



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

6 April 2017

MALICIOUS DAMAGE OF COMMUNITY PROPERTY

Two Esperance Foreshore Toilet Blocks, glass panels at the Brazier St BBQ area and another four public toilet facilities have been maliciously damaged overnight. More than eighteen pictorial glass panels have been shattered, three tables damaged and public toilets rendered unusable.

Local police attended the scenes of destruction last night after receiving a damage complaint. All damaged toilet blocks will be closed until further notice. These will be reopened once safe access can be provided to the community. The large pictorial glass panels are approximately \$7,500-10,000 each, the cost of this damage will be covered by the Shire's insurance.

Chief Executive Officer Matthew Scott said "It is so disappointing to see the needless destruction of community property. The damage inflicted on the artwork featuring Esperance's history is likely to take months to source and supply. Shire officers will be working with Esperance Police to assist where possible and will then commence with the clean-up."

Shire President Victoria Brown expressed frustration at the pointless destruction "This has a direct impact on the whole community. Who benefits from this type of vandalism? It's difficult to understand the reasons behind this type of act and what they are hoping to achieve."

The pictorial glass panels on the foreshore are made from laminated glass making them difficult to completely shatter. The shattered panels are held together by an inner layer that holds the layers of bonded glass together when broken.

Ends

MEDIA CONTACT:

Priscilla Davies (08) 9071 0679