



**Bush Fire Advisory Committee Minutes – General Meeting  
24<sup>th</sup> of September 2020 – 1730hrs  
Kalamunda State Emergency Services  
20 Raymond Road, Walliston**

**1.0 Opening of Meeting**

Chairperson – Cr. John Giardina welcomed attendees.

**2.0 Members:**

Cr. John Giardina – City of Kalamunda, Councillor – South East Ward  
 Tony Moiler – Captain, Kalamunda Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service  
 Brian McGinley – Foreman, Kalamunda Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service  
 David Stewart – Captain, Kalamunda Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade  
 Steve Lake – Lieutenant, Kalamunda Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

**City Staff:**

James Wickens - Manager Environmental Health and Community Safety  
 Mike Ward – Kalamunda Community Emergency Services Manager

**Visitors:**

Michael Pasotti – DBCA – Fire Coordinator  
 Paul Southam – DFES District Officer, South East

**Apologies:**

David Carroll – Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer  
 Sean Winter – Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer  
 Michael Hall – City of Kalamunda, Senior Fire Mitigation Officer  
 Cr. Lesley Boyd – City of Kalamunda, Councillor – South West Ward  
 Peter Varelis – City of Kalamunda, Director, Development Services  
 Warwick Martindale – Acting Local Manager State Emergency Service

**Minutes – Andrew Haselden**

**3.0 Confirmation of minutes of the previous meeting**

Moved: T Moiler  
 Seconded: S Lake

**4.0 Matters arising from previous minutes**

- 4.1 ACTION – J Hunter to run "Field Pocketbook", presented at the July BFAC meeting past City Legal and look at amendments for future versions. (Item 6.2 - July 2020 BFAC Meeting)** James Wickens advises that there has been an amendment to some of the terms in the pocketbook which will be updated. A question was raised at the July BFAC meeting by David Carrol as to whether this book would be admissible as evidence in a court. James Wickens advises that yes it could be used if the matter went to court. The scenario cited was that if a fine were issued in relation to a breach which was then challenged, the person who filled in the pocket-book may be called upon to give evidence
- Cr. Giardina asks if there have been fines issued in this manner recently, James Wickens responds, yes, as recently as the last fire season.

**Matter Closed – 24/09/2020**



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**4.2 ACTION** – *T Moiler and B McGinley to communicate directly with the City to investigate vision down Railway Road. Cr. J Giardina requested they write to the CEO and to copy him in on it. (Item 6.4.2 - July 2020 BFAC Meeting).* Tony Moiler notes that this matter has now been raised through Council and as such Tony Moiler does not consider that a letter is now required as the matter has progressed.

**Matter Closed – 24/09/2020**

**4.3 ACTION** - *J Wickens to report back at next meeting as to the best process to contact City Rangers out of hours. (Item 8.1 - July 2020 BFAC Meeting).* James Wickens advises that during normal hours, the Brigades are to contact the DFES communications centre to request the attendance of a City Fire Officer. Outside of normal hours, the Brigades are asked to complete the pocket-book (discussed in item 4.1) and email the completed form to the City, Cc'd to the Community Emergency Services Manager.

**Matter Closed – 24/09/2020**

**5.0 Correspondence In/Out**

None

**6.0 General Business**

**6.1 Proposed Pickering Brook Fire Station – M Ward**

Mike Ward, provides a presentation on the proposed future Pickering Brook fire station. The presentation discusses the revitalisation of the Pickering Brook townsite, the surrounding areas and community feedback provided to date. From this feedback, concern was raised regarding fire risk and road access through the townsite. The census of the area notes that 20% of the population of the area undertook volunteer work in the past 12 months, which gives credibility to the potential to recruit volunteers to crew this station. The George Spriggs Reserve has been suggested as a proposed area to locate a two bay fire station in the location of the existing tennis courts. This site is suggested as it is flat with minimal site establishment works, has room for expansion and is a local community hub.

M Ward proposes the committee's support to advise Council of the following;

- i. Note that planning investigations are being undertaken into the Planning Investigation Area identified in the Western Australian Planning Commission North-East Sub-Regional Planning Framework adjacent to the Pickering Brook townsite.
- ii. Advise to Council and the relevant State Government agencies and stakeholders that a brigade and station at Pickering Brook is supported, in principle, for the following key reasons:
  - Climate change and drying climate



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- Risk mitigation generally (irrespective of any townsite expansion) through increased capability in the prevention, preparation, response and recovery phase.
- Coverage of the broader hinterland area
- iii. Support further feasibility studies and investigations being undertaken into a potential station at the George Spriggs Reserve.
- iv. Support undertaking engagement with the Pickering Sports Club on the potential for a station at the George Spriggs Reserve.

Cr. Giardina notes that he is on the State taskforce for the redevelopment of the area. He notes that there is a community group looking to seek separate funding for the refurbishment of the Alan Fernie pavilion. This is outside of the Council but reiterates the local community's resilience. There is liaison with Matthew Hughes and drive to investigate the potential subdivision of the larger acreages. Cr. Giardina notes that the proposal to create a fire station in this area was investigated some time ago and that there is now renewed community desire for its establishment. Cr. Giardina notes that the townsite and fire station has his support and that the proposal will have more legitimacy if supported by BFAC.

