

Shire News

Shire of Dardanup Newsletter

Best Practice entity in financials again

For the second consecutive year, the Shire of Dardanup has been recognised by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) as a Best Practice entity in financial reporting for the 2023/24 financial year.

The accolade comes from the OAG's annual Local Government Financial Audit Results report, which reviewed the financial reporting practices of 135 local governments across Western Australia.

Shire President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner said the significant achievement highlights the Shire's continued excellence in financial management that reflects the professionalism, integrity and dedication of the entire organisation.

"To be recognised as a Best Practice entity for a second year in a row is a big deal — it reflects our organisation's consistent commitment to the highest standards of financial governance," he said.

"This outcome is not just a win for our Finance and Governance team, but for our entire Shire.

"It's a shared success that every staff member and community stakeholder can be proud of."



The Shire of Dardanup President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner and Director Corporate and Governance Natalie Hopkins. The Shire has been recognised by the Office of the Auditor General as a Best Practice entity in financial reporting for the 2023/24 financial year.

The OAG measures Best Practice performance using key criteria: Timeliness of CEO-certified financial report.

- Quality of financial report (financial statements and notes).
- Quality of working papers that support the financial report.
- Management resolution of accounting matters.
- Availability of key staff during the audit.
- Number and significance of management letter findings.

- Achievement of a clear audit opinion.

The Shire congratulates the other 19 Western Australian local governments also recognised for Best Practice in their 2023-24 Financial Reporting year.

View results by scanning the below QR code:



Updates:

BunGeo excellence awards

The annual Bunbury Geographe Excellence Awards celebrate outstanding businesses across Bunbury, Harvey, Dardanup, Capel, Collie, and Donnybrook-Balingup. Presented by the BGCCI, the Shire proudly supports the awards, which recognise excellence in innovation, sustainability, and tourism. Enter or nominate by Monday, 9 June 2025 at awards.bgcci.com.au

Eaton Community Hive

The former Eaton Family Centre has rebranded as Eaton Community Hive Inc., launching its new identity during WA Neighbourhood House Week. Welcoming 600-plus visitors weekly, the Hive offers inclusive services from parenting and youth programs to wellness classes and a new Mental Health Hub. For nearly 20 years, the Shire has supported the Hive through budget and grant funding.

Unrestricted burning period

The Shire of Dardanup entered the Unrestricted Burning Period on 10 May 2025. Burning permits are no longer required, but conditions still apply. Burning is not allowed during Total Fire Bans or if the Fire Danger Rating is High or above. Burning is prohibited on land under 2000m². Register burns at dfes.wa.gov.au or for more info contact our Ranger Services on (08) 9724 0307 or at rangers@dardanup.wa.gov.au

Construction code change

From 1 May 2025, all new residential building permit applications to the Shire of Dardanup must meet the updated seven-star energy rating standard under the National Construction Code (NCC). Applications lodged before this date will follow NCC 2019 Amendment 1. For more info visit: www.wa.gov.au

Shire mural celebrates culture, community

The vibrant new mural now proudly displayed on the Shire of Dardanup building is the work of local emerging artist Grace Janowicz, winner of the RCR NAIDOC Week Art Competition.

Shire President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner said Grace's stunning mural design, titled Wanju, has transformed an external wall of the Shire's Administration, Library and Community Building into a dynamic and meaningful celebration of place, people and culture.

Commissioned through a collaboration between RCR Mining Technologies, CheckMate Art Gallery in Bunbury and the Shire of Dardanup, the mural was brought to life during a week-long live painting session by Grace — who was selected as the winner from a pool of Noongar and non-Indigenous artists.

Cr Gardiner said the title of Grace's piece, Wanju, which means "welcome" in Noongar language, resonates strongly with the Shire's own commitment to welcome and inclusion.

"Grace's mural stood out for its bold street-art style and thoughtful reflection of life in the Shire of Dardanup," Cr Gardiner said.

Grace said the project pushed them out of their comfort zone — but in the best possible way.

"When I look at the mural, I see strong connections to community and country," Grace said.

"I wanted to create something bright and fun to look at, but also something that connects people to the cultural roots of the land."



Checking out the mural by artist Grace Janowicz (far right) are (from left) Shire President Tyrrell Gardiner, RCR Mining Technologies' Neville Kelly and CheckMate Bunbury's Annie Labriola.

Meeting dates for 2025

The Shire's 2025 Ordinary Council Meetings are held on the following Wednesdays at 5pm:

25 June	19 October
23 July	19 November
27 August	17 December
25 Sept	

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee meetings will be held on the following Wednesdays:

Bush Fire Advisory Committee,
Wednesdays, 7pm:
11 June 8 October

Audit and Risk Committee, Wednesdays,
2pm:
11 June 10 December
10 Sept

Special Council Meeting for the adoption of the Draft Annual Budget at 5pm on 28 May 2025.

What's on your verge?

Please check before you plant, pave or place



Eaton Rec Centre gets new look

The Eaton Recreation Centre has undergone a major refresh, with upgraded changerooms, toilets and showers now open to the community.

Shire President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner said the works have made the Centre more modern, comfortable, and accessible for all users.

"The Eaton Rec is a place where people of all ages come to stay active and connect," Cr Gardiner said.

"These upgrades ensure it continues to meet the needs of our growing community."

Key improvements include:

- Upgraded changerooms, showers, and toilets
- New accessible toilets in the hallway.
- Entry wall removed to open up the space
- Fresh coat of paint, more internal upgrades to come.

The works were supported by the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program – Phase 4.

The Centre attracts over 280,000 visits a year and is home to fitness classes, a 24/7 gym, social sports, crèche, vacation care, and top local clubs like the SouthWest Slammers and Eaton Basketball Association.



Competition details

THEME: How beautiful the Shire of Dardanup is when we all recycle together.

OPEN TO: All Shire of Dardanup school students

DATES: 21 May - 23 June 2025

ARTWORK MUST BE:

- Flat (no sculpture or collage)
- Landscape orientation

ONLY ONE ENTRY PER STUDENT

The winner will receive a \$200 gift card and have their artwork printed on the side of your local waste truck.

Calling all Shire of Dardanup school students!

Draw a picture

to show how beautiful the Shire of Dardanup is when we all **RECYCLE TOGETHER**, and it could be printed on the side of your local waste truck.

How to enter

Draw your artwork on the back of this sheet (landscape orientation).

Drop off your design by Monday, 23 June 2025 at either:

Eaton Community Library,
1 Council Drive, Eaton

Dardanup Shire Office,
3 Little Street, Dardanup




Find out more - scan QR code:

SCAN ME! >>

