals.

Waterways and in particular stormwater management and flood protection recognising the importance of catchment management and the relationship the Shire has with the Avon and Swan River system.

Groundwater, relating use of groundwater resources to the environments they support and identifying the potential impacts of septic tank use and management.

Water efficiency and reuse, which includes building community understanding and uptake of new technologies such as greywater reuse and composting toilets, as well as more traditional approaches such as rainwater tanks.

Waste management, which relates to existing and future waste management facilities and services in the Shire including recycling opportunities as well as existing problems with illegal dumping in natural areas and the impacts it causes.

Energy efficiency initiatives, including climate responsive design and community education, as well as a desire to promote the use of alternative power systems and strategies.

Regulatory processes and issues related to planning and development, recognising the inter-related roles of the Shire and natural resource management groups.

2.3 Themes

From this refined list of issues a suite of five categories or themes have been defined to target particular areas of environmental management that require action, they are:

1. Governance and communication
2. Land
3. Biodiversity
4. Water
5. Energy and waste

Each of these themes is outlined briefly below.

2.3.1 *Governance and communication*

This theme seeks to address issues related to the policies, guidelines and management activities of the Shire. Additionally the theme seeks to improve interaction and communication between the Shire and the many active local community groups that make a valuable contribution to environmental management. The Shire aims to provide support and encouragement to these activities and foster a partnership approach to the delivery of environmental improvement projects.

There is a need to establish and clearly articulate the environmental policies, guidelines and management activities of the Shire to build community understanding and engagement including with individual residents, community groups and businesses.

2.3.2 *Land*

This theme targets issues related to land and fire management bringing together the diverse but often complementary objectives of agriculture and the environment. Key issues included in this theme are related to preventing degradation and erosion of soils and the resulting environmental issues as well as management of bushfire risks.

2.3.3 *Biodiversity*

Biological diversity, or biodiversity, is the term given to the variety of life on Earth. It is the variety within and between all species of plants, animals and micro-organisms and the ecosystems within which they live and interact (WWF website, 2014).

The biodiversity theme considers a broad range of issues which all threaten the biodiversity of the Shire of Toodyay. These issues include the loss of native vegetation and fauna as well as the prevalence of weeds, pests and feral animals and the spread of disease.

The Shire contains many natural areas which all experience these issues to a greater or lesser degree which is often related to their size, location and level of protection. Community groups and private land owners are critical for their contributions to the management of these issues and it is important for the Shire to play a coordinating and supporting role forming partnerships to undertake improvement projects.

2.3.4 Water

There are numerous issues which are broadly included within the water theme. These include environmental impact issues related to creating and sustaining healthy catchments and waterways such as; management of nutrients, sediment and other contaminants, erosion, fencing and stock control, management of stormwater systems to provide flood protection and adequate drainage, and management and protection of groundwater resources.

Also included in the water theme are issues related to water conservation and efficiency. The theme seeks to identify and foster the use of appropriate alternative and fit-for-purpose water sources including rainwater, greywater and recycled wastewater.

2.3.5 Energy and Waste

Energy and waste management brings together issues related to the way the Shire currently manages waste and considers future opportunities to improve recycling and the potential to meet future energy demands through waste processing. The theme also seeks to promote efficiency initiatives through development which applies climate responsive design principles and considers the use of alternative power supply systems and strategies.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

The overarching aim of this environmental management strategy is:

To provide strategic direction and improve the Shire's capacity to undertake effective environmental management and leadership that protects and enhances Toodyay's unique and valued natural environment.

This aim is to be delivered through the achievement of more defined objectives in particular environmental areas (themes) and the implementation of a number of strategies and actions. The actions have been prioritised and progress is to be measured against the identified indicator. The following key environmental themes have been identified:

1. Governance and communication;
2. Land;
3. Biodiversity;
4. Water; and
5. Energy and waste

3.1 Governance and communication

While the Shire has taken steps to manage and protect the environment and has had a number of successful initiatives, the lack of a formal structure and integration of environmental management across the organisation has meant that environmental management has been ad-hoc, responding to either problems or opportunities as they arise, rather than being targeted or strategic.

Opportunities exist for the Shire to revise or develop policies, processes and procedures to integrate the consideration of the environment into its daily activities and ensure its regulatory requirements are being met. This will ensure that environmental issues are recognised and addressed by all staff across the organisation. The Shire has also appointed a dedicated Environmental Officer and has now developed its first Environmental Management Strategy. These are recognised as important steps in formalising and structuring the Shire's approach and commitment to environmental management.

The Shire also recognises the importance of engagement and effective communication across the organisation; with other agencies; and with the community. An informed and proactive community can be an asset to the Shire's environmental management activities. Similarly, individuals can make a difference to sustainability and environmental protection through their own actions and lifestyles. It is important, therefore, that information on Shire activities is readily available. This should include general information about the environment and sustainable living as well as what the Shire was doing to protect the environment and how the Shire is liaising with State and Federal governments on environmental issues.

