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# A Word from the Mayor

## Hello, and welcome to the summer edition of the City Chronicle.

Following local government elections in late October, we now have a few new faces on Council. It's my pleasure to welcome Peter Hudson in the Rockingham/Safety Bay Ward, and Mike Crichton and Kelly Middlecoat in Baldivis. I congratulate returning Councillors Lorna Buchan, Mark Jones and Craig Buchanan who have been re-elected for another term. I would like to thank our outgoing Deputy Mayor Hayley Edwards, who did not stand at this election, and congratulate our new Deputy Mayor Cr Buchan on being chosen by her peers. We also said goodbye to Sally Davies and Rae Cottam, and I thank them for their contribution to our community during their terms as Elected Members.

In September we hosted our bigger-than-ever Sports Star Awards. Check page eight for all the details. In October we presented Castaways, our annual sculpture awards, on the beautiful Rockingham Beach Foreshore and in the Rockingham Arts Centre. For a wrap-up of all the winners and some great photos of the entries please have a look at page six.

With this year rapidly coming to a close, say goodbye to 2023 on the Rockingham Beach foreshore on New Year's Eve from 5pm. There will be fireworks at 9pm and midnight, and music featuring our headline act, the fantastic Birds of Tokyo. A few weeks later celebrate Australia Day at the foreshore from 5pm till 8.45pm with entertainment, free kids' activities, and more fireworks. Please remember this event will be happening on Saturday 27 January, not Friday 26 January. Check our website and Facebook page for details about all our major events closer to the dates.

I hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

**City of Rockingham Mayor,  
Deb Hamblin**



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# Around Our Community

## Meet Your New Council

Following the local government elections in October there are now three new faces on Council, and three Councillors returning for another term.

At a Special Council Meeting on 31 October the Elected Members voted Cr Lorna Buchan as Deputy Mayor for a two-year term, and Councillor positions on Committees were filled.

### Baldivis

Mike Crichton, Kelly Middlecoat

### Comet Bay

Lorna Buchan

### Rockingham/Safety Bay

Mark Jones, Peter Hudson,  
Craig Buchanan



Front row (L-R) Cr Dawn Jecks, Cr Mark Jones, Mayor Deb Hamblin, Cr Leigh Liley and Cr Brett Wormald  
Back row (L-R) Cr Kelly Middlecoat, Cr Mike Crichton, Cr Robert Schmidt, Deputy Mayor Lorna Buchan, Cr Caroline Hume and Cr Craig Buchanan. Inset: Cr Peter Hudson

## Share Your Thoughts

Planning for the future of our beautiful City needs input from people across the community. That's why we actively seek opinions from people on a wide range of matters. To make this process as easy as possible, our website includes a section called Share Your Thoughts, where you can comment on the latest topics being considered by the City.

[rockingham.wa.gov.au/shareyourthoughts](https://rockingham.wa.gov.au/shareyourthoughts)



Sign up to  
Rock Port



# Advocacy

As the City continues to grow, we face a range of complex issues. Many of them are well within our capacity to deal with on our own. Others, such as job creation, community services, and major infrastructure, to name a few, need the involvement of the State and federal governments. That's why we have developed an advocacy plan that guides our efforts to secure support from other levels of government in key areas.

Over the past year our advocacy efforts secured \$1 million from the State Government's Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund to assist in the Stan Twilight Reserve redevelopment, as well as \$1 million from Lotterywest for the Baldivis Outdoor Recreation Space.

Advocacy is a journey. It can take a while to get a result, but it is important that we stay the course on issues that are important to our community.

Since 2019 our advocacy efforts have successfully secured more than \$27.7 million in grant funding for several community infrastructure projects.



## Karnup Train Station

Planning for the proposed Karnup Station has a long history. It has been part of the State Government's Metronet program for many years, but was postponed after the federal government provided funding to the State Government to build a station at Lakelands in 2019.

