



ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21





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Role of the South West Group

The South West Group is an alliance of six Local Governments in the South West Metropolitan Perth. The purpose of the Group is to provide a strategic regional perspective in order to sustain and enhance the region's vibrant economy and quality of life. We believe what's good in the region is good for its member councils and their communities.

The South West Group seeks to position local government as a facilitator, leader and senior partner in the future development and decision-making processes that impact the Region. This approach seeks to place local government in a more influential position in determining positive outcomes for the Region and the community it serves.

The Group undertakes an external advocacy role involving regional stakeholders such as State and Federal Government agencies and Members of Parliament (MPs), private sector organisations, business associations and industry groups. Our member councils include:

- » City of Cockburn
- » Town of East Fremantle
- » City of Fremantle
- » City of Kwinana
- » City of Melville
- » City of Rockingham

About the Region

Our Region boasts world-leading industries and expertise, abundance of 'clean and green' commodities, world-class liveability and its proximity to Asia. It is home to the 'Western Trade Coast' that includes the Kwinana Strategic Industrial Area, Australian Marine Complex, Rockingham Industrial Zone, and Latitude 32. It also has advanced capabilities in: Advanced Manufacturing and Defence; Agribusiness and Food; International Education; International Health; Resources and Energy; and Tourism.

With a population of circa 480,000 in 2021, expected to grow to almost 625,000 by 2036, the Region is ideally positioned to develop as the economic, cultural and environmental powerhouse of Western Australia.

Transformative projects such as Westport will bring new investment and opportunity to the Region. In order to capitalise off the full potential this opportunity brings, all levels of Government must work together with renewed coordination to realise this vision and to ensure development is well managed, well coordinated and meets sustainability outcomes.



The past year has been a highly valuable one in refocusing the attention of the South West Group. We have reviewed our Strategic Plan and embarked on development of a Spatial and Governance Plan that will present a unified view of the Region and will include ideas for how all levels of Government can work together for the benefit of the Region.

Board of Management

Chair's Report

This past year we welcomed Tony Brun as Chief Executive Officer at the City of Cockburn, farewelled Phil St John as CEO of Fremantle and welcomed Fremantle's Acting CEO Glen Dougall to the Group.

On behalf of the Group I would also like to sincerely congratulate and farewell Dr Brad Pettitt, former Fremantle Mayor, for his election to the WA Legislative Council. Brad has been an integral part of the South West Group for twelve years and his contribution will be sorely missed, professionally and personally. We wish him the best of luck in his new role and look forward to working with him.

It has been a privilege to chair the South West Group this year. It is a role that I've performed in the past and always taken great pride in. The respect and comradery that the Group share is always a pleasure to be a part of and our communities should be confident that their Local Governments are working hard to improve their service delivery, while also working collegiately to advance the prosperity of the greater region for the benefit of current and future generations.

This report outlines this year's activities so I won't repeat them all here. Key points included a refreshment of the Group's Strategic Plan. It is always important to stop, reflect, and to make course corrections as needed. There has been strong progress in the Group's advocacy for better dedicated mass transit connections within the Region.

This need was recently recognised by Infrastructure Western Australia, as well as Infrastructure Australia, following submissions from the South West Group.

It was also pleasing to see member councils sign up for the Small Business Development Corporation's Business Friendly program. That program should result in even more efficient services for our business communities.

Finally, I would sincerely like to thank Tom and Jo, the Board and Senior Officers from the Region for their hard work over this past year. We continue to live with the global and local impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the role of Local Governments is so important in supporting ongoing prosperity and in maintaining a strong sense of community.

Mayor Jim O'Neill
Chair South West Group, 2021

Board of Management

Director's Report

Our updated Strategic Plan directs attention to three core program areas:

- » **Advocacy:** advocating for the region's needs and opportunities, including greater investment in enabling infrastructure and improvements to the policy, legal, regulatory and planning environment affecting the Region.
- » **Investment attraction and business development:** facilitating a clear and coordinated regional approach to investment attraction and development of existing industries.
- » **Research and analysis:** collecting information, undertaking research and analysis.

Despite the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have worked hard to build the South West Group's profile with State and Federal Politicians and Senior Officers. The March 2021 State Election provided an opportunity to reach out to new members of parliament within our Region and all have been briefed on the Group and its priorities.

We have continued our advocacy for a dedicated second-tier public transport network in Metropolitan Perth. We see this as a pressing need for Perth, and one that will help address significant congestion issues, carbon emissions and the ongoing and unsustainable sprawl of the Metropolitan area. It is pleasing to see this recognised by Infrastructure Western Australia.

To advance this case, the Group lodged a successful submission to Infrastructure Australia (IA) in relation to a dedicated mass transit link between Murdoch and Fremantle.

This included associated work on transport engineering feasibility, potential for appropriate residential infill, and a proof of concept marketing material that demonstrated the value of the proposal. The proposal led to a [speech in Federal Parliament by Fremantle MP Josh Wilson](#) advocating for the need to better connect the Region via dedicated public transport. We thank Mr Wilson for his support for the Region and its communities. The Group will continue to advocate for the State Government to commit to developing a dedicated mass transit plan for Metropolitan Perth.