As governance and communication is required on all aspects of the environment (not just one or two themes) and needs to come from all parts of the organisation, actions relating to governance and communication are included under this theme.

3.1.1 Objectives

The governance and communication objectives of the Strategy are to:

1. Improve the integration of environmental management into the Shire's procedures and processes; and
2. Improve communication and education about the environment and the role of the Shire both internally and externally.

3.1.2 Strategies

The governance and communication objectives are to be delivered through the following strategies:

- Complete and endorse this environmental management strategy in consultation with the community;
- Actively recognise the value of the environment and its services and lead by example to improve environmental outcomes;
- Improve partnerships with Government, the community and environmental groups and provide support where possible;
- Integrate environmental management requirements and outcomes into Council policy and strategies; and
- Improve communication and sharing of information about the environment and Shire activities.

3.1.3 Actions

These strategies are to be delivered via a number of actions, as outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Shire of Toodyay actions to achieve the governance and communications objectives

No	Action	Priority and timeframe	Responsibility and partnerships	Indicator
1	Review and update the Shire's environmental and operational policies to meet best practice standards.	High Medium	Planning and Development DoP	Policies adopted
2	Establish an environmental advisory committee	High Short	CEO	Committee established
3	Council reports to adequately consider environmental implications and recommendations of the EMS	High Ongoing	CEO	Council reports containing environmental comments
4	Partner with the community to create a centre for environment in town, possibly co-located with an interpretive centre and other resources	High Long	Community Development Community groups	Centre established
5	Actively seek external funding to deliver environmental projects.	High Medium	Corporate Services	Funding obtained

No	Action	Priority and timeframe	Responsibility and partnerships	Indicator
6	Identify opportunities to partner with community groups & community at large	High Ongoing	Community Development	Partnerships established
7	Respond to environmental enquiries in a timely manner and demonstrate excellent customer service	High Ongoing	Planning and Development	Annual customer satisfaction survey
8	Advocate to regional and environmental organisations to improve environmental outcomes for the Shire	High Ongoing	CEO	Improved representation by agencies
9	Develop an environmental induction program for staff and contractors that reflects the intent of the EMS	Medium Medium	Corporate services	Induction program developed
10	Share the Shire's progress in becoming more sustainable & encourage community support	Medium Medium	Community Development	Information updated
11	Prepare and submit environmental articles for publication	Medium Short	Community Development	Articles published
12	Update the Shire website to include environmental information including photos and links to other relevant websites	Medium Short	Community Development	Website updated
13	Monitor and report on the Shire's environmental conditions & obligations	Medium Short	Planning and Development	Data base established Report provided
14	Participate in relevant stakeholder and community groups to ensure good environmental outcomes.	Medium Ongoing	CEO	Groups joined
15	Report any known breaches of environmental or other relevant legislation and/or regulations as appropriate	Medium Ongoing	CEO	Breaches reported as appropriate
16	Develop an environmental brand for the Shire that reflects key outcomes and priorities. Consider the Shire's floral emblem	Low Long	Corporate Services	Brand created
17	Engage Toodyay environmental groups to assist with Shire environmental projects	Low Long	Corporate Services	Joint projects established

3.2 Land

The land resources of Toodyay are significant and predominantly include viable agricultural land; mineral and basic raw materials resources; native bushland and habitat; large areas of rural residential/living (lifestyle lots) and settlements. Key issues include fragmentation and loss of bushland; soils acidity and salinity; loss of viable agricultural land; impacts of resource extraction; and control of access. It is recognised; however, that the Shire's role in delivering environmental outcomes for land resources is largely in relation to its own land holdings and infrastructure (or those for which it has management responsibility) and land use planning decision-making.

A key outcome for the Shire with regards to land is to ensure that decisions are based on a systems framework for land management which recognises the capability of the land to support any proposed activity. This requires an improved understanding of the soil, water, vegetation and geological properties of the area and the ability to interpret this information within the context of the proposed action.

3.2.1 Objectives

The land management objectives of the EMS are to:

3. Improve environmental management outcomes on Shire-managed land, infrastructure and within Shire activities;
4. Incorporate natural resource management and environmental considerations into the Shire's planning processes; and
5. Build and maintain relationships and partnerships with land managers including traditional owners to deliver improved environmental outcomes.

3.2.2 Strategies

The land management objectives are to be delivered through the following strategies:

- Respect Aboriginal and cultural values;
- Manage the Shire's land holdings in an environmentally responsible manner;
- Ensure decisions are based on a systems-based framework for land management which considers land capability/suitability, geology, water, vegetation and other relevant characteristics;
- Recognise the importance of viable agricultural land; and
- Support improved management of small land holdings.

3.2.3 Actions

These strategies are to be delivered via a number of actions, as outlined in Table 2.