In May 2023 the State Government announced it was seeking a public-private partnership to build the station and develop the land in the surrounding area as a 'Neighbourhood Centre' with housing, local employment, retail, services and amenities. The submission period closed in July 2023 and the outcome of that process is not yet known.

Meanwhile, the journey continues, and the City will keep advocating for a station at Karnup to meet growing demand.

## Defence in Focus

There are not many places in Australia where the AUKUS Defence partnership will have as much local impact as right here in the City of Rockingham. With up to \$8 billion to be invested in HMAS Stirling at Garden Island, and a major increase in the number of personnel on the base, it will have a sustained positive impact on our local economy.

AUKUS will also bring some challenges. The City is meeting regularly with the Navy and with State and federal representatives to put forward issues that need to be addressed from the community's point of view, such as transport, housing, infrastructure and education opportunities to cater for the growth in defence-related activity within our region.

We have already hosted a US Defence Department forward planning team to help them gain a better understanding of the City of Rockingham area, including housing opportunities, entertainment and shopping precincts, and development-ready land.



# New Plan for our Youngest Community Members

The City of Rockingham aims to support children, young people and their families to be part of a healthy, happy, and productive community. To help achieve that goal we are developing a new Strategy for Early Years, Children and Young People. Extensive consultation with the community has been conducted, including two surveys (one specifically for young people aged 12 – 24 years), and seven workshops (two specifically for young people).



## Interested in Volunteering?

1 in 4 Western Australians generously volunteer through community organisations, groups and clubs. If you're keen to dedicate your time to a worthy local cause, the Rockingham Volunteer Centre (RVC) is placed perfectly to assist.

The RVC connects aspiring volunteers with community groups, and will work with you to find the volunteering opportunities best suited to your interests and skill set.

Get in touch with the RVC today on **9528 8670** or email **[volunteering@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:volunteering@rockingham.wa.gov.au)**

Don't forget, nominations for the City's 2024 Volunteer Recognition event open on Monday 5 February 2024. This event will recognise some of the most outstanding volunteers in our City, so make sure to visit **[rockingham.wa.gov.au/volunteering](https://rockingham.wa.gov.au/volunteering)** for a nomination form.



## Join the South Metro Ride and Roll

The South Metro Ride and Roll Skatepark Series is a collaboration between the City of Rockingham, City of Cockburn, City of Kwinana, and the City of Mandurah. The series encourages riders of all codes (BMX, rollerskate, skateboarding and scooter) to compete in a qualifier round at their local skate park.

The Rockingham Qualifier Round will be held at Port Kennedy Skate Park on Wednesday 24 January between 2pm – 8pm.

Thanks to our sponsors Freestyle Now and Neami National for their support.

Find out more here: **[rockingham.wa.gov.au/youthonline](https://rockingham.wa.gov.au/youthonline)**



# 2023 Castaways Sculpture Awards Winners

The City thanks sponsors **Alcoa** and **Fremantle Ports** for their ongoing support of Castaways.

The Castaways Sculpture Awards started in 2008 as a community arts project to raise awareness about the discarded items – or ‘castaways’ – washing up on local beaches. Since then it has evolved into the City’s premier arts and culture event.

The 15th annual Castaways Sculpture Awards ran from Saturday 21 - Sunday 29 October 2023 and showcased 62 artworks from WA artists and local schools. Artworks were exhibited at the Rockingham foreshore and nearby at Rockingham Arts Centre on Kent Street.