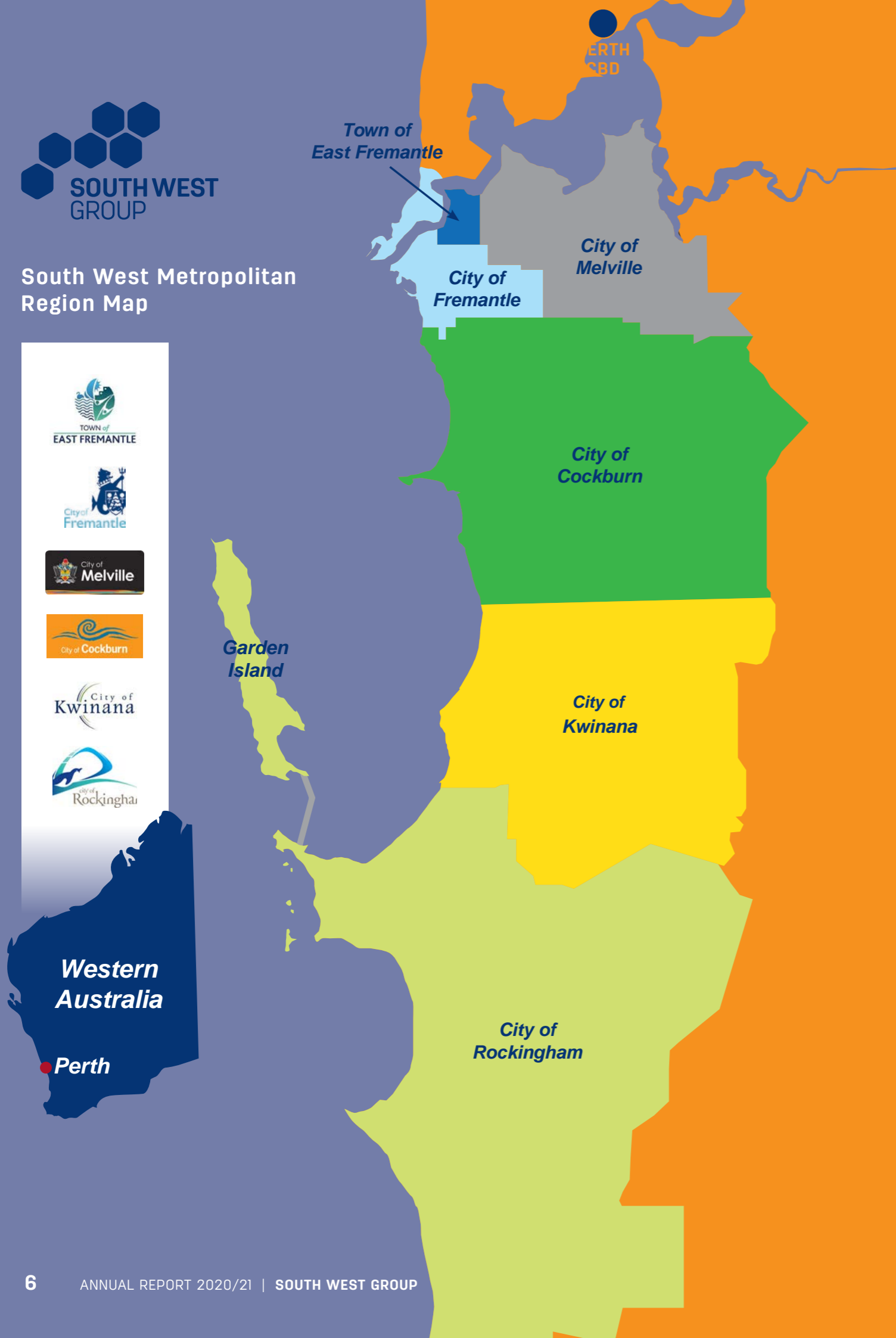
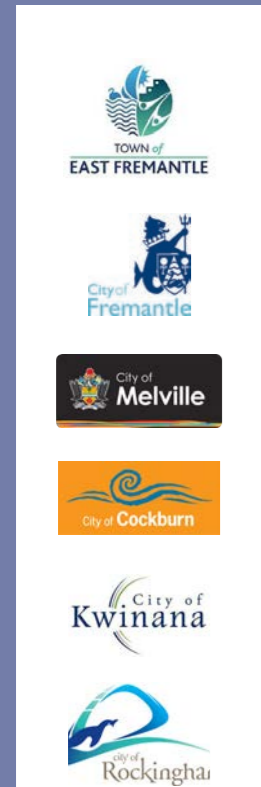
A previously successful Infrastructure Australia submission relating to Canning Bridge also attracted attention. As a result of the IA listing, the Federal Government committed \$75 million to funding the project on a matched-funding basis with the State Government. Currently the State is developing their business case and engineering options. We will continue to advocate for this important project to go ahead.

I would like to thank the Board for their support over the past year. I appreciate the immense demands the Mayors and CEOs face managing their own organisations through this challenging time for their communities and staff. Their ongoing dedication to the South West Group is a testament to their commitment to regional development and collaboration.

Tom Griffiths
Director South West Group



South West Metropolitan Region Map



South West Group Board and Committee Structure 2020/21

The South West Group Board comprises the Mayors and CEOs of the six member Councils and meets quarterly to consider regional issues, projects and priorities.



