



Leschenault

BIOSECURITY GROUP INC.

Y O U R L A N D
Y O U R F U T U R E

Leschenault Biosecurity Group Inc.
Operational Plan 2021 - 2022

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Leschenault Biosecurity Group Inc (LBG) is a community-run Not-For-Profit group operating in the Shires of Capel, Dardanup, northern half of Donnybrook-Balingup and the City of Bunbury. The LBG offices are in Donnybrook and all operations are coordinated from this site.

The LBG commenced operations in 2014 with a group of committed and dedicated volunteers who managed all programs. In September 2019, the Declared Pest Rate was raised for the first (1st) time across the LBG operational area. The LBG operates with a volunteer Board and 3 x part time staff members.

The LBG takes a positive and proactive approach to facilitating declared pest management and is focused on increasing community awareness on declared pests and their management; and on achieving on-ground outcomes to compliment the great work the majority of individual landholders are already doing.

Our Focus for 2021 – 22 is on the following Declared Pests:

- Apple of Sodom
- Arum Lily
- Bridal Creeper
- Blackberry
- Cape Tulip
- European Fox
- European Rabbit
- Feral Pig
- Narrow-leaf Cotton Bush
- Paterson's Curse,

Whist we state these pests will be the focus of LBG throughout the 2021-22 reporting period, we will respond to requests from landowners/managers to assist with all other pests.

Through our Strategic Plan, LBG has defined its purpose as:
Collaborating with landowners/managers and the broader community to achieve a significant reduction in the impact of pests across our region.

The stated aim of the LBG is to:
Work Collaboratively with Landowners/managers to tackle the increasing spread of pests (both animals and plants) and develop strategies to significantly reduce the impact of these pests on the environment, economy, and landscape.

WE WORK TOWARDS OUR PURPOSE AND STATED AIMS BY:

Providing on ground advice and information to ratepayers in relation to Pest Management.

Developing Integrated Weed Management Plans for individual Landowners/Managers.

Developing collaborative relationships with larger Land Managers (i.e. DBCA, FPC) to develop and support measures in pest management.

Facilitating community workshops targeting:

Weed Identification
 Weed Management
 Vertebrate Pest Management
 Community Action Groups Educating youth in schools

Increasing our online resources:

Instructional Videos and Flyers
 Educational Videos and Flyers
 Advice Documents Information Sheets
 Brochures

Developing larger projects directly related to Pest Management:

Arum Lily Project
 Blackberry Project
 Hoggone Pig Management Trials
 Cape Tulip Management
 School Based Weed Educational Programs

Growing our successful K5 project:

Increasing landowner/manager uptake by 20% in 2021/22
 Continuing to develop community action groups (neighbourhood) to combat rabbits.

Whilst developing and facilitating these projects, we will also:

1. Develop KPI's to ensure outcomes are measured and reportable
2. Provide concise audited financial reports to DPIRD
3. Capture all relevant data including:
 - a) Number of engagements (including contact details).
 - b) Details of individuals and community groups engaged with K5 program.
 - c) Mapping and logging of field activities.
4. Provide feedback opportunities to participants in all programs as a continuous improvement process.
5. Engaging with rate payers and receiving their priorities through
 - i) Social media
 - ii) Community radio
 - iii) Print media
 - iv) Workshops
 - v) Direct contact
 - vi) Newsletter
 - vii) School engagements
6. Increase training, resources and educational opportunities for rate payers in pest management.
7. Provide timely and accurate information electronically to ratepayers to increase outcomes in pest control.
8. Collaboration with Murdoch University, hosting of a PhD Student to conduct research relating to our Declared Pests.
9. Collaborate and support other stakeholders with pest management projects.

The value of our programs to the communities we service will be measured in terms of:

