

AN UPDATE FROM THE MAYOR & ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

Welcome to this edition of SeaSpeak. In the last twelve months our region has encountered a pandemic, drought, bush fires and floods.

The last three months have been particularly busy dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated economic and social impacts. Although difficult, Council will achieve its core responsibilities while ensuring long-term financial sustainability without increasing your general rate next financial year.

Council has introduced a Financial Hardship Assistance Policy to help those in need. The Policy is available on Council's website or contact the Office on 6256 4777 to be provided with a hardcopy. We encourage you to contact our Rates Officer to discuss your individual situation.

Council has endorsed the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council's 10-year Strategic Plan 2020–2029. In accordance with this Plan, Council will focus on its vital infrastructure and essential core services in accordance with local government legislation. Stormwater management; upgrades and mitigation measures, risk management; strategy, register and plans, bridge replacement, footpath and road upgrades will be Council's main focus.

It is pleasing to report that the Prosser Plains Raw Water Supply has been commissioned.

Council has endorsed its Statement of Expectations and the commitment to continual improvement and thank our consultants, Lynn Mason and Greg Preece, for their invaluable assistance. Council is progressing very well toward full compliance with all its statutory obligations. Throughout this edition of *SeaSpeak* we have highlighted the many funded projects completed during 2019/2020 and those to be completed by 2021.

With close to \$10m of Federal and State grant funding, Council have been able to undertake important works in every township in the municipal area.

In addition to the funding listed in the following pages, Council will receive a further Federal grant to the value of \$401,000 in 2020 for infrastructure projects.

The State Government will provide an allocation of \$100,000 over a two year period to assist Council with its Environmental Health Officer costs associated with compliance and monitoring of sewerage systems in Coles Bay.

Council has made application for other funding opportunities and is waiting to be advised of the outcome. We are hopeful further Federal and State funding will be forthcoming to assist our region now, during this difficult period, and into the future.

We welcome recently appointed staff members; Council's Works Manager, Rob Brunning, and Emergency and Risk Project Officer, Bev Allen. Council's Executive Manager – Development, Deon Bellingan, and a Statutory Planner will commence in June. It is likely Council's General Manager (yet to be appointed) will commence in August.

We take this opportunity to thank our valued volunteers, community members who help their neighbours, small businesses who were able to keep operating and modified their business model to ensure safe practices, our frontline and essential workers, along with the Council workforce and Councillors for their commitment and efforts during this very difficult COVID-19 period. Stay safe.

MAYOR DEBBIE WISBY
AND ACTING GENERAL MANAGER MARISSA WALTERS

JUNE 2020

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GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL EXTERNAL FUNDING AND PROJECTS FROM 2019 TO 2021

COLES BAY & SWANWICK

Coles Bay Foreshore Boardwalk

Federal Government Community Development Grants Programme: \$1m (fully funded)

Background & Project

This project was flagged and driven by the Coles Bay community and various stakeholders. The boardwalk will run from Muirs Beach around the narrow Esplanade roadway and connect to Richardsons Beach in the National Park. It will form an integral

component of the Freycinet Master Plan. Pedestrian safety, improved road usage and photo vantage points will be included in the design.

Further consultation

A review of the existing design will be undertaken and further consultation with Parks & Wildlife and the Coles Bay community prior to construction commencing.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 30 September 2021.

Coles Bay & Swanwick General Improvements

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 1): Approximately \$150,000 (fully funded)

Background

Projects were selected based on the grant guidelines and provided significant economic stimulus to local small businesses.

Projects Included

Swanwick Dog Exercise Yard, Coles Bay Community Hall rejuvenation including Australian Standard compliant chairs, floor sanding, painting, carpet, window curtains & toilet refurbishment, Coles Bay Playground rejuvenation & sub-irrigation improvements and Swanwick Reserve Playground rejuvenation.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 30 June 2020.