Mayor Logan Howlett
City of Cockburn



Mayor Jim O'Neill
Town of East Fremantle



Dep. Mayor Andrew Sullivan
City of Fremantle



Mayor Carol Adams
City of Kwinana



Mayor George Gear
City of Melville



Mayor Barry Sammels
City of Rockingham



Tony Brun
CEO City of Cockburn



Gary Tuffin
CEO Town of East Fremantle



Glen Dougall
Acting CEO City of Fremantle



Wayne Jack
CEO City of Kwinana

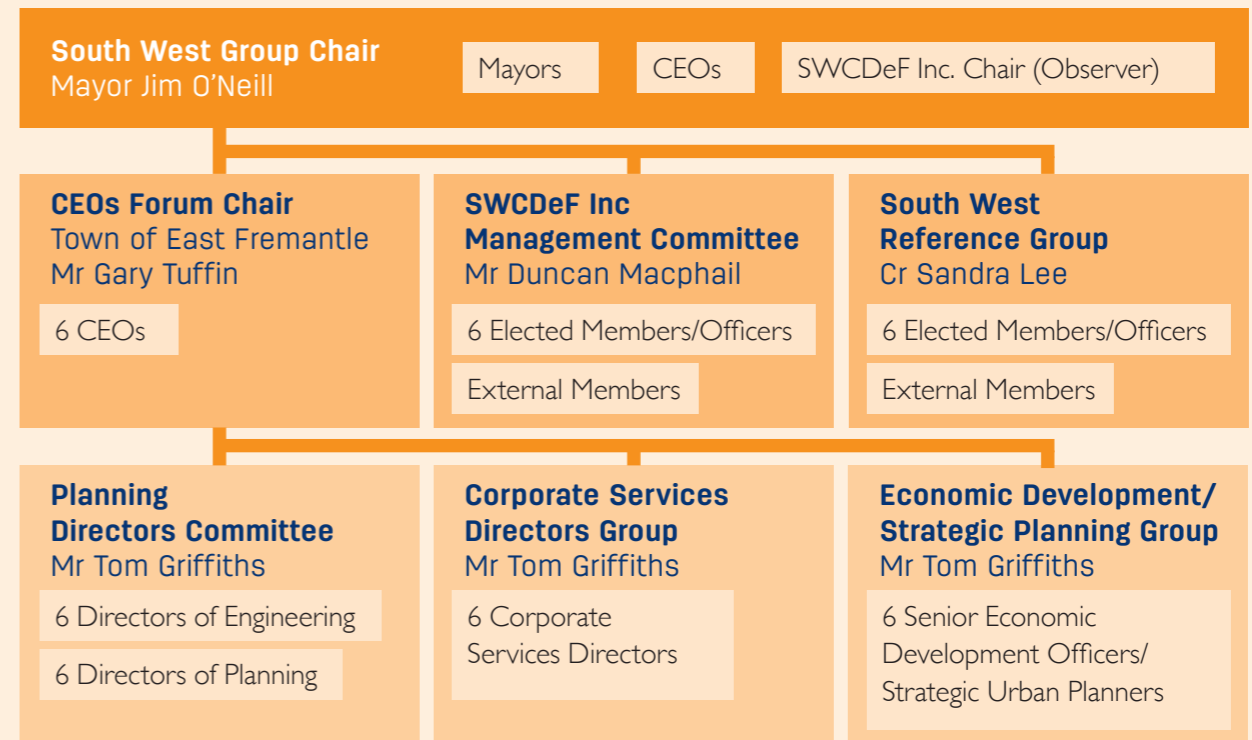


Marten Tieleman
CEO City of Melville



Michael Parker
CEO City of Rockingham

Board members



Committee structure

Advocacy

Advocating for Regional Needs

As a coordinated and united group of local governments, the South West Group has a long-established role in advocating for the region's needs and opportunities, including greater investment in enabling infrastructure and improvements to the policy and regulatory environment affecting the Region. To achieve this, we will:

- » Position the Group as a credible and respected voice for a united region and a key stakeholder in the decision-making processes that affect the Region.
- » Build the profile of the Group, its policy positions and strategic objectives with Federal and State Governments, media and key influencers and decision-makers.
- » Develop strong working relationships with stakeholders that influence or make major decisions that affect the region.
- » Form partnerships that assist regional advocacy efforts.



The South West Group meet with Catherine King, Shadow Transport Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, and Josh Wilson, Federal Member for Fremantle.

The Group's [current advocacy priorities](#) can be found via our website. The document '[Proposal for Government Investment and Partnerships](#)' sets the high-level direction for much of our advocacy work and informs interactions with State and Federal Politicians and their advisors. It will soon be updated but provides a basis for a good understanding of the Region's needs.



South West Group believe there is a pressing need for a dedicated second-tier public transport network in Metropolitan Perth.

The need for dedicated mass transit

For some time, the South West Group have held the position that the Region needs investment in a range of infrastructure in order to achieve its economic potential. From a public transport perspective, there is a strong need to invest in 'mid tier' or 'second tier' dedicated public transport to better connect activity centres, enable density in planned and appropriate locations, and to significantly reduce carbon emissions.

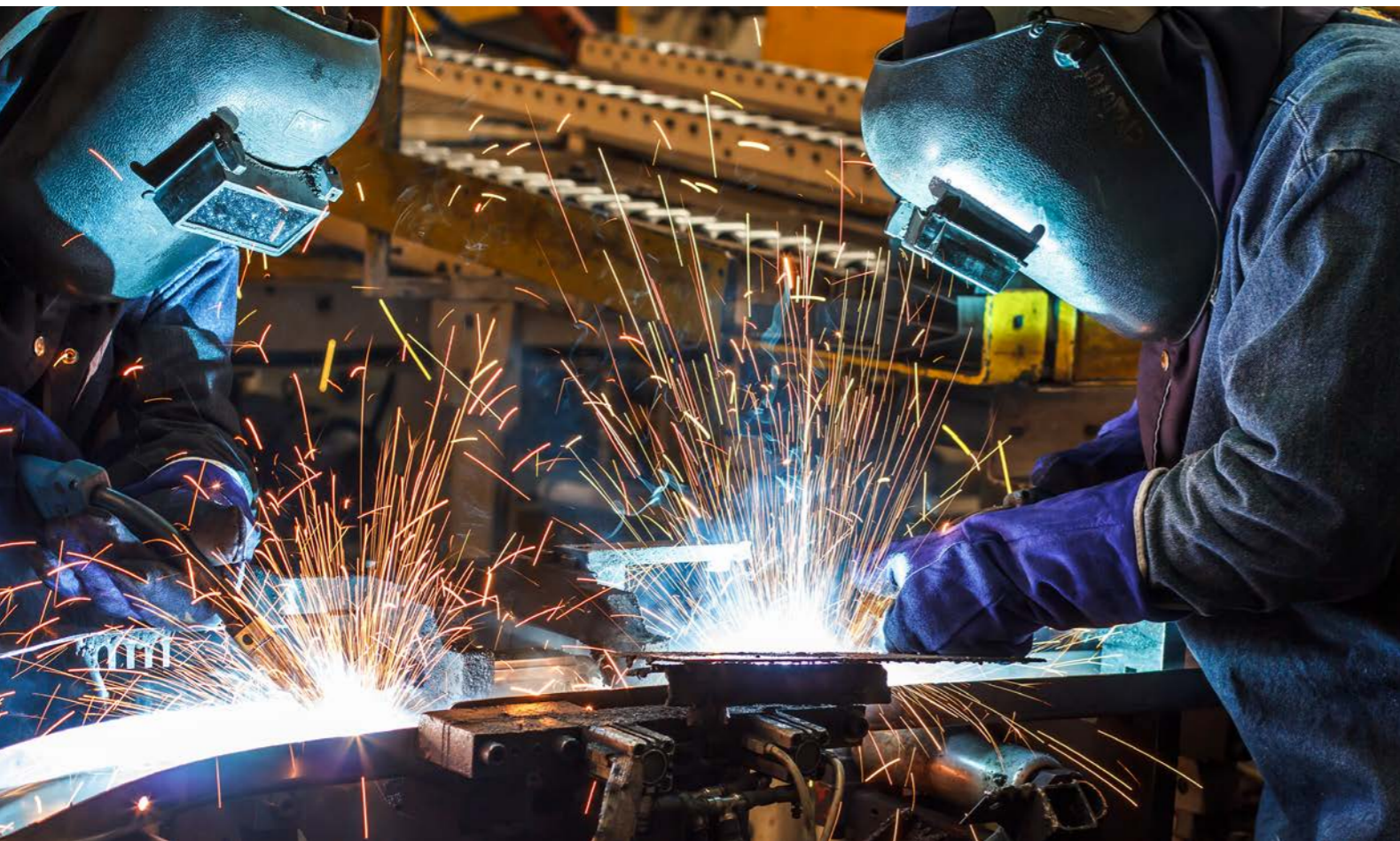
We believe there is a pressing need for a dedicated second-tier public transport network in Metropolitan Perth.