Brian McGinley asks a question regarding the number of appliances anticipated to be required. Mike Ward advises that there are currently enough members within the KVBFB who live in this area to man a single appliance, however the longer-term plan would be a heavy and light appliance located in the township. Tony Moiler asks whether this station should be a Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services station. Mike Ward advises that this will likely be the long term result, however the intent is to stage the process from a BFB base. The proposal is to get the infrastructure in early to build off as the townsite progresses.

It is noted by Paul Southam that the current tourism in the area is already putting further pressure in additional visitors to the area over the weekends.

M Ward asks DPAW of their opinion. Michael Pasotti advises that in his opinion DPAW would support the creation of the station.

M Ward asks for BFAC's support in principal and moves a motion for BFAC to support the creation of a new Bush Fire Brigade fire station, located at the Pickering Brook sports club. Cr. Giardina seconds the motion. Voting commences with all attending members voting in favour of the motion without objection.

**Motion Carried.**

## **6.2 Fire Control Officers 2020/21 – M Ward**

Mike Ward presents the Fire Control Officer appointments for the 2020/21 period. Mike Ward advises BFAC that there are changes this year to reduce the number of



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DCBFCO positions to one and appoint two FCO positions to the BFS outside of their chain of command. The Captains of the VBFB and VFERS will retain their existing FCO positions.

Tony Moiler asks why the Deputy Captains of both brigades will have their FCO status removed. Mike Ward advises that the previous intent of having both positions as FCO's, was to assist in issuing fire permits. There has been no call for this in the past 12 months and therefore the positions will be revoked this year.

**6.3 Parks and Wildlife 2020 indicative burn plan presentation**

Michael Pasotti – Parks and Wildlife 2020 indicative burn plan presentation.

Main areas of focus this season are;

- Mundaring Weir Road – Fern Road area, completed.
- Victoria Reservoir Korung National Park, Burn is underway and to be completed in October
- Late spring burn planned for Whistlepipe gully
- Southern edge of Crystal Brook, planned.

Michael Pasotti notes that the fuel age profile for Kalamunda is currently looking pretty good,

Cr. Giardina asks how Pickering Brook's fuel age is looking, Michael Pasotti notes that the fuel is no older than five years old at present but will require maintenance over the coming years.

Michael Pasotti notes that the Zig-Zag area is still a concern as it has a lot of seasonal grass present which is hard to reduce the risk of. Tony Moiler asks about the area north of Lesmurdie Falls. Michael Pasotti advises that the areas above and around the area are low risk however the western side is difficult to burn. Michael notes though that there are good buffers around these areas.

Michael Pasotti advises that the national park keys will be changing shortly to BiLock keys. Mike Ward advises that he has requested keys for the BFB, SES and VFERS vehicles and that all keys issued will be directly associated with that vehicle registration.

**7.0 Agency Update**

**Department of Fire & Emergency Services - DFES**

Paul Southam – Advises that there haven't been a lot of note worthy occurrences to report since the last meeting. Assistant Commissioner Brad Stringer has retired, and his position is currently being filled.



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**8.0 Next Meeting**

Meeting commencement, 1730hrs Thursday the 18th of March 2021, Derek Fletcher Training Room, Kalamunda Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade / State Emergency Service, 20 Raymond Road, Walliston.

