



ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007

2006-07 Annual Report

Our Vision

The following **Vision Statement** outlines where the Town would like to be in the Year 2030:

By 2030, the Town will be a highly accessible urban village offering a cohesive, vibrant and diverse community lifestyle and a thriving local business economy within a quality built and natural environment.

Our Mission

Our mission is a statement about our fundamental purpose - what we do in partnership with, and on behalf of the whole Town of Bassendean community.

“Our Mission is to strengthen our community, foster economic prosperity and protect and enhance the environment.”

Positioning Statement

The Town’s positioning statement identifies a niche market for the Town to foster as a competitive advantage.

“Bassendean aims to position itself as a major recreation, cultural and arts hub for Perth’s Eastern Region.”

Our Values

Our values guide our behaviour and decision making as an organisation and how we strive to lead and serve our community.

People

Councillor, staff and volunteer contributions are vital in striving to meet our diverse community’s aspirations and well being. We will actively engage our community and seek their participation in planning that may impact on their future.

Excellence

We strive to achieve excellence in local government and to consistently provide consultative, ethical and responsive services.

Heritage

A deep respect for our shared history and heritage increases our capacity and confirms our fundamental responsibility to balance today's needs with the long term interests of future generations.

Partnerships

Collaborative partnerships and regional cooperation increase value to our community and the East Metropolitan Region.

Sense of Place

We recognise that our natural environment is critical to our future. We acknowledge that our community has entrusted Council to enhance our built environment and protect the Swan River as our greatest natural asset.

Mayor's Report

The last financial year in 2006-07 was an extremely challenging and rewarding one for the Council in which a great deal of important planning was put in place which will bear fruit into the future. The main priority themes for the year were:

- caring for the environment;
- fostering economic development and revitalisation;
- celebrating and strengthening our community, and
- building the capacity of the Council and our organisation.

The Town of Bassendean is committed to enhancing and protecting its natural environment and safe-guarding our number one asset, the Swan River. As a "green" Council, a significant investment of time and energy was put into detailed planning, funding applications and gaining approvals for the protecting and rehabilitating of the Swan River foreshore at Ashfield Parade. This \$900,000 project, funded in partnership with the Swan River Trust, will see a comprehensive plan implemented over the next three years to control stormwater run-off, reduce riverbank erosion and restore native vegetation. At the same time, community access to fishing, kayaking and passive recreation activities will be controlled to reduce the current detrimental impact on the fragile foreshore environment.

Further foreshore works were undertaken, with funds spent on jetty and boardwalk maintenance, and comprehensive planning and design work was commenced in preparation for upgrading the Success Hill Reserve and jetty over the next two years.

Other green initiatives included the first year of the \$49,000 Travel Smart partnership with the State Government, which is educating the community about the environmental advantages of public transport, as well as the health and environmental benefits of walking and cycling. Greater use of the Town's three train stations and bus routes will be a win for both the environment and for our community members' health as well as their pockets with petrol prices set to rise further.

An effective collaboration with the Cities of Belmont and Bayswater saw the commencement of a local biodiversity study aimed at protecting and enhancing the ecosystems which support local flora and fauna. Ongoing environmental programs undertaken over the year included participation in the Cities for Climate Protection Program, the Water Campaign, further street tree planting and weed eradication in remnant bushland sites.

Economic development in the Town was fostered by the appointment of a part-time Economic Development Officer to strengthen linkages to local and regional businesses and industry and to progress key strategies to revitalise and redevelop the Town Centre. Key economic development projects progressed to the stage of near completion during 2006/07 included the finalisation of the new Local Planning Scheme (LPS 10), the completion of the Town Centre Area Strategy, including redevelopment plans for Bassendean Oval, and participation in the Maylands to Guildford Transit Oriented Development Study. Ongoing participation in regional tourism and small business development continued with business networking and skill development opportunities identified and facilitated. A Streetscape Plan was well progressed during the year which will provide future guidance on enhancing the built environment and appearance of the Town.

Bassendean's sense of community was strengthened by the allocation of almost \$250,000 for community events and celebrations including the biennial Art Exhibition. The Town's youth will also benefit from the installation of a new skate park facility which was close to completion by the end of the financial year. Seniors now have access to an additional two units at the Hyde Retirement Village, the expansion of in-home care services and an innovative Active Ageing project funded by the Department of Local Government and Regional Development.

Community reserves and facility upgrading completed during the year included lighting at Jubilee Reserve and minor refurbishments to the Stan Moses Pavilion, the Bassendean Community Hall and the Committee Room at 48 Old Perth Road. Lotterywest funding matched by Council allowed for remedial works of \$145,000 on the MacDonald Grandstand which was re-opened in time for the 2007 WAFL season. The wide range of community services continued to operate with an improvement in financial performance in the meals on wheels program. A Facilities Plan was completed aimed at maximising the use of Council's various community facilities.

On a controversial note, the Town received a consultant's report on the Town's public open space during the reporting year. The POS consultant recommended that 9 small parcels of open space, sometimes referred to as pocket-parks, in total consisting of less than 1% of the Town's open space, be sold due to their size, their ineffectiveness of usage and the cost of ongoing maintenance. Unfortunately, this matter was sensationalised in the press and created far more community angst than should have occurred. The General Meeting of Electors was dominated by the topic and two further community meetings were held to discuss the potential sale of the POS.

Council considered the Public Open Space Strategy at the June 2007 Council meeting and in evaluating the community feedback, Council resolved not to sell 6 of the 9 parks and earmarked 2 others for possible disposal in accordance with the community's wishes. Only one park for potential sale, Christie Park, is subject to any debate in the community. It is intended that any sale proceeds be used to enhance the remaining 99% of the Town's open space. Council demonstrated that it was sensitive to its community's views, but at the same time needed to find the delicate balance between moving the Town forward to a sustainable future and revitalising an ailing Town Centre but at the same time safe-guarding the Town's history and heritage and the "country town" feel and amenity, which currently exists in the Town.

As Mayor, in closing my report, I would like to thank the Councillors for their valued support and dedicated teamwork on behalf of the community over the reporting year. A great number of important decisions were made and successfully implemented. I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of the CEO, Mr Gary Evershed, and his staff for implementing Council's decisions so professionally and for managing the day-to-day operations of the Town so effectively.

Cr Tina Klein JP
MAYOR

Corporate Governance

The Council

The Town of Bassendean is a district defined in the *Local Government Act 1995* and includes the suburbs of Ashfield, Bassendean and Eden Hill. The district is divided into three wards – North, East and West. Each ward is represented by three Councillors making a total of nine Councillors who constitute the Council. Councillors of the Town of Bassendean are elected by persons registered on the Council electoral roll and elections are conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act* and associated Regulations. The Mayor of the Town of Bassendean is elected by the Council from amongst the Councillors.

The community elects councillors for a term of four years at general elections held every second year. Voting at Council elections is not compulsory. The Town of Bassendean has adopted a postal voting system as the preferred method of casting votes and uses this system for the biennial elections.

Ordinary Council meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month, unless the Council resolves otherwise. Special meetings of the Council are held as and when needed. All meetings of the Council and Committees are open to the public and members of the public attending meetings are allocated time at the commencement and additionally for Council meetings near the end of each meeting to ask questions of the Council or Committee.

Standing Committee meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month, which are also open to the public.

General Meeting of Electors

A General Meeting of Electors is held once each year at a time and place that is advised in the local community newspaper. The purpose of this meeting is to present the Annual Report and the Auditor's Report to the electors.

Types of Meetings

Council meetings:	Ordinary meetings of Council
Special Council meetings:	All Special meetings of Council
Standing Committees:	Standing Committee comprising all Councillors
Other Council Committees:	Include committees such as the Access and Inclusion Committee, Arts Committee, Ashfield Stakeholder Advisory Committee, Audit & Risk Management Committee, Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Award Selection Committee, Bassendean Local Studies Collection Management Committee, Cyril Jackson Physical Education & Community Recreation Centre Management Committee, Economic Development Advisory Committee, Local Emergency Management Committee, Public Events Committee, Seniors' Week Co-ordinating Committee and the Youth Advisory Council.

The Councillors & their Wards



Cr. Jack Fox
North Ward



Mayor: Tina Klein JP
North Ward



Cr. Chris Merfield
North Ward



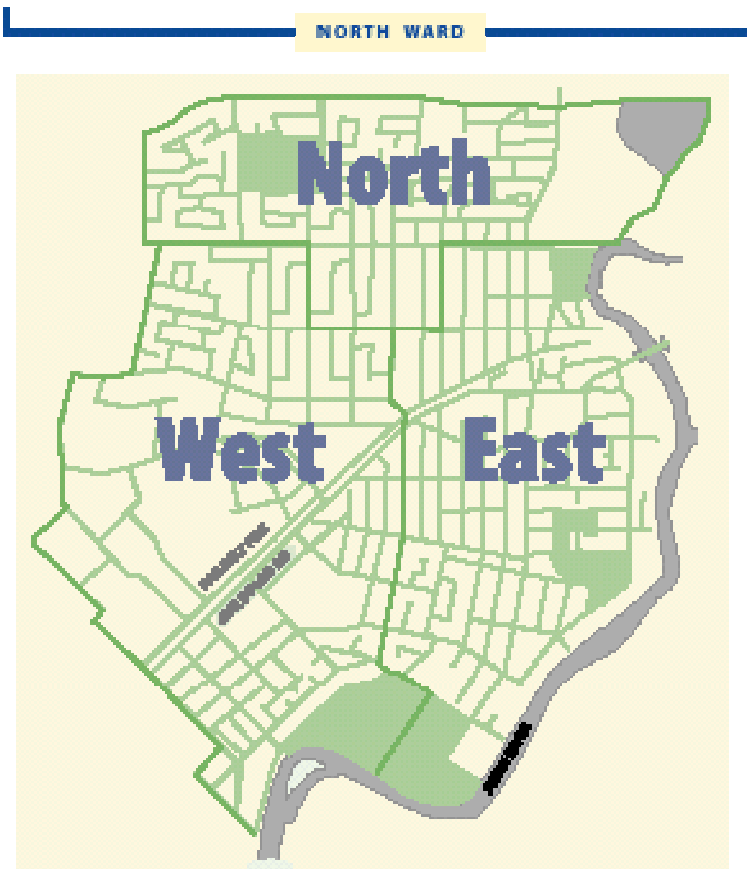
Cr. Mark Devlin
West Ward



Cr. Anne Brinkworth
West Ward



Cr. Ross Dunkerton
West Ward



Cr. John Gangell
East Ward



Cr. John Sutherland
East Ward



Deputy Mayor
Cr. Michelle Stubbs
East Ward

Councillor Attendance at Meetings from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007

Councillor	Council Meetings	Special Council Meetings	Standing Committee	Other Council Committees	Total
Klein	11	5	11	28	55
Stubbs	10	5	11	19	45
Brinkworth	8	4	12	14	36
Fox	12	5	12	5	34
Devlin	11	3	12	9	35
Sutherland	12	5	11	38	66
Dunkerton	8	3	11	3	25
Gangell	11	4	11	10	36
Merfield	10	4	10	7	31

Chief Executive Officer's Report

The most significant project in terms of the Town's future undertaken during the year was the development and public advertising of the Town Centre Area Strategy. Revitalisation projects planned for the Town Centre, included Australand's "Park Estate" subdivision, total almost \$300 million in value with plans for up to 530 new dwellings, the creation of a Town Park and new Town Square, the redevelopment of Steel Blue Oval Bassendean, an additional 500 new car parking bays and greater community access to public open space. Following community feedback, Council considered the final Concept Plan for the Bassendean Town Centre at its August 2007 meeting. The Plan has a 2030 timeframe matching the Network City document timeframe and was developed by Consultants Hames Sharley. The Strategy is based on the key principles of:

- Attracting visitors to the Town Centre by opening up vistas
- Slowing Guildford Road traffic and creating a sense of motorists passing through a special place
- Creating a more vibrant heart for Bassendean
- Encouraging more people to live in the Town Centre
- Providing a range of dwellings, including apartments, town houses and studios
- More flexible commercial spaces encouraging people to work in the Town
- Creating activity nodes and special precincts along Old Perth Road
- Enhancing the existing landscape
- Embracing the Town Park and Civic Gardens as a central focus

Closely associated with the Town Centre Area Strategy is Council's participation in the Maylands to Guildford Transit Oriented Study. On 24 April, the Town entered into a joint commitment with the Cities of Swan and Bayswater and the State Government to accelerate redevelopment at key centres, around railway stations and along transport routes between Maylands and Guildford Stations. The three station precincts within the Town of Bassendean; Ashfield, Bassendean and Success Hill, will benefit greatly from this partnership with the State Government and our aim is to give residents better facilities and more opportunities for business and employment, education, entertainment and recreation.

In another important achievement Council was able to negotiate a win-win outcome with the St John Ambulance Association. Land at the Council Depot was provided for a new training centre in exchange for Council being able to secure two St John owned lots adjacent to the Wind in the Willows Child Care Centre. By taking this action Council has secured the ongoing success of the Wind in the Willows as a community based child care centre in its current location into the future. At the same time Council is ensuring that life saving training is to be located in the Town of Bassendean. In a further complementary project, the Town is assisting Technology Assisting Disability WA (TADWA), a non-profit organisation, to relocate from the Pyrton site in Lord Street to a site adjacent to the St John training centre at the Depot. TADWA is an exceptionally worthwhile group assisting people with disabilities to live more fulfilling and inclusive lives and the Town is proud to be able to retain them in the community.

The Town's capacity to provide more effective local government service delivery was enhanced by a major investment in Information Technology systems during 2006-07. The Synergysoft product from IT Vision was purchased and this will lead to better tracking of customer requests and applications, more effective long term asset management and improved records management, financial accounting and administration generally. Changing from one business system to another is an enormous task and many hours of additional effort has been supplied by dedicated professional staff particularly in the Corporate Services area.

As a continuous improvement tool, the Town conducts a rolling review of services known as Sustainable Best Value. The review of Operational Services, including Asset Services, Ranger Services and the Health and Environmental Unit, was completed as well as reviews of Governance and the Development Services Unit. The review of Asset Services has led to a major restructuring to investigate the potential for more contracting out of services and increased capacity in technical services, asset management, contract management, work programming and supervision. The review of Development Services indicated a high level of satisfaction with the level of service provided, but also identified some areas where services could be improved. A three year action plan has been developed to further improve an already well functioning service. As part of the Governance Review a new best practice Standing Orders Local Law was developed and implemented for all Council and Committee meetings.