To advance this case, the Group lodged a successful submission to Infrastructure Australia (IA) in relation to a dedicated mass transit link between Murdoch and Fremantle – a vital piece in the overall network.

This included associated work on transport engineering feasibility, potential for appropriate residential infill, and proof of concept [video](#) and [public transport connection](#) that demonstrated the value of the proposal.

This project concept is about using land as a facilitator of community, development and opportunity. It is anchored by a sensible land-use intensification plan that includes the reasonable development of well-considered nodes along a high quality dedicated mass transport connection.

The merits of this approach has been recognised by Infrastructure Western Australia, and the South West Group will continue to advocate for the State Government to commit to developing a dedicated mass transit plan for Metropolitan Perth.





South West Group regularly prepares submissions to Government to advocate for a Regional issue or in response to a draft policy or strategy.

Spatial and Governance Plan

Submissions to Government

The Group regularly prepares [submissions](#) to advocate for a Regional issue or in response to a draft policy or strategy. Notable submissions in the last year relate to the following:

- » Long-standing support for the establishment of a high-technology marine and technology hub.
- » The need to consider improved governance arrangements for the Western Trade Coast.
- » Infrastructure Western Australia discussion paper.
- » Investment in enabling infrastructure at the Australian Marine Complex.
- » Defence industry development.
- » WA State Election, March 2021.

Deputations

The Group regularly invites senior representatives from external organisations to attend forums and Board meetings to share information and to discuss current or future collaborations. The table below shows the major deputations arranged throughout 2020/21.

Date, meeting and representatives	Topic
June 2021 Board Meeting Frank Marra, CEO Development WA Andrew Williams, GM Industrial Lands Development WA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » How Development WA can better work with the Local Government Sector » Thoughts on optimal development of the Western Trade Coast including plans for the development of available land » The mechanisms for horizontal and vertical integration across Government that share information, ideas, determining strategy, program integration etc. » Any State Government discussions around the future of Fremantle Port (should the Westport taskforce's recommendations be implemented)
May 2021 Planning and Technical Directors Forum Phil Helberg, CEO Infrastructure WA Carl Titchmarsh, Vice President Strategy and Development (APAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » State Infrastructure Strategy and operations of IWA. » Regional transport
February 2021 Economic Development Forum Michael Carter, Head of International Investment & Trade Neil McLagan, International Trade Advisor, Chamber of Commerce & Industry WA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Investment attraction and trade in the Region
February 2021 Planning and Technical Directors Forum Lindsay Broadhurst, MRWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » MRWA Congestion and Movement Plan
November 2020 Board Meeting Richard Sellers, A/Director-General, Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » State Government's investigations and thinking regarding Western Trade Coast Governance
November 2020 Planning and Technical Directors Forum Pascal Felix, Pastin Solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » MRWA Congestion and Movement Plan
September 2020 Board Meeting Chris Bandy GM of Invest and Trade WA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Invest and Trade WA roles and responsibilities and areas of collaboration with the South West Group
August 2020 Planning and Technical Directors Forum Joy Mickleson, City of Canning Nebojsa Franich and Chris Hossen, WALGA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Small Business Friendly Assessments » March 2021 State Election Advocacy



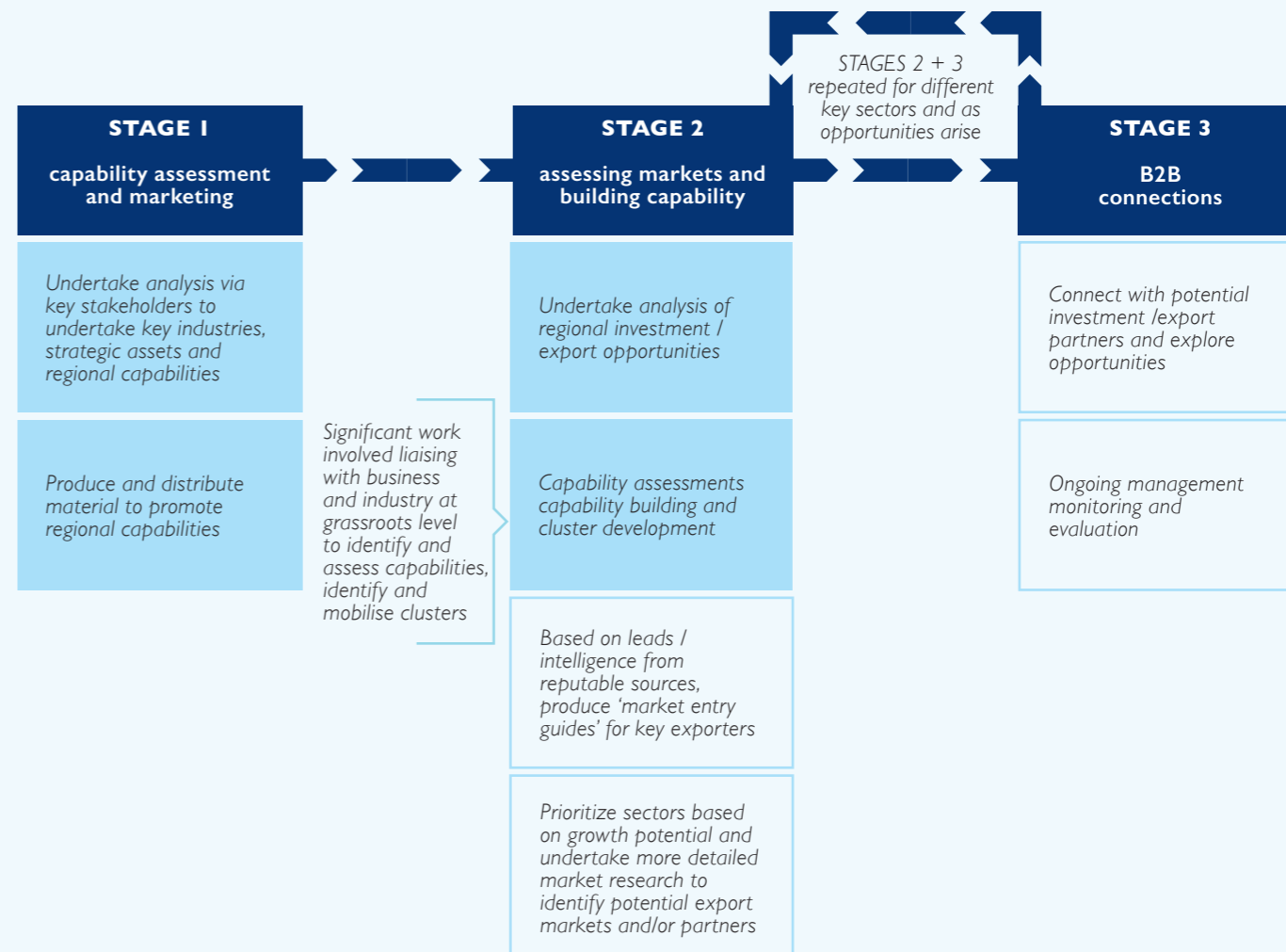
The South West Group takes an active role in supporting the growth of export-oriented companies and encouraging inward investment.

