

Shire of Yalgoo

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Address all correspondence to the Chief Executive Officer

Our reference: ADM044

Your reference: PAL

20 September 2013

Hon Liz Behjat MLC
Chairman
Standing Committee on Public Administration
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000



Dear Hon Liz Behjat

Re: Inquiry into Pastoral Leases in Western Australia

Thank you for approving an extension for the Shire of Yalgoo until 30 September 2013 to provide written submission relating to the Inquiry into Pastoral Leases in Western Australia.

Whilst the extension has allowed for the matter to be tabled at a meeting of Council on 19 September 2013, the timeframe for response is nevertheless insufficient to undertake diligent research and prepare an informed and judicious response. Council therefore decided to take the following actions:

1. Acknowledge the need to protect and enhance the significant environmental and economic importance of pastoral land in Western Australia; and
2. Support the request of pastoralists to have the timeframe extended until no earlier than 6 March 2014 so that all stakeholders are afforded sufficient time to study the proposal and make informed submissions; and
3. Request that the Standing Committee recommend to the Minister for Lands that current draft leases are withdrawn and the process is restarted with a timeframe that allows for structured consultation, and a process that ensures that all affected parties including pastoralists have power in the decision making process.

An extended period will enable time to develop a collaborative approach, and potentially engage expert services to investigate and prepare an industry wide response with broad and strategic consultation.

Council seeks your assistance to give this important matter the attention due in the interests of protecting the environment and securing a sustainable future for the pastoral industry.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Daishe
Chief Executive Officer

cc ☐ Murchison Country Zone of WALGA
☐ WALGA
☐ The Minister for Lands