## Congratulations to the winners:

- 1 \$10,000 Alcoa Major Award**  
– Richard Aitken, *More than one thing*  
**\$5,000 Innovation Award**  
– Scott Michell, *Thirty Bike Flying Pike*
- 2 \$5,000 Sustainability Award**  
– Moira Fearby and Heloise Roberts, *Insidious*
- 3 \$2,500 Maquette and Small Sculpture Award**  
– Neda Bahremand, *Magician*  
**\$2,000 City of Rockingham Local Resident Award**  
– Kelly Robbins, *Ficifolia*
- 4 \$500 Alcoa Primary School Award**  
– Settlers Primary School, *The Tides Can Change!*  
**\$500 Secondary School Award**  
– SMYL Community College, *How will you care for your ocean?*
- 5 \$1,000 Fremantle Ports People's Choice Award – Main Exhibition**  
– Rachel Lemon, *PeliCAN (not pelican't)*

**\$500 Fremantle Ports People's Choice Award – Maquette and Small Sculpture Exhibition**

– Carol Clitheroe, *Sail Away*

**\$250 Fremantle Ports People's Choice Award – Schools Exhibition**

– Settlers Primary School, *The Tides Can Change!*

**Highly Commended**

– Linda Rae, *Iris – Messenger of the Gods*

**6 Highly Commended**

– Nicholas Thompson, *Bad Habit-ats*

**7 Highly Commended**

– Nicole Steenhof, *Unravelling Grief*



# Sports Star Awards

The City of Rockingham is very proud of the achievements of local sporting individuals and teams, and has celebrated those achievements every year since 1996 with our annual Sports Star Awards. The 2023 event was held in September at the Gary Holland Community Centre with winners announced in 12 award categories, including five new ones this year.

Visit [rockingham.wa.gov.au/sportsstar](https://rockingham.wa.gov.au/sportsstar) for the winners list.

Pictured: Peter Traeger  
(Masters Sports Star of the Year).



# Safety Bay Shoalwater Pump Track

Back in September we asked the community to share your thoughts about the City building a pump track at one of two locations in Safety Bay. It was a very popular topic and we received more than 600 submissions from people with a range of views about the benefits of a pump track in either of these locations. Council will consider this feedback and make a decision soon.



# Pioneers' Luncheon

Every year the City hosts a formal Pioneers' Luncheon for residents aged 65 and older who have lived continuously in the local community for 50 consecutive years.

With Rockingham being a long standing Navy town – and as an encore to the Freedom of Entry parade by HMAS Stirling through Rockingham in September – there was a naval theme to this year's luncheon. A crew of about 220 people signed on for a lovely afternoon of food, fun and friendship. The Pioneer cake was cut by Mayor Deb Hamblin and Sally Low, a member of the Women's Royal Australian Navy back in the early 1960s.

Pictured left: Dianne and Wayne Watkins  
Pictured right: Stuart and Lois Glare



# Rates Incentive Prize Winners 2023/2024

Ratepayers who chose to pay their annual rates in one instalment by 18 August 2023 were automatically entered into our annual rates incentive scheme prize draw, with a chance to win one of 10 prizes of \$500 from NAB. This year 21,049 assessments were paid in one instalment by the due date.

The winners for the 2023/2024 financial year are:

1. Mr M J Cuzner,
2. Mr J M Ennis and Ms R K Darlow,
3. Ms L R Chilcott,
4. Mr L J and Mrs C M Parsons,
5. Ms H P Baker,
6. Mr N J and Mrs A L Lansdell,
7. Mr D J Kenny and Ms L A Harrold,
8. Mr J S and Mrs K J Mcrae,
9. Mr B A Thomson,
10. Mr L Finkelstein

The City thanks NAB for its ongoing support of our Rates Incentive Scheme.



# Major Events

Visit [rockingham.wa.gov.au/summerseries](https://rockingham.wa.gov.au/summerseries) to find out more.



## Birds of Tokyo to Rock New Year's Eve

Say farewell to 2023 and celebrate the New Year in style from 5pm – 12am on Sunday 31 December at Rockingham Foreshore. WA rockers Birds of Tokyo will be headlining the event after the 9pm fireworks, supported by Big Horn Productions and local acts. There will also be roaming entertainment, free children's activities, a sensory-friendly chill-out zone and midnight fireworks to start off 2024 with a bang.