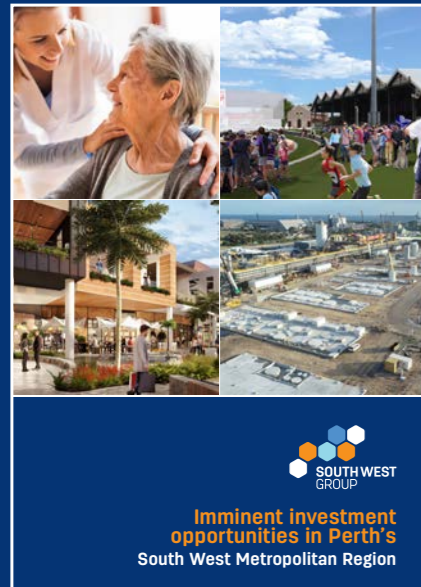
Investment Attraction and Business Development

Investment and Trade

The South West Group takes an active role in supporting the growth of export-oriented companies and encouraging inward investment.

The diagram below shows the key stages of this program.





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Work to date includes:

- » Production and marketing of document showcasing [regional capabilities](#).
- » Production and marketing of specific property development investment opportunities:
 - » Mixed-use property development opportunities
 - » Industrial property development opportunities
 - » Residential property development opportunities
- » A recorded webinar of the 'Getting your business export ready' attended by businesses from the region.
- » Written report outlining possible [international markets](#) for four sectors.
- » Tours of the region.

Ongoing actions - the next tangible steps for this program will include:

- » Continue to build relationships and explore trade and investment opportunities with Asian Business Councils, JTSI and Austrade trade offices.
- » Deliver virtual delegations / tours of the region for prospective trade partners for local businesses and/or inward investment.
- » Working with Economic Development officers from member councils and local chambers to encourage local businesses to consider E-Commerce opportunities, particularly those used in countries with which Australia has a free trade agreement.
- » Continuing to act as a conduit for incoming investment enquiries from JTSI and Austrade.

Business friendly member councils

To demonstrate their commitment to supporting development of businesses within the Region, all South West Group member councils are registered for the Small Business Development Corporation's Business Friendly program.

Additionally, the Cities of Melville and Rockingham are currently undertaking an intensive audit program to examine ways to provide even more efficient service to their business community. The Cities of Cockburn and Kwinana will undertake the program in the second tranche.

Supporting local businesses through local government procurement

To support growth of Regional businesses, the South West Group worked to encourage member councils to amend their procurement policies to include selection criteria that supports the local and the regional economy, and to be more active in encouraging the participation of regional suppliers in their tender processes.

To date, some member councils have adjusted their procurement policies to provide a greater emphasis on local and regional suppliers within the South West Group Region. This has already resulted in an almost threefold increase in spend by participating Local Governments within the South West Group Region within the first year since the policy changes.

Participation in Federal Government's Jobs and Skills Taskforce

The Federal Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) established a "Local Jobs Program" in 25 regions throughout Australia. It brings together expertise, resources and access to funding at the local level to focus on reskilling, upskilling and employment pathways for people in each region. The program is part of supporting Australia's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The South West Group Director was appointed to the Taskforce shortly after its inception. The Taskforce aims to support local stakeholders to design solutions to local issues.

These include, but are not limited to:

- » improve labour market outcomes for the region.
- » connect local stakeholders, including employment services providers, employers and higher education and training organisations.
- » promote collaboration between the Australian Government, State government, local government and community driven skills and employment initiatives.
- » lead to skills and employment outcomes that meet local labour market and employer needs.
- » provide opportunities to take advantage of local current and upcoming employment.



The "Local Jobs Program" brings together expertise, resources and access to funding at the local level to focus on reskilling, upskilling and employment pathways for people in each region.



The Group's partnership with Smart Cities Council enhance liveability, economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability in the region

Research and Analysis

Part of the Group's role is to collect information, undertake research and analysis that supports the Group's Vision for the Region, strategic plan goals and the aspirations of members. This includes:

- » Undertaking research on key issues that affect the achievement of the Vision for the Region and promote research findings to encourage positive real world change.
- » Facilitating the collection of data and intelligence that supports the Group's Vision for the Region, strategic plan goals and the aspirations of members.
- » Coordinating the Smart Region Steering Group and facilitate a greater understanding of the value of data, the effective management and analysis of it to improve service delivery.
- » Providing content on 'regional issues and priorities' for member council's strategic community plans.

Smart Cities and Regions

The Group's partnership with the Smart Cities Council (SCC) helps to drive action and investment in technology and data solutions that improve service delivery to communities (e.g. enhance liveability, economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability in the region).

This program has involved arranging presentations from other Australian LGAs on their smart cities programs. The South West Group would particularly like to thank the City of Marion and the City of Prospect from South Australia. Officers from these Cities presented via teleconference on the innovative technology solutions and data collection practices used by their organisations. These lessons were directly applicable to South West Group members.



Smart Region Steering Group facilitate a greater understanding of the value of data, the effective management and analysis of it to improve service delivery.



Committees and Associated Bodies

The South West Group Board is supported by a number of internal forums that report to the CEOs' Forum. The South West Group also seeks nominations from Member Councils for committees comprising of Councillors and Officers including the South West Corridor Development and Employment Foundation Incorporated Associated (SWCDEF Inc.) and the South West Environmental Forum.