Council lodged a submission to the WALGA Systemic Sustainability Study. The submission highlighted that the Town of Bassendean is a successful and sustainable local government, well connected with its community and recognised for its effectiveness through high community satisfaction levels. There is no reason that the Town should not continue to be a viable, independent and sustainable local government into the future provided that it manages its facilities, services and infrastructure effectively and efficiently. As CEO I participated in broader local government industry initiatives being appointed to the WALGA Governance Policy Committee, the State Board of Directors for LGMA and continuing service on the State WALGA Library Framework Agreement.

As the CEO I am proud of the highly successful achievements delivered during the year resulting from the successful teamwork developed between Councillors, staff and our many stakeholders. I am honoured to have lead a team of dedicated staff members who are strongly committed to serving the residents of the Town. My sincere thanks go to all staff for their fine efforts and support they have given me over the year. My Executive Team of Colin Cameron, Simon Stewert-Dawkins and Graeme Haggart again formed a well-knit and productive unit. Colin was successful in being appointed to the City of Swan and completed his employment with the Town on 18 May. He made an outstanding contribution during his time with the Town. There is a strong joint commitment between Councillors and staff to moving the Town forward. I would like to thank and congratulate Mayor Klein, all of the Councillors and staff for the steady progress and ongoing success which was achieved over the year.

Gary Evershed
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Corporate Management Team

Simon Stewart-Dawkins
Director Operational Services



Mr Stewart-Dawkins has been the Town's Director Operational Services since July 2003. Mr Stewart-Dawkins has extensive technical and management experience with large infrastructure capital & maintenance works programs and has considerable local government experience. The role of the Director Operational Services is to provide leadership to three business units that contribute to the management of the build and natural environment, health issues and social outcomes for the community.

Graeme Haggart
Director Community Development



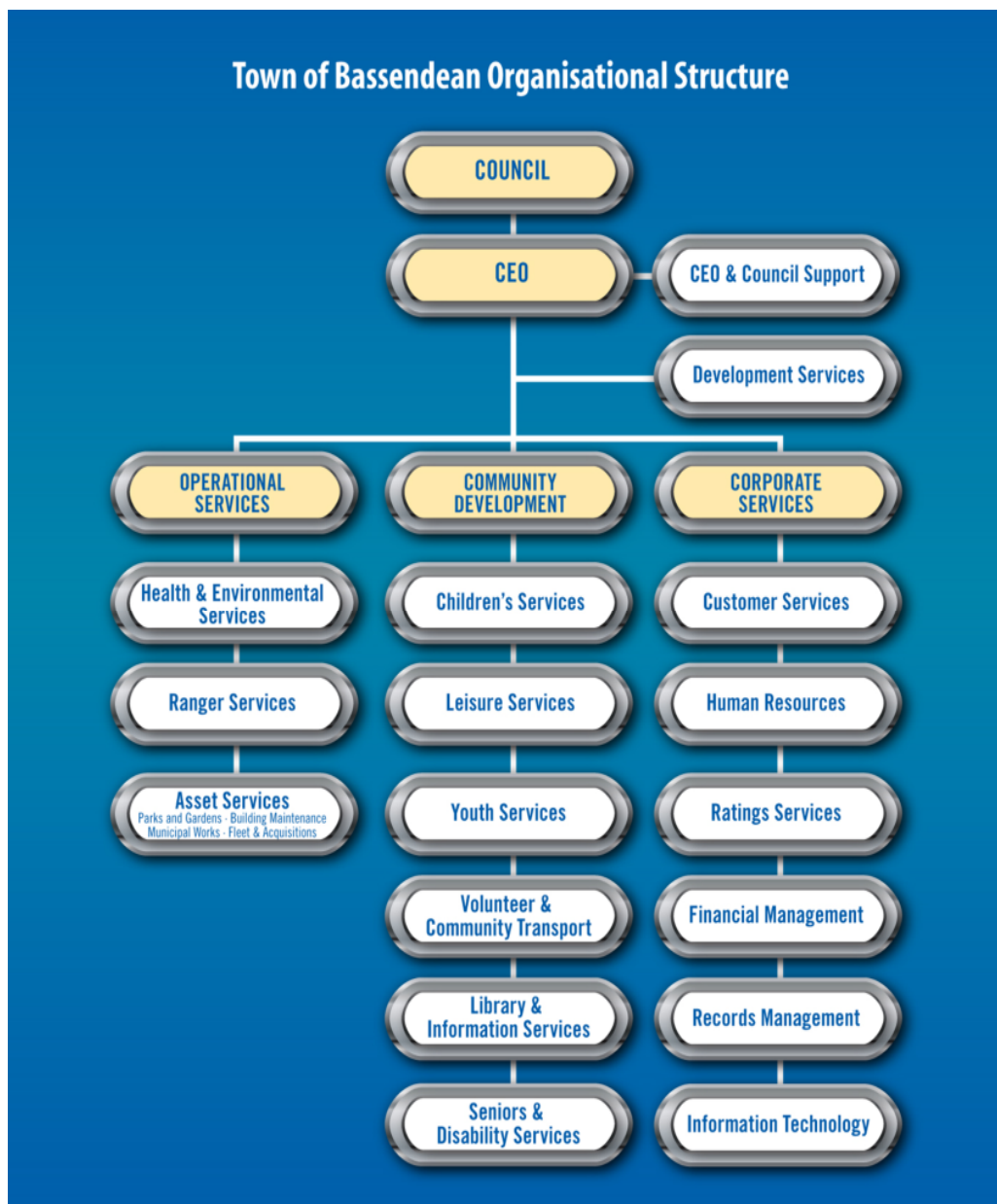
Mr Haggart has been the Town's Director Community Development Services since 2005 following a review of community services. Mr Haggart brings a diverse range of experience in a variety of roles and organizations to his role in the Town. The Community Development Directorate strives to build a better community in Bassendean and enhance the sense of community belonging.

Colin Cameron
Director Corporate Services



Mr Cameron was the Town's Chief Financial Officer in charge of Corporate Services from October 2002. Mr Cameron left in May 2007 to take up a position with the City of Swan. Mr Cameron brought a strong financial management background to the position through previously managing financial, managerial and systems accounting branches in education and state government instrumentalities. He was replaced in an Acting capacity for May and June 2007 by Mr Mike Costarella, an experienced local government finance professional.

Organisational Structure



KEY RESULT AREAS

ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT

Natural Environment 1: Protect the Natural Environment

Environment Plan

The Town of Bassendean adopted an Environment Plan which is regularly updated to identify the direction and management practices in respect of the environment, identify the Town's capacity to contribute to international, federal, state, regional and local environmental requirements; and establish values, strategies, resources, policies and actions to enable the Town to protect, restore and enhance the Bassendean environment.

During 2006-2007, the third year of implementation, new projects were developed to complement ongoing Environment Plan programs. Initiatives included:

- The "Green Bassendean" program encourages residents to plant water efficient native seedlings and is subsidised by Council to increase local biodiversity.
- A Jubilee Reserve weed control program was implemented to target high threat weed infestations within bushland reserves.
- Bassendean Preservation Group support through annual site preparation works for revegetation and in the development of new projects and funding applications.
- TravelSmart program and guide in partnership with the City of Swan to encourage greater use of public transport, cycling and walking.
- The Local Biodiversity Strategy in partnership with the Cities of Belmont and Bayswater to increase the Local Biodiversity within the Town and identify the connective environmental linkages within the Town. Milestone 1 of the Perth Biodiversity Project was completed with progress towards milestone 2.
- Council staff training in areas of indigenous vegetation, bushland management and acid sulphate soils.
- Greenfleet program participation to offset emissions from the Town's fleet vehicles.
- Environmental issues lobbying on behalf of residents regarding sewerage, waste and boating impacts on the Swan River foreshore.
- Draft Environmental Conditions Development for subdivisions and developments.

River Foreshore Restoration

The reporting year saw the completion of a Master Plan and engineering specifications to restore the foreshore environment and treat stormwater at Ashfield Parade Reserve. Additionally, the development of a concept plan and engineering

specifications to restore the foreshore environment and treat stormwater at Success Hill Reserve was progressed to the point of near completion.

Cities for Climate Protection

The Town of Bassendean participates in the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Australia program. The total abatements (in tonnes of CO₂) reported by CCP Australian councils in 2006/07 is yet to be released. The table below shows the Council's contribution to reducing emissions for 2006/07:

Corporate Sector	Objectives
Buildings	Reduction in energy use as indicated by cost data for council owned and/or managed properties and sub-let properties i.e. KWh, LPG etc.
Vehicle Fleet	Reduced fuel used and greater kilometres travelled per litre.
Employee Commute	Greater use of public transport, cycling and walking.
Street lights	Reduced electricity use and costs for council owned and/or managed lighting of streets, traffic signals, parks, public lighting, etc.
Water/Sewage	Reduced energy use and cost data for water and sewage pumping facilities.

Greenfleet Program

Cars produce greenhouse gases at a rate of about 2.5 kg for every litre of petrol burned (2.9 kg per litre of diesel: 1.7 kg per litre of LPG). On average, this is about 4.3 tonnes of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases per car per year. In 2004, the Town of Bassendean joined a "Greenfleet" program to off-set the CO₂ emissions produced by Council vehicles and as a result at least 17 native trees are planted for each car per year. Each of the 17 trees will over their lifetime use up about the same amount of CO₂ that the average car produces in one year, as trees break down the gas into carbon (which they use for their growth) and oxygen (which they then release). The planting of trees will also help fight erosion and soil salinity, as well as restoring natural habitats.

Natural Environment 2: Improve the Town's Parks and Reserves

Playground Upgrades

A complete audit of the Town's playground equipment was completed in 2006/07 at a cost of approximately \$5,000. In addition to this, an amount of \$28,431 was spent upgrading playgrounds throughout the Town with the majority of that spent on providing and replenishing softfall. The following is a summary of the expenditure.

Location	Description of Works	Cost (\$)
Gary Blanch Reserve	Install New Play Structure	3,385
Various Parks	Provide New and Replenish Existing Softfall and miscellaneous upgrading of equipment: 1. Anzac Terrace Reserve, 2. BIC Reserve, 3. Broadway Arboretum, 4. Culworth/Mickleton Reserve, 5. Freeland Way, 6. Hatton Court Reserve, 7. Padbury Way Reserve, 8. Palmerston Reserve, 9. Parmelia Way Reserve, 10. Pickering Park Reserve, 11. Point Reserve, 12. Sandy Beach Reserve, 13. Success Hill Reserve, 14. Surrey Street Reserve.	25,046

Parks and Reserves Facilities Improvements

The following capital works were carried out in and around the Town's parks and reserves at a cost of \$232,921 during 2006/07.

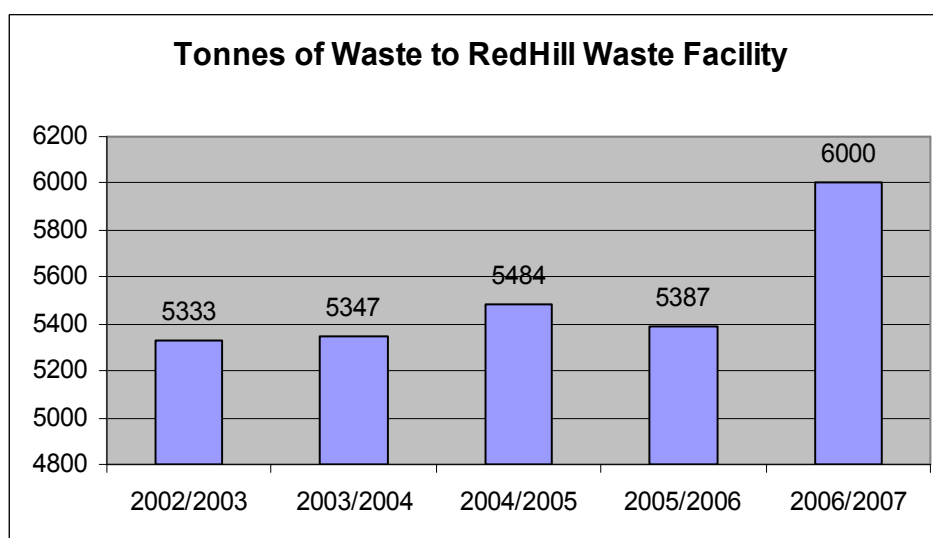
Description	Cost (\$)
Bassendean Oval – R.A. McDonald Grandstand Conservation Works and painting of turnstyle and public toilet upgrades	134,253
Jetty, Boardwalk & Footbridge Improvements	36,707
Jubilee Reserve – Ground Level Canteen, Stan Moses Pavilion, drinking fountains & new microwave	25,931
Culworth/Mickleton Reserve – Upgrade Reticulation	17,940
Hatton Court Reserve – Install Bore Reticulation	15,690
Croquet Clubrooms – Replace Gutters	1,600
Ashfield Reserve – Install Tap Adjacent to Grandstand	800
Total	232,921

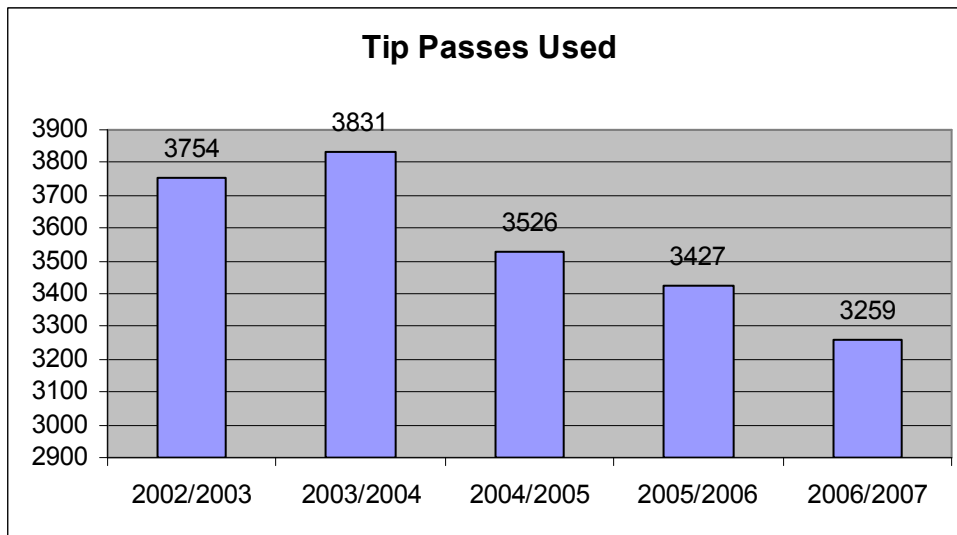
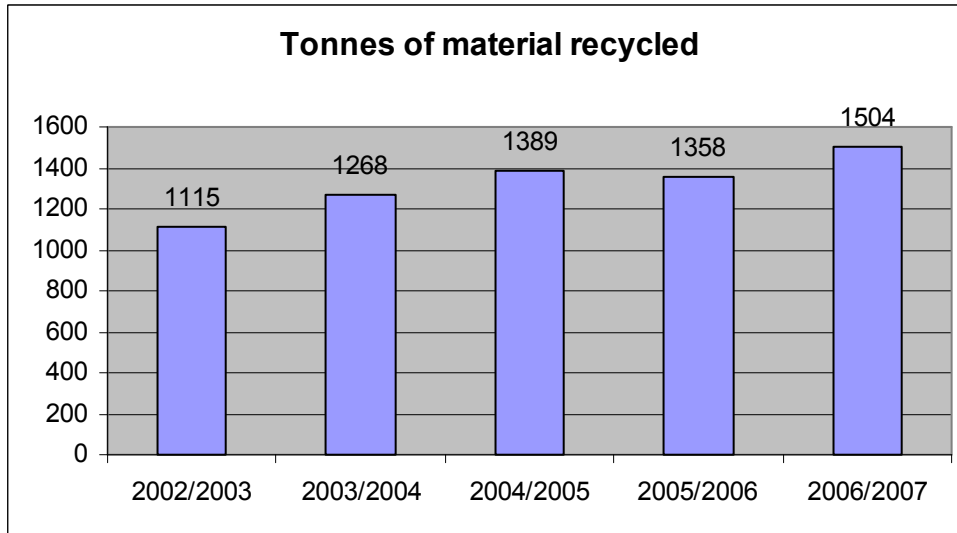
Natural Environment 3: Minimise Waste

Waste Management

Health & Environmental Services staff continued to oversee the provision of waste and recyclable removal from residential and commercial properties, together with bulk and green waste collections. In accordance with a contract to supply and maintain litterbins with advertising space at no cost to ratepayers, additional bins were strategically located across the Town during the year.

