

PRECINCT WORKING GROUP REPORT

Background

The terms of reference for the precinct working group were developed as a result of the precinct review conducted in 2009. A working group was formed in February 2010 to look at the main themes emerging from the review, and to develop a draft action plan to improve the precincts. The group was facilitated by Mary Power.

Terms of Reference – see attached document

Purpose

To develop a draft action plan to improve the precinct system around the identified key themes of:

- Purpose and role
- Operations and communication
- Community representation

Membership

- Rob Harrison
- Umberto Fogliani
- John Reeves-Burden
- Catherine Hammond
- Mary Barton
- Mark Randell
- Paula Amaral
- Cr Donna Haney, replaced by Cr Georgia Adeane
- Helen Emery, Manager Community Development
- Lionel Nicholson, Manager City Works
- Phil Gale, Manager Infrastructure Services
- Kathy Bonus, City Planning department

Process

The group met on the following dates:

February 25
March 4, 18, 30
April 8, 15, 29

Group discussions were wide ranging and thorough and all members participated energetically and thoughtfully.

Action Plan

The list below is the final actions agreed upon by all members at the precinct working group. They are in no particular order, though the option under Community Representation was clearly the most significant action put forward by the group.

Purpose and Role

1. Retain the geographical / interest of the precinct
2. Provide continued funding to support the precinct system
3. Remove the precinct charter
4. Develop a statement of intent / purpose
5. Rename the system

Operations and Communication

6. Develop a promotion strategy for the precinct system
7. Provide education and training for city staff, elected members and precinct volunteers.
8. Precincts to take responsibility for engaging with Council
9. Review the flow of information between the City of Fremantle and the precinct system
 - Precincts are better educated about council processes
10. Ensure the City of Fremantle provides timely and relevant information to the precincts
11. Use plain language in all communications
12. Examine options to streamline administrative and promotional procedures.
13. Develop a system of facilitated engagement between Councilors and Precincts.
14. Review administrative procedures of the precinct system

Community Representation

15. Develop, run and maintain FREOSPACE (an online precinct portal that is accessible to community groups with general information on what is happening at the City of Fremantle).
 - The Precinct Working Group to be consulted in relation to the development of FREOSPACE

This report is submitted according to the Terms of Reference of the Precinct Working Group.