South West Corridor Development and Employment Foundation

2020/21 Chair:
Mr Duncan Macphail – Individual Member

Objects of the association:

- a. facilitate and promote the development of the region and areas adjacent to the region;
- b. enhance and promote the region's attractiveness for industry and enterprise;
- c. enhance and promote the region's lifestyle;
- d. enhance and promote the region's natural attractions and
- e. enhance and promote the development of skills and expertise within and for the region.

Vice-Chair:
Cr Dennis Wood – City of Kwinana

Treasurer:
Cr Kerry Donovan – Town of East Fremantle

Secretary:
Mr Tom Griffiths – Director, South West Group

The Committee meets on a quarterly basis with representation including:

- » Local Governments in the South West Metropolitan Region
- » South West Group
- » Chambers of Commerce
- » Education and training providers
- » Interested individuals



Key activities 2020/21

Partnership with Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA)

- » Collaborative project between SWCDEF, five SWG Councils and CVA.
- » Agreement formed to manage Beeliar Rockingham Lakes Regional Parks trust funds and enter into partnership for projects of mutual benefit involving environmental restoration and rehabilitation activities. Contributions from Member Councils in 2017/18, 18/19 and 19/20 enabled CVA to recruit and supervise volunteers from the general public and corporate businesses to undertake weed control and revegetation on Council managed reserves, delivering in excess of \$3 in volunteer labour for every \$1 invested by participating Councils and raising awareness and educating volunteers in environmental management.
- » CVA moved to a new delivery model in 2020/21 focussing on fewer signature projects but engaging in these for longer timeframes, superseding the current CVA/SWCDEF partnership. The SWG is continuing to work with CVA to identify opportunities for CVA to locate a signature project or projects within the SWG region.

Myer Foundation – Sustainability and Environment Capacity Building Grants Program

- » Collaborative project between four Councils, Myer Foundation and South East Region Centre for Urban Landcare (SERCUL) to build capacity of Friends groups undertaking voluntary environmental work.
- » Grant of \$62,264 obtained from Myer Foundation. Total value of project \$192,500 (includes in-kind).
- » Two Friends Group Expos and nine targeted training events were held in 2018/19, 19/20 and 20/21 and SERCUL provided intensive support to several groups that requested assistance with specific capacity building issues.
- » A Do Good, Feel Good volunteer recruitment campaign was run in November 2020 to attract and direct prospective volunteers to volunteer environmental groups via the Do Good, Feel Good webpage (southwestgroup.com.au/dogoodfeelgood) and badged protective clothing was supplied to participating groups to make their volunteers recognisable while working in order to attract more members.
- » The project has now concluded.

Regional Cat Owner Education Project

- » Collaborative project between six Councils, State NRM Program, University of SA and Murdoch University.
- » Designed to raise awareness about how far cats roam, cat owners were invited to volunteer their cats for tracking via the National Cat Tracker Project run by the University of SA. However the National Cat Tracker Project was then unexpectedly terminated due to technical issues with tracking equipment. The SWCDEF project was restructured to adapt to this turn of events.
- » Murdoch University undertook research to determine whether wildlife predation or cat welfare concerns are most effective at encouraging cat owners to contain their cats within their property boundary, then produced a series of educational videos for cat owners informed by these results. The videos cover topics such as cats' roaming behaviours, the dangers cats face when roaming, the harm cats do to wildlife and owners legal obligations, then provide information on how to keep cats safe and happy at home.
- » The Happy At Home webpage was created (southwestgroup.com.au/happyathome) to house information on a wide range of cat management topics and to encourage cat owners to keep their cats within their property boundary.
- » A short animated video was created for the project that contrasts how we manage our pet dogs, with how pet cats are allowed to roam freely. Its purpose is to direct cat owners to the Happy At Home webpage for information on keeping cats at home.

- » A coordinated public awareness campaign utilising all the above products was undertaken in September 2020.
- » This project has now concluded, but SWG Member Councils continue to actively work on collaborative initiatives to reduce the impact of domestic and stray cats on wildlife. A coordinated public awareness campaign utilising all the above products will commence in late September 2020.

Fox Tracking For Better Fox Trapping Project

- » Collaborative project between all SWG Councils and the City of Canning, State NRM Program, University of WA and consultant ecologists.
- » Seventeen foxes were trapped and fitted with GPS collars to determine how they moved through the landscape. The foxes' movement patterns were analysed and informed by the results, the consulting ecologists provided recommendations to participating Councils on how to improve the effectiveness of future feral animal trapping programs.
- » Hosted by the SWG, a workshop was held in November 2020 involving SWG Member Councils, other Local Governments from the metropolitan area and the southwest, WALGA, State Government agencies, University researchers and feral animal management contractors to showcase the results of this project and workshop ways to achieve better fox control.
- » This project concluded in December 2020, but SWG Member Councils continue to collaborate on feral animal control issues.



South West Environmental Forum

Chairperson:

