



SHIRE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Spring! As I move around the region this season, I stop myself regularly to appreciate the spectacular views of the rolling hills, the patchwork of lush green and yellow paddocks, damp soil and big blue skies. While our winters might be short, they are magnificent! Tourists, are out in full force and farmers are happy with excellent crops and pastures. No doubt, it will be a wonderful wildflower season.

Please take care on the roads: caravans and trucks combined with the regular traffic, is not always a good mix. Plan for your journey to take longer than it should and always remember to keep left, especially on the passing lanes near Oakajee.

Recent news from the state government that the Shire of Northampton will receive funding to widen and install audible line marking on a section of the Horrocks Beach Road, and that plans are in place to improve the intersection at the turn off to Horrocks on the Kalbarri Road, was very well received. Other roads to be widened in the Mid West include sections of the Chapman Valley Road, Allanooka Springs Road and Depot Hill Road, which are key tourist and connecting roads across the region.

Illegal camping is an issue in our local government area, as it is right up and down the West Coast. On social media, I've recently noted the comments regarding the campers who took it upon themselves to camp and light a fire near Sally's Tree in Kalbarri. While it's hard to comprehend that campers would be so rude as to choose this spot, please understand that the Shire staff do work hard to mitigate illegal camping. Over 100 camping infringement notices have been issued since April, which is more than the previous ten years in total.

In response to the criticism that there is not a Ranger based in Kalbarri, the vast majority of positions in the Shire of Northampton are for service delivery across all areas in the Shire. When the previous ranger, who happened to live in Kalbarri, resigned, the job was

advertised and was awarded to the most qualified and suitable candidate. In this instance, it is someone with a highly competent skill set in regulation. Rangers do periodically stay overnight in Kalbarri and alternatively frequently start work before sunrise, so they can travel to various locations around the Shire to monitor illegal camping. Please understand this is not just an issue in Kalbarri. Most times when I travel to Kalbarri late in the day to attend afternoon and evening meetings, and I am astounded at the traffic who is heading 'out of town' presumably with the intention of camping somewhere they shouldn't! Please note, the campground at the Murchison River on the NWC Highway is under the management of Main Roads, not the Shire of Northampton.

While the lack of a doctor in Northampton continues to weigh on Councillors, Shire executive and the community generally, please be assured that since the announcement of the closure of the surgery, along with other Councillors, I have been involved in many meetings in an endeavour to re-instate a doctor in town. Thankyou to those who have reached out to the relevant MPs to express your concerns. I would like to thank the member for Geraldton, MLA Kirrilee Warr, Hon Rob Horstman MLC and federal MLA for Durack, Melissa Price, for their support and advocacy of this issue.

My condolences to the extended Smith families in the loss of your Mum and Nanna, Betty Smith and also for the passing of Robert Brown, sincere and heartfelt sympathy to you all.

September signals Show Time in our region. Please support the Northampton District Agricultural Society by getting involved and/or attending the event which is Saturday 13th September.

Good luck to your sporting team as the Winter sport season draws to a close.

Liz Sudlow
Shire President

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE

The Shire is pleased to announce that it has secured \$600,000 from the Commonwealth Government under the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program.

The funding will be used to strategically plan for population growth arising from activities in the area and will explore potential economic, social, and environmental impacts. Led by Local Government, the plan will involve stakeholders including the State and Commonwealth Governments, industry, peak bodies and community to capture relevant outcomes to assist in future planning.

Areas that will be addressed right across the Shire district will include, but not be limited to, housing, community infrastructure, retail, tourism, agriculture, mining, renewable energy, fishing, accommodation, medical and health, education, recreation, water, wastewater, energy supply, telecommunications and transport.

Whilst it is expected that the project will take some time, there will be ample opportunity for the community to have their say and contribute to a strategic plan that will guide future generations in the Shire district.

Council elections will be held on 18 October 2025 with the Shire of Northampton having three vacant Councillor positions to fill. Nominations for the vacancies open on 28 August 2025 and close at 4pm 4 September 2025.

The election will be held by Postal Vote with the Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC) coordinating the process. WAEC have appointed Rochelle Hose to the position of Returning Officer to manage the Council Election at a local level and Rochelle can be contacted on 0458 062 255 for any queries.

The Shire has recently entered into a funding agreement with the State Government to further develop planning for the Kalbarri Multipurpose Evacuation Centre as part of the Labor Government's election commitment.

The funding will be used to utilise the conceptual work already completed to develop a detailed design, update the Opinion of Probable Cost and produce a Business Case for the project.