Table 2: Shire of Toodyay actions to achieve the land management objectives

No	Action	Priority and timeframe	Responsibility and partnerships	Indicator
18	Implement new council policy and guidelines on firebreaks to reduce land degradation	High Short	CEO DFES, DPaW	Improved outcomes observed
19	Make geographic information systems (GIS) mapping available to enable desktop assessment of the environmental issues that may arise from on-site and off-site impacts from a potential land use	High Short	Corporate services Landgate	GIS available to staff
20	Develop a framework for land management decision making based on site characteristics which will assist in understanding environmental constraints	High Medium	Planning and Development DoP Planning	Framework completed
21	Review planning requirements and conditions to develop new standard environmental responses and requirements that can be used to address environmental issues in structure plans, and subdivision and development applications	High Medium	and Development DoP	Planning conditions revised
22	Understand state of Shire managed land resources and develop management plans for land and assets (infrastructure)	High Long	Works & Services DPaW	Management plans completed
23	Review stocking rates on small lots and provide better information appropriate to Shire conditions and reflect in planning tools	Medium Medium	Planning and Development DAFWA	Policy revised and endorsed
24	Develop "package" for small lot landowners that outlines preferred practices for stormwater, waste, soil management and bushland protection.	Medium Medium	Community development DAFWA, DPaW, DoW	Information prepared
25	Develop an Environmental Impact Assessment tool for extractive industries	Medium Long	Planning and Development DoP	Tool completed
26	Educate about impacts of off-road vehicles and horses	Low Medium	Community development	Information released
27	Review and optimise chemical and fertiliser use by the Shire and contractors and develop or share information on appropriate use	Low Medium	Works & Services	Chemical and fertiliser use reduced
28	Provide training to staff on the integration of the environment in planning processes and assessment	Low Medium	Planning and Development DoP	Training given

3.3 Biodiversity

In comparison to other Wheatbelt Shires, Toodyay contains a high proportion of remnant native vegetation and fauna habitat. It is recognised; however, that a significant proportion of these areas are in private ownership and thus potentially may be subject to clearing of native vegetation for agricultural, lifestyle blocks and/or urban development.

The Shire does not have management responsibility for many areas of bushland and little appears to be known about the biodiversity values of these areas. The development of management plans for Shire reserves may assist in the future enhancement of biodiversity values.

Fire is recognised as a significant threat to biodiversity within the Shire of Toodyay. Recent State Government policy has substantial implications for the Shire, particularly for future life-style living areas due to risks to development posed by bushfires. There is a need to better understand appropriate responses to mitigate and manage bushfire risk across the Shire.

Other threats to biodiversity arise from competition from introduced species, weeds and diseased such as dieback, as well as domestic and feral animals including stock.

3.3.1 Objectives

The objectives of the EMS in relation to biodiversity are to:

6. Protect, conserve and enhance biodiversity values in Toodyay;
7. Actively manage threats to biodiversity values; and
8. Recognise the importance of private land conservation.

3.3.2 Strategies

The following key strategies are recommended to be implemented:

- Develop policies to assist in the protection and enhancement of biodiversity values;
- Adequately address biodiversity in the Shire's local planning strategy;
- Provide information to assist in the management of threats to biodiversity and protection of local species;
- Improve management of Shire reserves to enhance biodiversity values including better control of weeds;
- Understand and implement fire management/burning practices that protect and enhance biodiversity;
- Develop incentives for conservation on private land; and
- Support community groups aiming to improve biodiversity values through provision of in-kind resources and grants where possible.

3.3.3 Actions

These strategies are to be delivered via a number of actions, as outlined in Table 3.

Table 3: Shire of Toodyay actions to achieve the biodiversity objectives

No	Action	Priority and timeframe	Responsibility and partnerships	Indicator
29	Identify areas of conservation value in the local planning strategy including potential corridors	High Medium	Planning and development DoP, DPaW	Areas identified in LPS
30	Develop local policies for retention and protection of biodiversity and mitigation of threats including uncontrolled access, bushfires, rubbish dumping, weeds, pests, and feral and domestic animals	High Medium	Planning and development DoP, DPaW, AgWA	Policies endorsed
31	Develop management plans and improve weed management on Shire lands	High Long	Works & services	Management plans completed
32	Use GIS systems including protected species, remnant vegetation and tree mapping to advise on planning proposal and development applications	High Ongoing	Planning and development	Improved outcomes are achieved
33	Continue to work with community groups and recognise their significant contribution to the protection of biodiversity	High Ongoing	Community development Community groups, DPaW	Regular communication and effective partnerships retained
34	Implement appropriate bushfire management regimes for Toodyay bushland and advocate for appropriate management actions on other managed lands	Medium Medium	CEO	Regimes implemented
35	Develop a program of hazard reduction burns for Shire reserves	Medium Medium	CEO DFES	Program completed
36	Manage bushfire risk of bushland areas in partnership with other management bodies	Medium Ongoing	CEO DFES, DPaW	Partnerships are effective and risk mitigated
37	Identify incentives for the protection of biodiversity on private property which may include engagement with the community	Medium Long	CEO Community	Incentives identified in discussion paper
38	Report clearing to the Department of Environment Regulation when reported to the Shire	Low Short	Planning and development	Clearing reported
39	Develop a local plant list for use by the community and the Shire to assist in revegetation	Low Medium	Planning and development DPaW, Community groups	Plant list published