Cr Sandra Lee – City of Kwinana

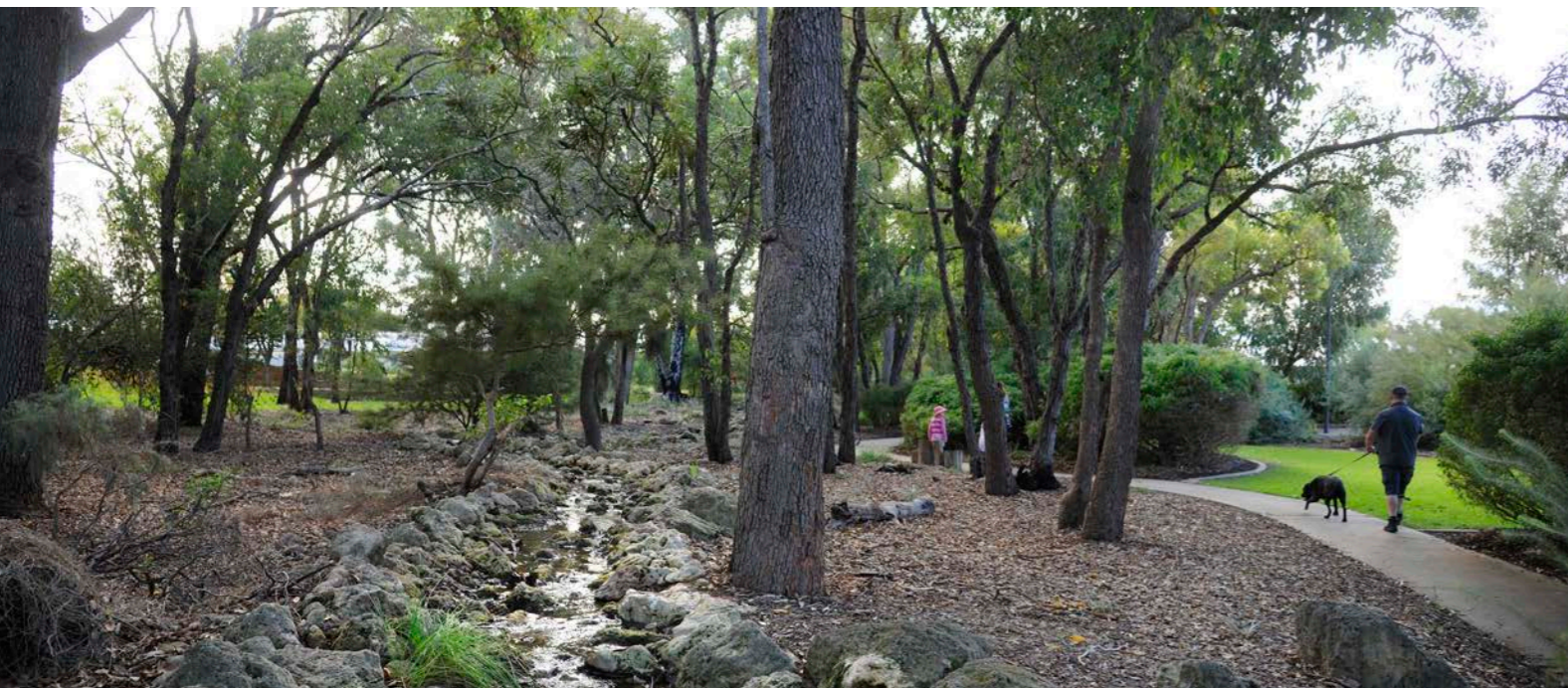
The South West Environmental Forum was established as a formal committee of the South West Group in 2012 to provide a regional engagement structure for the South West Group Member Councils and other key stakeholders for environmental and natural resource management (NRM) issues.

Key activities 2020/21

Progress on Regional Priority NRM Projects and Initiatives:

The Regional NRM Facilitator:

- » Coordinated, managed and then acquitted the grant funded Regional Scale Cat Owner Education, Fox Tracking for Better Fox Trapping and Myer Foundation Community Capacity Building projects (see above).
- » Continued to work with CVA to encourage them to identify and invest in new project sites within the SWG region (see CVA/SWCDEF project above).
- » Compiled an application seeking \$79,000 (total project value \$247,000) from the State NRM Program Community Stewardship grants program to undertake fauna surveys in four key reserves in the region to guide future fauna and management and potential for fauna translocation. This application was unsuccessful.



- » Worked with the Kings Park Science Branch of DBCA to pursue a grant to undertake targeted research on the impacts of feral honeybee hives on the flora of diverse urban bushland. The research proposal requires DBCA executive approval before it can proceed to ARC grant application stage, and this has not yet been received.
- » Worked with Murdoch University and the Cities of Cockburn, Kwinana and Rockingham to develop a research project to determine whether cat local laws are effective at reducing the numbers of cats in natural areas. A Lotterywest grant application will be submitted in Aug/Sept 2021 seeking funding for this research.
- » Leveraged DPIRD to ensure SWG Member Councils are actively engaged in the development of the State's strategic plan for the management of pest parrot species in WA when commenced in 2021/22.
- » Worked with DBCA, DLGSC and WALGA to progress initiatives to better manage Off Road Vehicle impacts.

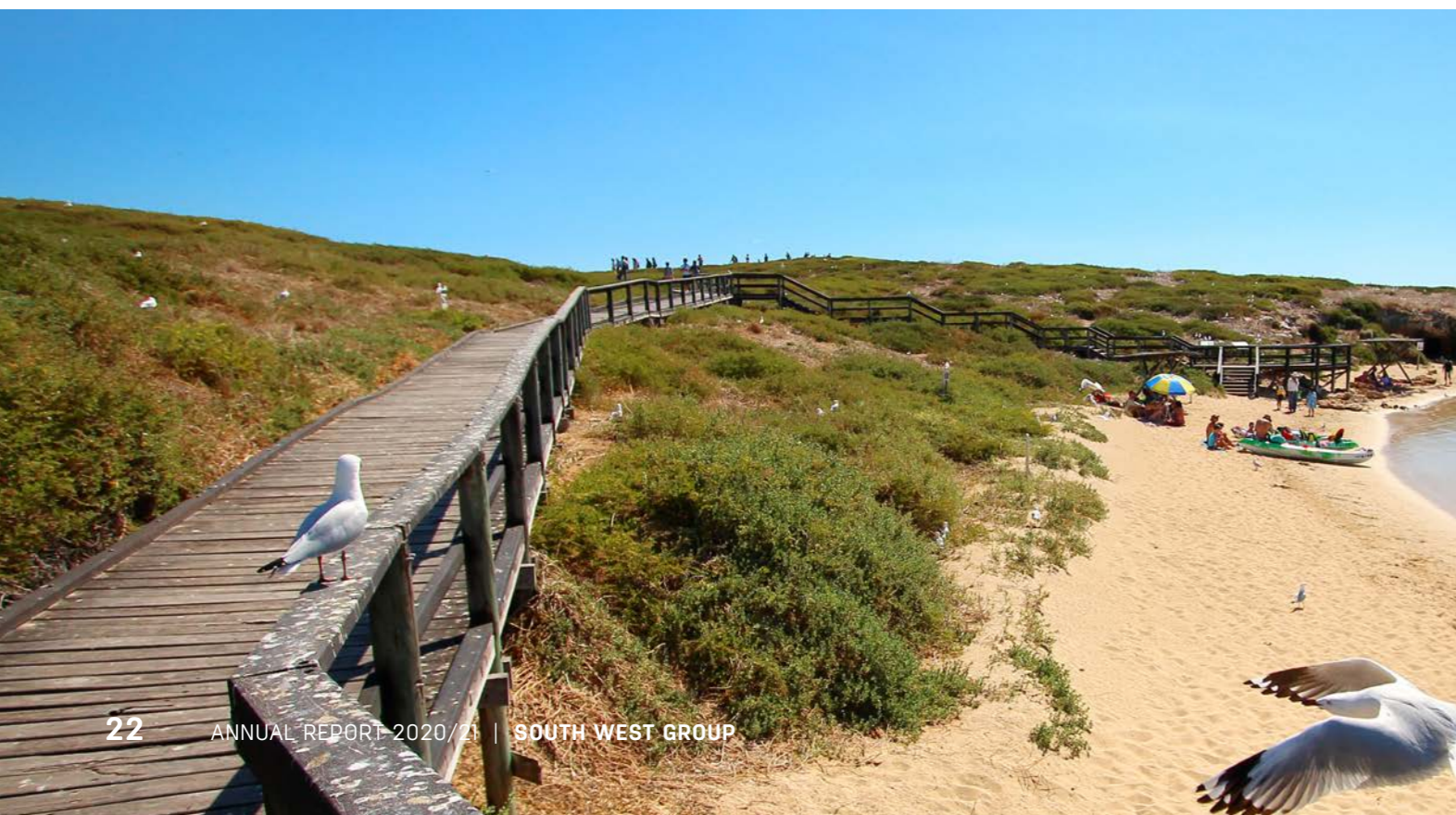
Supporting Member Councils on NRM Activities