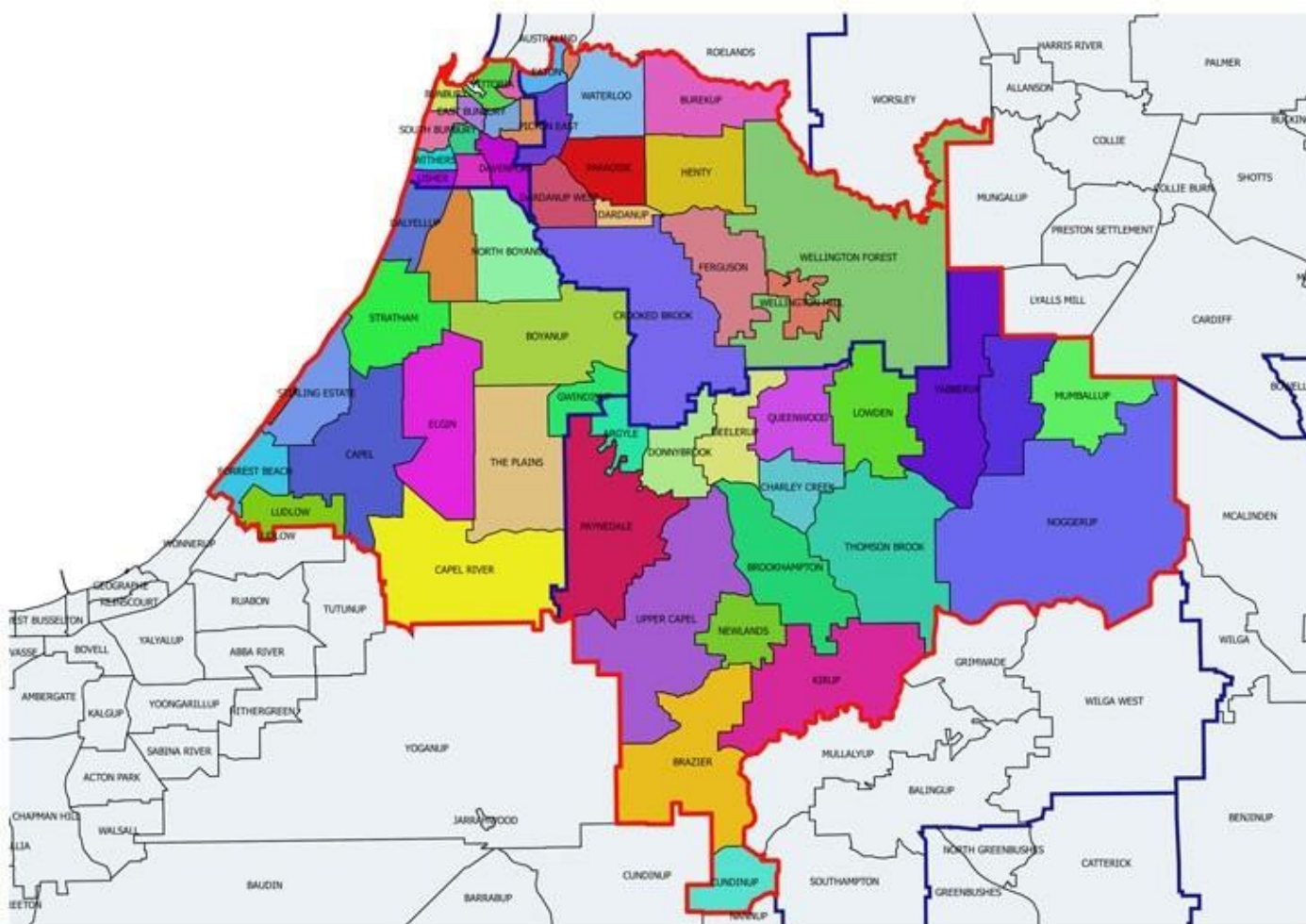
- Participation from ratepayers,
- Feedback from ratepayers
- A decrease in repeat pest reports
- Number of engagements from ratepayers seeking assistance from LBG
- Number of social media interactions
- Contribution to the body of knowledge by supporting research across the operational area.

Flat rate (Fixed sum):

Leschenault Biosecurity Group recommends that the Minister for Agriculture and Food as per the *Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act 2007* determines flat rate on freehold land in the City of Bunbury, Shire of Dardanup, Shire of Capel and the northern half of the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup for the financial year commencing 1 July 2021, as follows:

- a) a minimum land size (above one (1) hectare),
- b) a minimum rate payable amount \$45.00 below (10) hectares, \$60.00 above ten (10) hectares.
- c) where land is unrated (less than 1 hectare in size or is crown or leasehold land), the landowner/land manager pays an agreed fee to LBG for services on unrated land.

