

# Shire News

Shire of Dardanup Newsletter

## MARKYT Community Scorecard



What do you need in the Shire of Dardanup?

Complete a scorecard today

# Have your say in shaping the future

Residents are invited to take part in the 2025 Community Satisfaction Survey and share their feedback on how the Shire of Dardanup has performed over the past two years.

Conducted by independent research company CATALYSE, the biennial survey was launched on 10 February and will help shape future planning by identifying key priorities and areas for improvement.

Shire of Dardanup President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner encouraged all residents to have their say.

“This survey is an important opportunity for our community to tell us how we’ve performed and what they’d like to see in the future,” Cr Gardiner said.

“Your feedback directly influences our planning and ensures we’re meeting the needs of our residents.

“As a result of our 2023 survey findings, we listened to the community’s priorities and adopted initiatives and plans to focus on key areas, including the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2023-2028.”

“We also boosted our program offerings, including the successful intergenerational Digital Connections program for seniors, which helped educate and empower participants to embrace technology and stay safe online.

“We take community feedback seriously and are always looking to improve our services and infrastructure to ensure the Shire is a great place to live, work, invest, and play.”

**The survey is open until Friday, 28 February 2025. Scan the above QR code to score the Shire today!**

## Updates:

### Get involved in YouthFest

Join us for YouthFest 2025 on Saturday, 12 April, from 10am to 1pm at Glen Huon Oval and Eaton Skate Park. Celebrate Youth Week WA with free entertainment, amusements, markets, and more. Young creators under 24 can apply for a free market stall. Submit your Expression of Interest by 9am, Monday, 24 March at [www.dardanup.wa.gov.au/forms/2025-youthfest-stallholder-form/123](http://www.dardanup.wa.gov.au/forms/2025-youthfest-stallholder-form/123)

### Australia Day awards

The Shire of Dardanup celebrated community spirit with Australia Day breakfast events in Eaton, Dardanup, and Burekup, welcoming seven new citizens from five countries. Community Citizen of the Year awards were presented to Brendon Putt (Bush Fire Brigade volunteer), Tyler Brown (youth leader), and Kaye Holmes (30+ years of service). The Youth Advisory Group also received the Active Citizenship Award.

### Weed treatment notice

Our contractor will be undertaking weed treatment along footpaths and kerblines in residential areas from Monday, 17 February, for approximately two weeks (weather permitting). Please watch for signage and allow space for workers as they help keep our Shire tidy and accessible. Thank you for your patience while we maintain our beautiful community.

### Prohibited burning period

The Shire of Dardanup’s Prohibited Burning Period is currently underway. In accordance with the Bush Fires Act, the Prohibited Burning Period started on 15 December 2024 and will run until 14 March 2025 (subject to change based on seasonal conditions). This means all burning in the open is strictly prohibited during this time to help protect our community from bushfire risks.

# Community meetings invite resident feedback

The Shire of Dardanup is once again inviting residents to participate in its annual Community Meetings — an opportunity for open dialogue between the community and Council.

Shire President Tyrrell Gardiner emphasised the importance of these forums, where residents can voice their ideas, concerns, and aspirations to Councillors and Council staff.

“These meetings serve as a vital platform for our community members to be actively involved in shaping the future of our Shire,” Cr Gardiner said.

“Last year’s meetings resulted in 12 community-identified actions, many of which have been completed or are in progress.”

### Burekup

Thursday, 20 February, 5:30–7:30pm,  
Burekup Country Club, Russell Road.



**The Shire of Dardanup is inviting residents to participate in its annual Community Meetings during February and March.**

### Ferguson Valley

Monday, 24 February, 5:30–7:30pm,  
Ferguson Hall, 988 Ferguson Road.

### Dardanup

Monday, 10 March, 5:30–7:30pm,  
Dardanup Hall, 19 Ferguson Road.

### Eaton

Monday, 17 March, 5:30–7:30pm,  
Eaton Sports Pavilion (Boomers).

“These meetings provide an important opportunity for residents to help guide Council’s decisions and initiatives,” Cr Gardiner said.

“However, we also want to remind our community that feedback and queries are welcome year-round.

“The Shire remains committed to listening and addressing community needs beyond these annual forums.”

**For more information on the 2025 Community Meetings, visit the Shire of Dardanup website.**

## Shire adopts 2023/24 Annual Report

The 2023/24 Annual Report has been officially adopted, showcasing a year of significant progress, strong financial management, and community-focused achievements in the Shire of Dardanup.

The report was presented at the 30 January Annual Electors Meeting, showcasing the collective efforts of Council, staff, and community partners in shaping a bright future for the region.

### Shire President's reflections:

Shire President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner, in his first full year in the role, celebrated the strides made in driving growth and prosperity.

"Representing and advocating for our community is a responsibility I deeply value," he said.

"This year, we achieved milestones such as the launch of the Advocacy Plan and Strategic Community Projects documents, which form the foundation for securing investment and support for vital infrastructure."

The Shire President also highlighted the opening of the award-winning Library, Administration, and Community Building in Eaton.

"This landmark facility, 11 years in the making, has become a vibrant hub for connection and innovation, earning three prestigious awards, including the Sustainability Award at the 2024 Urban Development Institute of Australia WA (UDIA) Awards for Excellence."

Other notable achievements include being recognised as a Best Practice entity for the 2022/23 financial year and maintaining strong financial governance through unqualified audits.

### CEO's highlights:

Reflecting on the past year, CEO André Schönfeldt emphasised the Shire's commitment to financial excellence and transparency.

"For the fourth consecutive year, we achieved an unqualified audit, solidifying our place among the Office of the Auditor General's top 20 Local Governments in WA for financial reporting and accounting," he said.

Key achievements from the year include:

- Delivering a robust \$16 million Capital Works Program.
- The completion of the new Library, Administration, and Community Building in Eaton. Constructed from timber, this iconic building has garnered widespread recognition, winning three prestigious awards for its innovative design and sustainability.
- The official opening of the \$2.1 million R & J Fishwick Pavilion in February, enhancing the Shire's sporting infrastructure.
- Installation of night lighting at the Bunbury and Districts Softball Association Grounds.
- Ongoing progress on the transformative Enterprise Resource Planning project, which will drive innovation and improve customer service delivery over the next two years.

**Scan the below QR code to view the 2023/24 Annual Report on the Shire's website:**



### Meeting dates for 2025

The Shire's 2025 Ordinary Council Meetings will be held on the following Wednesdays at 5pm.

26 February	27 August
26 March	25 Sept
23 April	19 October
21 May	19 November
25 June	17 December
23 July	

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee meetings will be held on the following Wednesdays:

Bush Fire Advisory Committee, Wednesdays, 7pm:	
12 March	8 October
11 June	

Audit and Risk Committee, Wednesdays, 2pm:	
12 March	10 September
11 June	10 December

A Special Council Meeting will be held for the adoption of the Draft Annual Budget at 5pm, 28 May.

Copies of agendas and minutes can be accessed on the Shire's website at [www.dardanup.wa.gov.au](http://www.dardanup.wa.gov.au)