



FROM THE COAST

New website launched

The Shire of Esperance strives to keep a continuing dialogue active between Shire, Council and community. With society turning increasingly to digital forms of communication, the Shire has reassessed how we can best interact with the community and get the feedback we need to continue providing the best possible service. By optimising our communications we can make sure the most accurate and up to date information is widely available, which is vitally important for an open and accountable local government.

You may have seen over the past few months some of the changes we have implemented in the way we communicate. We recently launched The Shire Flyer, a community newsletter in digital and hard copy forms that keeps you up to date with latest Council decisions, news, major projects, services and Shire sponsored events. The newsletter is available from all Shire buildings throughout Esperance as well as local shopping centres and newsagents. We would encourage everyone in the community, and anyone outside Esperance with an interest in what our Shire is doing, to sign up for the electronic version. To sign up, all you need to do is click the link on the Shire website homepage or our official Facebook page.

This week we have also just launched a brand new website. The new site is easier than ever for users to find information and is more reflective of our community and region. The new website is not only more interactive, it will also see increased efficiencies of Shire resources due to simpler administration requirements.

The new website is divided into sections Live, Work, Play, Develop and Your Council and makes it easier than ever to locate contact numbers, forms, Council publications and information. It also highlights what Esperance has to offer, with stunning visuals and has an interactive events diary in which you can add an event to your Outlook calendar at the click of a button.

The website is regularly updated with Council news, media releases, meeting times, agendas and minutes and easy links to Shire services such as the Library, Civic Centre, Bay of Isles Leisure Centre, Volunteer Resource Centre, Home Care and Visitor Centre.

We've seen an increase in discussions on Council matters on social media in recent times, and by expanding the way we communicate we hope to see residents, visitors, and those outside Esperance use these tools to interact with the Shire and Council, and see an improvement in overall communication. As it is impossible to monitor every community Facebook page we encourage anyone with an opinion, an idea, suggestions or questions to hop onto the Shire's website or official Facebook page and engage with us there. From there we can provide you answers and information and let you know what Council is doing to address your concerns with accurate and verified information. To explore the new website go to www.esperance.wa.gov.au