Andrew Campbell
Chief Executive Officer

UNAUTHORISED CAMPING WITHIN THE SHIRE

There is only one Free Camping area within the Shire of Northampton being at Galena Bridge. All other camping is restricted to authorised camping grounds and caravan parks.

Despite this, the Shire and its communities is currently experiencing unprecedented level of unauthorized/illegal camping. This is particular the case for our coastal communities of Horrocks, Port Gregory and Kalbarri.

This is not a problem unique to our Shire, with many other communities on the Western Australian coast experiencing the same issues.

Shire Officers are working hard to enforce the requirements, having issued more fines in the last 10 months than the previous 10 years with the fines being issued at \$200 per person. Shire Officers are also working on a new education campaign to get the word out.

Should you observe people setting up camp outside of a caravan park please report it to the Shire Rangers as soon as possible on the telephone numbers below:

Shire Rangers
Rob McKenzie – 0458 341 200; and
Brock Lucev – 0429 341 203

*Note: For the Shire to issue fines, Shire Rangers must catch the person(s) camping, and we are unable to do anything after the fact.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Event Application Guidelines

What constitutes an event?

“an organised occurrence hosted by a person or organisation on public or private land where people assemble at a given time for a given purpose”

To host an event in the Shire of Northampton an appropriate event application form needs to be filled out and submitted. You will find these forms on our website.

This includes events that are held at Shire buildings that are outside of the scope of their normal business and/or are serving alcohol.

Small events (under 24 hours) - needs to be submitted 30 days prior to the event taking place.

Medium to large scale events (over 24 hours) - needs to be submitted 90 days prior to the event taking place.

If you have any questions, please contact your Community Development Officer in your area.

Northampton - Andrea Teakle 0476 532 000
Kalbarri - Cresta Viellaris 0400 476 952



PORT GREGORY FORESHORE UPGRADE

The Shire is nearing completion of significant upgrades to the main carpark in Port Gregory, aimed at improving pedestrian safety and enhancing public amenities. The project, fully funded by the Shire, included the installation of new paths to support pedestrians, as well as the addition of shelters with seating to provide comfort and convenience for users.

The upgrades reflect our commitment to creating safer, more accessible public spaces for both residents and tourists. Port Gregory is a key destination in our region and these improvements will support its continued growth and appeal.

The Shire thanks the community for its support and patience during this construction period.



HOW YOUR RATES ARE CALCULATED

The amount of rates payable is determined by three factors – the method of valuing the land; the value of the land and improvements; and the rate in the dollar applied to the valuation by the Local Government. The Minister for Local Government determines the appropriate method for the valuation of land according to the relevant legislation and the current rating policy, which determines whether the Unimproved Value (UV) or the Gross Rental Value (GRV) of the land applies. The purpose for which land is held or used determines the classification (ie. UV or GRV).

You will also find an 'Emergency Services Levy' included on the rate notice. Local Government collects this levy each year on behalf of the State Government and funds are then disbursed to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. This levy funds various operating costs, training and capital equipment purchases for the Bush Fire Brigade, Career and Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service and the State Emergency Services.

Pensioner Rebates

The Pensioners and Seniors Rebate Scheme is a mechanism that provides a rebate or deferment of charges to eligible pensioners and seniors. Concessions apply to Local Government rates charges, water service charges, emergency services levy and underground electricity connection charge. Pensioners or seniors who hold an eligible concession card and own and occupy residential property on or before 1 July may be entitled to a rebate.

The Water Corporation accepts applications over the phone (1300 659 951) or via an online application facility via www.watercorporation.com.au. More information can be found online in the form of a Fact Sheet titled *Pensioners and Seniors Concessions Scheme*.

EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY (ESL)

The Emergency Services Levy (ESL) is an annual charge paid by all property owners in Western Australia. Every dollar raised through the ESL pays for the delivery of critical and life-saving fire and emergency services across the State. In the event of a structure fire, bushfire, flood, storm, cyclone, hazardous spill, road crash or any other emergency on land or sea, our role at DFES is clear.

The ESL pays for frontline services provided by Western Australia's career and volunteer fire and emergency services including:

- Firefighters ready to serve on the frontline in times of emergency.
- Emergency services volunteers and support personnel a dedicated network of volunteers ready to respond to hazards from structure fires and bushfires, helping people during floods, cyclones and storms, road crashes, hazardous spills and people lost on land and at sea.
- Fire and emergency vehicles powering our firefighters and volunteers on the frontline, with fire trucks, incident control vehicles, rescue and flood boats and road crash rescue trucks set to roll out at any time.
- Fire stations and emergency facilities operating bases for firefighters and volunteers, with vehicles and equipment ready to respond 24/7.
- Aerial fleet and rescue suppressing fires through a network of helitacs, fixed-wing bombers, aircrews and water bombers, and undertaking rescue missions.