Coles Bay Community Hall Disabled Toilet Extension



Coles Bay Sub-Surface Irrigation Beds

Coles Bay Boat Trailer Parking

State Government Better Boat Trailer Parking Programme: \$400,000 (fully funded)

Background & Project

Due to a lack of boat trailer parking, Coles Bay was chosen by the State Government to invest funding with the following criteria:

- a) Four formal vehicle and boat trailer parking spaces clearly identified and signed along Harold Street;



Coles Bay boat trailer parking

- b) Safe pedestrian access (footpath) is provided from identified parking spaces in Harold Street to Garnett Avenue;
- c) Construction of 10 angled boat trailer parking spaces opposite the Community Hall, along with a site layout that allows for future expansion for an additional 7 spaces ; and
- d) Directional and traffic management signage is in place at Garnett Avenue (boat ramp area), to improve traffic flow and reduce long term parking use by vehicles with boat trailers.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 31 August 2020.

Swanwick Footpath

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 2): Fully funded

Background & Project

Projects were selected based on the grant guidelines and provide significant economic stimulus to local small businesses. As identified by community members, due

to safety concerns a footpath will be constructed along Swanwick Road from Swanwick Drive to Hazards View Drive.

Timeframe

Awaiting confirmation of project approval.
To be completed by 31 December 2020.

BICHENO

Bicheno Gulch Foreshore & Esplanade Upgrade

Federal Government Community Development Grants Programme: \$1m (fully funded)

Background & Project

This project was flagged by the Bicheno community and various stakeholders. The improvements will result in safe and accessible tracks, improved parking options for various users of the area including recreational and commercial fishers, locals and visitors and business operators and will run from the Blow

Hole to the gravel pit whilst improving protection of flora and fauna including the Little Penguins.

Further consultation

A consultant will be engaged to complete a design with comprehensive community and stakeholder engagement.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 30 September 2021.

Bicheno Triangle Stage 2

Federal Government Community Development Grants Programme: \$600,000 (fully funded)

Background & Project

This project was flagged by the Bicheno community and various stakeholders. The stage two improvements

will complete the Triangle project resulting in improvement to the visitor experience, improved recreation space, seating, landscaping and a toilet.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 30 September 2020.

Bicheno General Improvements

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 1): Approximately \$130,000 (fully funded)

Background & Projects

Projects were selected based on the grant guidelines and provided significant economic stimulus to local small businesses. Projects included new surface for

the cricket practice nets, Bicheno Memorial Hall rejuvenation including Australian Standard compliant chairs, floor sanding, painting, carpet, window curtains & stage carpet, Lions Park Playground rejuvenation & fencing and new Gulch toilet.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 30 June 2020.



Bicheno Lions Park rejuvenation



Bicheno Gulch toilets

Bicheno Footpath

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 2): (fully funded)

Background & Project

The project was selected based on the grant guidelines and provides significant economic stimulus to local small businesses. As identified by community members,

due to safety concerns a footpath will be constructed along Tasman Highway from Harveys Farm Road to Douglas Street, Bicheno.

Timeframe

Awaiting confirmation of project approval.
To be completed by 31 December 2020.

CRANBROOK

Cranbrook General Improvements

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 1): Approximately \$10,000 (fully funded)

Background

The project was selected based on the grant guidelines

and provided significant economic stimulus to local small businesses and included external painting of Cranbrook Community Hall, disabled hardstand for parking and stairs.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 30 June 2020.

Cranbrook Footpath & Kerb

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 2): Fully funded

Background & Project

As identified by community members, due to safety concerns and flooding a footpath & kerb will be constructed along Tasman Highway between the Gala

Kirk Church parking area and Gala Road. This funding is to provide significant economic stimulus to local small businesses.

Timeframe

Awaiting confirmation of project approval.
To be completed by 31 December 2020.

SWANSEA

Swansea General Improvements

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 1): Approximately \$230,000 (fully funded)

Background

Projects were selected based on the grant guidelines and provided significant economic stimulus to local small businesses. Projects included a Dog Exercise

Yard, refurbished scorers box & installation of awning over servery at Recreation Ground, refurbishment of the old SES building – Swansea Community Hub – including a PCYC gym, a meeting room complete with kitchen and toilet facilities, a community run Re-use Shop and a Community Shed.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 30 June 2020.



