



An artists impression of the Exmouth Service Workers Housing Project

## Service workers housing project underway

Earthworks are about to begin at the site of Exmouth's Service Worker Housing Project in Lefroy Street.

The affordable housing project was initiated by the Shire of Exmouth in response to local concerns that the high cost of housing was making it difficult for businesses to attract and retain workers. This was particularly evident in areas such as retail, hospitality and trades, which play a vital role in supporting Exmouth's tourism industry and providing services to local residents.

Following extensive negotiations with the State Government and the Department of Housing, the Shire rezoned land on Lefroy Street to clear the way for the Department to move forward with the project.

Once completed, the Service Worker Housing will provide 20 accommodation units including 12 single bedroom,

six two bedroom and two three bedroom homes. The one and two storey dwellings will be leased to local businesses with rents determined by the income of the worker.

A management committee with representatives from the Department of Housing, Shire of Exmouth and local business will determine the eligibility criteria and conditions for businesses leasing the homes.

Earthworks are expected to start in January and be completed within six to eight weeks. Department of Housing tenders for construction of the dwellings will be finalised soon and the homes to be finished by July 2016.

For more information please contact Rhassel Mhasho on 9949 3000.

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on 27 January 2016

## State award for Water Spray Park

The Shire of Exmouth's Water Spray Park took out the Stimulating Learning Environment category at this year's Local Government Children's Environment and Health Awards.

The prestigious award recognised the Spray Park as an area where children can be physically active as well as providing opportunities for them to actively learn.

The Spray Park encapsulates important aspects of the North West Cape's rich cultural and environmental heritage. Interpretive signage and water features at the Spray Park serve as a key education tool providing information about the importance of the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage area and its globally important and unique species. It encourages children to actively learn through play, exploration, role play and interaction with others.

The award is sponsored by the Public Health Institute of WA, Healthway, the WA Local Government Association and Commissioner for Children and Young People.

## Christmas opening hours

The Shire of Exmouth would like to advise local residents that the Shire office will be closed from 4pm on Christmas Eve (24 December 2015) and reopen on Monday, 4 January 2016.

The Paltridge Memorial Swimming Pool will be closed on Christmas Day with no early morning swimming between Christmas and New Year including New Years Day.

The Tip will be closed Christmas Day and New Years Day and open from 8am—1pm on Boxing Day.

We wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas. Please take care on the roads and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

### Newsletter delivery information

This newsletter is distributed to all PO Boxes in Exmouth, and is available for pick-up at the post office, shire offices and the Public Library. This newsletter and other information (for example grant information, upcoming events etc) can also be emailed electronically and via Exmouth Info. Send an email to [cdo@exmouth.wa.gov.au](mailto:cdo@exmouth.wa.gov.au) to register your interest and let your friends know about this opportunity.

## Youth Action delivers Christmas cheer



Youth Action Exmouth (YAE) joined forces with Exmouth Community Support Group this month to help local families and individuals in need over Christmas.

YAE held a drive to collect non-perishable food donations that they made into more than a dozen food hampers. The hampers were then donated to the Exmouth Community Support Group to distribute locally.

YAE were inspired to complete this project by local volunteer Pat Eves. Pat met with the group to talk about her many years volunteering and discussed the difficulties faced by many families at Christmas. YAE saw the hamper appeal as a way they could do something to help the community.

The project would not have been possible without the support of the Exmouth Community. Local churches, the Shire and the Carols by Starlight Committee helped collect donations and residents generously donated everything from Christmas cakes to meal bases and toiletries to fill the hampers.

YAE is proudly supported by the Shire of Exmouth and BHP Billiton. If you are aged 13-18 and would like to get involved, in Youth Action Exmouth in 2016, call Amanda at the Shire of 9949 3000.