The ESL pays for Western Australia's emergency response capability:

- Triple Zero (000) Communications Centre operating 24/7 to take emergency 000 and 132 500 State Emergency Service calls from people in need.
- Emergency WA website dedicated to informing the community with warnings and emergency advice.
- Technology and communications infrastructure supporting frontline responders through radio networks and computer-aided dispatch programs.
- Emergency management planning undertaking regional hazard and incident risk profiling, analysis and prediction.
- Training developing firefighters and emergency services volunteers to be at the forefront of emergency response and capability.
- Safety and education preparing individuals and communities to reduce their risks and be resilient in the face of natural disasters and emergency events.

The ESL pays for initiatives that minimise the community's exposure to risks from all hazards:

- Bushfire risk planning to minimise the impact of bushfire on individual, property, communities and the environment.

- Controlled burns reducing fuel loads and protecting the things that you value the most.
- Fire breaks stopping fire in its tracks and protecting vulnerable and at-risk communities.
- Fire investigations looking at the causes of fires and research into risks in the home and environment.
- Building inspections ensuring that buildings and residents are safe from hazards.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS UNDER NCC

All new residential building permit applications lodged with the Shire of Northampton on or after 1 May 2025 must meet the new minimum 7-star energy rating standard.

If your application was lodged before 1 May 2025, the previous requirements under NCC 2019 Amendment 1 will continue to apply — even if additional information is requested later.

To assist with understanding the transition timeline, please refer to the infographic below:

Time application for building permit is made	BCA 2019 Amdt 1	BCA 2022 with BCA 2019 Amdt 1 Energy Efficiency & Condensations requirements	BCA 2022	BCA 2022 Amdt 1
Until 30 April 2025	✓	✓	✓	✗
From 1 May 2025 until 30 April 2026	✗	✗	✓	✓
From 1 May 2026	✗	✗	✗	✓

Note: Regulation 15C of the Regulations modifies the BCA such that the application of the livable (accessible) housing provisions and the energy efficiency heating and cooling load limits is voluntary in WA.

For more information visit: <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/announcements/understanding-ncc-2022-and-implementation-clarification>

QUICK GUIDE – SIGNS OF STROKE

⚠ Quick Guide – Signs of a Stroke ⚠

Remember FAST – it could save a life:

- F – Face: Is the face drooping on one side?
- A – Arms: Can they lift both arms, or does one drift down?
- S – Speech: Is speech slurred, strange, or hard to understand?
- T – Time: Call 000 immediately – every minute counts.

A stroke is always an emergency. Acting FAST can make all the difference.

REFUSE DISPOSAL CHARGES

COMMERCIAL

- General Waste – Builders Rubble, contaminated with refuse – per load – tandem truck (8.0m³) \$72.00
- General Waste – Builders Rubble uncontaminated – per load – small trailer 6x4 or 1.5m³ \$21.50 or large trailer or tandem trailer load 2.0m³ - \$30.00; or single axle truck 5.0m³ - \$42.00
- Putrescible Waste (placed in bulk bins) – per load \$70.00
- Cardboard – per load – large trailer load with cage (flattened with no inserts) \$70.00 or small trailer load 6x4 or ute (flattened with no inserts) - \$40.00
- Green Waste Only uncontaminated – per load \$11.50
- Mattress – Single – each \$50.00 Mattress – Double or larger (ensembles are counted as 2 mattresses) – each \$50.00

NON-COMMERCIAL

- General Waste (Inert) – per load \$5.00
- Inert / General Waste / Greenwaste – separated & placed in correct sites – per load \$2.00
- Putrescible Waste (materials must be placed in bulk bins) – per load small trailer 6x4 \$19.50
- Putrescible Waste (materials must be placed in bulk bins) – per drum/bin 240Lt or less \$7.00
- Cardboard – per load small trailer or ute (flattened with no inserts) \$35.00
- Mattress – Single – each \$35.00
- Mattress – Double or larger (ensembles are counted as 2 mattresses) – each \$40.00

(Note: If not otherwise specified Per Load means tray back/ute/trailer load)