Swansea Community Hub

Swansea Main Street Paving

Federal Government Community Development Grants Programme: \$1m (fully funded)

Background & Project

Due to the paving being well past its used by date, new paving will run from the Bendigo Bank to the Bark

Mill and from Jetty Road to Morris’ Store. These works will make the area more user friendly for visitors and locals – particularly our older and less-abled residents.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 31 October 2021.

Swansea Boat Trailer Parking

State Government Better Boat Trailer Parking Programme: \$500,000 (fully funded)

Background

Due to a lack of boat trailer parking, Swansea was chosen by the State Government as one of four sites on the East Coast to invest funding in better boat trailer

parking. Council is working closely with the Parks and Wildlife Service to determine the final location and scope of works in and around the Swansea foreshore before agreeing on a final construction programme.

Timeframe

The estimated project completion date is 31 December 2020.

Swansea Footpaths

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 2): Fully funded

Background

As identified by community members, due to safety concerns a footpath will be constructed along Wellington Street from Noyes Street to Victoria Street

and the existing Noyes Street footpath (to the east) to be removed and replaced from Franklin Street to Wellington Street. This funding is to provide significant economic stimulus to local small businesses.

Timeframe

Awaiting confirmation of project approval.
To be completed by 31 December 2020.

Dolphin Sands Shared Pathway



Dolphin Sands Road road widening shared pathway

Federal Government Community Development Grants Programme: \$1m (fully funded)

Background

Resealing and widening of sections of Dolphin Sands Road to allow for safer pedestrian use.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 31 August 2020.

TRIABUNNA

Triabunna Footpath, Cricket Practice Net & Pitch

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 2): Fully funded

Background

New footpath on Charles Street from Vicary Street to the Recreation Ground and a Cricket Practice Net and Pitch installation.

Timeframe

Awaiting confirmation of project approval.
To be completed by 31 December 2020.

Triabunna General Improvements

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 1): Approximately \$310,000 (fully funded)

Background & Project

Projects were selected based on the grant guidelines and provided significant economic stimulus to local



Triabunna Recreation Ground Electronic Score Board

small businesses. Projects included a Dog Exercise Yard, Triabunna Community Hall new kitchen and Recreation Ground electronic score board and new tennis courts with club room.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 30 June 2020.



Triabunna Tennis Courts & Clubroom

ORFORD

Orford Rivulet Bridge

Federal Government Community Development Grants Programme: \$1m (fully funded)

Background

The Orford Rivulet Bridge will be replaced with larger

pipes and a pedestrian walkway.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 30 November 2020.

Orford General Improvements

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme (Round 1): Approximately \$60,000 (fully funded)

Background

Projects were selected based on the grant guidelines and provided significant economic stimulus to local small businesses.

Projects Included:

Dog Exercise Yard and improvements to the Orford Recreation Ground including Cricket Practice Nets and sub surface water system.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 30 June 2020.

Orford Footpath

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 2): Fully funded

Background

A new footpath is to be constructed in Elizabeth Street

from Charles Street to Gore Street. This funding is to provide significant economic stimulus to local small businesses.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 31 December 2020.

BUCKLAND

Buckland General Improvements

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 1): Approximately \$25,000 (fully funded)

Background

Projects were selected based on the grant guidelines

and provided significant economic stimulus to local small businesses.

Projects Included:

Dog Exercise Yard, Playground/amenities rejuvenation.

Timeframe

The project completion date is 30 June 2020.

Buckland Cricket Practice Net and Community Hall Stairs & Landscaping

Federal Government Drought Communities Programme Extension (Round 2): Fully funded

Background & Project

Projects were selected based on grant guidelines and provide significant economic stimulus to local small

businesses. The projects will include Cricket Practice Net & Pitch to be installed and new Community Hall Stairs including general landscaping improvements.