Waste Management



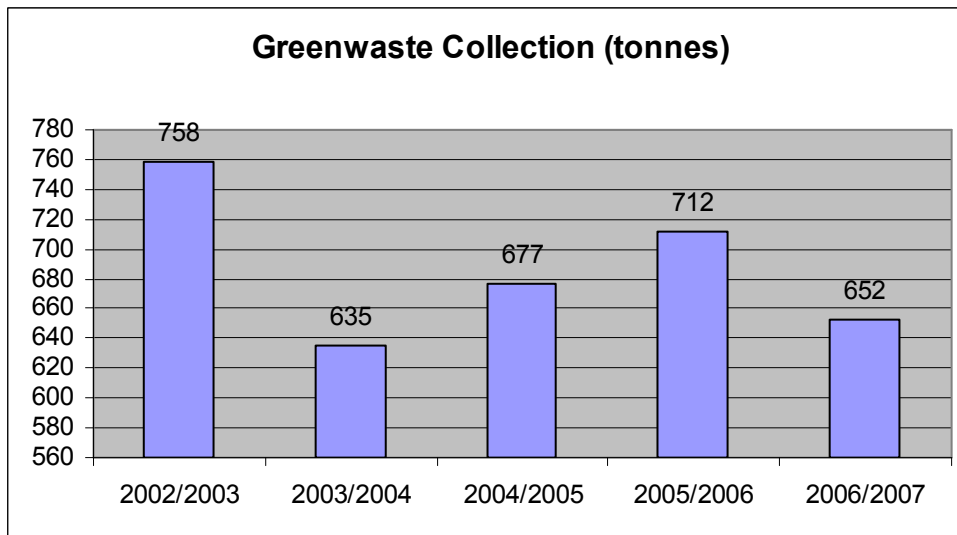
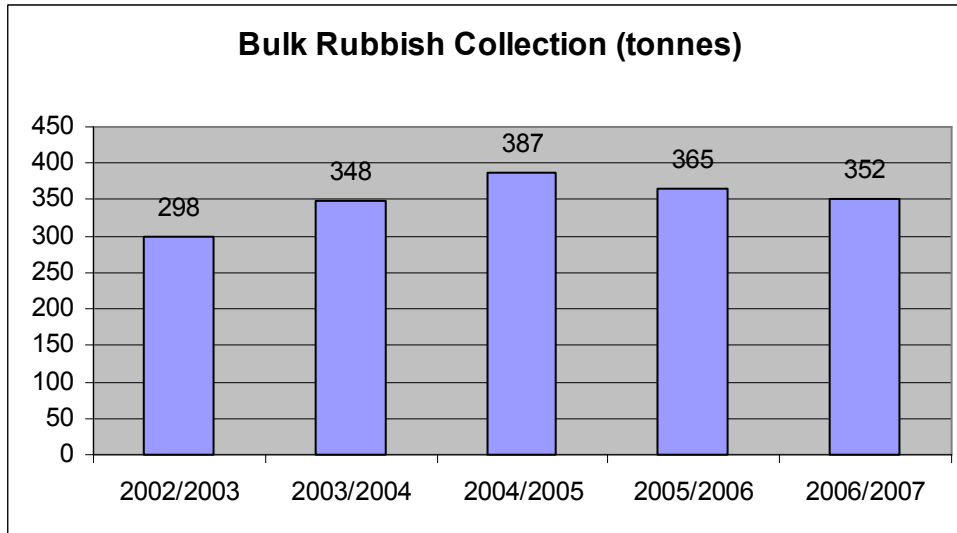


The graphs indicate a sharp increase in the tonnes of waste collected via the 240 Lt rubbish bins and the litterbins which are disposed of at the Redhill Waste Management Facility.

This increase can be contributed to the following:

- A decrease in the use of tip passes which may be due to the current high price of petrol.
- An increase in the number of new dwellings and factory units.
- A decrease in the annual greenwaste collection

The recycling graph shows a steady increase then plateauing in the tonnes of material being recycled.



Council again used the services of a contractor during 2006/07 for both the bulk rubbish and greenwaste collections and received positive feedback from the community. Tenders for these services were advertised during the year and Council has re-appointed the same contractor for a three year period with an option for two years subject to Council being satisfied with the level of the service provided by the contractor.

Two Hazardous Waste Collections were carried out at Council's Depot - one on the 10 December 2006 and the other on 9 June 2007. Both were well attended by residents and large quantities of waste oil, paints, batteries, gas bottles and old computers were collected and recycled.

Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council

The Town is an active member of the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) and staff participate on a variety of committees. One of these committees is developing a strategy to introduce a resource recovery program and an alternative

treatment plant at a site still to be determined. The timing for the new regional facility has not yet been finalised however it is likely to be commissioned by 2010.

The Town has participated in a public education campaign known as the “R” Gang comprising Reduce, Re-use, Recycle and now Recover to promote the introduction of the resource recovery program. Staff are also involved in a new committee set up by the EMRC known as the Regional Waste Education Steering Group which is looking at standardising the messages from Member Councils on the type of recyclable material that can be collected via the 240 lt bin system. A Resource Recovery Guide was developed and distributed to all properties within the Town again this reporting year.

Wind in the Willows Child Care Centre

Programs were implemented to educate children to be more environmentally conscious. Initiatives were:

- Staff in the ‘Kindy Room’ introduced a recycling bin for children and caregiver use;
- Staff discussed the importance of using water wisely and encouraged the children in care to turn off water taps and stop the wastage of water;
- The food preparer, Manager and staff used a re-cycling bin for all rubbish, and
- Parents were encouraged to recycle by bringing in household items that can be re-used in craft making and art experiences with the children.

Natural Environment 4: Improve Water Quality and Stormwater Management

Water Quality

As part of the Environment Plan, a draft Water Action Plan was developed to save water and improve water quality, working toward the completion of Milestone 4 of the International Council for Local Environment Initiatives (ICLEI) Water Campaign.

Storm Water Management

Almost \$140,000 was spent upgrading and maintaining the Town’s storm water drainage infrastructure. The following is a summary of the expenditure:

Location	Description	Cost (\$)
Hamilton to Whitfield	Install Stormwater Drainage Line	37,569
Whitfield Street	Drainage Upgrade	20,521
Kathleen Street	Drainage Extension	14,498
Various locations	Drainage Maintenance Programs	66,427

Built Environment 1: Plan for Sustainable Growth

Local Planning Scheme 10

The Minister for Planning and Infrastructure determined Council's request to advertise modifications to the Scheme adopted by Council in November 2005. The Minister accepted all but four of Council's recommendations on the Scheme including Council's decision not to downcode parts of Bassendean to R17.5 in response to the strength of submissions made by property owners in the affected area. The four modifications requiring advertising were advertised in August 2007, hopefully leading to the eventual adoption of the new Scheme by early 2008.

Town Centre Area Strategy

Consultants Hames Sharley were appointed in the previous reporting year to undertake the Town Centre Area Strategy. The study area consists of the Bassendean Train Station precinct, the entire length of Old Perth Road, Steel Blue Oval and the land adjoining Success Hill Train Station. The study aims to revitalise the Town Centre through transit oriented development close to the stations, mixed use commercial and residential development along Old Perth Road, the redevelopment of the BIC Reserve and Steel Blue Oval and improved parking, public amenity and public art. The proposals were advertised for public comment from January through to the beginning of May 2007, and the consultation program included a number of information sessions and public feedback forums. The submissions on the Strategy's proposals were endorsed by Council in June 2007 and the Consultants were requested to finalise the Strategy, taking into account the comments expressed through the consultation process. It is envisaged that the Strategy will be completed by the end of the 2007 calendar year

Maylands to Guildford TOD Study

The Town of Bassendean committed to participation in the Maylands to Guildford Transit Oriented Development Study by signing a memorandum of understanding. The study aims to foster higher density housing along the railway line from Maylands to Guildford, including the precincts surrounding the Town's three train stations. Goals are to ensure that developments around the stations are sustainable, and make better use of public transport infrastructure. The major emphasis on the project in the reporting year has been on identifying the opportunities and constraints within the area. The community will be involved in shaping the outcomes of the study during the next year.

Built Environment 2: Enhance Town and Streetscapes

Streetscape Plan

In 2006/07 the Town continued to enhance and upgrade its street gardens. Works were completed on the gardens around the Town's entry statements, with improvements also made to roundabouts and median islands. One important

streetscape initiatives for the year was the provision of feature lighting to significant buildings in Old Perth Road, which was completed in 2007/08.

The Director Operational Services worked with consultants to finalise the Strategic Streetscapes Plan. This project was overdue for completion by the end of the financial year and was frustrated by a turnover of staff within the consultancy firm and the complexity of the project requiring several iterations of the Plan and underpinning policies.

In total an amount of \$325,545 was spent to enhance streetscapes as summarised below.

Description of Works	Cost (\$)
Street Gardens Upgrade – Capital Funding	5,997
Street Gardens Upgrade – Maintenance	81,184
Street Tree Planting Program – Capital Funding	26,742
Street Trees – Maintenance	78,669
Old Perth Road Feature Lighting	69,703
Strategic Streetscape Plan	63,250

Municipal Heritage Inventory

Council adopted a revised Municipal Inventory in November 2005 which included 23 properties on Category 1, where statutory protection will be afforded under the new Local Planning Scheme, and 250 properties on Category 2, where preservation is highly desirable but does not have statutory protection. With the adoption of Local Planning Scheme 10, Category 1 properties will be afforded statutory protection under the Scheme.

Heritage Incentive Scheme

In May 2006, Council adopted a Heritage Incentive Scheme whereby planning application and building licence fees are waived for renovation and restoration works for properties listed on the Municipal Inventory or those whose owners are seeking inclusion onto the Municipal Inventory. The aim of the scheme is to protect the higher quality traditional housing stock of the Town and to give an incentive for the preservation of heritage buildings. **Has it been used?????**

Heritage Loan Subsidy Scheme

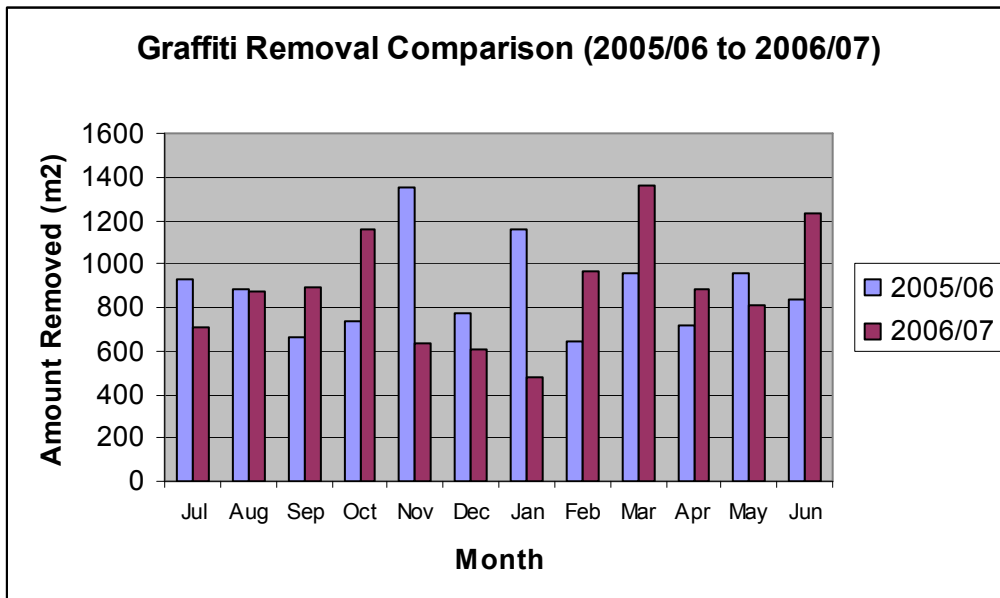
The Town of Bassendean is one of 23 local authorities within WA that participate in this scheme. The Heritage Council of WA and the Western Australian Local Government Association underwrite the subsidy and administer the scheme. The Heritage Loan Subsidy Scheme has been developed to assist owners of heritage places with funds to undertake conservation works. The scheme makes conserving places of

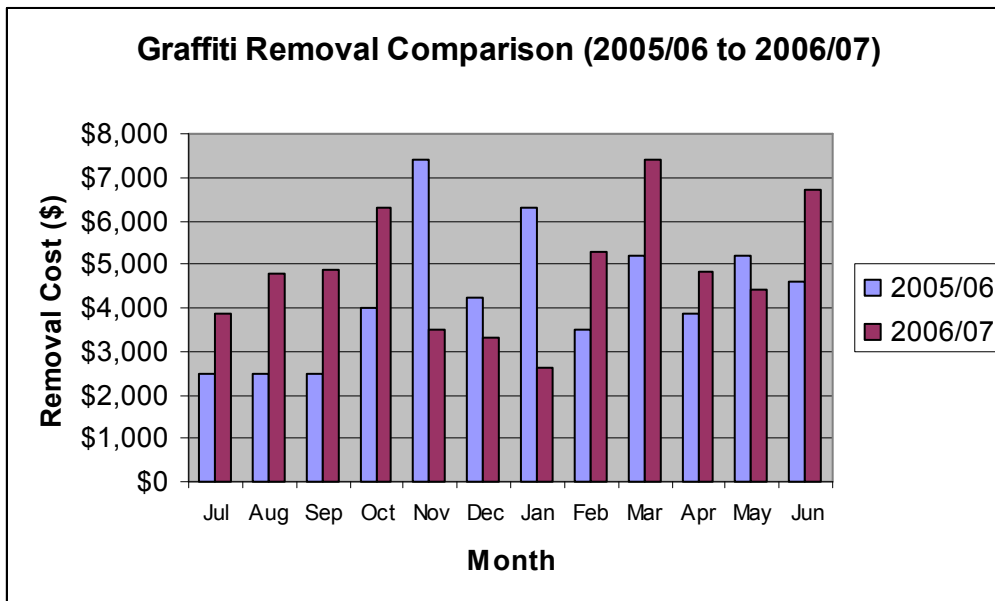
heritage significance easier and more affordable by offering a subsidy, currently set at four percent, on the interest rate on loans for conservation work.