MAP OF LBG OPERATIONAL AREA



2. OBJECTIVES

- 1) The objects of the Association are;
 - a To initiate, promote and foster the management of declared pests in the LBG Operational Area, under the requirements of the *BAMAct*.
- 2) The property and income of the Association shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Association and no part of that property or income may be paid or otherwise distributed, directly or indirectly, to members, except in good faith in the promotion of those objects.
 - a A payment may be made to a member out of the funds of the Association only if it is authorised under sub-rule b.
 - b A payment to a member out of the funds of the Association is authorised if:
 - i. the payment is in good faith to the member as reasonable remuneration for any services provided to the Association, or for goods supplied to the Association, in the ordinary course of business; or
 - ii. the payment is of interest, on money borrowed by the Association from the member, at a rate not greater than the cash rate published from time to time by the Reserve Bank of Australia; or
 - iii. the payment is of reasonable rent to the member for premises leased by the member to the Association; or
 - iv. the reimbursement is of reasonable expenses properly incurred by the member on behalf of the Association.

3. BACKGROUND

LBG is led by a Board of volunteer members representing the community. Daily operations are carried out by a small team of part-time staff.

BOARD MEMBER	ROLE	LOCATION
Morrie Goodz	Chairperson	Donnybrook
Scott Bartholomew	Vice Chairperson	Donnybrook
Sherry Thomas	Treasurer	Donnybrook
Diana Negro	Secretary	Dardanup
Shane Beattie	Member	Dardanup
Sarah Forrest	Member	Donnybrook
Peter Bass	Member	Dardanup
Tony Albertsen	Member	Donnybrook
Albert Gorman	Member	Donnybrook

STAFF

Executive Officer
Projects Officer
Communications Officer
Vertabrate Pest Contractor

Additional staff members may be employed subject to Board approval.

4. STAKEHOLDERS

Local Government Authorities:

1. City of Bunbury
2. Shire of Capel
3. Shire of Dardanup
4. Shire of Donnybrook Balingup

State Government Agencies:

1. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
2. Department of Biodiversity Conservations and Attractions
3. Department of Communities
4. Forest Products Commission
5. South West Development Commission
6. Main Roads Western Australia
7. Department of Water Environmental Regulation

Other Stakeholders:

1. Western Australian Plantation Resources
2. Arc Infrastructure
3. Wespine
4. South West Catchment Council
5. Leschenault Catchment Council
6. Local Pest & Weed Operators
7. South West Alliance of Recognised Biosecurity Groups
8. Recognised Biosecurity Groups