**9.0 Closure**

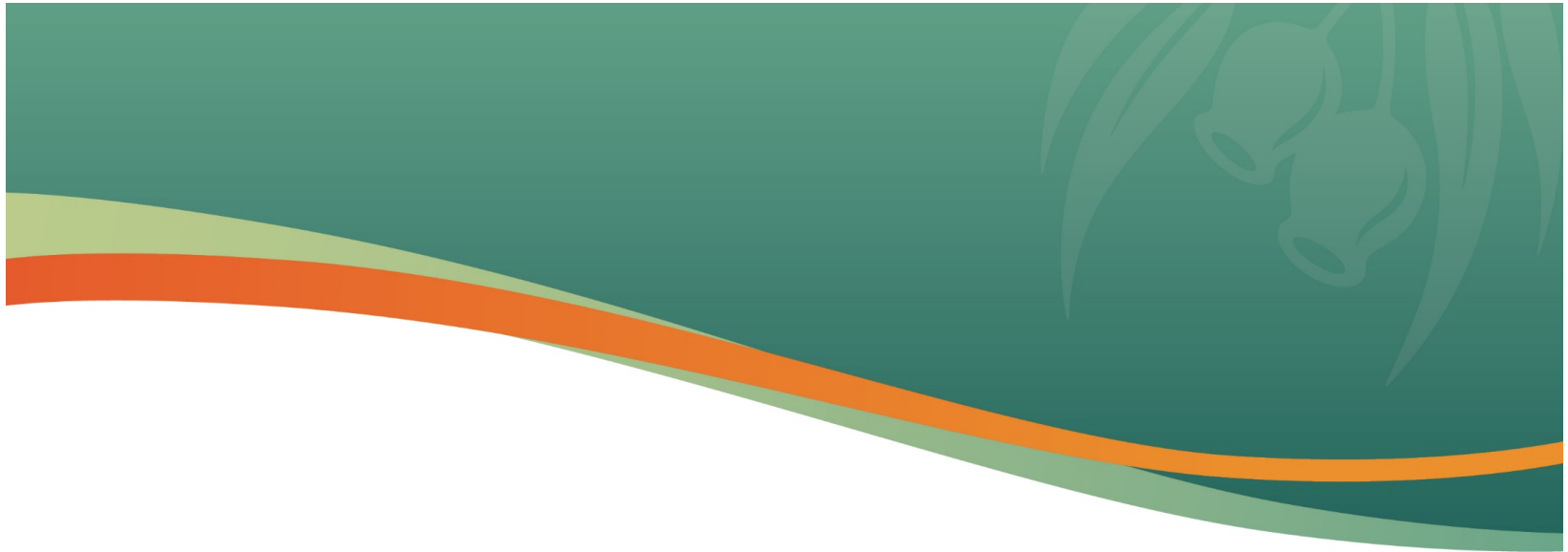
Meeting Closed 1818hrs



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**Appendix 1: Proposed Pickering Brook Fire Station Presentation**



# Pickering Brook Fire Station



# Overview

- › A State Government initiative to undertake a sustainability assessment of the Pickering Brook Townsite and promote sustainable tourism growth within the Perth Hills.



# Pickering Brook and Surrounds Sustainability and Tourism Strategy

- This project aims to:
  - investigate the planning and economic development-related opportunities, constraints and options to revitalise the Pickering Brook townsite and surrounding area
  - provide face-to-face opportunities for landowners and the community to have their say about the future of the area
  - balance the aspirations of local government, landowners and community stakeholders, with State agency requirements, infrastructure capacity, bushfire risks, the environment and the needs of agricultural production
  - consider any implications for high-quality agricultural land
  - provide direction for future local planning
  - carry out necessary examinations for the Pickering Brook Planning Investigation Area, identified in the Perth and Peel@3.5million North-East Sub-regional Planning Framework
  - develop strategic recommendations for Government consideration.

## Proposed Pickering Brook Townsite Expansion



# Preliminary Consultation Summary



Department of Planning,  
Lands and Heritage

*We're working for  
Western Australia.*

OCTOBER 2019

## PICKERING BROOK AND SURROUNDS SUSTAINABILITY AND TOURISM STRATEGY PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION SUMMARY

Community consultation is an integral part of preparing the **Pickering Brook and Surrounds Sustainability and Tourism Strategy**. In August and September of 2019, the Taskforce and Working Group invited the local community to participate in a survey questionnaire and face-to-face meetings. This preliminary consultation has captured key information on how the community perceives the potential expansion of the Pickering Brook townsite, existing and future tourism, and has helped identify local issues.

The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage thanks everyone who participated. Further opportunity to comment will be provided as we progress with the Strategy.



### 1 Responses

The Working Group met individually with 69 local community members and groups, and received a total of 119 survey responses. 26 surveys were received from orchardists, other agricultural operators and business operators, and 67 surveys were from residents within the Study Area, with 60 per cent from Pickering Brook.

36 per cent of survey respondents also met individually with members of the Working Group during the public consultation period.

**119** **119**  
SURVEY RESPONSES

**69** **69**

INDIVIDUAL 15 MINUTE  
CONVERSATIONS WITH THE  
COMMUNITY OVER 3.5 DAYS

### 2 Tourism

Survey participants were asked whether they thought the Pickering Brook and Surrounds Study Area had too much, the right amount, or not enough tourism activity. A total of 112 survey participants responded, with 52 per cent believing that the area does not have enough tourism activity, 43 per cent believing there is currently the right amount of tourism activity and with 5 per cent believing that there was too much tourism activity.

When asked about how increased tourism would affect the local community, Pickering Brook residents were generally receptive to more tourism activity, with 60 per cent being supportive.

**70 PER CENT**  
OF ALL SURVEY RESPONDENTS  
WERE GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE  
OF INCREASED TOURISM.

Tourism **benefits** identified by survey participants included:

- ◆ Local employment opportunities
- ◆ Increased vibrancy
- ◆ Local business patronage
- ◆ Opportunity to diversify
- ◆ Revitalisation of Pickering Brook
- ◆ Improved local identity and direction
- ◆ Better facilities
- ◆ Retention of younger population
- ◆ Community spirit
- ◆ Increased awareness and recognition

Tourism **challenges** identified by survey participants included:

- ◆ Maintaining amenity
- ◆ Managing land use conflict
- ◆ Protecting agricultural production
- ◆ Traffic
- ◆ Anti-social behaviour
- ◆ Potential for light and noise pollution
- ◆ Maintaining rural character
- ◆ Changes to rural lifestyle
- ◆ Road navigation / legibility

# Key Issues

## 3 Future Tourism

Survey participants were asked their opinion on what tourism activities would benefit the local community. A total of 115 survey participants responded and common answers included:

 Astro-tourism / stargazing	 Eco-tourism	 Local produce tastings and sales
 Boutique / family-run and small-scale tourism operations	 Farm stays / bed and breakfasts / glamping	 Reactivate Alan Fernie Pavilion (Pickering Brook)
 Camping / Aboriginal experiences	 Increased retail	 Telecommunication infrastructure
 Dedicated cycle paths	 Local art and crafts	 Viewing spots / lookouts