The NRM Facilitator has provided regular advice to member Council staff on grant funding and NRM partnership project opportunities, as well as providing direct assistance in the preparation of grant funding proposals and applications and advocating for the State Government to strengthen Local Government's powers under the Cat Act 2011.

South West Group Natural Areas Management Forum

COVID-19 restrictions severely disrupted the ability of this Forum to meet during 2020/21, with the Regional NRM Facilitator being restricted to facilitating only one meeting of the Forum in that period. This focussed on minimising the ecological impact of prescribed burns used to mitigate bushfire risk and was attended by officers from ten Local Governments, DFES, DBCA, DPLH and Main Roads.

Stakeholder Relationships – Maintained and enhanced strong relationships with key stakeholders including those involved in the Natural Areas Management Forum and other agencies and organisations such as the Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries, Perth NRM, Peel Harvey Catchment Council, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Murdoch University and the WA Biodiversity Science Institute.



Statement of Income and Expenditure

Financial Reports

For the year ending 30 June 2021

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SOUTH WEST GROUP
CERTIFICATION BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

The Board has determined that the South West Group is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Board, the financial report, as attached:

- (i) Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of South West Group as at 30 June 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
- (ii) At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that South West Group will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

Signed: 	Signed: 
Name: <u>Tom Griffiths</u>	Name: <u>Marten Tieleman</u>
Place: <u>Melville / South West Group</u>	Place: <u>Melville</u>
Date: <u>4-AUG-2021</u>	Date: <u>3/8/2021</u>



PARTNERS
 Anthony Macri CA FCPA
 Domenic Macri CA CPA
 Connie De Felice CA CPA

Chartered Accountants **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**
TO: THE MEMBERS OF SOUTH WEST GROUP

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of South West Group ("the entity"), which comprises the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2021, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Certification by Members of the Board on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the entity.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the entity as at 30 June 2021 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the Financial Report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report which describes the basis of accounting. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Board for the Financial Report

The Board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and for such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Board is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

- 2 -
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (Continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report (continue)

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entity or business activities within the entity to express an opinion on the financial report. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the entity audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.


MACRI PARTNERS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
SUITE 2, 137 BURSWOOD ROAD
BURSWOOD WA 6100


A MACRI
PARTNER

PERTH
DATED THIS 5th DAY OF AUGUST 2021.

SOUTH WEST GROUP

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	410,230	483,950
Trade and other receivables	3	0	27,517
		<u>410,230</u>	<u>511,467</u>
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	4	139,502	164,196
Provision for Long Service Leave		38,235	33,502
		<u>177,737</u>	<u>197,698</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>232,492</u>	<u>313,769</u>
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provision for Long Service Leave		0	0
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>232,492</u>	<u>313,769</u>
MEMBER'S FUNDS			
Retained Surplus	5	<u>232,492</u>	<u>313,769</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

SOUTH WEST GROUP
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue			
Contributions and Donations		383,330	498,924
NRM Facilitator Contributions		117,500	117,500
Visual Fuel Assessment		9,114	9,182
Fremantle to Murdoch Transport Link		0	80,000
Interest Received		0	976
		<u>509,944</u>	<u>706,582</u>
Expenses			
Employee Costs		265,934	272,526
Travel Expenses	6	337	2,289
Secretarial & Office Costs		11,130	22,409
Consultant and Management Fees	7	302,881	423,914
Audit Fees		5,000	5,000
Other Project Costs	8	5,938	5,439
		<u>591,220</u>	<u>731,577</u>
Current Year Surplus/(Loss)		<u>(81,277)</u>	<u>(24,995)</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

SOUTH WEST GROUP
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial report is a special purpose financial report. The committee has determined that the South West Group is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non current assets.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
NOTE 2 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at Bank	410,230	483,950
	<u>410,230</u>	<u>483,950</u>
NOTE 3 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES		
<u>CURRENT</u>		
Trade Debtors	0	27,517
	<u>0</u>	<u>27,517</u>
NOTE 4 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
<u>CURRENT</u>		
Trade Creditors	139,502	158,474
GST Payable	0	5,722
	<u>139,502</u>	<u>164,196</u>

NOTE 5 RETAINED SURPLUS

Opening Funds	313,769	338,764
Net Profit / (Loss)	-81,277	-24,995
Closing Funds	<u>232,492</u>	<u>313,769</u>

	Equity \$	Equity \$
City of Cockburn	51,799	22.28%
Town of East Fremantle	17,925	7.71%
City of Fremantle	30,619	13.17%
City of Kwinana	30,201	12.99%
City of Melville	46,475	19.99%
City of Rockingham	55,473	23.86%
	<u>232,492</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

NOTE 6 TRAVEL EXPENSES

Minor costs incurred related to travel ie. Parking costs.

NOTE 7 CONSULTANT AND MANAGEMENT FEES

Accommodation Charge - City of Melville	5,000	5,000
Admin Service Charge - City of Melville	20,000	20,000
Lobbying and Communications Strategy	63,662	143,185
Economy ID Subscription	18,000	24,000
NRM Strategy	111,273	116,907
Economic Development Consultancy	55,926	83,381
Operating Environment Review and Benchmarking	29,020	31,440
	<u>302,881</u>	<u>423,914</u>

NOTE 8 OTHER PROJECT COSTS

Meeting Expenses	678	1,587
Visual Fuel Load Assessment	5,260	3,851
	<u>5,938</u>	<u>5,438</u>

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