Owners of places listed in a local government's Municipal Inventory, State Government's Register of Heritage Places, Commonwealth's Register of National Estate, or National List, or National Trust's List of Classified Places are eligible to apply for the subsidy. Applications are accepted at any time of year, and considered on a quarterly basis. To date there have been no applications submitted by eligible property owners from within the Town

Graffiti Removal Program

The Town's Graffiti Removal Contractors removed 10,621m² of graffiti during the year at a cost of \$57,884. Graffiti was removed from Council owned assets, public or service provider assets that either abut or are wholly located on Council owned land, and from private, industrial or commercial fence lines and/or walls that abut Council owned land.





Built Environment 3: Maximise Community Access

Universal Access

The Town's Access and Inclusion Committee was active during the reporting year conducting audits of several community accessible facilities including recommending on access improvements to the Bassendean Post Office. The Town successfully applied for funding and employed a Project Officer to conduct an accessibility audit of participating businesses in Old Perth Road and to compile a map of accessible places in the Town Centre. The Project commenced in the period and is planned to conclude with a Business Forum entitled "Access Makes Cent\$" (See section on Community and Customer Focus)

The Access and Inclusion Committee also undertook a major review of the Access and Inclusion Plan to ensure people with disabilities in the same way as other members of the community, can readily and easily access information, facilities, events and services provided by the Council and participate fully in Council's consultative processes.

Footpath Construction Program

During the year approximately 418 m² of concrete footpaths were constructed in Lord Street and Grey Street at a total cost of \$16,093. An additional amount of \$148,555 was spent maintaining and repairing the Town's existing path network.

Road Resurfacing Program

During the year, approximately 4072m² of the Town's roads were resurfaced at a cost of \$128,904. The following is a summary of the works carried out:

Location	Size (m2)	Cost (\$)	Funding Source

James St (Old Perth Rd to BIC Reserve)	1800	41,438	Roads to Recovery
Whitfield Street (Bridson to Watson)	300	37,466	Roads to Recovery
Whitfield Street (Old Perth to Palmerston)	1120	27,937	Roads to Recovery
West Road Service Road	852	22,063	Roads to Recovery

Traffic Management

Preliminary design and survey works were also carried out for the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Collier Road and Grey and Jackson Streets at a cost of \$31,525. An amount of \$3,845 was spent on minor traffic management works and education including placement of the speed display trailer throughout our streets.

Built Environment 4: Maintain Council Buildings and Protect Heritage Sites

Building Improvements

The following capital works were carried out in and around the Town's buildings at a cost of \$150,825 during 2006/07.

Description	Cost (\$)
Hyde Retirement Village – Refurbish Units 26 and 27, replace taps and reticulation system	69,339
Administration Office – Refurbish Committee Room and other works	30,875
Public Toilets and Leased Buildings – Upgrading and General Maintenance	15,195
Community Hall – Repaint, recarpet, white goods and wet areas	13,598
Community and Senior Citizens Centre – Internal Repaint of Hall and New Furnishings	12,882
Sparx Child Care Centre – Upgrade Power Board, fit Smoke Detectors, replace gutters	7,394
Wind In The Willows Child Care – Replace Taps and window repairs	3,200
Alf Faulkner Hall – Fit Cupboard Doors	2,032

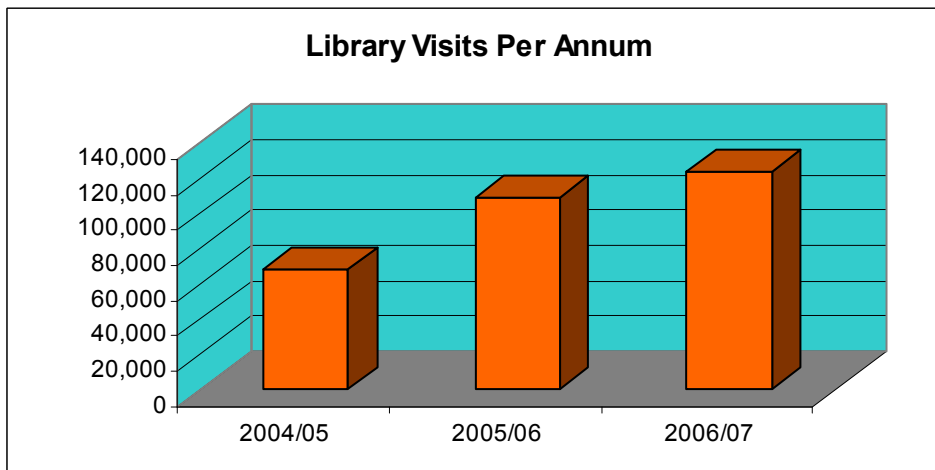
COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Community Services 1: Provide quality Library Services and Local History Management

Universally Accessible Library

The Library enjoyed a record number of visits in its first full year of operation in the new facility at 46 Old Perth Road.

- The Library Service maintained 56 hours per week of access to the facility – with the exception of one Saturday morning for planning and three days for a stock take of State Library held items.
- The number of visits recorded through the library door rose from 109,294 last year to 123,900 which can be translated as 8.77 visits in the year by each resident of the Town. This figure does not include those people who access the other rooms and amenities provided in the facility.



- The percentage of population enrolled as members rose from 49.7% to 50.97%. Some 7203 people are 'active' members. That is, they visited the library and borrowed at least once in the last year.
- A total of 1206 new memberships were registered in the year, whilst 1115 people renewed their memberships with the library.
- The total number of items loaned in the year passed the 200,000 mark. The actual statistic was 202,462 items and this is substantially above the previous record figure of 177,130.
- Younger members of the community have also demonstrated their enjoyment of the new facility. A second weekly session commenced on Fridays to meet the demand for a story and its associated activity.
- Approximately 200 more children attended this reporting year making 953 in total.
- Visits from overseas, interstate and local professionals and government bodies totalled 46 people looking at the new facility and its services.
- The Town of Bassendean Local Stock funding saw staff purchase, process and shelve an additional 751 books, 625 DVDs, 34 Audio books, 265 Videos and 171

music CDs. These items are additional stock to the 3500 items acquired through the State Library of Western Australia co-operative arrangement each year. This 'back room' activity ensures a contemporary, attractive and relevant collection of material for the community to browse and borrow.

- The Library hosted its inaugural Halloween evening. Children created and read their own horror stories, took home prizes and consumed great amounts of food and drink.
- Six hundred children were actively engaged with speakers or activities for Children's Book week in August 2006. They created and displayed 337 entries in the Book Week Art Exhibition.
- Twenty three separate information displays from external bodies were put up – along with thirty seven displays created by staff.
- The Library also hosted 10 work experience placements in the year.
- Volunteers provide the Library with major support each year and this reporting year some 858 visits delivered nearly 11,000 items to home bound people. The books are selected by volunteers and the drivers are volunteers.

Local Studies Collection

The Town's extensive Local Studies Collection is centrally located in the Library with a secure, purpose built archival storage space, an office for staff and a study/reference room for researchers. Access is available to the Collection for 56 hours per week.

- A qualified professional staff member dedicates two days a week to develop and maintain the Collection.
- This reporting year has seen significant progress in improving access to the material collected over previous years. For 2006 to 2007, the Collection had an additional 21 books added to stock, 164 articles indexed, 218 photographs and photographic collections (combined) catalogued and 8 archival collections were processed.
- A significant development for the Collection this reporting year was the work undertaken with the maps.
- A total of 66 items were processed and catalogued and their details accessible on the Web site.
- The indexing of the 1900's Rate Books program was again strongly supported by our volunteers and some 9,978 entries have been created to date.
- A separate project was the '*Bassendean Magnet*' newspaper being read and indexed. This valuable project has seen the creation of 895 entries to date. A display, featuring a cross section of holdings from the Collection was developed and placed in the Library for a six week period to raise awareness of the importance and scope of the collection.
- A high quality pamphlet entitled 'Local Studies Collection' was designed and produced by staff to function as an introduction to the collection. This publication has received acclaim from other Local Studies Collections for its quality and content.
- The Local Studies Collection has its holdings available via the Library catalogue on the website - along with a sizeable portion of the photographic collection which is being progressively digitalised.

Community Services 2: Effective Support for Seniors and People with Disabilities

Home and Community Care (HACC) and Community Care Packages (CACP)

Key initiatives of the HACC and CACP programs in 2006/07 were:

- The establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Stirling to cook meals daily and deliver them to Old Perth Road from where our staff and volunteers deliver them each weekday to Meals on Wheels clients was a major achievement.
- A client survey of Meals on Wheels was completed in order to monitor the quality of food and service
- Additional recurrent HACC funding was achieved to increase domestic assistance services and services to younger clients who have a disability and people from an ATSI background.
- Successful completion of the CACP quality reporting process and visit.
- The annual satisfaction survey with a sound (64%) response rate for CACP clients indicated a high level of satisfaction with the CACP program.
- Significant increase and accuracy in fees collection in: In Home Care, Adult Day Centre and Catering Services.
- Attendance at a WA Ballet's dress rehearsal performance by members of WINGS - the Friday night younger people with disabilities group.
- Due to growth funding, the employment of a Liaison and Activities Officer for the young people with disabilities group and WINGS group.

Adult Day Centre Activities

The Day Centre conducted many activities within the reporting year including:

- Picnics around the Swan and Hills area.
- Concerts including the Police Pipe Band concert at Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre.
- Theme days such as Halloween, Melbourne Cup, Seniors Week and NAIDOC week.
- A river cruise to Fremantle

Total number of clients assisted 2005/06 & 2006/07

HACC Services	Clients 05/06	Clients 06/07	Hours 05/06	Hours 06/07
Domestic Assistance	180	175	4,982	5,188
Centre based Day Care	122	111	19,368	18,596
Respite Care	11	21	703	308
Home Maintenance	168	180	813	1,195
Transport	119	108	7,163	6,683
Counselling/Support Information & Advocacy	333	319	629	438
Assessment	279	267	774	660
Personal Care	29	37	1,350	986
Social Support	108	102	2,133	2,236
TOTAL	1,349	1,320	37,915	36,290

Catering Services 2005/06 & 2006/07

Service Types	Total Meals 05/06	Total Meals 06/07
Meals provided @ Ashfield Day Centre	1,423	In house
Meals delivered (Meals on Wheels)	12,089	9,454
Meals at Bassendean Meals Centre	2,511	3,055
Total	16,023	12,509

NB: Meals are now prepared by the City of Stirling, and are warmed and distributed by TOB volunteers.

Podiatry

- On average, 114 people used the podiatry service each month and received a service every 6-8 weeks during the year.
- Successful funding application for essential podiatry equipment from Lotterywest was approved as demand for this service is increasing.

Community Services 3: Effective Support for Young People

Bassendean Youth Services

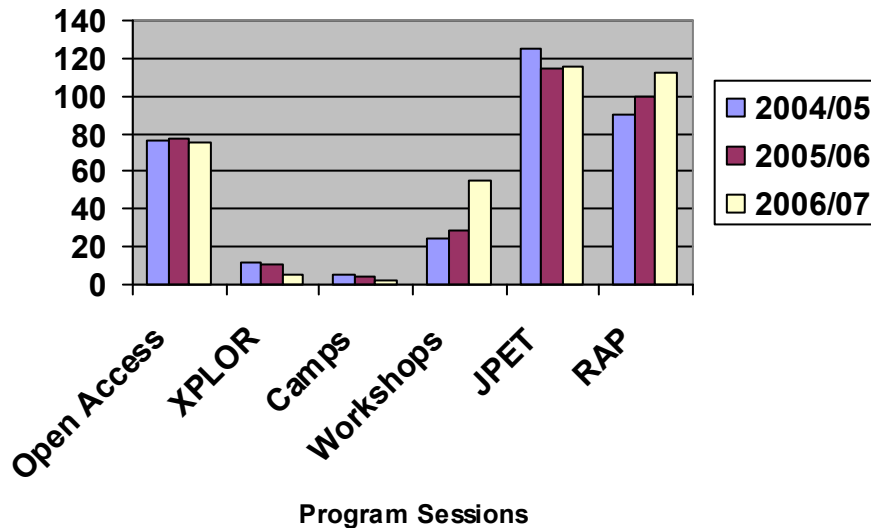
Bassendean Youth Services offered free or subsidised access to facilities and programs delivered throughout the year. These included the 'Open Access' program, XPLOR (Exposure, Participation, Life Skills, Ownership and Recreation) program, Counselling and Mediation (RAP), a regional JPET service, karting program and school holiday camps and activities.

- Youth Services continuously upgraded its facilities including internet/games café where young people were engaged on a voluntary basis to service and repair equipment.

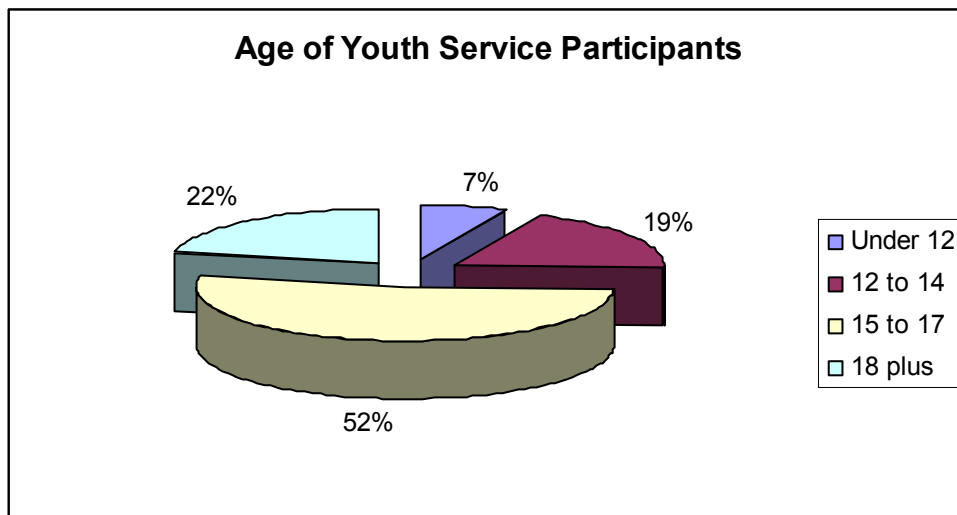
- Youth Services continued its development of an Integrated Youth Facility project in order to meet the need for a wheeled sports facility within the Town. .
- Music equipment allowed newly developed band workshops to be introduced.