## 4 Key Issues

A range of issues were raised in both the survey responses and at the face-to-face meetings. Commonly raised issues can be grouped into six broad categories: **Pickering Brook, Processes, Environment, Agriculture, Tourism and Infrastructure**. These issues will need to be considered in a balanced manner that not only takes the broader context into account, but also considers how issues may be interrelated. Answers and comments included:

<b>Pickering Brook</b>	◆ Retirement facilities	◆ Short stay accommodation	◆ Unused rural land
	◆ Economic diversification	◆ Population and housing	◆ Location and scale of townsite
<b>Processes</b>	◆ Government requirements	◆ Approval processes	◆ Communication
<b>Environment</b>	◆ Middle Helena Water Catchment Area	◆ Bushfire risk	◆ Unique climatic conditions
<b>Agriculture</b>	◆ Land use conflict	◆ Loss of productive orchards	◆ Viability
	◆ Lot size	◆ Water availability	◆ Economic diversification
	◆ Protection of agricultural land	◆ Unauthorised access	◆ Unique climatic conditions
<b>Tourism</b>	◆ Scale and use	◆ Land use conflict	◆ Rural character and amenity
	◆ Tourist information	◆ Support and investment	◆ Anti-social behaviour
<b>Infrastructure</b>	◆ Upgrades	◆ Water availability	◆ Parking
	◆ Telecommunication	◆ Public transport	◆ Road use (freight trains and cyclists)



# Pickering Brook Quick stats

## 2016 Census QuickStats

Australia | Western Australia | State Suburbs

### Pickering Brook

Code SSC51225 (SSC)  
[Search for a Community Profile](#)

	<b>People</b>	<b>570</b>
	Male	52.1%
	Female	47.9%
	Median age	46
	<b>Families</b>	<b>154</b>
	Average children per family for families with children	1.9
	for all families	0.8
	<b>All private dwellings</b>	<b>224</b>
	Average people per household	2.8
	Median weekly household income	\$1,587
	Median monthly mortgage repayments	\$1,820
	Median weekly rent	\$163
	Average motor vehicles per dwelling	2.7

**QuickStats Search**

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# Did voluntary work through an organisation

<b>Unpaid work</b> <i>People aged 15 years and over</i>	Pickering Brook		Western Australia		Australia	
		%		%		%
Did unpaid domestic work (last week)	335	71.4	1,387,280	69.4	13,143,914	69.0
Cared for child/children (last two weeks)	133	28.5	568,406	28.5	5,259,400	27.6
Provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability (last two weeks)	56	12.0	196,328	9.8	2,145,203	11.3
Did voluntary work through an organisation or group (last 12 months)	97	20.6	379,578	19.0	3,620,726	19.0

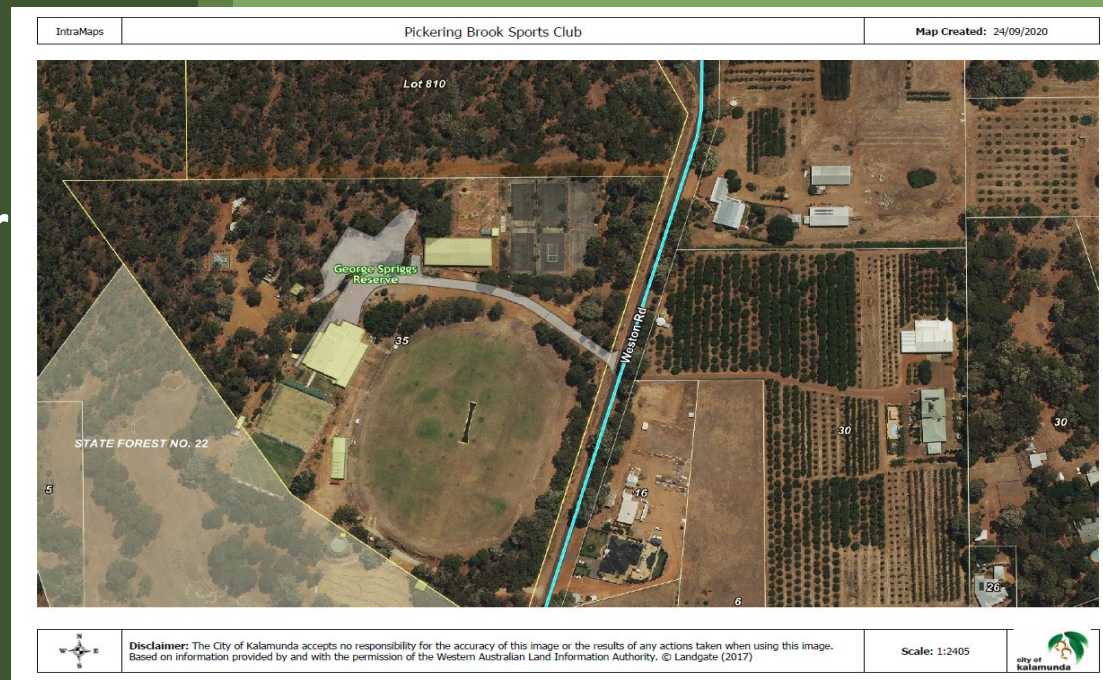
In Pickering Brook (State Suburbs), of people aged 15 years and over, 71.4% did unpaid domestic work in the week before the Census. During the two weeks before the Census, 28.5% provided care for children and 12.0% assisted family members or others due to a disability, long term illness or problems related to old age. In the year before the Census, 20.6% of people did voluntary work through an organisation or a group.