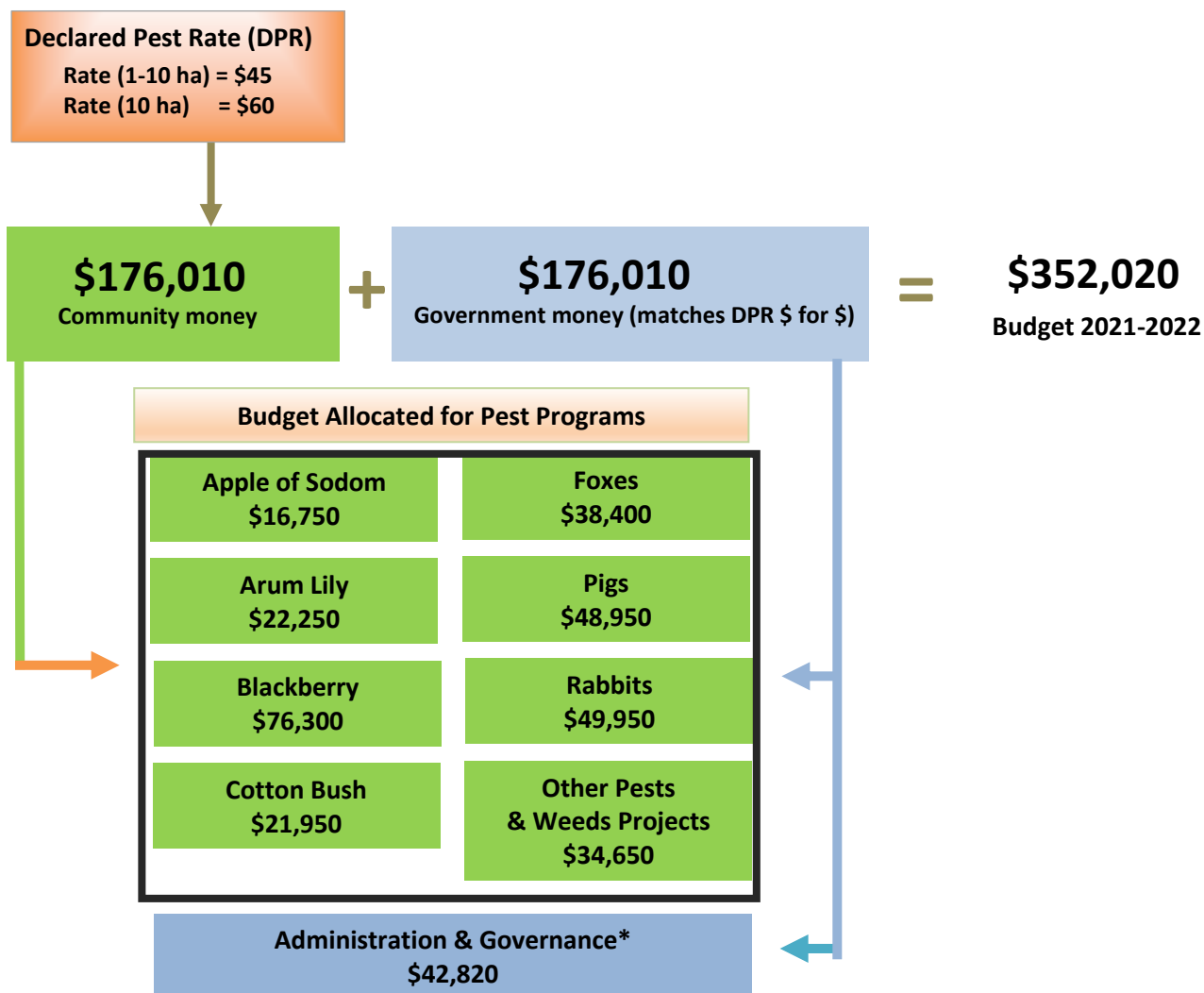
5. FUNDING

Total funding from DPIRD will be \$352,020

The LBG will invoice DPIRD in July 2021 and February 2022.

6. FORECAST BUDGET 2021 - 2022

2021-2022 Operational Budget - Source and Allocation



7. PLANNED PROGRAMS 2021 - 2022

PEST PROGRAM	ACTIONS	INPUT	MEASUREMENT
Apple of Sodom	Pest Management advice and assistance Assistance to purchase necessary herbicide	-LBG Staff -LBG Equipment and Resources Feedback Forms	Number of participants Feedback from participants
Arum Lily	Arum Lily Control Project	-LBG Staff -LBG Contractor -Herbicide and additives	Participation and Feedback Educate stakeholders Collaborative response
Blackberry	Blackberry Control Project	-LBG Staff -LBG Contractor -Herbicide and additives	Participation and Feedback Continual and increased effort in the control blackberry
Feral Pigs	Feral Pig Control Research and Development	LBG Staff Purchase of baits and Hoggone boxes	Participation and Feedback Reduction in Pig Activity Number of participants
Rabbit	K5 (or new strain if applicable) release	-LBG Staff -LBG Contractor -Virus -Oats -4 x Community Workshops	Participation and Feedback Decrease in rabbits
Research and Development	PhD Student research	LBG Staff Outcome of research Relationships developed with Tertiary Institutions	Research which provides value to ratepayers Research which adds to the body of knowledge in terms of management of pests
All declared pests	Pest Management Assistance	-Traps -Fumigation chemicals -PPE - Knapsacks -Tree poppers -Hog Hopper Boxes	Participation and Feedback Reduction in Declared Pests Educate stakeholders
All declared pests	Community Training/ Education Workshops	-LBG Staff -4 x Community Workshops	Number of participants Current and relevant information gathered
All declared pests	Assist Community groups to undertake pest management	-LBG Staff -LBG Equipment -Feedback forms	Number of participants Feedback from participants
All Declared Pests	Community Action Group Assistance	-LBG Staff -LBG Equipment	Participation
All Pests	Develop Online resources/training	-LBG Staff -Camera -Editing software	Website Statistics Feedback from stakeholders
All Weeds	Integrated Weed Management Plan Preparation	-LBG Staff - GPS/Mapping device and software	Participation and Feedback Reduction in weeds Ongoing efforts from stakeholders
All Weeds	School Incursion Program	-LBG Staff -LBG Equipment	Feedback from teachers