Extensive core services are offered to the community catering to the support and recreation needs of local young people.

Core Services - Sessions



Age Ranges of Participants



- New programs introduced in response to community demand included music workshops, young women’s workshops, “Exploring Together” program, anger management workshops and urban art programs.
- Additional funding was secured for recreational camps and activities allowing them to be subsidised for participants

- Considerable externally funded value adding programs included JPET (Job Placement, Education and Training), and RAP (Resources for Adolescents and Parents).
- Youth Services continued the development of ‘SHIELD’ (Secure Housing for Individuals Exploring Lifeskills Development) which is a Youth Housing Project to assist disadvantaged young people.
- Youth Services provided an appropriately delivered youth event.

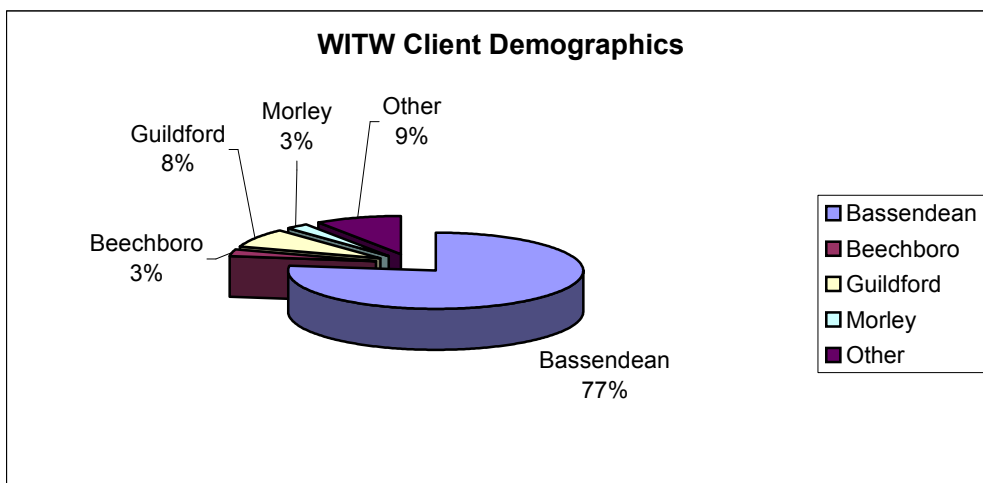
Youth Services continued the provision of programs and activities which offer alternatives to harmful behaviours.

- Delivery of Urban Art Workshops for local young people involved in graffiti and vandalism;
- Provision of Thursday Night programs as an alternative to recreation in shopping district; and
- Youth Services delivered a public event for local young people called ‘Slick 06’ and a youth marquee at the Bassendean Fair.

Community Services 4: Effective Support for Families and Children

Wind in the Willows Child Care Centre

During 2006/07, the nationally accredited service met the childcare needs for 128 families of which 81 are still enrolled. Many of the Centre’s clients who reside outside the Town work in or near the Town. The WITW is a not-for-profit service operated under National Competition Policy guidelines and must ensure there is no ratepayer subsidy by meeting all expenses from fees.



WITW Client Characteristics	Families
Residents of Bassendean, Eden Hill and Ashfield	61
Business owners or working in Bassendean	8
Live and work outside area but require child care	12

The service demonstrated strong parent involvement in service quality improvement processes with 7 workshop meetings conducted. The quality improvement focus reviewed and updated the following Centre's management policies and procedures:

1. Food and Nutrition
2. Medications
3. Child Raised Temperature / Flow Chart
4. Child Illness in Care
5. New Enrolment Form
6. Children's Clothing / protection
7. Cross Infection/ prevention
8. Storage of Dangerous Chemicals / products
9. Dental Health
10. Environmental Protection

The Committee also conducted a parent survey on Nutrition and Cooking Practice with the following outcomes:

- Development of a new centre Food and Nutrition for children Pamphlet to for new clients as part of our quality enrolment package.
- Staff training in the new Foodsafe Food handling Model.

The centre produced 12 information newsletters, which were sent to clients on child health, and safety issues, care needs, management issues and changes and programs for children and what's happening in our community.

Over the past 12 months, the WITW has had the use of one of the Town's Community Transport buses on most Tuesdays. The kindy children have enjoyed a variety of excursions with staff.



Over the past twelve months the centre has facilitated extensive training opportunities for 3 local school students, 2 university students and 3 TAFE students and also facilitated placements for 4 non English-speaking students.

Existing staff have undertaken a range of one-off training programs, as well as formalised training.

- 1 Trainee in Certificate 3 half completed with TAFE by June 07
 - 2 long term staff half completed fast track Certificate 3 with TAFE
- MCS completed fast track Certificate 4 Out of School Hours Care with TAFE.

Out of School Hours Care

Since the early 1990's, the Town has provided Out of School Hours Care for primary school aged children. The service is operated from the Ashfield Community Centre and offers after school and vacation care programs. A marketing strategy was developed and enacted in the reporting period in response to declining demand for the service in the previous year. The outcome has been a substantial increase in clientele - there now being 44 families requiring vacation care and 54 families requiring after school hours care. The financial performance improved with attendance and the Business Unit achieved an operational surplus.

Whilst there has been significant change in the demand for OSC and Vacation Care places in the past 6 months, the rise in demand has been frustrated by the lack of staff who are seeking employment in this area. With the resignation of the long term supervisor, this meant that the Manager Children's Services had to take an active supervision role with the use of casual staff to remain compliant.

Out of School Care Family Usage

Origin School	Children	Comments
Bassendean Primary	7	All Bassendean residents
Ashfield primary	5	All Ashfield residents
Casa Mia Montessori	1	Parent works in Bassendean
St Michael's Primary	9	All Bassendean residents
Guildford Primary	9	Four Bassendean residents, 5 not.

The average use for OSC has remained to June 2007 at an average of 27 per day with numbers fluctuating from 26 to 31 per day over the five days.

The average for Vacation Care was not as high with the average being at 23 per day with the fluctuating numbers from 20 to 29 over five days.

Out of School Care and Vacation Care were assessed for quality practice under the NCAC review guidelines. This was a successful review with the service being accredited for a further 2 and a half years. The next review will be in 2009 with some spontaneous visits in between.

External Playgroups

At the Ashfield Community Centre the Town provided accommodation for two local playgroups utilising 2 mornings per week. One group dropped away and went to another venue, however, the remaining group are cohesive and remain strong. They have utilised Ashfield for 12 months.

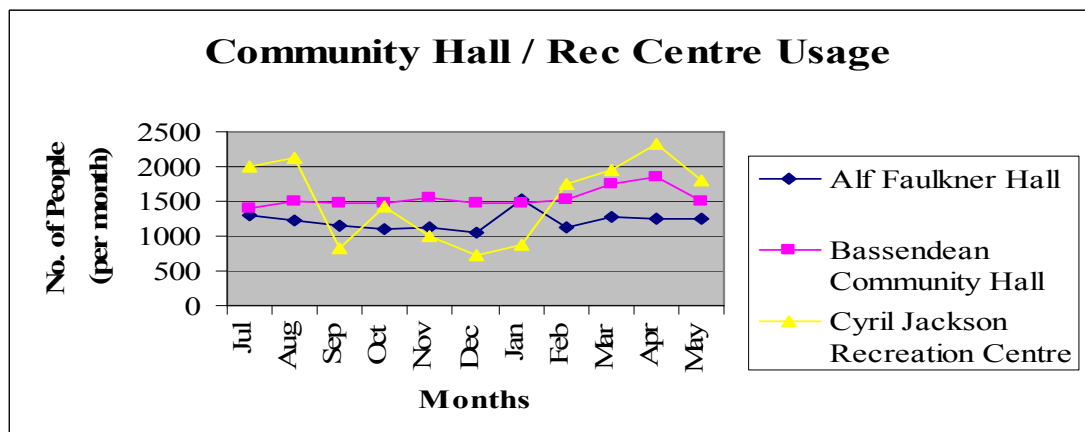
Council Leased Child Care Facilities

As well as the direct provision of child care, the Town leased facilities to the Sparx group at Eden Hill for both long day care as well as out of school care.

Community Development 1: Maximise use of Community Facilities and Sporting Grounds

Community Facility Usage

- Stage 2 sports lighting upgrades were commenced at Jubilee Reserve to provide additional training lights to current Australian Standards. The project included the requirement for power supply upgrades by Western Power.
- The Stan Moses Pavilion Management Group continued to make progress for the direct management of the pavilion, including receiving a capital works grant to assist with a canteen facility upgrade.
- New facility agreements were developed for the Stan Moses Pavilion Management Group, Bassendean Tennis Club and Sparx Early Learning Centre.
- The Town continued with its replacement program for its play structures, in line with the Australian Standards.
- The Town's community centres, recreation centre, tennis courts, halls, clubrooms, sports fields and parks again proved to be popular throughout the year. The monthly usage statistics for the halls and recreation centre are shown in the table below.

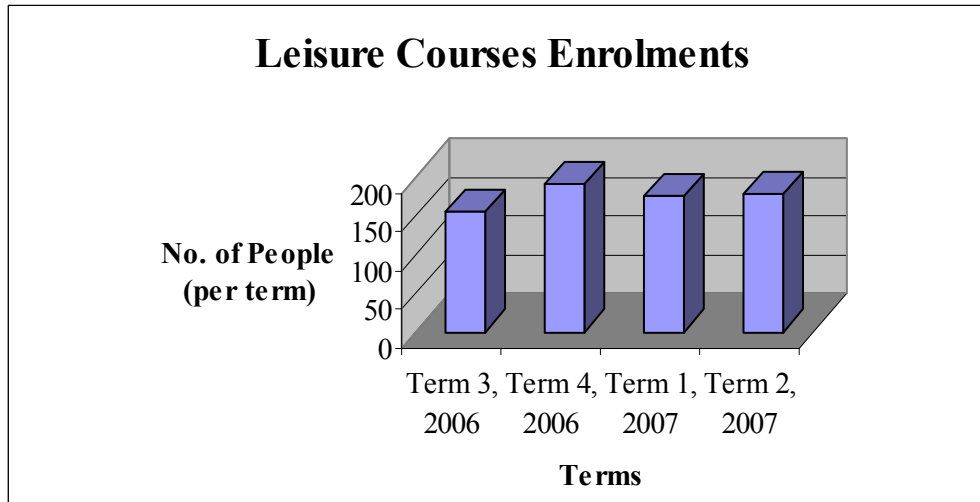


Club Development

The Town continued to facilitate a number of club development initiatives for local sporting clubs, including workshops and training. Communication was enhanced with clubs via regular editions of e-Newsletters.

Leisure Courses

Leisure Courses provided effective use of the Town's community facilities. Enrolments for courses totalled 701 people. Course enrolments for each term are shown in the table below.



Bassendean Seniors and Community Centre

The Centre operated well for all user groups with the majority of functions being 'Senior' focused. The main activities of the Seniors were held earlier in the week – Monday (Sewing group, Art Group), Tuesday (Keep Fit, Drop In & the Bowls group). Over the year the Seniors Citizens Association increased the frequency of their concerts to one each month and all were well attended. Other users included:

- Regular evening groups such as Rhee Taekwon Do and Weight Watchers. A new drumming group the 'Bassanovas' also made the Centre their home.
- Two smaller church groups hired the hall as casual users, as well as a group of residents who hire the hall on a casual basis for their music jam sessions.
- Another group which has strong ties with the Town is the Wings group. This group used the hall on a once a month basis on a Friday evening mainly for Karaoke.
- The approximate regular weekly user numbers of the Centre was 234 (up from 122 the previous year). This figure does not account for the Senior Citizens Association's use.

Community Development 2: Maximise Volunteering Opportunities

Volunteer Centre

The main focus for the reporting year was our internal volunteers who assist in various services throughout the Town of Bassendean as opposed to assisting external organisations.

- The Town was served by 101 volunteers throughout various business units. Some were involved on a weekly basis whereas others served on short term projects such as the Art Exhibition, Seniors' Survey and other special events.
- During mid 2006 a procedures manual was produced documenting both the Volunteer Centre and Community Transport office procedures.
- General training was given to three volunteers who offered to assist with other duties at the office whilst the Coordinator was away.
- The Volunteer Centre Coordinator attended two Volunteer Alliance Network meetings. These are held during March and September each year. During the March 2007 meeting, Open Space Facilitation training was undertaken which was fully sponsored through DCP and Volunteering WA.
- On December 5th 2006, for International Volunteers' Day, the Town held an appreciation event for all Volunteers and Community Groups within the Town. As part of this special day, conducted in partnership with Volunteering WA and the Department Community Development, grant funding was received and community groups were invited to add their volunteer names to the 'Vista of V's'. A number of our volunteers were kept busy with making this display as there was an overwhelming response of over 500 names.
- Another major focus for volunteering this reporting year saw the introduction of a new program through Volunteering WA – the 'Enhancing Access Project'. This program is all about educating all who assist in the field of volunteering to include those people who may have disabilities within their areas. Part of this program is 'Take2' which works as a buddy system. The second person is there to assist the new volunteer settle into their volunteer duties. The Coordinator attended the official launch and information session on this worthwhile program.
- Throughout the reporting year various articles were included in the bi-monthly Bassendean Briefings. For the autumn 2007, 'Valuing Volunteering', a publication put out by DCP, the Bassendean Volunteer Centre produced a wonderful article on one of our Seniors and Disability Services' volunteers who has gone on to undertake studies in this field.
- For the first time 'Volunteer Week' was celebrated in Bassendean. Displays were erected in both the Library and Customer Service Centre. The focus for the week was the promotion of volunteering and appreciation of volunteers. The Town's volunteers were treated to a small appreciation gift (certificate, chocolates and warm drink), as well as free tickets to a recently released movie and ballet. Both sessions were appreciated from those that did attend. Our Centre was fortunate in receiving grant funding from Lotterywest and Volunteering WA which helped towards the promotions throughout the week.