View the data quality statements for: [Unpaid domestic work \(DOMP\)](#) [Unpaid child care \(CHCAREP\)](#) [Unpaid assistance \(UNCAREP\)](#) [Voluntary work \(VOLWP\)](#)

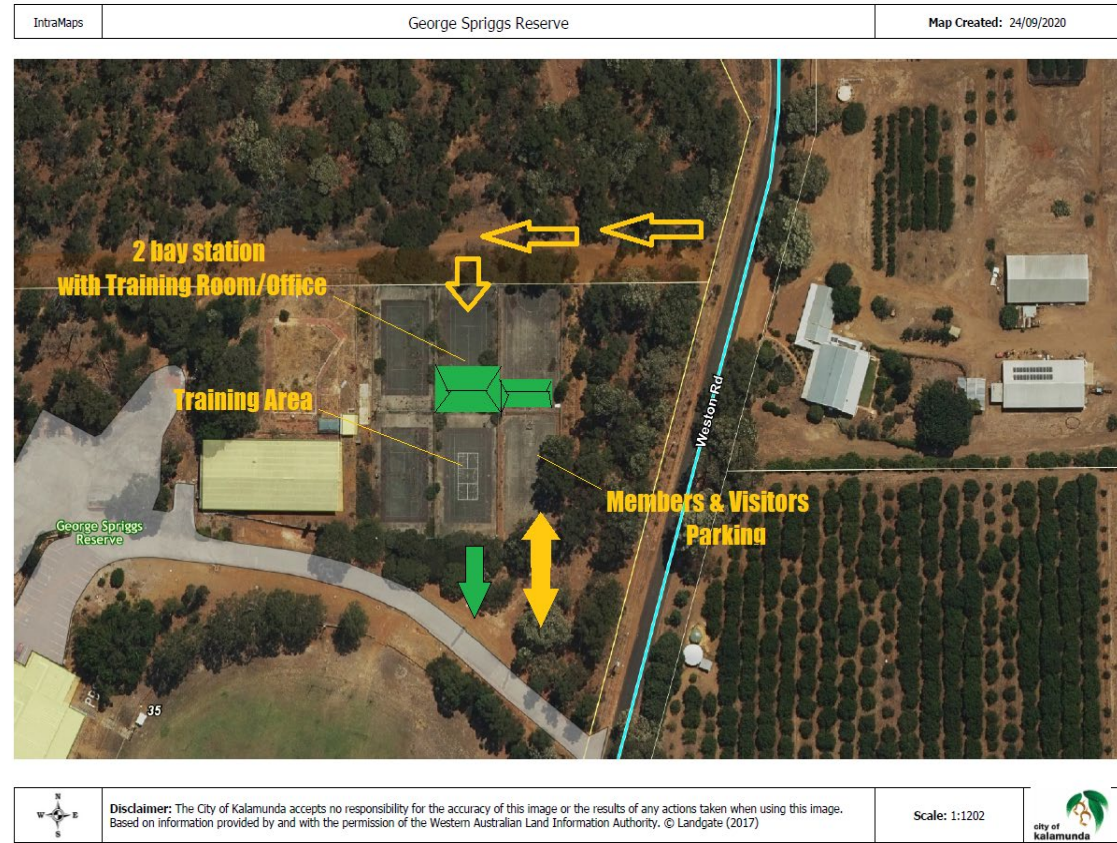




# George Sprigg Reserve



# Two Bay Bush Fire Brigade Fire Station







INDICATIVE METAL CLAD OPTION



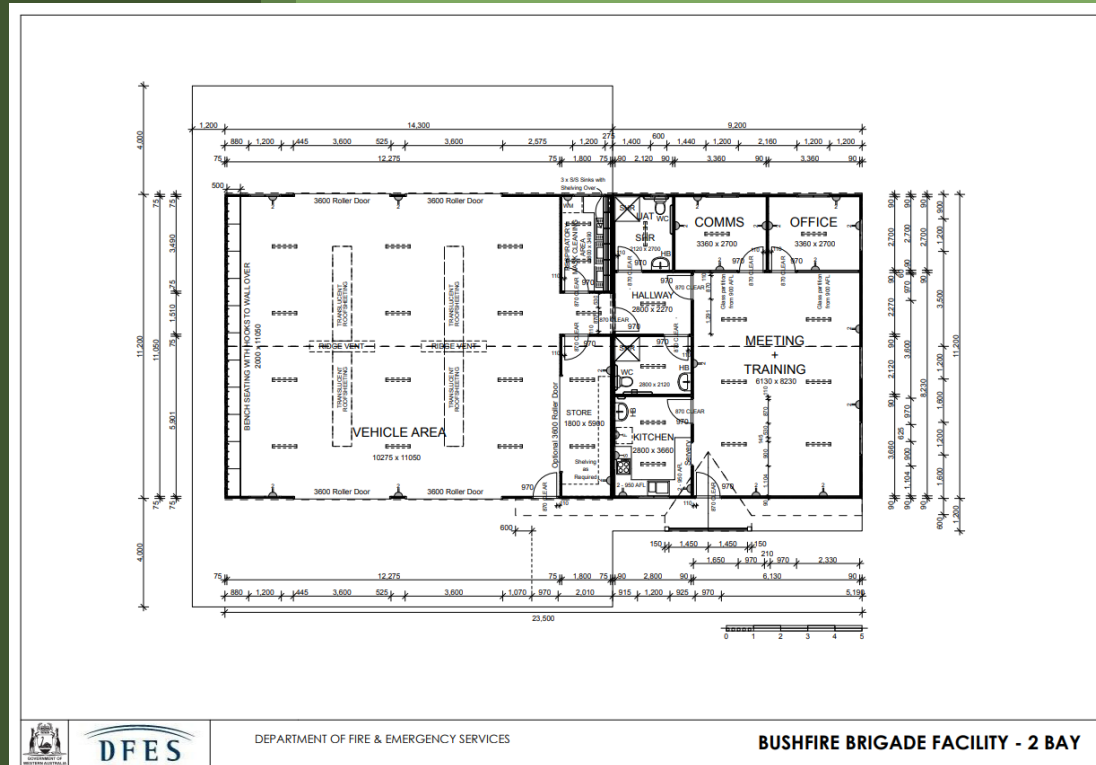
**DFES**

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

**BUSHFIRE BRIGADE FACILITY - 2 BAY**



# Internal Station Plan

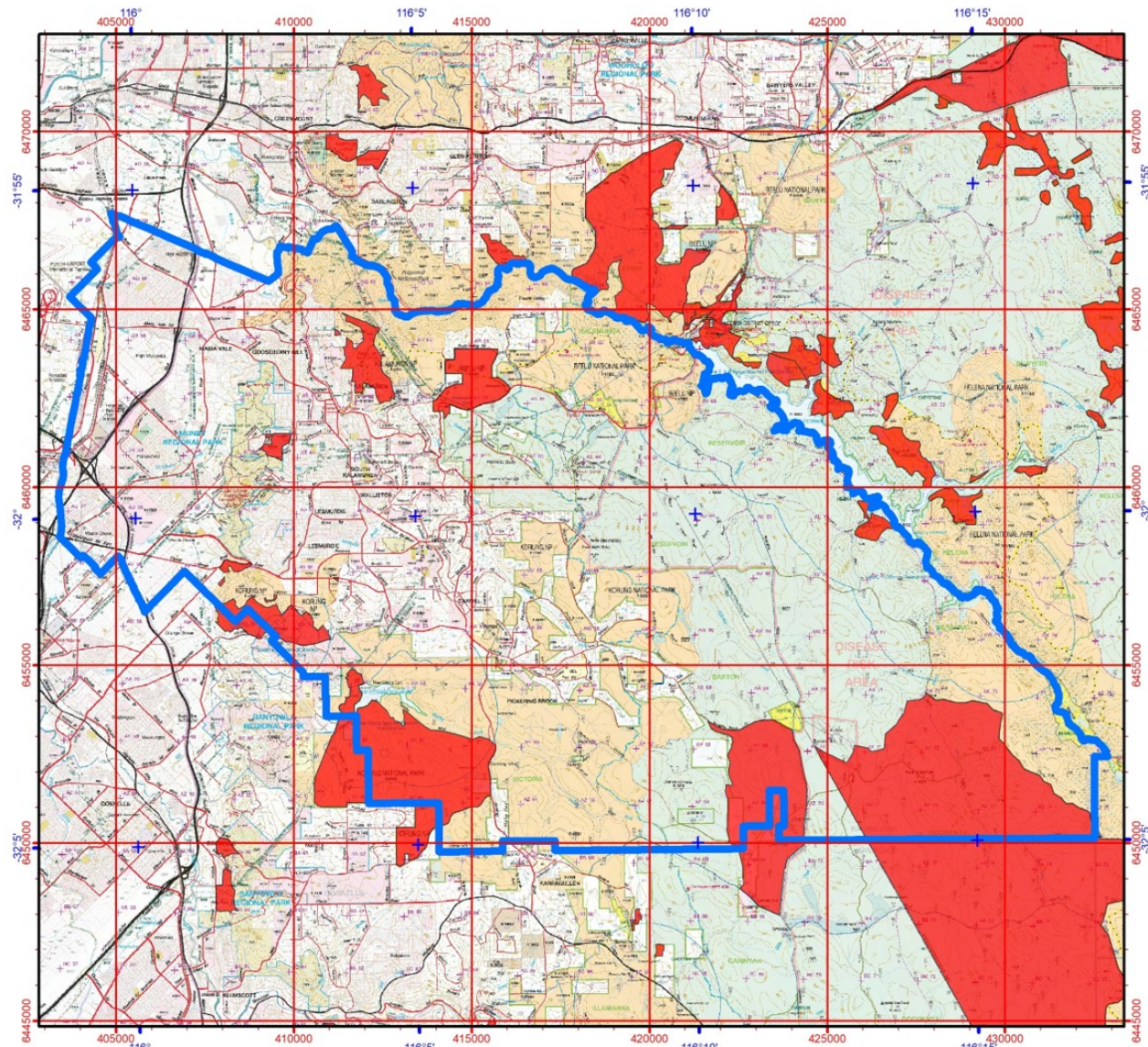




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**Appendix 2: Parks and Wildlife 2020 indicative burn plan presentation**





Graticule shown at 5 minutes intervals  
Grid shown at 5000 metre intervals

The Dept. of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions does not guarantee that this map is without flaw of any kind and disclaims all liability for any errors, loss or other consequence which may arise from relying on any information depicted.

