

MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

PO Box 507 Esperance WA 6450

T: (08) 9071 0666 F: (08) 9071 0600

E: shire@esperance.wa.gov.au

www.esperance.wa.gov.au



3 May 2018

Independent review of Kirwan Rd

Acknowledging community concerns raised regarding the proposed landfill facility on Lot 12 Kirwan Road, Council requested a third party, independent review of all current hydrogeological investigations and associated reports. This was one of four requirements in a motion endorsed by Council in February 2018 examining the suitability of the Kirwan Road site for a Waste Management Facility.

The company commissioned to undertake this review was Pennington Scott. Mr Don Scott, Director and hydrogeologist, presented his initial findings to Council & EMTAG on Tuesday 2 May. A copy of this review was sent to all stakeholders prior to the briefings to ensure that all interested parties have access to the same information.

It is important to note that in the review, Mr Don Scott, did not find a fatal flaw that would prevent this site from hosting a modern waste facility, however it recommends additional investigations be undertaken in order to understand the aquifer so that a leachate recovery system can be designed. The Shire is currently assessing costs to provide additional assessments which may be needed by the EPA due to the Level of Assessment required. Work is continuing on the Environmental Scoping Document.

Shire President Victoria Brown said, "During Tuesday's briefing with Council Mr Don Scott, from Pennington Scott, said that whilst he did not agree with some of the interpretations relied upon by Talis, he said there is no fatal flaw with the site from a hydrogeological perspective. However, it did identify a number of concerns that the Shire is now addressing. As previously stated, the Esperance Environment is a priority to Council and any potential impacts must be fully investigated to ensure we all have the confidence that this site is or is not the right place for our community to have a Waste Facility.

"Council has not formally considered the Technical Review received from Pennington Scott at this stage and is waiting for additional clarification on several issues to be included in his final report. Council is also seeking a response from Talis with respect to some of the conclusions outlined in the Technical Review."

Talis Director Ronan Cullen has been provided a copy of the report and stated, "Talis is currently in the process of reviewing the Pennington Scott report and its findings. We are of the understanding that the Shire may be seeking some clarifications on the report from Pennington Scott. Talis will be issuing a response to the report in due course."

Council initiated this third party review to ensure all the data being relied upon when making decisions regarding this site are factual and accurate.

Ends

MEDIA CONTACT: Lauren Darge (08) 9071 0626