No	Action	Priority and timeframe	Responsibility and partnerships	Indicator
40	Develop a weed brochure for weeds of particular importance to the Shire.	Low Medium	Planning and development AgWA, DPaW, Community groups	Brochure published
41	Develop a fauna awareness brochure	Low Medium	Planning and development DPaW, Community groups	Brochure published
42	Develop a 5 yr program of rehabilitation and revegetation of reserves in partnership with community stakeholders.	Low Long	Works & services DPaW, Community groups	Program documented
43	Reassess & document the quality of remnant vegetation of road verges	Low Long	Works & services RCC, DPaW, Community groups	Vegetation assessed and mapped
44	Monitor the clearing of any remnant vegetation within the Shire via GIS and aerial imagery	Low Ongoing	Planning and development Landgate	GIS data current

3.4 Water

Water resources are critical resources which sustain environmental, cultural and social values of environmental assets, the community and the economy. Water resources include rainfall, surface water including waterways and wetlands, groundwater and wastewater. These water resources may be impacted by development, land use activities and direct abstraction and use. Water resources also have the ability to impact on development as a result of flooding and salinity. It is also noted that much of Toodyay's population relies on rainwater as its sole source of water in areas outside the key townsites.

Most predictions of climate change for Australia agree that rainfall in Australia's south west is likely to decline. This, coupled with more intense storm events poses many challenges for the management of water resources into the future.

3.4.1 Objectives

The objectives of the EMS in relation to water resources are to:

9. Protect and enhance waterways, wetlands and the groundwater;
10. Protect development and infrastructure from flooding; and
11. Ensure sustainable use and management of all water resources.

3.4.2 Strategies

The following key strategies are recommended to be implemented:

- Increase efficiency, recycling and reuse to provide fit-for-purpose sources;

- Adequately manage the risk of flooding of Council land and infrastructure and through the assessment of planning and development proposals;
- Better understand the water resources of the Shire including limitations and risks to water sources and significant water assets;
- Assist in educating the community in water sustainability including protection of assets;
- Improve management of stormwater to address water quality;
- Ensure planning and development proposals are consistent with *State Planning Policy 2.9: Water Resources* and meet the requirements of *Better Urban Water Management* (WAPC, 2008) to deliver water sensitive urban design outcomes; and
- Optimise irrigation and fertiliser use in Shire managed areas.
- That the indigenous cultural values of the waterways within the Toodyay Shire be recognized.

3.4.3 Actions

These strategies are to be delivered via a number of actions, as outlined in Table 4.

Table 4: Shire of Toodyay actions to achieve water resource objectives

No	Action	Priority and timeframe	Responsibility and partnerships	Indicator
45	Undertake a review of irrigation and fertiliser requirements for Shire-managed lands and develop and implement strategies to reduce water consumption and fertiliser use	High Short	Works & services DoW	Reduction in groundwater usage Reduction in fertiliser use
46	Continue to work towards becoming a Waterwise Council	Medium Medium	Works & services DoW, Water Corporation	Waterwise Council status attained
47	Research stormwater capture and reuse options for the Shire	Medium Medium	Works & services DoW	Options identified and assessed
48	Assess opportunities for waste-water reuse	Medium Medium	Works & services Water Corporation	Options identified and assessed
49	Develop appropriate policy to deliver water sensitive urban design as part of land use planning decision-making	Medium Medium	Planning and development DoW	Policy endorsed
50	Require Shire purchasing decisions to consider waterwise ratings of goods and optimise performance where possible	Medium Medium	Corporate services Water Corp	Purchasing guidelines updated
51	Install rainwater tanks, preferentially plumbed into toilets in Council buildings where appropriate	Medium Medium	Corporate services	Number of RWT installed
52	Complete a Shire-wide water management strategy to guide decision making	Medium Long	Planning and development DoW	Strategy completed
53	Improve access to information about water resources within the Shire including ecological values and water source availability	Low Long	Community development DoW	Information compiled and released

No	Action	Priority and timeframe	Responsibility and partnerships	Indicator
54	Provide water quality treatment of drainage waters through rehabilitation and retrofitting of drains and sumps where possible	Low Long	Works & services DoW	Opportunities identified
55	Where asset upgrades are proposed, ensure the outcome maximises water sensitive urban design principles.	Low Ongoing	Works & services DoW, Water Corporation	Multiple outcomes achieved
56	Actively support the installation of greywater systems and rainwater tanks	Low Ongoing	Community development Water Corp	Number of systems installed

3.5 Waste and energy

Waste management is a core business of the Shire of Toodyay and kerbside collection is provided to residents in town as well as some Rural and Rural Living properties. Household waste, green waste and hazardous waste is collected at the Shire's transfer station and then transferred on to other markets and facilities for processing. The transfer station also operates a tip shop for reusable items.