Roads and tracks on land managed by DBCA may contain unmarked hazards and their surface condition is variable. Exercise caution and drive to conditions on all roads.

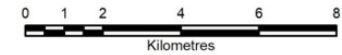
### City of Kalamunda 2020 Indicative Burn Plan

#### Legend

-  Local Govt. Authorities (LGA)(GBD)
-  2020 Planned Burns



1:150,000  
(A4)



GDA94 MGA Zone 50

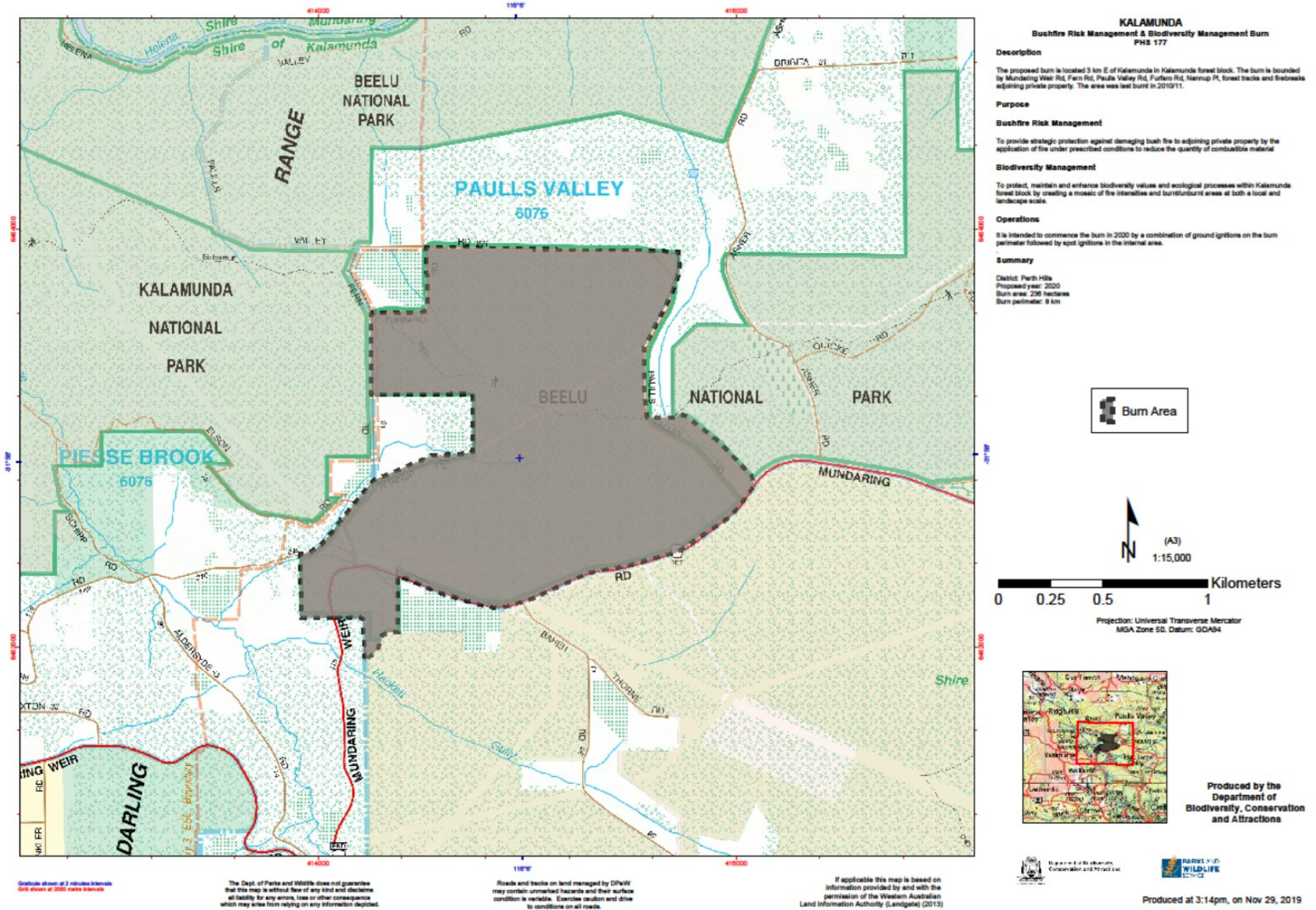


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Biodiversity, Conservation  
and Attractions

