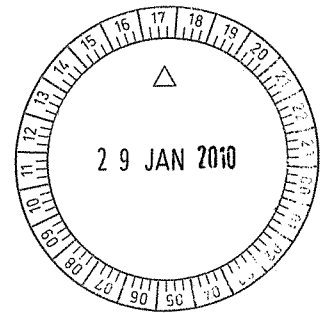


Answers to Questions on Notice -  
Legislative Council 2009/10 Budget  
Estimates Ongoing Hearings

**Goldfields-Esperance**  
Development Commission



Wednesday, 2 December 2009

PUBLIC

**Ministry of Regional Development**

*Question No. 1: Hon L. Ravlich referred to Page 281 under Major Policy Decisions the line item for Regional Grants Scheme 2008-2009 of \$4.44m and the list of successful Regional Grants Scheme Projects approved 2008-2009, from the Royalties for Regions website, and asked -*

- (1) Can the Minister explain why the allocation for the Regional Grants Scheme is listed as \$4.44m on Page 281, but \$4.329m on Page 285 (Details of Controlled Grants Subsidies)?*
- (2) The approved projects listed on the website totals just under \$3.5m (\$3,495,164.07). Can the Minister explain the difference between the total of approved grants and the \$4.44m?*
- (3) Have other funding grants been approved to take up the difference and if so what are the details and amounts of the extra grants and why are they not listed on the website?*
- (4) Can the Minister indicate where in the Budget papers the difference between these two amounts might be located?*
- (5) The Minister has made previous public statements to the effect that Royalties for Regions will not be used for expenditure that should be part of the normal Government expenditure – he has cited spending on the grain freight rail network as an example of what would not be funded. Why does the list of approved projects for funding from the Regional Grants Scheme include items like a CT Scanner and Esperance High School Trade Training Centre?  
  
5.1 Why are they not considered part of Health and Education budgets respectively?*

Answer:

- (1) Yes. The difference of \$111,000 is the 2.5% administration component of the Regional Grants Scheme retained to deliver the Scheme.
- (2) Yes. Total allocation \$4.44m, less \$829,000 for strategic projects, less \$111,000 for administration of the Scheme.
- (3) No.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Refer to Page 3 of the transcript regarding CT Scanner. Esperance Regional Trade Training Centre and Beyond project was not part of the normal Government expenditure.

- 5.1 Refer to Page 3 of the transcript regarding CT Scanner. At the time of assessment the Esperance Regional Trade Training Centre and Beyond project appeared not to have a departmental budget allocation.

**Wednesday, 2 December 2009**

**Ministry of Regional Development**

*Question No 2: Hon. L. Ravlich referred to Page 285 and the items Net Cost of Services, Total Income from State Government and Surplus/(Deficiency) for the period and asked –*

- (1) Is it the correct interpretation to say that your costs exceed your income and you have a shortfall of \$178,000 for the 2009-10 financial year?*
- (2) If this is a correct interpretation, how is that shortfall covered?*

Answer:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Previous surplus will be utilised to offset shortfall shown on the income statement.

**Wednesday, 2 December 2009**

**Ministry of Regional Development**

*Question No. 3: Hon L. Ravlich asked –*

- (1) *Has the Commission been involved in consideration of a tourist road between Bremer Bay and Hopetoun and if so, who with and what point is that work at now?*

Answer:

- (1) Refer to Page 9 of transcript.

**Wednesday, 2 December 2009**

**Ministry of Regional Development**

*Question No. 4: Hon L. Ravlich asked –*

- (1) *Has the Commission done any work on population projections for the next 10 years and if so can they be tabled?*

Answer:

- (1) Refer to Page 10 of transcript.

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**Ministry of Regional Development**

*Question No. 5: Hon L. Ravlich asked –*

(1) *Has the Commission done any work on likely resources (infrastructure, staffing, funding etc) needed to meet those population projections in –*

*1.1 Health?*

*1.2 Education?*

*1.3 Police and Emergency Services?*

*1.4 Housing?*

**Answer:**

(1) No. However, the GEDC keeps in regular contact with the respective responsible State Government Departments and provides support when and if necessary.

**Wednesday, 2 December 2009**

**Ministry of Regional Development**

*Question No. 6: Hon L. Ravlich asked can the Commission table its –*

- (1) Strategic Plans?*
- (2) Operational Plans?*
- (3) Any documents on Infrastructure needs for the region and any associated costings or estimates?*

Answer:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) No.
- (3) No.