MISCELLANEOUS

- Tractor/Truck Tyres Large 1m to 2m tall (No rim) – each \$120.00
- Tractor Small up to 1m tall (No rim) – each \$60.00
- Truck Tyres (No rim) – each \$33.00
- Four Wheel Drive (4WD) Tyres (No rim) – each \$14.00
- Motor Vehicle Tyres standard (No rim) – each \$12.50
- Motor Cycle Tyres (No rim) – each \$10.00
- Fire Extinguishers – each \$2.00
- LPG Bottles – Small – 9Kg or less – each \$10.00
- LPG Bottles – Large – 45Kg – each \$15.00
- White Goods (Stove/Fridge/Freezer/Washing Machine, etc) – each \$15.00
- Car Bodies – each \$100.00
- Car Batteries \$10.00
- TV/Computer/Printer/Scanner (Small to Medium items) – each \$5.00

- TV/Computer/Printer/Scanner (Large items) – each \$10.00

SPECIAL BURIALS – (Kalbarri Refuse Site Only)

- Asbestos – Non-Commercial Operators – up to 10m² – per sheet or \$20.00 minimum \$10.00
- Asbestos – Commercial Operators – per m³ – \$75.00 (minimum \$150.00)

If anyone has any questions regarding the above waste fees, please do not hesitate to contact Shire Environmental Health Officer by telephone on 9934 1202 during office hours or emailing eho@northampton.wa.gov.au.

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

There may come a time when elderly drivers are advised – either by family or their doctor – that it is time to stop driving. If you or a loved one are approaching this stage, it's a good idea to arrange for a Photo Card while your driver's licence is still valid.

A Photo Card is an excellent form of identification for those who no longer drive. It can be issued with or without your residential address, and is valid for five years.

Come and speak to our friendly staff for more information. If you hold a current Aged Pension Card, you may be eligible to obtain the Photo Card free of charge!

PRACTICAL DRIVING ASSESSMENTS



Practical Driving Assessments (PDA) are conducted fortnightly on Tuesdays at the Shire of Northampton office by a qualified assessor who travels up from Geraldton.

There are only three appointment slots available on each assessment day. Please note that the final timeslot cannot be booked until the first two appointments are filled.

If you wish to book a PDA, please visit our friendly staff. They will check your individual circumstances and confirm that you have completed all necessary requirements before securing a booking.

DOWNLOAD THE EMERGENCY WA APP

The Emergency WA app is now available for download from the App Store and Google Play. The app is a powerful tool that offers the fastest, most reliable access to alerts and warnings for hazards across Western Australia.

Users can set custom watch zones, tailor notifications, upload critical documents and listen to emergency broadcasts – empowering communities to stay informed and safe.

Don't forget, emergencies can happen suddenly and cause disruptions to power, internet and telecommunications systems. It's important you know how to access a range of official information sources.

Get information by:

- Visiting Emergency WA, downloading the app and setting up your watch zones
- Calling 13 DFES (13 3337)
- Listening to ABC local radio and tuning into 6PR in the metropolitan area
- Following Department of Fire and Emergency Services WA on Facebook
- Staying in touch with neighbours, family and friends
- Being alert and aware of your surroundings

For more information about the Emergency WA app, visit the Department of Fire and Emergency Services website <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/>

MEET OUR NEW SHIRE RANGER



Brock is dedicated to serving the Shire community both as a resident and professional. He conducts regular patrols throughout Northampton, Horrocks, Port Gregory, Kalbarri, and surrounding regions.

With more than 25 years of experience in the Western

Australian Police Force living in remote communities, Brock has called Northampton home for the past five years, including throughout the recovery following Cyclone Seroja.

Brock usually patrols Kalbarri 3 days a week unless there is an emergency, along with Ranger Rob, who also attends Kalbarri frequently. Shire Rangers work 8 hours a day, Monday to Friday. They are flexible but not on call. For after-hours contact, please text photos, incident details, registration number, date, and time. Rangers will follow up when available, possibly the next day.

Brock – 0429 341 203

Rob – 0458 341 200

REMAINING COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2025

18 September 2025 - Northampton

16 October 2025 – Northampton

20 November 2025 – Kalbarri

18 December 2025 – Northampton

COUNCILLORS

Cr Liz Sudlow, President – 0427 362 025

Cr Tim Hay, Deputy President – 0488 212 566

Cr Roslyn Suckling – 0429 200 143

Cr Trevor Gibb – 0417 920 125

Cr Des Pike – 0417 919 814

Cr Richard Burges – 0417 912 901

Cr Karl Suckling – 0427 839 274

SHIRE ADDRESS

Northampton Office

Hampton Road, Northampton

PO Box 61 Northampton WA 6535

Phone: 9934 1202 Opening Hours: Mon - Fri

8.00am - 4.30pm (DOT closes at 3.30pm)

Kalbarri Office

70 Grey St, Kalbarri

Phone: 9937 1097

Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm

(closed for lunch 12.30pm - 1pm)

WEBSITE

www.northampton.wa.gov.au