Community Transport

This service is still going strongly with some 380 residents receiving assistance from a dedicated team of volunteers who assist in the Volunteers Centre and on the buses.

- From July 2006 to June 2007 the service made 2407 client trips (Internal Service within the Town Boundaries) and 1818 (External Service – wider metro area). The total number of passenger trips for 2006/07 was 4225.
- Total distance travelled was 29,162 kms on the external bus and 19,081 kms by the internal bus.

- The Town's buses are still utilised within the Community for other community purposes such for Church group use on Sundays for one bus, and for Children each Tuesday by the Wind in the Willows Child Care Centre which has use of one bus for outings.
- The service is now being more widely promoted through the use of brochures, with details included on the website and on show at the Bassendean Fair.

Library Services

The level of community support through volunteering has expanded in the 2006/07 reporting year

- The Local Studies Collection received assistance with priority projects from a team of six people who provided 22 hours per week of voluntary support.
- The Housebound Service was delivered entirely through the efforts of four dedicated volunteers who selected and delivered the material each week of the year. The hours donated to this outreach program were estimated at between 350 to 400 per year.
- The general Library operations received 947 hours of volunteer support from three other long-term volunteers.

Community Development 3: Foster Community Participation and Cultural Development

Young Sports Achievement Awards

Six young sports achievers were acknowledged during the year, namely: Paul Otago (Tae Kwon Do), Zowie Lamers (Lacrosse), Eloise Arnold (Tae Kwon Do), Ricky Unasa (Rugby Union), Cole Unasa (Rugby Union) and Lachlan Sykes (Gymnastics).

Australia Day Awards

- *Mr Cas Tesnear* was named the Town of Bassendean Citizen of the Year and winner of the Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Award, for his outstanding contribution on behalf of local community groups over the last 19 years. He was acknowledged as an active member of the community for the Bassendean Volunteer Fire Brigade and local sporting clubs, including Eden Hill Little Athletics, Bassendean Junior Football and Bassendean Junior Cricket clubs.
- *Mr Anthony Walton* was named the Town of Bassendean Junior Citizen of the Year and winner of the Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Award for a person under 25 years, for his active community work involving young people. He was acknowledged as a member of the Bassendean Youth Advisory Council and the Swan Education Industry Training Association.
- *Bassendean Volunteer Fire Brigade* was named the Town of Bassendean Community Group of the Year and winner of the Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Award for a Community Group, for its outstanding community service. They were acknowledged for their fire safety services; providing firebreaks for over 25 years; community events participation; and sporting achievements, having won numerous State championships awards.

Cultural Planning

The Town commenced the implementation of its Cultural Plan. A key outcome was the establishment of the Community Cultural Planning Network (CCPN). The CCPN is comprised of local cultural practitioners with a broad range of expertise in the arts, such as with public art, dance, theatre, sculpture and multi media. The CCPN met on a regular basis to exchange ideas and undertake networking.

Public & Cultural Events

The Town conducted six very successful Public & Cultural Events during the year.

- NAIDOC Week – a free community event was held at Ashfield Reserve in July to celebrate NAIDOC Week. The event included face painting, rides and amusements, sporting activities, Red Ochre Band, Indigenous Baby Competition and free lunch and drinks for the community. The event was facilitated in partnership with Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service and Marr Mooditj Foundation and was a great success.
- Art Exhibition - the biennial Art Exhibition & Awards was held during August at the Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre. This reporting year there were 130 works on display and the works showed imagination, clever use of materials and colour coordination.

Awards were presented in both the “Flat” (2D) and “Fat” (3D) categories as follows:

Flat Category

- 1st Place Award - Peter Usher for the work entitled “Free Way”.
- 2nd Place Award - Margaret Stephens for the work entitled “Streets of Fremantle”.
- 3rd Place Award - Suzanne Logue for the work entitled “Jabiru”.
- Highly Commended Award - Ben Jackson for the work entitled “No 12 Morrison Road, Midland”.
- Encouragement Award - Abbe Harman for the work entitled “West Perth Reflections”.
- Night Stalkers Award - Michael Unrath for the work entitled “Pangolin”.

Fat Category

- 1st Place Award - John Garoza for the work entitled “Arcia”.
- 2nd Place Award - Roz Thomson for the work entitled “Mother’s Love”.
- 3rd Place Award - Robyn Varpins for the work entitled “Bearing Gifts”.
- Highly Commended Award - Maureen Hardwick for the work entitled “Floradicals”.
- Encouragement Award - Belinda Lewis for the work entitled “Castaway”.

A total of 17 artworks were sold at the Art Exhibition and the Town’s acquisitions were “Free Way” by Peter Usher and “Jabiru” by Suzanne Logue.

- *Seniors Week* - the Seniors' Week Organizing Committee worked hard to develop a program of activities throughout the last week in October. Activities included the Opening Ceremony, Dance-a-thon, Community walk, Old Time Music Hall, Indigenous Seniors Event, Intergenerational Fun Day, Gala Day and Closing Ceremony. Displays were also held inside the Bassendean Village Shopping Centre.
- *Community Fair & Expo* – An overcast day didn't dampen the spirits of the families who attended the Fair & Expo at Ashfield Reserve in November. Highlights of the Fair & Expo included amusement rides, sideshow games, two stages packed with singing and dancing acts and a performance area known as "the green". The discounted entry circus performance provided by Circus Joseph Ashton on the day also attracted a large crowd.
- *Australia Day Celebration* - The highlight of the Town's Public Events program occurred at Ashfield Reserve on 26 January. The event was an outstanding success. The Town again formed a partnership with 98.5 Sonshine FM to provide an exclusive soundtrack for the fireworks, an outside broadcast and pre-event promotion. The entertainment program included Zydecats, Nathan Gaunt and the Black Eyed Dogs and Iambic.
- *Multicultural Festival* – Harmony Day was celebrated at Jubilee Reserve in March, with a range of multicultural entertainment and food provided from twenty stallholders. The event celebrated the cultural diversity of people in Australia. The event saw the launch of Bassendean's very own percussion group, known as the Bassonovas.

Event subsidy per Public & Cultural Event

Events	Cost	Revenue	Council Contribution	Participation	Event Subsidy (per person)
NAIDOC	\$17,429	\$4,000	\$13,429	3,000	\$4.47
Art Exhibition	\$26,814	\$7,882	\$18,932	1050	\$18.03
Seniors' Week	\$4,794	\$500	\$4,294	1,650	\$2.60
Fair & Expo	\$42,692	\$12,415	\$30,277	12,000	\$2.52
Australia Day	\$45,861	\$12,870	\$32,295	20,000	\$1.61
Multicultural Food Festival & Fireworks	\$35,897	\$13,066	\$22,831	4,000	\$5.70

Community Events Sponsorship Program

The Town provided nine Community Events Sponsorships of up to \$1,000 this reporting year for a variety of community purposes.

Recipient	Purpose
Blue Sky Community Group	NAIDOC Week Community Walk
Bassendean Town Radio	Broadcast servicing at Public Events
Bassendean Junior Cricket Club	Cricket End of Season Community Event
Broadway 11 Band	Seniors Dance Community Event
St Joseph's Church	Community Procession
Success Hill Action Group	Community Christmas Party
Bassendean City Farm	Summer Fringe Festival
WA Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services Association	State Junior Fire Brigade Championships

- *Banners* – Local Artist, Mr Si Hummerston, was contracted to create an artistic banner from a design submitted by the Bassendean Primary School, as the Town’s entry into the “Banners in the Terrace Competition”. The banner was displayed in St George’s Terrace in Perth during Local Government Week.
- *Performance Art Dance Project* - During the year, the Town worked with the Yirra Yaakin Noongar Theatre to present a dance production for local school children called “In the Nytting Time”. The production used dance to portray important cultural messages and themes to indigenous and non-indigenous children.

Community Development 4: Improve Community Health and Safety

Ranger Services

To improve community safety Ranger Services embraced the ‘Eyes on the Street’ program initiated by the Office of Crime Prevention. Rangers have been educating members of the community to report suspicious incidents to the Police or Town Rangers. The Rangers then complete detailed individual reports which are logged on a central Police Service database. This results in the police having a holistic approach and overview to crime in our Region. Educating our community highlights how we can all play our part in reducing the incidence of crime, violence and antisocial behaviour.

Ranger Services participated in the RAC Community Safety Month. This has been running for 3 years and saw more than two hundred events and activities involving more than 100,000 people, taking place across Western Australia. The Town involved itself by advertising the RAC Safety Month with the Rangers wearing a badge each day of the month of October to raise awareness in the community.

Rangers raised further awareness by sharing their knowledge of “Know Your Neighbour”, School Watch, Safety House & Graffiti Management programs with the Town. Residents were also encouraged to borrow, free of charge, an engraver from the Bassendean Memorial Library to ID personal belongings.

Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan

The Town has entered into a Community Safety and Crime Prevention Partnership Agreement between the State Government and the City of Swan, and the Shires of Kalamunda and Mundaring. This was in recognition that the most effective approach to tackling crime and its causes and to enhance community safety is through partnerships involving the WA Police Service, State Government agencies, local governments and the community. Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plans describe what action needs to be taken by organisations involved in the Partnership to improve safety, service delivery and reduce crime in the community. The CS&CPP will be completed in 2007/08.

Restricted Breed Annual Inspection

The annual restricted breed dog audit was carried out with on-site inspections that ensured prescribed signage and conditions were met by dog owners. 100% compliance was achieved by owners under the Restricted Breeds Legislation.

Dog Registrations

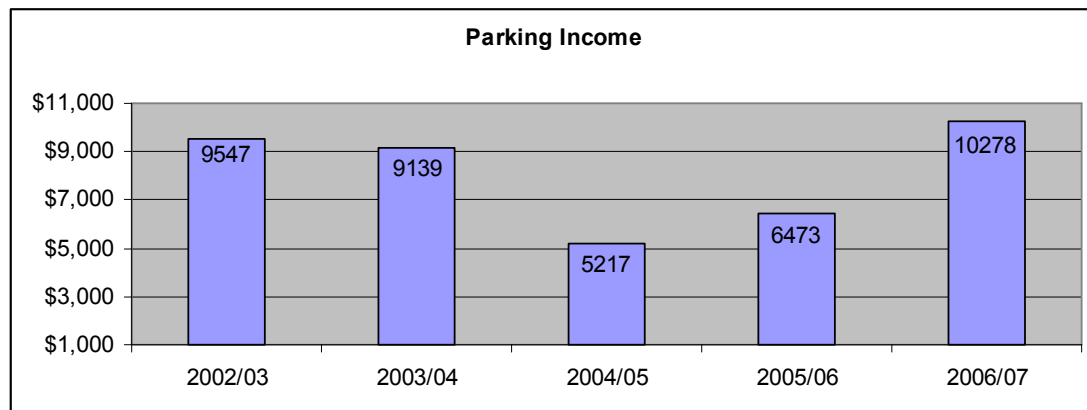
This reporting year saw a slight downturn in the revenue received for dog registration. The Dog Registration annual follow-up program was completed in March 2007. This program identified approximately 300 dog owners that did not register their dog by the statutory due date in 2006. 150 of these dog owners had moved from the area and re-registered their dogs in other councils and this would account for the downturn in revenue. 20 infringements of \$100 were issued for non compliance with the registration requirements for 2006.

Managing Fire Risks

The Town achieved 100% compliance with ensuring the Town minimised any fire risk in the 2006/07 fire season. An annual audit was carried out in November and at the completion, ten outstanding properties remained non compliant with Council's Fire Risk Management Policy and Management Practices. This was a 50% reduction from the previous year. Contractors were engaged to clear the blocks and by December 31 there were no properties known to Council that posed a fire risk in the Town.

Parking

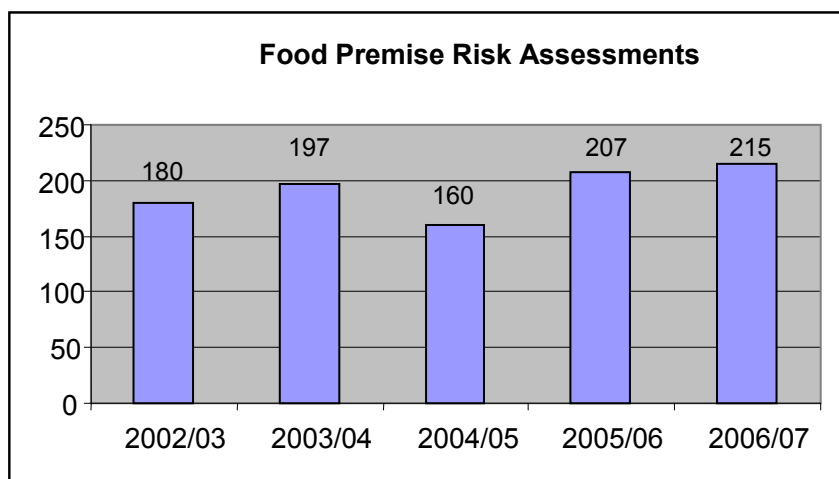
This reporting year saw an increase in revenue from parking fines of 63% due to the parking problems created by the overflow from park'n'ride patrons from increased use of the Bassendean train station carpark spilling over into unauthorised street parking in adjacent streets.



Food Premises Risk Assessments

Council's Health & Environmental Services, during 2006 - 2007 carried out a total of 215 food premise risk assessments for compliance with the *Health (Food Hygiene) Regulations 1993*. A total of six (6) Improvement Notices and two (2) Schedules of Works were issued.

Food Premises Inspections



During 2006/2007, one (1) food premises was successfully prosecuted for adulteration of food. The penalty for this breach of the Health Act 1911 was \$500 and fee costs of \$2434. Two (2) new food premises opened within the Town, and two (2) premises closed down their operations. One (1) food premises was investigated for a suspected food poisoning outbreak.

Food Stallholder Permits and Itinerant Vendors

During the financial year, 20 Stallholder permits were issued to food vendors.

The process involved for the issuing of permits includes:

- 1) Assessing each application including types of foods to be prepared. Determining high risk foods and potential problems with such foods being prepared from a stall.
- 2) Contacting the applicant to assess knowledge on food handling.
- 3) Ensuring where foods are prepared from residential premises, that each applicant has received the relevant approvals from their Local Authority.
- 4) Reviewing copies of food labels where required.
- 5) Inspecting food vehicles where possible and ensuring foods prepared are permitted within that food vehicle.
- 6) Issuing a Conditional Permit to each applicant.

Two food vehicles were inspected and issued approvals to operate within the Town for 2006 / 2007 as Itinerant Vendors.

All Stalls were also inspected to ensure compliance with the Conditional Permit and the Health (Food Hygiene) Regulations 1993 and the Food Standards Code.

