



MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

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SCIENTIFIC DATA RELEASE FOR POTENTIAL NEW WASTE SITE

The Due Diligence report undertaken for the Proposed Landfill site at Lot 12 Kirwan Road has been completed. The report identifies the site as being suitable for a modern waste management facility.

The report, compiled by Talis Consultants, has recommended the Shire continue to progress the development of Lot 12 Kirwan Road as the location of the new waste management location. The Due Diligence study assessed the environmental and social values of the site in comparison to the Best Practice Environmental Management Guidelines and the environmental approvals process.

Shire President Victoria Brown said "The approvals process to be undertaken prior to the construction of a waste management facility can take up to two years. We have to provide information to a number of regulatory agencies who must be satisfied that both the site and the design will have no environmental impact on the surrounding environment. Council is committed to a best practice landfill site that meets the needs of our community while ensuring its impact on the surrounding landowners is minimal."

CEO Matthew Scott said "There has been some discussion in social media with respect to the price offered for Lot 12 Kirwan Road. This is a private contract with a landowner and not something to be discussed on a social media platform. The price per hectare negotiated is significantly less than the nearest agricultural property for sale."

Cr Brown stated "It would be preferable if we didn't have to buy the land until after all the approvals were in place, unfortunately this is not realistic. This is a private land sale; the owners should not be expected to wait up to two years for approvals prior to selling their land. Council will meet on Wednesday 12 April to consider the Due Diligence report and decide if we will or will not proceed with the purchase of this lot. This is not an easy decision, while all the scientific data supports this site as a suitable location, there are also social impacts. We have met with the surrounding land owners on several occasions and have listened to their concerns. Council would like to thank the Merivale Tip Action Group who has worked so hard to ensure that all local knowledge has been gathered from residents and regional agencies. This has assisted Council in collecting all the information necessary to make an informed decision."

The full agenda for this meeting can be found on the Shire's website
<http://www.esperance.wa.gov.au/agendas-and-minutes>

Ends

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