Although most energy is provided from the regional grid, many homes operate wood-burning stoves for heating which have the potential to impact on air quality in the townsite. Some opportunities exist for alternative energy generation although the uptake of these technologies is currently low.

3.5.1 Objectives

The objectives of the EMS in relation to waste and energy are to:

12. Reduce energy use and costs and improve efficiency of energy use;
13. Minimise the generation of waste, reduce the amount to landfill and increase reuse and recycling; and
14. Encourage innovation and alternative solutions.

3.5.2 Strategies

The following key strategies are recommended to be implemented:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Shire activities and buildings through improved efficiency, designs, fittings and fixtures;
- Promote increases in energy efficiency within businesses and energy reductions in households as well as the uptake of renewable energy;
- Minimise waste generated by Shire operations;
- Promote waste minimisation and improve facilities and opportunities for recycling and reuse of municipal waste;
- Improve awareness of the impacts of rubbish dumping within the Shire

3.5.3 Actions

These strategies are to be delivered via a number of actions, as outlined in Table 5.

Table 5: Shire of Toodyay actions to achieve waste and energy objectives

No	Action	Priority and timeframe	Responsibility and partnerships	Indicator
57	Audit Council's energy use and develop a minimisation plan which identifies actions for Council together with programs to encourage reduced individual & collective energy use. The Plan should also include mitigation actions and renewable energy options where possible;	High Short	Works & services	Audit completed Plan endorsed
58	Conduct a Waste Audit for Shire operations to establish baseline figures and develop a Waste minimisation and management plan.	High Short	Planning and development Waste Contractor	Audit completed Plan endorsed
59	Educate the community about alternatives to burning greenwaste and wood-fired heaters and the health impacts of smoke and particulate haze	High Ongoing	Community development DER	Materials produced
60	Educate and promote innovation in waste management, including the waste hierarchy of (in order of preference) avoid → reduce → reuse → recycle and assist in local, alternative solutions where possible.	Medium Medium	Planning and development	Assistance provided
61	Work with Avon Regional Organisation of Councils to develop joint strategies which optimise waste management	Medium Ongoing	Planning and development	Relationship maintained Plan revised as required
62	Develop or share educational materials on sustainable building forms and options.	Low Medium	Planning and development UDIA	Materials produced
63	Develop policy and/or guidelines on energy efficient, climate responsive design	Low Long	Planning and development	Policy endorsed

4 IMPLEMENTATION

This is a living document that will be subject to regular review and updating. It is intended that this strategy will provide a blueprint for the Shire and our community that guides, inspires and motivates all parties towards improved environmental performance.

The Shire has appointed an Environmental Officer whose role is dedicated to environmental issues. It is recognised; however, that all employees and contractors of the Shire of Toodyay are accountable for environmental management through:

- Complying with the relevant legislation, policy and strategy;
- Implementing the Environmental Management Strategy through their operational activities and work program;
- Communicating any information they become aware of in relation to environmental management; and
- Taking actions to mitigate environmental impacts.

All employees and contractors are provided with the information they need to undertake their work whilst minimising their impacts upon the environment.

The Shire recognises that it cannot deliver this Strategy in isolation and will need to work with the residents, businesses, industry, community interest groups, stakeholders and all levels of government to achieve the objectives. Education and the sharing of information across the community about the strategy is an important tool in promoting a shared sense of responsibility with regards to the management of the natural environment.

Effective implementation requires regular monitoring and review to ensure actions are being completed in a timely fashion and that the Strategy's aims and objectives are being met. The actions related to the implementation of this strategy and the achievements of the objectives are captured in the EMS Progress Table. This will ensure that actions are implemented in accordance with their timeframe and priority and will allow any implementation difficulties to be identified early on.

Ongoing monitoring and review of individual actions according to the following schedule:

6 - monthly	Written/Verbal updates from responsible officers to the Environmental Officer. Updates are then recorded in the Environmental Management Strategy 2014 – 2019 Progress Table
Annually	Actions and issues will be reviewed to determine whether additional actions need to be added. The Progress Table will be assessed to identify any implementation difficulties with specific actions and steps will be taken to resolve any issues.
2019	Review of the Strategy, and assessment of the key achievements to Inform development of an Environmental Management Strategy 2019 - 2024

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APPENDIX 1: RELEVANT ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

The key Acts that the Shire needs to comply with, in relation to environmental management and protection, are summarised below.

a. Federal environmental protection legislation

i. *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

The Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places- defined in the EPBC Act as matters of national environmental significance (MNES). The EPBC Act is administered by the Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA).

There are nine MNES defined under the EPBC Act. These are:

- world heritage sites;
- national heritage places;
- wetlands of international importance;
- nationally threatened species and ecological communities;
- migratory species;
- Commonwealth marine areas;
- the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park;
- nuclear actions; and
- water resources in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining developments.

