



Media Release

15 June 2017

New Operations Centre and Animal Management Facility to open in July

When Cockburn's works depot first opened in Bibra Lake nearly 40 years ago, the local population was about 30,000 - a fraction of today's 116,500 estimate.

With the increase in residents, the former Town has matured into a City catering for a contemporary population who use countless community facilities, parks, roads and municipal services in their everyday lives.

To better provide these services, the City of Cockburn will officially open its new \$11.5 million Operations Centre and Animal Management Facility at the Wellard Street site in July.

And apart from space for 100+ employees at the state of the art facility, it will also comfortably house about 30 dogs, plus cats and other stray animals in temperature-controlled indoor and fenced outdoor facilities at any one time, with room for expansion.

As the City continues to grow there is ample room for current and future storage of plant including rubbish trucks and other vital plant equipment and vehicles.

Cockburn's Manager of Infrastructure Services, Doug Vickery, said the investment included a chilled water tower to reduce air conditioning costs, a communications mast and Disaster Recovery Building. Stage two of the project will include a Dangerous Goods Storage Facility.

The new facility will accommodate current depot staff including Rangers, CoSafe, Roads, Parks, Facilities & Plant, plus members of Engineering & Works: Road Design, Traffic, Assets, Development, Projects, Parks, and Environment & Waste Services that are relocating from the City's Spearwood Administration Building.



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“Relocation of about 40 staff from the Administration Building frees up space in the City’s Administration Building, enabling reallocation of space for current and further growth and provide an improved work area for the City’s Customer Services staff,” Mr Vickery said.

“The new Animal Management Facility similarly has been designed to cover current needs with some spare capacity and designed for future expansion if needed.

“It meets relevant standards for animal housing in a controlled environment and efficient facility operations for Ranger staff. It also provides a much better interface for people coming to collect their animals.”

The facility’s sustainability features include a solar hot water system, a 30 kVa photovoltaic system, LED lighting, shading to lower floor north and west facing windows, airlock to the front entry foyer, and the air conditioning uses more energy efficient gas heated hot water for heating as compared to electric resistance heating.

The chilled water tower is a key component of the new Operation Centre building’s air conditioning system.

The water in the tall, insulated tower is chilled overnight via the adjacent ground-mounted water chillers utilising lower tariff cost electricity. It is then circulated through coil units in the building’s air-handling units in the plant room during the day and the cooled air is ducted throughout the building.

It uses less power than a typical air conditioning system, saving costs and producing less greenhouse gas emissions from the reduced power draw. Chilling the water overnight reduces the need to rely on the electricity network during peak demand periods when demand on the grid is at its highest.



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The new communications mast provides microwave and two-way radio signals to the City's other buildings and facilities, especially those not serviced via optic fibre connection.

The two-way radio network provides communication to our mobile plant including rubbish trucks and other waste collection vehicles.

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For more information contact:
Media and Communications Officer
City of Cockburn
T: 08 9411 3551
E: media@cockburn.wa.gov.au