

SHIRE OF EAST PILBARA

# Economic Relief & Stimulus Package

## Responding to COVID-19

Shire of **EAST**  
**Pilbara**  
AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST SHIRE

# Regenerate Together

The Shire of East Pilbara has announced an unprecedented COVID-19 response package in the East Pilbara, with a suite of measures totaling over \$8.5 million dollars approved by council.

“I am proud to share the details of our new ‘Regenerate Together’ package, which has been endorsed by Council. The package delivers over \$1.5 million of immediate relief measures targeting those hardest hit by the crisis, designed to help individuals and small business ease the burden from forced closures and job losses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic” Shire President Lynne Craigie OAM.

## Goals

✔ **Supporting local**

✔ **Assist employment**

✔ **Capital works**

✔ **Regional focus**

✔ **Support local residents and clubs**

✔ **Supporting local business**

## Stimulus Package \$7m for Marble Bar Airport

Council has committed to bring forward \$7 million dollars of capital works to upgrade Marble Bar airport. The project will be a partnership with industry, and a significant economic boost, by not only stimulating the local economy, but also opening up other opportunities in the region.

This significant project will provide a range of economic benefits for the western edge of the Shire, and it is hoped construction will begin before the end of the year, and be operational by the second half of 2021.

# Economic Relief Package

## Approx \$1.5million

Below is a brief summary of what is involved in the Shire's economic relief package.

More information is available at [www.eastpilbara.wa.gov.au](http://www.eastpilbara.wa.gov.au)



**\$616,000**

### Rates

- Freezing rate increases for the 2020-21 financial year
- Waiver fees associated with rates installment payments\*
- Waiver penalty interest on 2020-21 rates\*
- Increased flexible payment options\*
- No decrease to rate concession percentages
- Suspend debt collection for six months
- \*For eligible ratepayers



**\$357,000**

### Fees and Charges

- Freezing increases to fees and charges for the 2020-21 financial year
- Suspend debt collection for six months
- Defer/ place on hold annual fees and charges for six (6) months from the start of their next payment
- Increased flexible payment options for debtors facing financial hardship



**\$257,000**

### Rental Relief

- Rental payment waivers of 50% for 6 months for eligible Airport tenants
- Rental payment waivers of 50% for 6 months for Newman House tenants



**\$150,000**

### COVID-19 Grants Program

New \$200,000 COVID-19 Support and Recovery Grants Program. More details to come soon. Grants start July 2020



**\$50,000**

### Buy Local Project

Phase 1 of a buy local 'East Pilbara Dollars' Project



**\$100,000**

### Business Support

New \$100,000 for one-on-one support for local small businesses



### Development Support

- Express turnover of development approval applications
- Free extension of development approval applications
- Flexible approach to the servicing and supply of supermarkets



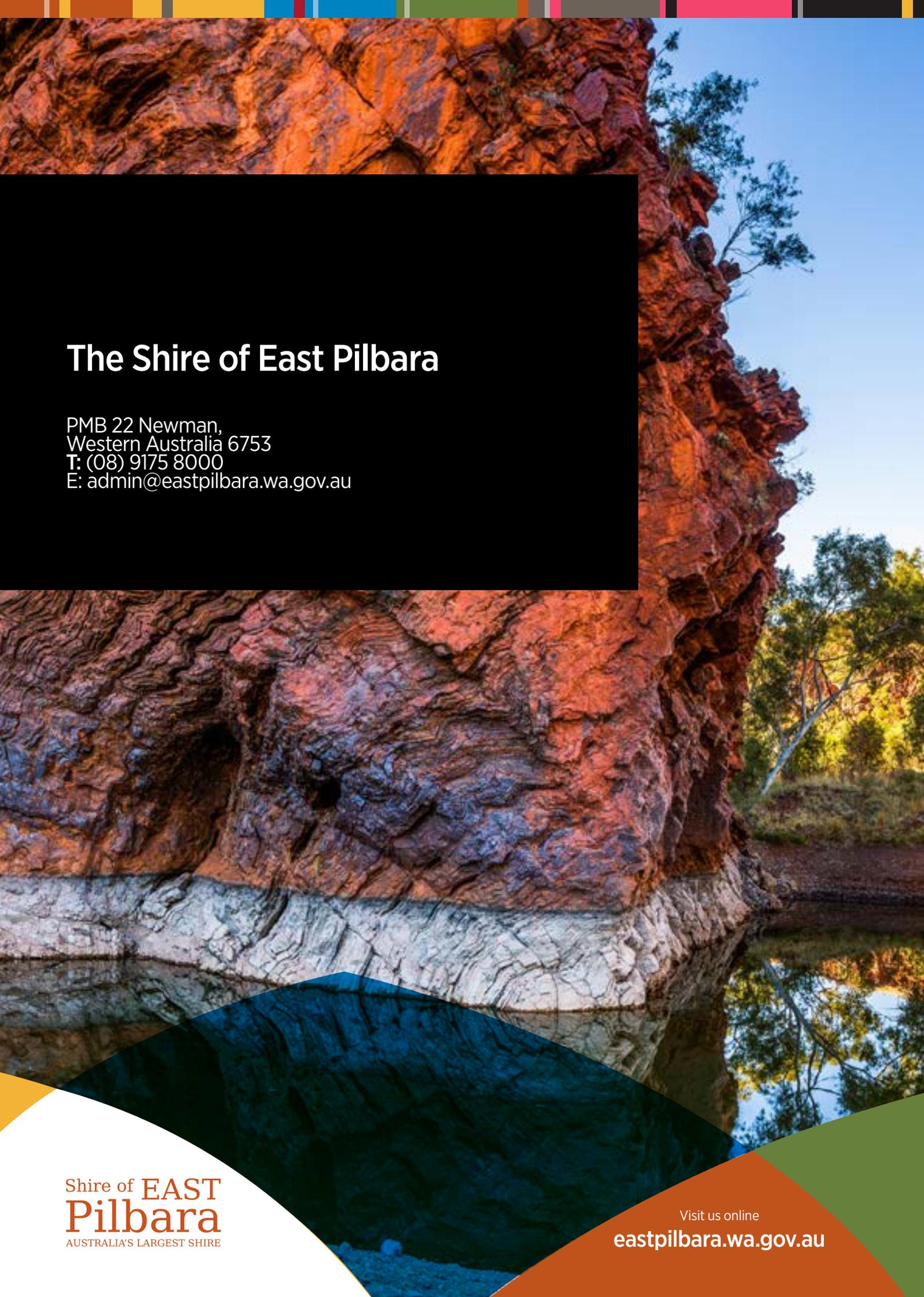
### Memberships

Freezing all Shire recreational memberships



### Bookings

Full refund on cancelled bookings at Shire owned facilities



# The Shire of East Pilbara

PMB 22 Newman,  
Western Australia 6753  
T: (08) 9175 8000  
E: [admin@eastpilbara.wa.gov.au](mailto:admin@eastpilbara.wa.gov.au)

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