## Celebrate Australia Day in Rockingham

Come along to Rockingham Foreshore on Saturday 27 January 2024 and enjoy an evening of live entertainment beachside. Featuring fireworks at 8.30pm, on-stage and roaming entertainment, free children's activities, a sensory-friendly chill-out zone and food vendors, there will be something for everyone. Join us from 5pm at this special event for the whole community.



## Symphony on the Green

Join the West Australian Symphony Orchestra (WASO) and a spectacular line-up at the Village Green on Saturday 17 February 2024. This magical evening for the whole family will be filled with all your classical and film favourites plus more musical surprises, performed by WASO and superstar soloists. Pre-show stage performances from 5.30pm, with the full orchestra on stage from 7pm.

# What's On Calendar



Scan the QR code to see what's happening in the City.

## New Year's Eve



Sunday 31 December  
5pm - 12am



Churchill Park, Rockingham Foreshore

## Story Time in the Park



Thursday 4 January  
9.30am - 10.30am



Churchill Park, Rockingham Foreshore

## Soulful Sunday: Switch the Band



Sunday 7 January  
5pm - 6.30pm



The Lookout, Rockingham Foreshore

## Story Time in the Park



Thursday 11 January  
9.30am - 10am



Harbour Playground, Secret Harbour

## Youth Beach Party 2024



Wednesday 17 January  
1pm - 4pm



The Lookout and Churchill Park,  
Rockingham Foreshore

## Story Time in the Park



Thursday 18 January  
9.30am - 10am



Norwood Reserve, Baldivis

## Celebrate Sustainability



Saturday 20 January  
3pm - 7pm



Fantasy Park, Rand Avenue, Waikiki

## Port Kennedy Skate Park Competition



Wednesday 24 January  
3pm - 8pm



Port Kennedy Skate Park,  
Endeavour Drive, Port Kennedy

## Celebrate Australia Day in Rockingham



Saturday 27 January  
5pm - 8.45pm



Churchill Park, Rockingham Foreshore

## Soulful Sunday: Josh Johnstone and Co



Sunday 4 February  
5pm - 6.30pm



The Lookout, Rockingham Foreshore



### Volunteer Recognition Nominations



Nominations open:  
Monday 5 February



### Get Active – Sports Promotion Day



Sunday 11 February  
9am – 12pm



Churchill Park, Rockingham Foreshore



### Symphony on the Green



Saturday 17 February  
5.30pm – 9pm



Village Green,  
Flinders Lane, Rockingham



### Performance in the Park – The Little Mermaid



Sunday 18 February  
5pm – 8pm



Village Green,  
Flinders Lane, Rockingham

### Celebrate Harmony



Saturday 23 March  
3pm – 7pm



Baldivis Sports Complex,  
Eighty Road, Baldivis

### Tai Chi



Every Tuesday  
(last class 26 March 2024)  
6.30am – 7.30am  
(No classes 19 or 26 December)



Churchill Park, Rockingham Foreshore

### Dance Fitness



Every Wednesday  
(last class 27 March 2024)  
6pm – 7pm  
(No classes 20 or 27 December)



The Lookout, Rockingham Foreshore

### Yoga



Every Thursday  
(last class 28 March 2024)  
6pm – 7pm  
(No classes 21 or 28 December)



The Lookout, Rockingham Foreshore

### Disclaimer:

Information is accurate at time of printing but details may be subject to change. Please check the City's website or Facebook page prior to attending any event.

# Environment

## Be Waterwise this Summer

Maintaining healthy gardens and reducing water use during hot summers can be challenging. Stay waterwise this summer:



Top up your garden with mulch to reduce evaporation loss and weed growth.



Keep showers under four minutes. Household showering can account for 24% of total water use.



Look out for leaks. Water Corporation has a handy leak detection test on its website.



Keep your pool or spa covered when not in use to reduce evaporation.



Wash a full load of clothes – this can save up to 15,000 litres a year.



Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth, and storing drinking water in the fridge instead of waiting for it to run cold from the tap, can save up to 10 litres per minute.



