



MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

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NORFOLK PINES

Many of the Norfolk Island Pine trees throughout the Shire of Esperance have been showing signs of decline from the tops of the trees downward. Testing has confirmed the presence of a pathogen called *Neofusicoccum parvum* which is a fungal disease.

CEO Matthew Scott said, "These trees are very significant to the Shire of Esperance, and we have been investigating the cause of decline. Soil, leaf and wood samples were collected and sent to a laboratory for analysis and we will continue to monitor the trees to ensure they are managed effectively into the future."

Recommendations received through consultation with the laboratory and a qualified Arborist includes removing the infected upper part of the tree and applying nutrients to the soil.

These works are scheduled to be undertaken in May 2017.

Ends

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CC: Image of top of Norfolk Island Pine Tree