Wednesday, 2 December 2009

Ministry of Regional Development

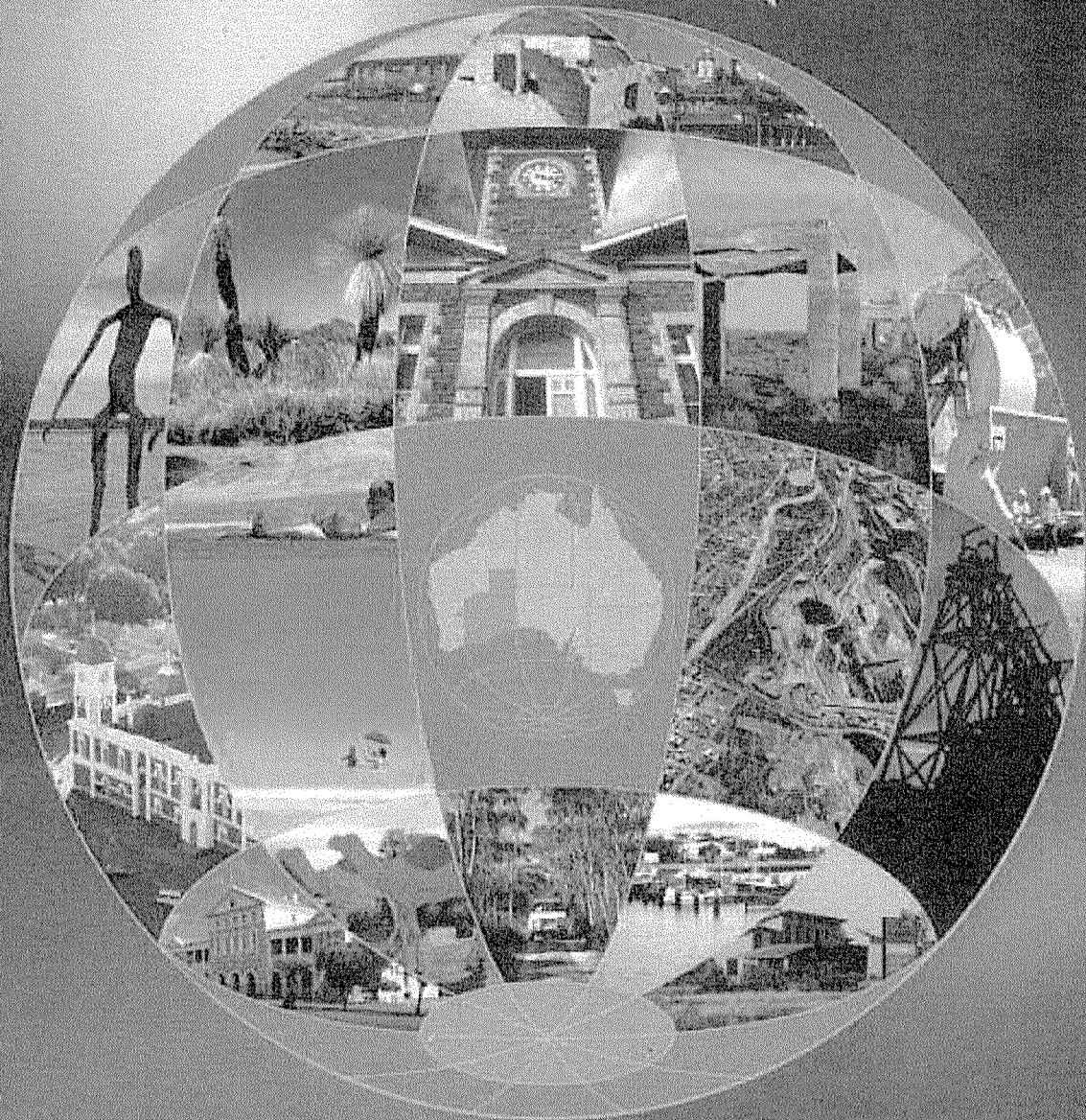
Question No. 7: Hon L. Ravlich asked –

- (1) *Has the Commission done any work on determining priorities for the region in terms of what their local communities want to see, and –*
- 1.1 *What the priorities are?*
- 1.2 *Funding required to meet each of those priorities?*
- 1.3 *Estimates of what will be received in appropriations in the forward estimates from Government?*
- 1.4 *Any likely shortfall over those years – itemised according to the listed priorities?*

Answer:

- (1) Yes.
- 1.1 As per Page 8 of the transcript, regional transport infrastructure is one of the GEDC's key priorities. Other priorities include:
- Workforce
  - Regional Development
  - Land
  - Health
  - Services
  - Public Service
- 1.2 The GEDC played a role in securing \$60 million Commonwealth funding for the proposed Esperance Port Access Corridor and a further \$3 million for the proposed Kalgoorlie-Boulder Intermodal Hub.
- 1.3 No.
- 1.4 Not applicable.