## Battery Electric Equipment Trial

The City's Parks Services team is trialling a specially modified vehicle designed to carry and charge battery-powered small equipment such as line trimmers, blowers, hedge trimmers and chainsaws. The vehicle has two solar panels to charge the batteries and a robust battery storage (and charging) setup to ensure batteries aren't damaged in transit.

The City currently uses over 400 pieces of petrol-powered equipment so this pilot program will be an important step towards reducing our reliance on fossil-fuel. Battery electric equipment also reduces operating costs and is generally quieter to operate.

The pilot program began in October and will show us how to best proceed with the rollout of battery electric powered small equipment on a wider scale.



## Protecting Our Environment

The City of Rockingham maintains over 1,000 hectares of natural environment, and has developed a range of plans that aim to conserve and guide the management of our important environmental assets. The City's Greening Plan, Wetland Management Plan and Foreshore Management Plan are currently being reviewed and updated to ensure the recommended actions are improving the health and biodiversity value of our natural areas, including the City's tree canopy, important wetlands, and coastal areas.

To learn more about the current plans in place, head to the Sustainability and Environment page on the City's website.

Watch this space for the release of these plans and get to know how the City is playing a crucial role in the conservation of our ecologically significant areas for the community.



# Emergency Preparedness



## Be Bushfire Aware This Summer

**You are only as resilient as your community.**

During bushfire season, it's vitally important to stay informed about any declared Total Fire Bans, and to be aware of the **Australian Fire Danger Ratings**. The ratings predict and describe the potential level of danger if a bushfire starts.

Prepare an emergency kit and check your bushfire plan. If you don't have a plan make one as soon as possible with the help of the Australian Red Cross "Get Prepared" app.

Scan the QR code to download the "Get Prepared" app



## Fire Prevention

Firebreak inspections commenced on all properties on 1 December 2023 with high risk rural and semi-rural lots. The City is now in a prohibited burning period until 31 March 2024. During this period, no burning is allowed on any property in Rockingham, and this includes all beaches within the City.

## Are You at Risk to the Impacts of a Heatwave?

Some community members are more at risk than others. To better understand the risk profile in our community, we would like to hear if heatwaves are challenging for you, or someone you know. Contact the City at [customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au) and tell us how you cope with heatwaves.

## Prepare Your Animals for Emergencies

Do you own livestock or animals that are kept on rural or special rural properties in the City of Rockingham?

By completing our animal emergency preparedness survey, you'll help the City to understand the level of animal emergency preparedness within the local community.

Your feedback will help support animal welfare in an emergency.

Complete the survey by **Wednesday 31 January 2024 for your chance to win a \$250 Visa gift card.**

Take part here: [rockingham.wa.gov.au/animalsurvey](https://rockingham.wa.gov.au/animalsurvey)

## Emergency Preparedness Toolkit

The Person-Centered Emergency Preparation (P-CEP) Toolkit is an all hazards approach to enable people with disability to self-assess their preparedness and develop a personal emergency plan to support their own safety and wellbeing before, during and after a disaster. Visit [rockingham.wa.gov.au/emergencies](https://rockingham.wa.gov.au/emergencies) to access resources to help plan for your safety, or the safety of people you care for in an emergency.

# Community Safety and Support

Community Safety Starts with You



## Host a Neighbours Unite Event

Now summer is here there is no better time to organise a Neighbours Unite event in your street or community. You can have a BBQ at your house and invite your neighbours around for a catch up, or you could use one of our local parks or reserves in your area. You can claim up to \$150 from the City after your event to help cover the cost of food, non-alcoholic drinks and party supplies purchased. Register to hold an event and you will receive a free host pack which consists of a host t-shirt, merchandise for your event, as well as key safety information to share with your guests.

For more information, search '**Neighbours Unite**' on the City's website.



## Holiday Watch

Planning a summer getaway? Provide our SmartWatch team with your holiday dates and they will undertake intermittent patrols of your home while you are away.