New Temporary Food Premises Risk Assessment books were also developed and printed for the purpose of carrying out inspections of stall holders.

Any person wishing to sell food from a stall within the Town of Bassendean is required to make application to Health & Environmental Services for a Stallholder's Permit.

Food Sampling

Health and Environmental Services is part of the Northern Food Monitoring Group (NFMG). The NFMG met on a regular basis and discussed topical food issues and participated in annual sampling surveys, mini-surveys and food surveys organized by the WA Food Monitoring Program. During 2006/2007 Chemical food sampling was carried out on various canned meats products to assess compliance with the Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) Food Standards Code. Microbiological food sampling was also carried out to assess the microbiological quality of ready to eat salads.

Mosquito Monitoring and Control

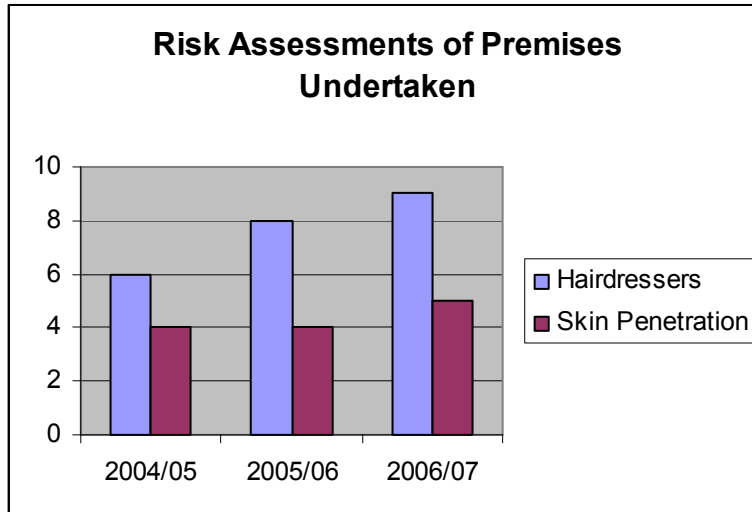
Health and Environmental Services carried out monitoring and trapping over the summer months and treatment of breeding sites was carried out as required. The trap contents during the year were relatively low. The season concluded at the end of April 2007. A total of 50 mosquito larvae treatments were carried out around the Swan River tidal areas. Treatment is only carried out where larvae are sited. A total of 233.2kg of Vectobac was used.

Rodents

The number of residents who attended Customer Service to collect rat bait was 729, during the financial year. A register of all rat bait issued was kept and analysed to determine areas with significant rodent problems. Once these areas were identified, information letters were sent to residents advising of the problem in their area and the steps required to manage the rodent activity. A total of \$1,346.17 was expended on rat bait during the 2006/2007 financial year.

Hairdressing and Skin Penetration Premises Risk Assessments

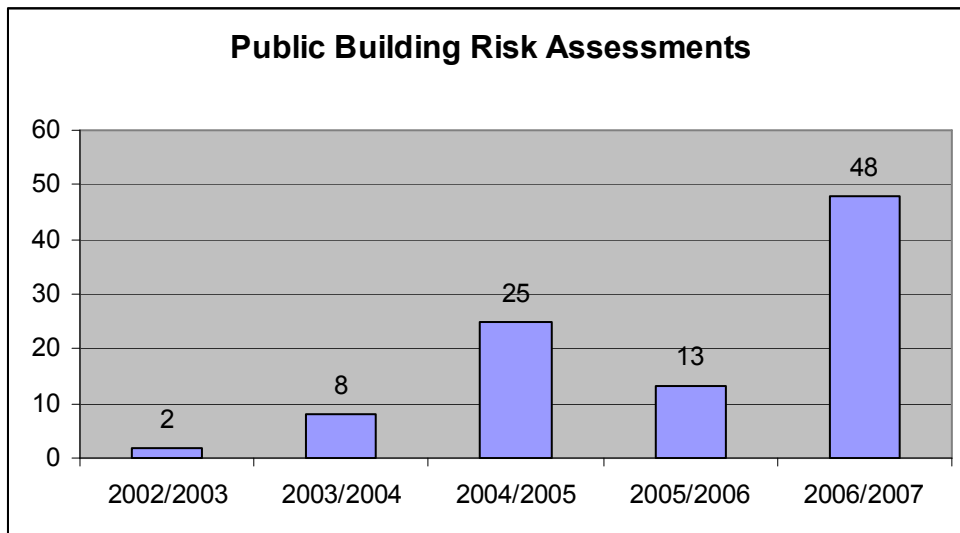
Health and Environmental Services carried out risk assessments of all Hairdressing and Skin Penetration establishments in the Town. New Hairdressing and Skin Penetration Premises Risk Assessment books were also developed and printed for the purpose of carrying out inspections of the premises.



Public Building Premises Risk Assessments

Health and Environmental Services carried out 48 Public Buildings risk assessments during 2006/2007 and improvement notices were issued when any defects were found. All public buildings inspected were also reassessed to confirm the maximum accommodation permitted per building, in accordance with the Health (Public Buildings) Regulations 1992. New Certificates of Approvals were issued to public buildings where required.

New Public Building Risk Assessment books were also developed and printed for the purpose of carrying out inspections of the premises.



ECONOMIC VITALITY

Economic Vitality 1: Encourage the Revitalisation of Commercial Precincts

The major revitalization initiative completed during the year was the Draft Town Centre Area Strategy. Consultants Hames Sharley developed the draft strategy for the study area, which consisted of the Bassendean Train Station precinct, the entire length of Old Perth Road, Steel Blue Oval and the land adjoining Success Hill Train Station. The study aims to revitalize the Town Centre through transit-oriented development close to the stations, mixed use commercial and residential development along Old Perth Road, the redevelopment of the BIC Reserve and Steel Blue Oval and improved parking, public amenity and public art.

An extensive community consultation process involved Hames Sharley and Town officers making presentations to, and obtaining feedback from, a series of advertised public meetings and group discussions attended by members of the community, businesses proprietors and Town Councillors. The consultation and public submissions were received by Council in June 2007 and Council resolved to receive the final concept plan in 2007/08.

The overall community reaction to the Draft Town Centre Area Strategy was very positive and, following completion of the consultation process, Council adopted the Hames Sharley report as the basis for ongoing strategic implementation.

Economic Vitality 2: Foster economic development in the Town and Region

Economic Development Plan

Council adopted an Economic Development Plan in July 2005 to guide the role for the Town in economic development over the next five years. The plan contained thirteen recommendations which were adopted for implementation in a staged program.

Key recommendations completed to July 2007 included:

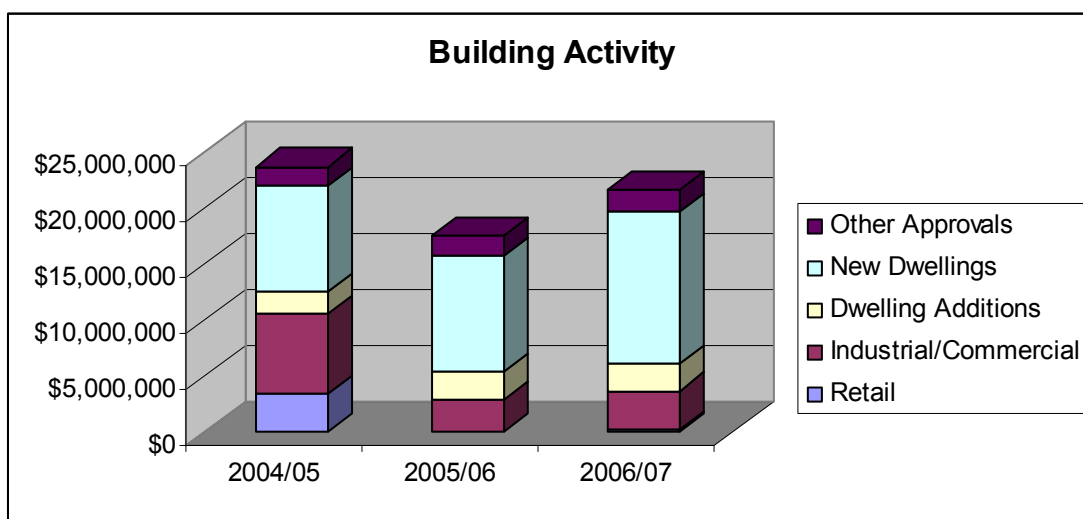
- The establishment of a Bassendean Economic Development Advisory Committee comprising business representatives and Councillors;
- Commissioning and approval of the Town Centre Strategy;
- Report and ongoing consideration for a riverside café/restaurant at either Sandy Beach or Point Reserve;
- Strategic planning discussions relating to key Council owned sites such as the Masonic Hall, former Squash Courts and Morley Drive service station site;
- Business networking opportunities provided for business through consultations on the Town Centre Strategy. Ongoing discussions with the

Central Eastern Business Association and the Swan Chamber of Commerce *Network 2000* group to stage joint networking events in Bassendean;

- Appointment of an Economic Development Officer (EDO) in August 2006. The EDO has commenced a program of visits to industry leaders and traders in the Town and has represented the Town at regular regional meetings of Economic Development Officers. In addition, the EDO worked with the Town's management group to prepare reports and recommend policies relating to:
 - Encouragement of Home Based Businesses
 - Broadband accessibility in Bassendean
 - Medium-Long range positioning strategy for Bassendean
 - Riverside cafes & restaurants report
 - Updating the Town's Business Directory
 - Developing a Business e-Newsletter
 - Planning business networking events
- Developed a marketing plan for the Town; and
- Employ Local Strategy. As a member Council of the EMRC, supported the NEMCC to coordinate two regional Jobs Galore Expo events in Midland.

Building Activity

As a strong indicator of overall economic activity, building development continued to be at a high level with 337 building licence approvals in the reporting period. A total of \$21.6 million in building activity was generated. The amount generated was below the record activity of almost \$24 million in 2004/05 but well above last year's total activity amount of \$17.6. The value of new dwellings constructed was up by 31%.



Regional Development

The Town of Bassendean as a member Council of the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council is involved in economic development strategies to facilitate initiatives that will:

- Increase investment in the region;
- Facilitate business growth and expansion;
- Promote and market the region;
- Develop collaborative partnerships with key regional stakeholders; and
- Develop international economic relations aimed at attracting investment

Current economic initiatives being directly supported by the Town of Bassendean through the EMRC include the:

- Regional Integrated Transport Strategy;
- Industry Clusters Project;
- Regional Trade & Business Opportunities;
- Swan and Helena River Management Framework Plan; and
- Regional Tourism Strategy.

Economic Vitality 3: Encourage Tourism in the Town and Eastern Metropolitan Region

The Regional Tourism Strategy provides a framework for the development of regional tourism and a basis for planning, expansion and marketing of regional tourism activities, whilst aiming to foster co-operation and collaboration between existing tourism bodies and regional stakeholders.

Tourism Strategy Initiatives, coordinated regionally by the EMRC, included:

- Regional Marketing & Promotion;
- Event Development & Promotion;
- Cycling Tourism;
- Swan River Trails Planning & Promotion; and
- Regional Visitor Servicing.

Economic Vitality 4: Foster Business and Home Occupations in the Town

During the year the Town adopted nine policy recommendations designed to strengthen its reputation as an attractive location for Home Based Businesses and to encourage their registration, by creating awareness of the Town's welcoming attitude and by providing them with appropriate information and assistance.

The Town's potential for industrial and commercial development received a major boost with the restoration of the contaminated site in Collier Road as part of Tonkin Park Stage 2. This resulted in 13.5 hectares of industrial land becoming available, with plans for 43 serviced industrial lots being released in stages onto the market for more businesses to be established in Bassendean close to major transport routes such

as the Tonkin Hwy and Guildford Road. The initial release was exceptionally well received by the market.

The Town's Business Directory, popular with local business, was placed on the Town's website as a strategy to foster local trade and economic development.

LEADERSHIP IN BUSINESS EXCELLENCE

Leadership: Effective Governance and Corporate Leadership

Improved Standing Orders

Following a review of the Standing Orders Local Law, Council developed a new Standing Orders Local Law 2006 which was gazetted on 15 December 2006. The new Standing Orders Local Law has been implemented into Council meetings and successful use is being made of the “*en bloc*” voting system to improve time management.

Governance Review

Council completed a governance review in November 2006, following a survey developed by the South Australian Local Government Association. Follow up workshops and a report presented to Council resulted in an action plan being developed. Key strategies included the development and publication of an “Effective Behaviours” list, training in Councillor legal requirements in assessing development applications, a review of internal committees and external delegations, a review of the Council policy framework.

Responding to Structural Reform

The CEO developed a comprehensive submission which was endorsed by Council to the WALGA Systemic Sustainability Study in July 2006. The CEO also chaired the LGMA State Conference session on structural reform with speakers Joel Byrnes of the University of New England Centre for Local Government speaking on Australian Trends and George McCullagh speaking on the WALGA Study into the Sustainability of WA Local Government.

Risk Management Systems

The CEO coordinated a comprehensive risk management manual to cover the Town’s operations. The manual contains procedures for the systematic identification, analysis, evaluation and treatment of risks as well as the documenting and monitoring of risk management activities pursuant to the Australian/New Zealand standard “Risk Management” AS 4360-2004.

Strategy and Planning: Effective Planning for the Sustainable Management of the Town's Financial Resources and Assets

Bassendean's Strategic Plan for the Future

The Town proactively developed a ten year Strategic Plan for 2007-17 which was adopted as the Town's Strategic Plan for the Future in June 2006. Community input into the Strategic Plan for the Future was facilitated through a range of consultations involving community participation and feedback and the formal public advertising of the Plan including a presentation to the 2007 General Meeting of Electors.

Asset and Infrastructure Management

The Town's Asset Management Taskforce was formed and met on a monthly basis during the reporting year. Major achievements were the review of the Asset Management Policy, the development of an asset management framework, the appointment of an Asset Management Officer and the purchase of asset management software to establish a data base of the Town's assets. A Facilities Plan was also developed during the reporting year and adopted by Council

Purchase of New & Replacement Plant and Equipment

Council spent approximately \$239,000 purchasing new and replacement plant and equipment during 2006/07. Replacement equipment was purchased in accordance with the Town of Bassendean's 10-year plant replacement program.

External Income Attraction

The Town received more than \$2.6m of external income from State and Federal Government agencies and \$1.5m from fees and charges for services delivered to the community.

Knowledge and Information: Effective Use of Information Technology

Information Plan Implementation

Council accepted a tender from IT-Vision Australia Pty Ltd in January 2006 for a contract to a value of \$515,000 over a five year period to supply and install with follow up staff training in new electronic business systems for the Town. In the 2006/07 financial year, the Town worked with IT Vision to implement the first phase of the Synergysoft program of core financial, rates and property, and dog registration modules. The second phase was also commenced with planning and building and HR Management being implemented.