GOLDFIELDS  
ESPERANCE  
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



*Goldfields Esperance  
Development Commission  
Strategic Plan 2005 - 2010*

*Our Vision*

To create opportunities to build a vibrant sustainable future for our Region

*Our Mission*

To increase investment and attract population to our Region

# INTRODUCTION

The Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission (GEDC) is a State Government Agency responsible to the Minister for Goldfields-Esperance. As an agent of the Crown the GEDC is a body corporate with perpetual succession, which is required to follow the *Regional Development Commission Act 1993*.

GEDC is governed by a Board of Management that has the responsibility for setting the strategic direction of the Commission. The Board comprises Local Government, Community, and Ministerial appointees to ensure that the needs of the Goldfields Esperance region are clearly identified and that issues impacting on the region are addressed.

The objects of the GEDC are to:

- maximize job creation and improve career opportunities in the region;
- develop and broaden the economic base of the region;
- identify infrastructure services to promote economic and social development within the region;
- provide information and advice to promote business development within the region;
- seek to ensure that the general standard of government services and access to those services in the region is comparable to that which applies in the metropolitan area; and
- generally take steps to encourage, promote, facilitate and monitor the economic development in the region.

For the purposes of achieving those objects the GEDC is to —

- promote the region;
- facilitate coordination between relevant statutory bodies and State government agencies;
- cooperate with representatives of industry and commerce, employer and employee organizations, education and training institutions and other sections of the community within the region;
- identify the opportunities for investment in the region and encourage that investment;
- identify the infrastructure needs of the region, and encourage the provision of that infrastructure in the region; and
- cooperate with —
  - departments of the Public Service of the State and the Commonwealth, and other agencies, instrumentalities and statutory bodies of the State and the Commonwealth; and
  - local governments,in order to promote equitable delivery of services within the region.

# FOREWORD

The aim of this Strategic Plan is to enable the GEDC to continue to meet the needs of its stakeholders, capitalise on sustainable development opportunities and provide a clear direction for the future actions and projects of the Agency.

The State Government has committed to working towards achieving a sustainable Western Australia. To ensure that this commitment can be met, the Department of Premier and Cabinet has produced '*Better Planning: Better Services – A Strategic Planning Framework for the Western Australian Public Sector*'. GEDC utilised this document when developing its Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Plan 2005-2010 is designed to achieve the general objectives of the GEDC over five years, including specific projects within two key result categories:

- Facilitating the provision of appropriate infrastructure and industry services, and
- Promotion of the region and its investment opportunities

This plan is for the year 1 July 2008 until 30 June 2009, current as at 1 July 2008.

**KEY RESULT CATEGORY ONE: FACILITATING THE PROVISION OF APPROPRIATE INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRY SERVICES**

Ongoing economic development is vital to our region. It incorporates the diverse range of industries and employment opportunities available in the Goldfields - Esperance Region. GEDC supports a range of projects and initiatives that will result in the expansion and diversification of our region's industries and employment opportunities.

The GEDC consults with, advocates for, and assists key stakeholders in our region to progress activities that will improve the standard of infrastructure in the region, ensuring that it is of equal standard to that in metropolitan areas, and that it caters for the region's expansion of industry.

TITLE	STRATEGY	PROJECTS/ SERVICES
Migration Services	To assist in increasing the skilled labour force in the region.	➤ Regional Migration Scheme
Industry & enterprise Development	To expand and diversify the economic base of the region to ensure that the principal industries are strongly supported by a growing diversified economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Kalgoorlie Nickel Project</li> <li>➤ Ravensthorpe Nickel Project</li> <li>➤ Business Enterprise Centres</li> <li>➤ Kalgoorlie-Boulder Virtual Technology Hub</li> <li>➤ Industrial Parks</li> <li>➤ Chambers of Commerce and Industry</li> <li>➤ Forestry</li> <li>➤ Responding to Climate Change</li> <li>➤ Land Availability</li> </ul>
Regional Statistics	To provide a statistical information service and provide access to Regional Economic Modelling Software (REMPAN) for regional industry, stakeholders and investors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Statistical Information service</li> <li>➤ Regional Economic Modelling</li> </ul>
Industry Development Centre	Maintain the Industry Development Centre (IDC).	➤ Industry Development Centre
Indigenous Economic Development	To improve and increase the economic independence of Indigenous people in the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Targeted Training for employment</li> <li>➤ Aboriginal employment working groups</li> <li>➤ Indigenous business development</li> <li>➤ Mining industry initiatives</li> </ul>
Supporting Marine and Land Management plans	To support the development of marine and land.	➤ South Coast Natural resource Management Group

