

PHCC Stimulus Proposal to State Government – March 2020

Regional Estuary Recovery Package – \$3.6m

The PHCC can play a lead role in providing employment opportunities and coordination of on-ground works for the Peel community, post COVID-19 social distancing. These works would support communities and assist with the recovery of the health of the Peel-Harvey Estuary which is the economic basis of the Peel Region.

Shovel ready projects can be rolled out over varying timeframes providing meaningful part-time work to community under three scenarios:

1. Establishment of a Noongar Ranger Program under the PHCC, providing employment to ~12 Noongars, with wages and materials funded via the Government and activities coordinated by the PHCC
2. PHCC funded projects (where funding is already secured) being modified to be more inclusive of community, with PHCC covering materials and subsidising employment dollars;
3. New Government funded projects where Government provides employment and material costs and the PHCC provides shovel ready projects (design, planning and co-ordination of implementation)

Projects would include:

1. Traditional restoration projects such as weed control, ground preparation, planting, maintenance and watering
2. Fencing and basic construction works (e.g. nesting boxes)

If social distancing and hygiene challenges can be managed the PHCC would envisage that up to 40 FTE jobs could be created from the Regional Estuary Recovery Package.