To find out more or to book a Holiday Watch, visit [rockingham.wa.gov.au/holidaywatch](http://rockingham.wa.gov.au/holidaywatch)

## Support for Christmas

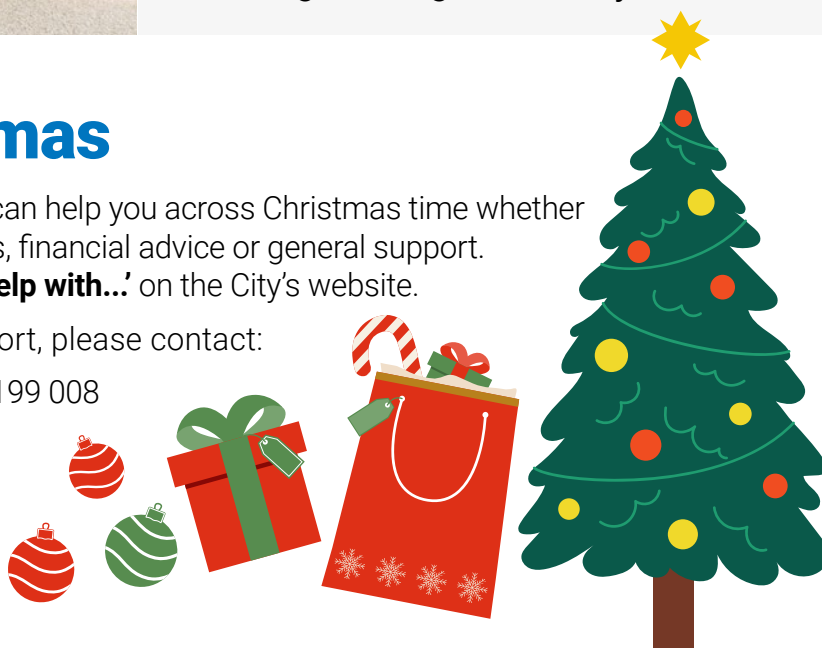
There are services in our community that can help you across Christmas time whether through emergency food, support with bills, financial advice or general support. Find out more by searching '**Looking for help with...**' on the City's website.

If you or someone you know needs support, please contact:

**Crisis Care Help Line** 9223 1111 or 1800 199 008

**Lifeline** 13 11 14

**1800Respect** 1800 737 732







## Join the Town Team Movement

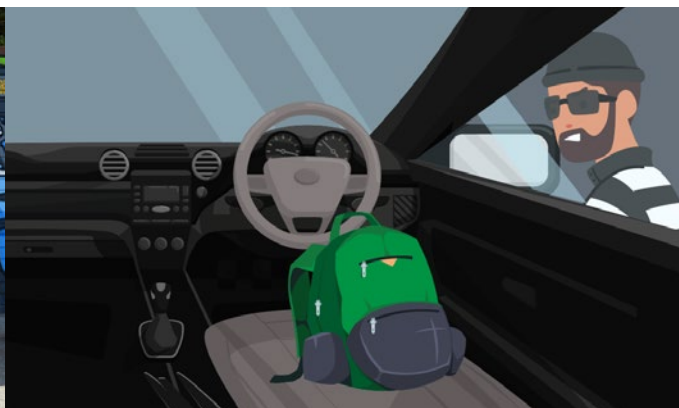
The City is actively partnering with Town Team Movement and encourages you to get involved.

The Town Team Movement is a positive movement of community-led action focussing on creating connected, resilient communities and better places.

Businesses, landowners and residents are encouraged to all work collaboratively with the City of Rockingham to improve their local place or area.

Currently there are active teams at Rockingham Beach and Port Kennedy – why not get involved and start one in your area?

To find out more, contact **customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au** or phone **9528 0333**.



## Look After Your Valuables

Community safety starts with you, and this summer it is important to take steps to ensure we are all making it tougher for crooks.