Any action that has, will have, or is likely to have, a significant impact on a MNES requires the approval of the Federal Minister for the Environment under the EPBC Act.

An 'action' is broadly defined under the Act as a project, development, undertaking, activity or series of activities, or an alteration of any of these things. An 'action' occurs at the time of site disturbance and includes "site preparation and construction, operation and maintenance, and closure and completion stages of a project, as well as alterations or modifications to existing infrastructure" (Commonwealth of Australia 2009). Strategic or statutory planning activities such as structure plans and subdivision are not considered to constitute an 'action' under the EPBC Act.

The preparation of greenfield sites for subdivision is considered to be an action under the EPBC Act. Thus where the subdivision and future development of land is likely to have a significant impact on any matter of NES, it should be referred to the Commonwealth Government for their decision regarding the need for assessment. However, it is recommended that local structure plans are referred to the Commonwealth Government where they affect MNES to facilitate more strategic and timely outcomes.

ii. *Native Title Act 1993*

The *Native Title Act 1993* was enacted as a result of the decision made by the High Court of Australia in *Mabo v Queensland (No.2)* 1992. It:

- recognises and protects native title;
- provides that native title cannot be extinguished contrary to the Act;
- provides for agreement making - Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs);
- validated any past grants of freehold or leasehold interests that were thrown into doubt by the Mabo decision; and
- created a National Native Title Tribunal to administer claims to land by Aboriginal people.

b. State environmental protection legislation

iii. Environmental Protection Act 1986

Environmental protection in Western Australia is provided primarily by the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). Part IV of the EP Act enables the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to undertake the environmental impact assessment (EIA) of a proposal if it is considered likely to have a significant effect on the environment. Section 48A of the EP Act relates to the assessment of planning schemes, whereas mining proposals are assessed under S38 of the EP Act. Licensing of prescribed premises occurs under Part V of the EP Act.

In the event that the project requires the clearing of native vegetation the Department of Environment and Conservation will need to be consulted to determine whether a clearing permit is required under the *Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*.

iv. Conservation and Land Management Act 1984

The *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* establishes a comprehensive set of legislative provisions dealing with state conservation and land management matters. It also provides for the vesting or reservation of land, particularly state forest or timber reserve, and the ability to enter into agreements with private landholders, state conservation and land management matters.

v. Wildlife Conservation Act 1950

The *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* provides for the conservation and protection of all native flora and fauna. Under the Act, individual species of plants and animals are protected, with the level of protection varying depending on whether the species is rare or endangered. Flora and fauna that needs special protection because they are under identifiable threat of extinction, are rare, or otherwise in need of special protection are placed on the threatened species list.

vi. Contaminated Sites Act 2003

The *Contaminated Sites Act 2003* imposes significant responsibilities on parties causing contamination, and on owners of contaminated land. Land owners, occupiers and polluters are required to report known or suspected contaminated sites to the Department of Environment Regulation. Reported sites are then classified, in consultation with the Department of Health, based on the risks posed to the community and the environment and responsibility for clean-up is allocated.

vii. Health Act 1911

The *Health Act 1911* is the primary Act dealing with all matters relating to public health, including waste management, sanitary provisions, pest controls and environmental health and defines local government responsibilities.

A new Public Health Act is being developed for Western Australia to better protect and promote public health as well as prevent illness and injury.

viii. Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007

As of 1 May 2013, the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (BAM Act) and regulations came into force. Under the BAM Act, organisms are grouped into four main classifications ;

- Declared pests
- Permitted
- Prohibited
- Permitted Requiring a permit

Under the BAM Act, all declared pests are placed in one of three categories, namely C1 (exclusion), C2 (eradication) or C3 (management). The Western Australian Organism List (WAOL) has been created to easily find out the declared status of Organisms that have now been classified as part of the enactment of the BAM Act..

ix. Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914

Under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* a Bed and Banks licence will be required from the Department of Water should construction activities disturb the bed and banks of any river, creek or drainage channel within the town centre.

In addition, a dewatering licence may be required from the Department of Water if dewatering activities are required during construction activities; a 26D licence for the construction of bores; and a 5C licence to abstract groundwater may be required from the should groundwater be required for construction purposes.

x. Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990

The *Heritage of Western Australia Act* provides for, and encourages, the conservation of places which have significance to the cultural heritage in the state and established the Heritage Council of Western Australia. The objectives of the Act are to:

- identify, conserve and where appropriate enhance those places within Western Australia which are of significance to the cultural heritage; and
- in relation to any area, to facilitate development that is in harmony with the cultural heritage values of that area; and
- to promote public awareness as to the cultural heritage, generally.

xi. Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972

The *Aboriginal Heritage Act* makes provision for the preservation on behalf of the community of places and objects customarily used by or traditional to the original inhabitants of Australia or their descendants, or associated therewith, and for other purposes incidental thereto.

xii. Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007

The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 established the Waste Authority and required it to develop a long term Waste Strategy for Western Australia. The primary objective of the Act is to

contribute to sustainability, and to the protection of human health and the environment. It is also designed to help Western Australia to move towards a waste-free society by

- Promoting the most efficient use of resources, including resource recovery and waste avoidance;
- Reducing environmental harm, including pollution through waste;
- Consideration of resource management through avoidance of unnecessary resource consumption and disposal;
- Resource recovery which includes reuse, reprocessing, recycling and energy recovery.