TITLE	STRATEGY	PROJECTS/ SERVICES
Transport	Advocate for and support the development of transport infrastructure within the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Goldfields-Esperance Transport Upgrade Program (GETUP)</li> <li>➤ Northern Goldfields Roads</li> <li>➤ Northern Goldfields Bus Service</li> </ul>
Water Resources	To facilitate the development of additional water supplies for the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Esperance Desalination Plant</li> <li>➤ Kalgoorlie-Boulder Bulk Water Project</li> </ul>
Power	To advocate for improved provision of power throughout the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Provision of power to meet future regional demand</li> </ul>
Infrastructure	To advocate and facilitate the development of appropriate infrastructure in the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Headworks Provision</li> <li>➤ Telecommunications</li> <li>➤ Esperance Utilities and Services Coordination group</li> <li>➤ Dundas Utilities and Services Coordination Group</li> <li>➤ New project</li> </ul>
Tourism Development	To lobby for the development and improvement of tourism to aid economic diversification in the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Peak Regional Tourism Organisations</li> <li>➤ Outback Highway Development Council</li> <li>➤ Leonora Gwalia Historical Museum</li> <li>➤ Golden Quest Trails Association</li> <li>➤ Lake Ballard/ Gormley statues</li> <li>➤ Tourism Northern Goldfields Working Group &amp; Drive Trail</li> <li>➤ Tourism Developments – Menzies Shire</li> </ul>

**KEY RESULT CATEGORY TWO: PROMOTION OF THE REGION AND ITS INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

In order to service our stakeholders effectively as a State Government agency, the GEDC is involved in a range of activities that enables it to support and assist the development of soft infrastructure in our communities, to promote the region and to provide information.

Community encompasses activities that are aimed at creating a sense of place; it caters for the provision of essential services and recognises the importance of community involvement. It is about liaising with our stakeholders to ensure that the GEDC remains in touch with community needs.

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>STRATEGY</b>	<b>PROJECTS/ SERVICES</b>
Facilitation Services	To provide facilitation services to community/agencies	➤ Facilitation Services
Education and Training	To work with stakeholders to ensure the best possible opportunities for access to training and education throughout the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Goldfields-Esperance Workforce Development Alliance (GEWDA)</li> <li>➤ Kalgoorlie-Boulder CCI – Education and Training subcommittees</li> <li>➤ Local Government Partnerships</li> <li>➤ New Project</li> </ul>
Community Services and Infrastructure	To advocate for and support the provision of quality community services and infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Community and Youth Services</li> <li>➤ Northern Goldfields Sport and Recreation program</li> <li>➤ Arts and culture programs</li> <li>➤ Norseman main Street Developments</li> <li>➤ Health Services</li> <li>➤ New Project</li> </ul>
Grants Service	To improve access and awareness of grant funding opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Grants information service</li> <li>➤ Goldfields Esperance Regional Development Scheme (GERDS)</li> </ul>
Community Foundations	To facilitate Western Australian Community Foundations.	➤ Community Foundations
Regional Promotion	To promote the region as a great place to work, live and invest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Goldfields-Esperance regional Promotions</li> <li>➤ Desert Knowledge Australia</li> </ul>

TITLE	STRATEGY	PROJECTS/ SERVICES
Government and Industry Groups	Develop and maintain networks with peak bodies and stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Infrastructure Stakeholders</li> <li>➤ Local Government Authorities</li> <li>➤ Other regional Development Commissions</li> <li>➤ Chamber of Minerals and Energy</li> <li>➤ Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the mining industry in general partnerships in prosperity</li> <li>➤ Other key regional organisations as deemed appropriate</li> </ul>
GEDC Promotion	GEDC to promote its activities in the broader community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ GEDC website</li> <li>➤ GEDC newsletter</li> <li>➤ Media relations</li> <li>➤ Communications Strategy</li> <li>➤ New Project</li> </ul>
Responsive Government	To respond to requests from the Minister for Goldfields-Esperance and State Government agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ministerial Support</li> <li>➤ Support to State Government Agencies</li> <li>➤ Contribute to strategies</li> <li>➤ Regional Development Council</li> <li>➤ Regional Cabinet Meetings</li> <li>➤</li> </ul>

# Office Locations

## *Kalgoorlie-Boulder*

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For more information on the  
Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission  
and its' activities visit the website:

**[www.gcdc.wa.gov.au](http://www.gcdc.wa.gov.au)**