Timeframe

Awaiting confirmation of project approval.
To be completed by 31 December 2020.



Claire Chandler stated... "The Australian Government recognises that Glamorgan Spring Bay is one of many areas around the nation that have been hit by drought in recent times, and we're pleased to be partnering with the Council to invest in community infrastructure.

These investments will improve community and tourist facilities and amenities, upgrade important local infrastructure and also deliver an important economic boost to the region."

LNP Senator Claire Chandler

SUCCESS IN MULTIPLE FUNDING GRANTS TO SUPPORT DROUGHT AFFECTED FARMERS WITH CONTROL OF WEEDS

Round 1 Communities Combating Pests and Weed Impacts During Drought Program.

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council in collaboration with Tasman Council has been successful in receiving \$63,837 in funding from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources for a serrated tussock (*Nasella trichotoma*) project. The project, which commenced in July 2019, is supporting thirteen primary producers to undertake serrated tussock control measures.

Serrated tussock is a Weed of National Significance. It is unpalatable to stock, and is capable of reducing pasture productivity by up to 95%. If stock graze pastures containing only serrated tussock, the leaves can form indigestible balls in the stomach, causing a loss of condition and eventual death. It is one of Australia's worst agricultural weeds.

Serrated tussock seeds spread by wind, stock, wildlife, vehicle movement, equipment, soil, water, and maintenance activities such as slashing. This plant can be difficult to identify as it looks similar to some native tussock grasses.

Round 2 Communities Combating Pests and Weed Impacts During Drought Program.

The Honourable David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management

announced in early May that the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council was also successful in their application for \$174,220 in funding under Round 2. This project will involve 19 drought affected primary producers in controlling Zone A declared weeds under the *Tasmanian Weed Management Act 1999*.

These priority weeds included Serrated tussock, Spanish heath, bridal creeper, Paterson's curse and pampas grass. The current drought has forced primary producers in Glamorgan Spring Bay to focus their attention on critical activities other than priority weed management. Thus this project presents an opportunity to assist primary producers to strategically combat priority weeds in a time of need.

Activities will compliment and value add activities carried out in Round 1 of this grant program. Round 2 activities include: control of weeds via chemical, cultivating broad hectare areas to decrease future treatment expenses, delimitation using a detection dog by undertaking surveys for serrated tussock, using a drone to undertake remote searching for serrated tussock as a trial. These activities on these properties also benefit other primary producers who are not currently effected by the relevant Zone A weeds, yet their properties may be vulnerable in current climatic conditions.

Tasmanian Weed Fund - Drought and Weed Management Program

The Tasmanian majority Liberal Government is committed to supporting the farmers and rural communities that are the backbone of the Tasmanian economy. They recognise that farmer's priorities often shift in times of drought, focusing on protecting the farm business and the welfare of stock, meaning farmers often do not have the time or funds to tackle weeds. To help address this risk, the Tasmanian Government have launched the new \$350,000 Drought and Weed Management Program to help farmers tackle weeds in a number of drought-affected areas.

The Program targets five eligible councils on Tasmania's east coast and southern Midlands' that have experienced prolonged drought conditions: Break O'Day, Glamorgan Spring Bay, Sorell, Tasman, and Southern Midlands councils.

Under the Program, one-off grants of up to \$55,000 will be available to eligible councils to directly support drought-affected farmers within their municipalities.

Funds will support:

- Subsidising the salary of a council weed inspector to work directly with farmers (up to \$25,000).
- Provide rebates up to 66% of total approved costs on invoice to farmers to undertake on-ground weed control (up to a value of \$30,000).



At the launch of the fund was a demonstration of the weed detecting skills of "Fonz" – a detector dog that helps Glamorgan Spring Bay officers undertake surveys for serrated tussock.

The Drought and Weed Management Program is being funded as part of the Government's \$5 million Weeds Action Fund – a 2018–19 State Budget initiative. The Weeds Action Fund seeks to support farmers, community groups and organisations to tackle weeds that impact on valuable agricultural and environmental assets.

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