APPENDIX 2: ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY WORKSHOP NOTES

9am To 3pm, 1 July 2014, CWA Hall, Toodyay

The workshop was opened by Shire of Toodyay CEO Stan Scott who provided some background on the development of the Shire's Environmental Management Strategy.

Participants were also welcomed by Councillor Bethan Lloyd, who emphasised the importance of community input and developing a strategy that was uniquely for Toodyay. Councillor Lloyd noted that the strategy would be focussed on Shire operations and actions with regards to environmental management but would also guide actions within the community. It should be framed with an understanding of Shire resources but also push the boundaries where necessary.

Councillor Lloyd introduced the facilitator, Shelley Shepherd from Essential Environmental who led the rest of the workshop.

The first session, hosted as a group, identified issues that the participants felt were important to Toodyay in terms of the environment and environmental management. Key themes that were explored included biodiversity, vegetation, native fauna, weeds, land management, soils, Avon River and tributaries, water resources, waste and energy. The list of issues is transcribed below.

Issues

- Land clearing
- People – access: AWD and horses
- Waste management
- Chemical use/spraying
- Dieback
- Weeds
- Mining
- Fire – accidental
- Fire management
- Logging
- Waterways
- Agricultural production – GM
- Sediment transport/erosion
- Past practices and river management
- Stock access
- Fragmentation - roads and infrastructure
- Feral animals
- Salinity
- Soil acidification
- Regulation (land clearing regulations)
- Development
- Farm clearing (related to land clearing regulations) – new machinery and technology
- Lack of state government action
- Good NRM groups
- Lack of resources
- Invasive species
- Stock access to private bush
 - Slow degradation
 - Large good bits
- Logging and firewood poaching
- Changes to hydrology and climate variability
- Incentives for private conservation
- Illegal dumping of waste
- Bushfire policy
- Extractive industries → landscape
- Historic heritage and landscape
- Aboriginal cultural sites
- Drying climate
- Roadside verges/management/widening → erosion
- Closure of railways
- Strategic firebreaks – still important
- Domestic pets
- State government decision/regulation
- Poor/inappropriate revegetation
- Lack of understanding of environmental context
- Community group burn out
- Firebreaks → erosion. Huge risk from fragmented small lots
 - → planning

- → capital
- → will
- → education
- Link between land and water
- Need to incorporate environment into planning
- Viable agriculture land is important
- Outcomes of bauxite mining – changes properties of the land
- Mining controlled by DMP (State)
- Conservation Park – Julimar needs protection
- Lack of baseline information at local level
- Temperature change impacts on species
- More intense storms → clean up
- Heatwaves
- Changing rainfall patterns
- Rainwater tanks
- Greywater reuse – need more education and incentives
- Conservation such as dry composting toilets
- Disconnect between Avon and Swan
- Land and roses → waterwise plants
- Road drainage → river
- WSUD
- Drainage management
- Road impact on superficial flows
- Need better understanding of catchments and soil type when undertaking works
- Septic tanks and impact on groundwater due to rock/substrate
- Groundwater soaks – important
- Flood risk/flood plain → needs, salinity
- Changes in surface water flow paths – large impacts in some areas
- Increase run off from storms
- Tributaries of Avon are also very significant (get forgotten)
- Waste management – core business
- Need more recycling (things taken at transfer station)
- Need more recycling pick ups (or bigger bins)
- Greater emphasis on reduce and reuse → education
- Container deposit scheme
- Waste to energy
- No waste from Perth
- Toodyay to deal with risk “in-house” (not send to Northam)
- Shire support for tidy towns
- Reconsider bin type in town
- Emphasise reduce waste first
- Educate more about what can be recycled
- Energy from waste
- Purchasing policy needs review
- Wind farms → Community is divided → Regional partnerships need to be considered
- Local generation (small scale)
- Cogeneration
- Solar incentives
- Climate responsible design
- Air pollution in town (in the valley)
- Wood burning stoves

The next session explored the objectives for environmental management. Five break-out groups were established with the themes of:

- Water
- Biodiversity
- Land management
- Energy and waste
- Governance and communication

Participants were asked to report back to the room and the objectives were explored further. General consensus was reached regarding the identified objectives as follows.