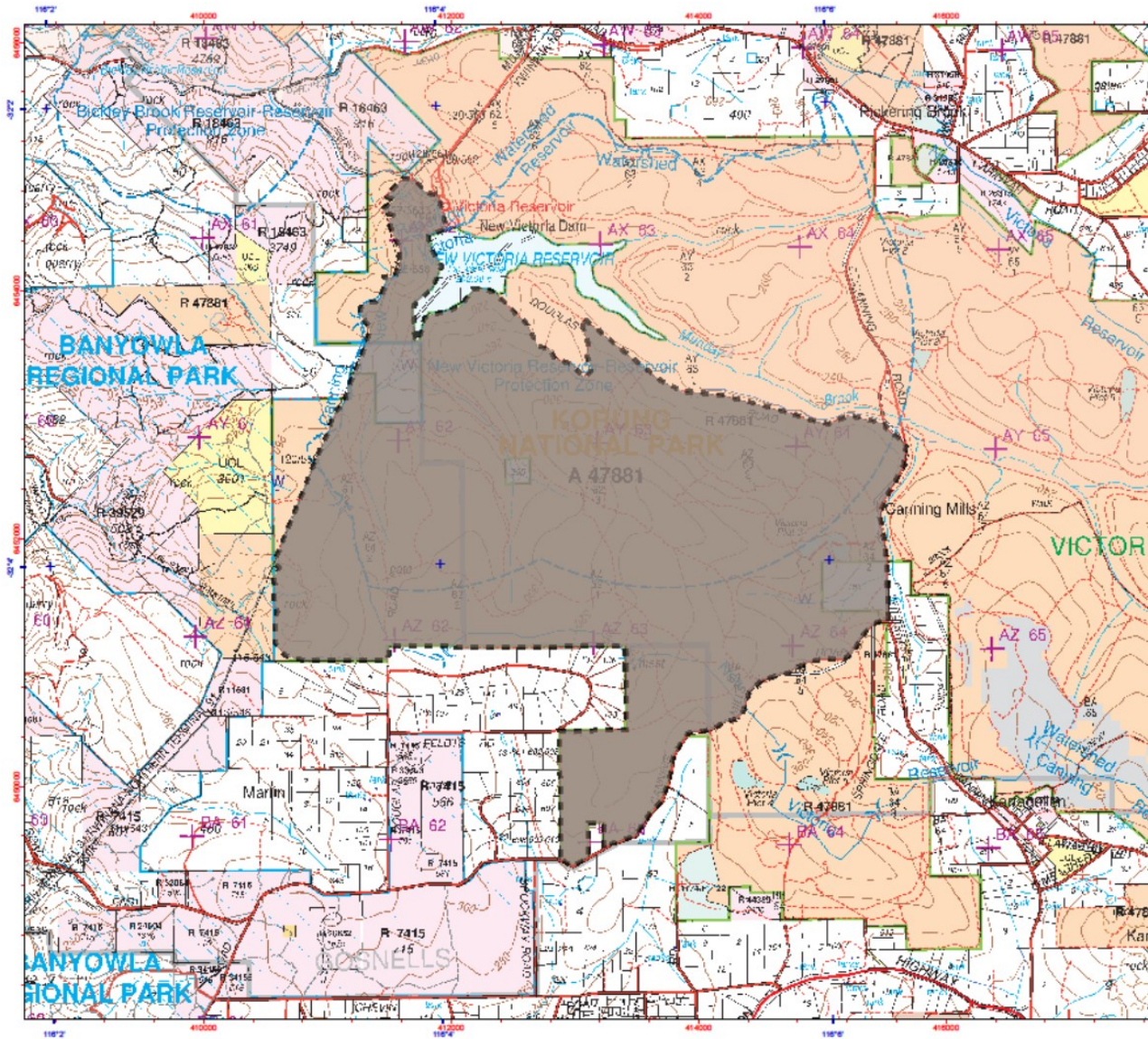


Produced at 12:23pm, on Mar 4, 2020









**VICTORIA 1**  
**Bushfire Risk Management & Biodiversity Management Burn**  
**PHS 178**

**Description**  
 The proposed burn is located 5 km E of Goanella in Victoria forest block. The burn is bounded by Douglas Rd, Carrering Rd, Carrering Mills Rd, forest tracks and firebreaks adjoining private property. The area was last burnt in 2014/15.

**Purpose**  
**Bushfire Risk Management**  
 To provide strategic protection against damaging bush fire to adjoining private property by the application of fire under prescribed conditions to reduce the quantity of combustible material.

**Biodiversity Management**  
 To protect, maintain and enhance biodiversity values and ecological processes within Victoria forest block by creating a mosaic of the intertanes and burnt/unburnt areas at both a local and landscape scale.

**Operations**  
 It is intended to commence the burn in 2020 by a combination of ground igniters on the burn perimeter followed by spot igniters in the internal area.

**Summary**  
 District: Perth Hills  
 Proposed year: 2020  
 Burn area: 1200 hectares  
 Burn perimeter: 22 km



Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator  
 MGA Zone 58, Datum: GDA84



Produced by the  
 Department of  
 Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions



Produced at 3:14pm, on Nov 29, 2019

Gridline shown at 2 minutes intervals  
 1000 shown at 2000 metre intervals

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If applicable this map is based on information provided by and with the permission of the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Landgate) (2015)