Make sure all your doors and windows at home and in your car are locked. Keep valuables out of sight and if you have any newly opened gift boxes at Christmas time please put them in your recycle bin out of sight.

You can help to build the big picture of what's happening in the community by reporting any anti-social behaviour or damage to WA Police. For emergencies dial 000, otherwise call 131 444.

## Subsidy Scheme Help Available

Did you know you may be eligible to apply for one or more of the three Subsidy Scheme reimbursements up to the value of \$150 offered to qualifying residents of the City on a low income?

- Safety Subsidy Scheme – To assist residents to make their homes safer and more secure. (One application per household per financial year).
- Home Modification and Assistive Equipment – To assist residents over 60 years old to manage their everyday tasks and remain longer in their own home. (One application per resident per financial year).
- Information Technology Scheme – To assist residents over 60 years old to become more connected with friends, family resources and information. (One application per resident per financial year).

To find out more, search '**Low income subsidy scheme**' on the City's website, or call the City on **9528 0333**.

# Your Council Members

## Mayor



**Mayor**  
**Deb Hamblin**  
0404 895 046

[mayor.hamblin@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:mayor.hamblin@rockingham.wa.gov.au)

## Baldivis Ward



**Councillor**  
**Mike Crichton**  
0466 258 253

[cr.crichton@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.crichton@rockingham.wa.gov.au)



**Councillor**  
**Kelly Middlecoat**  
0408 883 188

[cr.middlecoat@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.middlecoat@rockingham.wa.gov.au)



**Councillor**  
**Brett Wormall**  
0400 040 070

[cr.wormall@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.wormall@rockingham.wa.gov.au)

## Comet Bay Ward



**Deputy Mayor**  
**Lorna Buchan**  
0420 596 453

[cr.buchan@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.buchan@rockingham.wa.gov.au)



**Councillor**  
**Robert Schmidt**  
0415 420 706

[cr.schmidt@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.schmidt@rockingham.wa.gov.au)

## Rockingham/Safety Bay Ward



**Councillor**  
**Craig Buchanan**  
0427 931 745

[cr.buchanan@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.buchanan@rockingham.wa.gov.au)



**Councillor**  
**Peter Hudson**  
0493 773 699

[cr.hudson@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.hudson@rockingham.wa.gov.au)



**Councillor**  
**Caroline Hume**  
0429 976 440

[cr.hume@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.hume@rockingham.wa.gov.au)



**Councillor**  
**Dawn Jecks**  
0424 598 656

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**Councillor**  
**Mark Jones**  
0410 844 880

[cr.jones@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.jones@rockingham.wa.gov.au)



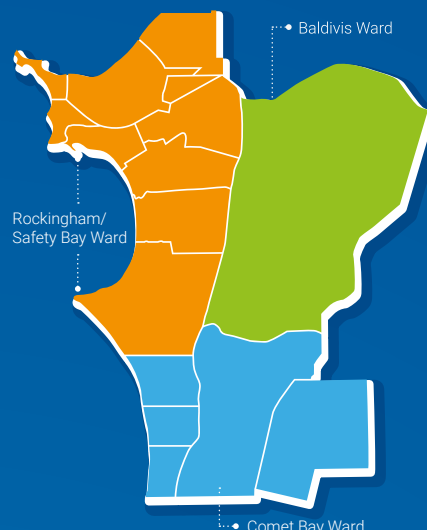
**Councillor**  
**Leigh Liley**  
0407 774 204

[cr.liley@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:cr.liley@rockingham.wa.gov.au)

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## Contact us

**City of Rockingham**  
**Administration Centre**  
**Civic Boulevard Rockingham**

p. 9528 0333 e. [customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au](mailto:customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au)

## Important Safety Contacts in an Emergency

In an emergency call 000  
(for hearing impaired) 106

For non-emergency Police assistance call 131 444  
Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000  
Rockingham SmartWatch 1300 657 123  
State Emergency Service (SES) 132 500