Objectives

1 – Water

- Towards water sustainability/ self sufficiency
 - knowledge/information
 - limitations and risks - community capacity
 - integration/education (management and planning)
- Protect/preserve water resources
 - Community AND environment

2- Biodiversity

- Protect, conserve and enhance biodiversity in Toodyay – understand
- Actively manage threats (including people)
- Recognise importance of private land conservation
- Understand and implement fire management/burning practices that enhance biodiversity
- Work in partnership to better manage biodiversity

3- Land management

- Ensure decisions are based on a systems-based framework for land management → consider land capability/suitability, water, vegetation etc
 - Decisions must be based on site specific information
 - Shire adhere to same framework
- Recognise importance of viable agricultural land
- Support improvements/management of small land holdings

4- Waste and Energy

- Reduce energy use and costs
 - Building designs guidelines
- Encourage waste hierarchy: avoid → reduce → reuse → recycle (increased)
- Increase education
- Encourage innovation and alternative solutions
- Accept responsibility for own waste

5- Governance and communicate (recognise the 'wins' – good stuff is being done)

- “Walk the talk”
- Realistic policies and guidelines
- Better communication and education of role of Shire and Councillors
 - → build on what is there
 - → teamwork
 - Use and support existing community groups/ leaders/ assets
- Active recognition of the value of the environment and its services

The final session explored the themes further as participants (still in their groups) were asked to describe the strategies they felt would be necessary to achieve the identified objectives. The strategies should focus on the activities of Council and the Shire. As part of the reporting back, the participants considered implementation timelines and priorities.

The following strategies were recommended. High priority strategies are indicated in **bold** and medium priority in *italics*.

Strategies

Water

- **Audit** (short term)
 - Understand
 - Minimise use → review and action baselines → water wise
- **Map**
 - Collate
- Integration
 - **Policy**
 - *Planning and approvals*
 - *Operations*
 - Environment and community needs → advocate
- Asset based community development
 - Social marketing

* Recognise costs to community and Shire – also of not doing something.

Biodiversity

- **Policies for conservation and to mitigate threats**
- **Identify potential corridors → LPS**
- Support community groups including with grants
- *Educate and knowledge share with community → blog, website. Promote*
- Stewardship of shire reserves – shared
- Information on local SPP and revegetation and protected SPP
- Weeds and ferals and domestic animals – advocate and information?
- Private land – help map values
- *Small landholder support – groups (tie in with act, belong, commit)*
- **Incentives for conservation on private land**
- *Better control of weeds on shire lands*
- Report clearing when reported to the shire

Land management

- **Develop framework for land management (need resources) → understand environmental costs**
- Communicate with community about Shire activities that impact the environment
- Understand state of shire managed land resources and develop management plans
- *Review and improve council policy and guidelines on firebreaks to reduce land*

- Review stocking rates and provide better information (numbers and time)
- Educate about impacts of off-road vehicles
- Develop “package” for new landowners (positive marketing)
- Celebrate Aboriginal and cultural values
- **Shire to “walk the talk”**

Energy and waste

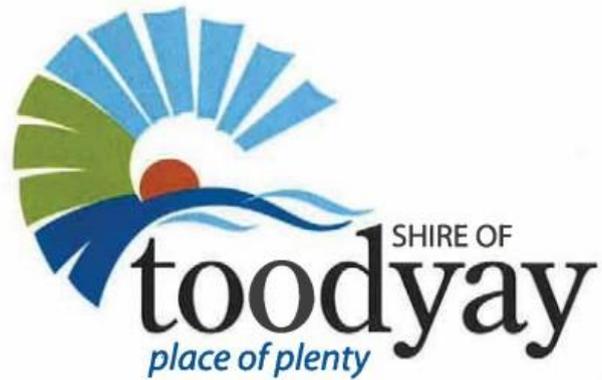
- **Develop policy/guidelines on climate responsive design – encourage people to go beyond**
- **Audit energy use → develop minimisation plan**
- Consider expanding to include Shire carbon footprint
- **Quantify waste and resource streams (decreasing)**
- Consider costs and feasibility of options to manage waste (shire solely) → site for waste management
- Educate and promote innovation: avoid → reduce → reuse → recycle. Decrease energy use
- Provide information so community can monitor progress (Shire and personal)
- *Flexibility in policies to support innovation*
- Advocate for mitigation actions

Governance and communication – “SOTES”

- Shire floral emblem – resurrect
- **Complete and endorse environmental plan – review with community input**
- *Create centre for environment in town (high and long term priority)*
- Integrate strategies into council policy/strategies
- **Communicate better:**
 - Tidy towns – recreate website
 - Designated environment article in Herald
 - Website – needs better photos!!
- Education – support library, schools and environmental groups. Share in other areas eg IGA, environment centre
- Council reports – consider environmental implications and EMS
- → walk the talk
- **Partnerships with other environmental groups and community (huge awesome response)**

The workshop participants were then thanked for their time and contribution, in particular their enthusiasm and sharing their considerable knowledge. The outcomes would be provided to all participants and used as the basis for development of the Environmental Management Strategy.

The workshop closed at 2.45pm.



Client: Shire of Toodyay

Report	Version	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Submitted to Client	
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