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION TIMELINE

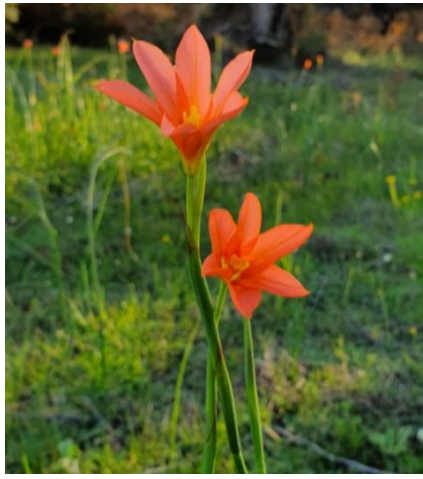
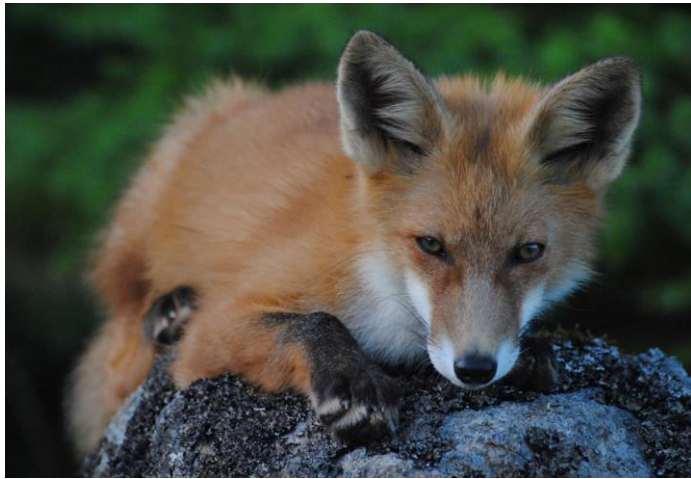
Leschenault Biosecurity Group are available for regular consultation with landowners face to face and via social media, phone, email and mail.

Landowners are referred to the TELL US YOUR PRIORITIES survey on the website. The information from this survey along with the information from the channels described in the table below are used to guide the groups actions.

Month	Planned Activity	Medium	Purpose
July 2021	Attend local markets	Face to face	Collect information on community priorities
August 2021	Declared Pest Rate	Promote EOI via - E-Newsletter - Posters - Media Release - Social Media	Provide information to stakeholders
September 2021	Weed Identification Workshops	Face to Face EOI (online)	To educate landowners
October 2021	Captivate Capel Daradanup Bull and Barrel Festival	Face to face (stall)	Collect information on community priorities
November 2021	Biosecurity Blitz (DPIRD) Donnybrook Food & Wine Festival	Support DPIRD campaign through LBG communication channels.	Reporting of pests within the operational area
December 2021	Annual General Meeting	Open community discussion	Feedback on past and current programs
February 2022	Attend local markets	Face to face	Collect information on community priorities
March 2022	Attend local markets	Face to face	Collect information on community priorities
April 2022	Balingup Farm Field Day and Apple Festival	Activation and stall at the Balingup Farm Field Day in Balingup and Apple Festival in Donnybrook	Brand Awareness and promotion of services
May 2022	Attend local markets	Face to face	Collect information on community priorities

9. COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Goal	Timing	Detail	Who
Public Relations (PRINT) Supplying content and Media Releases for local papers	July 2021 – June 2022	Newspapers: - Preston Press (monthly) - South West Times (weekly) - Gelorup Gazette (monthly) - Dardanup Times (monthly)	Communications Officer
Public Relations (RADIO) Supplying content to prompt radio interviews	July 2021 – June 2022	Arranging interviews on radio programs to promote current and future projects. - ABC South West Radio - Donnybrook Balingup Community Radio - Bunbury Community Radio	Communications Officer
Monthly E-Newsletter	July 2021 – June 2022	Using Mailchimp to send out monthly e-newsletter All members are automatically subscribed the newsletter. There is a “Subscribe” to e-newsletter in the Digital Communications are preferred as they are more cost effective.	Communications Officer
Face to Face Engagement	March 2022 – May 2022	Opportunities for stalls - Apple Festival - Balingup Farm Field Day - Boyanup Markets - Donnybrook Station Markets	Communications Officer, Executive Officer, Project Officer (plus volunteers)
Weed Identification Toolbox Workshops	July 2021 – June 2022	Coordinate with Parks and Gardens teams at local councils for weed identification -City of Bunbury -Shire of Donnybrook Balingup -Shire of Capel -Shire of Dardanup	Communications Officer and Project Officer
Social Media	July 2021 – June 2022	Content will be based on the following: -Current Projects -DPIRD Campaigns -Seasons (Weed Calendar) Using the following social media channels: -Instagram -Facebook -LinkedIn	Promote engagement through Social Media



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YOUR LAND
YOUR FUTURE



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