People: Effective Elected Member and Staff Development Programs

Union Collective Agreement

Successful negotiations were held between management and the Australian Services Union and staff employed on the Municipal Employees (WA) Award 1999. The new Agreement passed the fairness test required under the Workplace Relations Act 1996. The Agreement also facilitated a significant pay rise over an above the CPI, established a two tiered salary classification scale to reward loyalty and experience in the position and a personal/carers productivity incentive scheme. Pay increases were backdated to 1 July 2007, even though the Agreement was registered on 26 September 2007.

Occupational Health and Safety

Programs implemented contributed significantly to the downward statistical trend that has improved the Lost Time Injury rates and Workers Compensation Frequency rates. A Passenger & Light Commercial Fleet Management Policy has been adopted and new driver skill and behaviour programs have been developed to reduce the incidence of vehicle accidents.

The high figures in the Hours Lost through Injury Rate, were due to staff with long term injuries being carried over for a number of years. It is anticipated that the 2007/08 Hours Lost through Injury Rate will be reduced significantly due to the finalisation of a small number of extraordinary workers compensation claims which have been distorting the figures.

INDICATOR	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/07	EMRC Average
Lost-time Injury Frequency Rate	61	46	27	23	21
Workers Compensation Claims Frequency Rate	91	77	49	34	38
Hours Lost Through Injury Rate	230	248	165	206	43.9
Fleet Vehicle Accident Rate (Percentage)	10	20	18	11	11

Staff Turnover

During the reporting year, the Town had a very stable workforce in the Management category with only one Director out of 15 managers leaving or a 6.6% turnover rate. The whole of organisation turnover was 28% for all staff comparable with the previous year of 28% but higher than the WA Local Government Average of 25%. This reflects the labour market which is attracting staff away from local governments as well as the higher turnover of staff in casual positions particularly in the Seniors and Disability Services and Children's Services Units, as well as staff gaining promotional opportunities outside of the Town.

Community and Customer Focus: Effective Community Consultation and Engagement, Marketing and Communication

Marketing Plan

The Town commenced implementing the recommendations of a comprehensive Marketing Plan adopted in May 2006. Key new strategies implemented in 2006/07 included:

- Refreshing the Town's logo to a more modern feel;
- Commencement of the refreshing the Council website;
- Adopting a positioning statement working towards the Town being a hub of recreation, arts and cultural activity in Perth's Eastern Region;
- Commencing the development of a new Style Guide with letterheads, business cards, folders and PowerPoint pages developed;
- Convening monthly meeting of a public relations and marketing committee; and
- Discontinuing the Town News and Annual Calendar.

Community Participation on Advisory Committees

Eleven Council Advisory Committees included community members, business proprietors, agency representatives and other stakeholders to involve community members in decision making and community consultation. Council valued the constructive input from the numerous community representatives.

Disability Access & Inclusion Plan (DAIP)

During the year, as required by legislation, the Town developed and finalised its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) to ensure that people with disabilities and their carers, have equal access to information, services, facilities and consultations.

- * The Town advertised the DAIP process in order to receive comments from members of the community including people with disabilities, their families and/or carers and representative groups or organisations on the following:
 - Access to Services
 - Provision of information
 - Access to facilities
 - Public events
 - Involvement in consultations
 - Opportunities to make a complaint
- * The Plan is a public document and is available in alternative formats for people with disabilities. These include large print, audio, and electronic formats, available from Council upon request by a person with a disability or their carer. It can also be accessed via the Town's website.
- * The Plan will be regularly reviewed to ensure people with disabilities, their families and carers also have the opportunity to achieve their desired quality of life and have access to the facilities, functions, events and services offered to the community.

Access Makes Cent\$ Project

Another major project assisting people with disabilities commenced during the year was the *Access Makes Cent\$ project*, the objective being to develop Town strategies that improve access to buildings and services that are welcoming for people with disabilities, thereby increasing employment opportunities and inclusion in the local community.

Essential strategies integral to servicing people with disabilities and the implementation of the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) were:

- A local access audit of the buildings along Old Perth Road Bassendean to highlight the access needs of people with disabilities and older frail people;
- Hosting a Forum and inviting local business people who work along Old Perth Road to attend, where their access achievements and involvement of people with disabilities will be acknowledged;
- Collection of data for the DAIP, in particular for any of the Town's buildings where remedial work may be required as highlighted in the DAIP;
- Ongoing updating by relevant Town personnel as part of compliance with the DAIP; and

Innovation, Quality and Improvement: Effective Innovation, Continuous Improvement and Quality Programs

Sustainable Best Value Service Reviews

The Town of Bassendean conducts a rolling review of all of its services on a three yearly basis known as Sustainable Best Value. The reviews are a continuous improvement tool to identify opportunities to develop best practice performance and to eliminate areas where performance could be improved as well as identifying any areas of non compliance with statutory requirements.

The Operational Services Directorate, which includes Asset Services, Health and Environmental Services and Ranger Services, was reviewed during 2006. Development Services' review was completed in 2007.

Operational Services Directorate

In December 2006, 43 key recommendations from Estill & Associates' review of the Operational Services Directorate were adopted by Council. The recommendations provided strategic direction that will assist with improvements to the organisational structure and capacity of Asset Services, Health and Environmental Services and Ranger Service business units.

The Town is progressively implementing the recommendations over a 3-year period, such as improvements in the Town's information system, additional staffing resources, improved management processes and identifying possible out-sourcing of opportunities.

At the end of the 2006/07 financial year, the Town had implemented the majority of the key recommendations and was on target to implement the balance of the recommendations.

Review of Development Services

The review was conducted by Chris O'Neill and Associates with the findings and recommendations adopted by Council in June 2007. The review concluded that:

1. Current processes and procedures for registration, assessment and tracking of applications are of a high standard.
2. Processing of applications is done in a timely manner, with performance targets comparable to, or better than most other Councils.
3. Delegation of decision making authority to Manager contributes significantly to administrative efficiency.
4. Outsourcing of strategic planning projects represents a practical approach to addressing these needs.

A three year action plan was adopted by Council to address identified opportunities for improvement.

Success and Sustainability: Effectively Measure Performance and Sustainability

Bassendean Judged Sustainable by Access Economics

Access Economics conducted a financial assessment of all 144 Western Australian local governments. The analysis was undertaken as part of an independent study into the sustainability of local governments commissioned by the WA Local Government Association called the Systemic Sustainability Study. The interim report released in 2006 concluded that 83 councils statewide and 3 metropolitan councils in particular are unsustainable. Access Economics has given the Town of Bassendean a clean bill of health and has concluded that the financial position of our Council is sustainable in the long term.

DLG&RD Compliance Audit Return

The Department of Local Government and Regional Development has a mandatory self assessment return to determine the level of compliance with the Local Government Act and associated Regulations. The document contains a total of 276 questions to test compliance with the Local Government Act and Regulations. The Town had one area of non-compliance in 2006 which was failure due to an oversight to forward a copy of the Annual Financial Report to the Department of Local Government and Regional Development within 30 days after receiving the Auditor's report.

RESPONSE	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Areas of Compliance	165	180	193	246	229
Areas of Non Compliance	4	0	0	1	1
Not Applicable	50	52	45	60	46
Total	219	232	238	307	276

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Council is delivering on the Vision 2030 Community Plan through the 2007/08 \$13 million budget. Projects to protect the environment, develop the community, support local businesses and improve services will be implemented in the 2007/08 financial year and in subsequent years. Almost \$3 million will be spent on capital works and infrastructure in the 2007/08 financial year, in addition to providing high quality services to residents and businesses, such as waste management, public events, seniors and disability services, youth and children's services and maintaining the Town's roads, footpaths, parks and streetscapes.

Residents regard the Swan River as the Town's number one asset. The Ashfield Parade riverbank restoration project will commence in 2007/08 with spending of almost \$600,000 this financial year. Over the next three years, the Reserve will be transformed by the planting of numerous native trees, shrubs and groundcovers; an attractive walking path adjacent to the road, carefully located seating for residents to enjoy the panoramic river views; nutrient stripping evaporation swales to improve water quality and controlled community access to protect the river foreshore.

Other major green initiatives funded in the 2007/08 budget included:

Infrastructure spending was boosted in 2007/08 with spending on roads (\$551,000), Council buildings (\$449,000), footpaths (\$55,100) and drainage (\$80,500). A new toilet facility will be constructed this financial year when the Alf Faulkner Hall is re-roofed and the old toilet block at Mary Crescent Reserve will be demolished, enhancing the Reserve.

Implementation of the Town Centre Area Strategy will continue with a two year program to consolidate the BIC sporting clubs to the eastern end of the Reserve freeing up space for a town park. A new link road extension from Hamilton Street to the Bowling Club carpark (\$90,000) will be constructed and two new Plexi Pave tennis courts constructed, fenced and flood lighted (\$168,000). The Success Hill Reserve Concept Plan will be completed and preparatory geotechnical studies on the unstable foreshore will be undertaken prior to jetty access works being completed in 2008/09.

Council will secure the future of the Wind in the Willows Child Care Centre in 2007/08 by the transfer of land owned by St John Ambulance in Wilson Street, currently used by Wind in the Willows, to Council. Council has been able to

negotiate for land at the Council Depot to be provided to St John for a new training centre and Ambulance facility. Funds of up to \$100,000 will be required to remediate the site for the St John Ambulance facility. By taking this action, Council is securing the ongoing success of the Wind in the Willows as a community based child care centre in its current location into the future. Residents will benefit from a new St John Ambulance Unit based in Collier Road thanks to this win-win outcome negotiated by Council. Additionally, land will be provided to relocate the Technology Assisting Disability (TADWA) and Therapy Focus to new headquarters in Collier Road as part of the land dealings.

The youth skate park at Steel Blue Oval Bassendean was completed in August 2007 and the Bassendean Youth Service will return to its headquarters in the MacDonald Grandstand adjacent to the new skate park this financial year (07/08). This will require funds to be spent on the MacDonald Grandstand and the vacated former Bassendean New Business Centre in Old Perth Road.

A comprehensive \$218,000 program of public events and various cultural and public art activities will provide free family entertainment and foster creative activities in the Town in the current financial year. Projects include the biennial photographic exhibition and \$50,000 for the acquisition of public artworks.

Local Planning Scheme 10 will be completed and supported by policies which will ensure high quality development is achieved in the Town. Other plans to be completed include the Town Centre Area Strategy and the Streetscape Plan. An Ashfield Community Action Plan will be developed in response to community requests for improved social cohesion in the suburb.

Internal business processes will be enhanced by additional spending on IT of \$250,000, Human Resource Management (\$36,000), updated Council policies (\$15,000) and in conducting the third Australian Business Excellence Framework Self Assessment (\$15,000).

In June 2007, the Town of Bassendean adopted its first 10-year Strategic Plan for the Future.

Key initiatives to be achieved under the Plan include:

- The adoption and implementation of LPS 10;
- The completion and implementation of a Streetscape Plan;
- Implementing a redevelopment plan for Steel Blue Oval Bassendean;
- The redevelopment of the BIC Reserve;
- Gaining accreditation status for the Hyde Retirement Village;
- Implement the findings of the Crime Prevention Plan;
- Strategies to foster economic development in the Town and Region;
- Conducting Council elections in October 2007 and each two years thereafter;
- Developing long term asset management plans; and
- Conducting community satisfaction surveys and Australian Business Excellence Framework Self Assessments.

STATUTORY REPORTS

Statutory Compliance Return

The Statutory Compliance Return for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2006 was completed and lodged as required. Council achieved over 99% compliance with only one low impact reporting requirement exceeded out of a total of 276 items.

National Competition Policy and Competitive Neutrality

The Competition Principles Agreement between Commonwealth and State Governments stipulates the manner in which local governments apply competition policy principles to their activities, regulations and functions by virtue of Clause 7 of the agreement. The Town of Bassendean reports that it annually during the budget process reviews its only commercial business activity, the Wind in the Willows Child Care Centre, and confirms that it operates strictly in accordance with competitive neutrality principles.

Disability Services

The Town is required under the Disabilities Services Act 1993 to provide an explanation of what measures it has taken to achieve the six objectives set out in the Act. The Town has an active Disability Access and Inclusion Committee and a number of outstanding achievements are presented elsewhere under the Key Result Areas of this report. Notably the Town re-wrote the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan to ensure compliance with the new Act; acquired funding and employed a You're Welcome Project Officer to audit accessibility for participating businesses in Old Perth Road; and conducted a business forum titled "Access Makes Cent\$".

Freedom of Information

Under the Freedom of Information Act 1992, the Town is required to prepare an information statement every 12 months. The information statement adopted is available on the Town's website at www.bassendean.wa.gov.au or by contacting the Town's Customer Services Section.

Public Interest Disclosures Act

The Town of Bassendean is committed to the aims and objectives of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003*. It recognises the value and importance of contributions of Councillors, staff and volunteers to enhance administrative and management practices and strongly supports disclosures being made by Councillors, staff and volunteers as to corrupt or serious improper conduct. During the year, the Town registered no public interest disclosures.

Plan for the Future

Under Section 5.56 of the Local Government Act, a local government is to plan for the future of the district and to ensure that plans are in accordance with regulations made about planning for the future of the district. The Town of Bassendean produced a Plan for the Future for a ten year period known as the Strategic Plan for the Future 2007-17, which was adopted by Council in June 2007. The Plan sets out the broad objectives of the Town for the period specified in the plan.

State Records Act 2000

In accordance with the State Records Act 2000, the Town of Bassendean and all its employees are legally obliged to comply with the Town's Record Keeping Plan. The Town is required to report on its compliance with the State Records Commission Standard 2, Principle 6, which is presented under the Key Results Area "Leadership and Best Practice" in this report.

Emergency Management Act 2005

After the end of each financial year each local emergency management committee is to prepare and submit to the district emergency management committee for the district an annual report on activities undertaken by it during the financial year. A report was prepared and submitted as required.

In the reporting period the Town concluded a re-write of the Bassendean Local Community Emergency Management Arrangements. The Town acquired Emergency Management Australia funding and engaged consultants "IFAP" for the purpose. The project included community workshops to reassess the emergency risk profile existent in the Town; development of procedures based on the AIIMS structure; development of pictorial based support plans for all identified high and very high risks; and training needs plan for key personnel based on skills gap assessment.

Payments to Employees

In accordance with the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 (s19B) and for the purposes of s.5.53 (2g) of the Local Government Act 1995, the Town has one employees on an annual salary of \$100,000 or more. During the reporting year the CEO's base salary range was in the range of \$110,000 to \$120,000.