



Norseman Woodlands to Eucla Coast

## Media Statement

Shire of Dundas Returns Keys to Men's Shed with Conditions

From the CEO, Shire of Dundas

The Shire of Dundas is pleased to announce that, effective today, we will return the keys to the Norseman Men's Shed. The Shire of Dundas continues to work with the Norseman Men's Shed to ensure the following requirements of the commercial lease are met:

- 1. Lease Agreement and Occupiers' Liability:**  
The lease agreement grants a non-exclusive lease to the Association, making the Shire a co-occupier under the Occupiers' Liability Act 1985. Therefore, the Shire is required to ensure the safety of all individuals entering the premises.
- 2. Discovery of Distilling Equipment:**  
Distilling alcohol in the men's toilet is unacceptable hazard, especially as the public, including children, are allowed to enter the premises.
- 3. Work Health and Safety Act (WHS Act):**  
The operations of The Norseman Men's Shed are considered an 'undertaking' under the WHS Act. Both the Shire and the Men's Shed Association may be regarded as co-PCBU (Persons Conducting a Business or Undertaking), requiring both parties to ensure Work Health and Safety compliance on the premises.
- 4. Health and Safety Requirements:**  
All Men's Shed Rules and Regulations and all relevant WHS Act 2020, Building Regulations must be adhered to.
- 5. Enforcement Roles:**  
The Shire holds enforcement roles under the Food Act 2008 and the Health, (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1911 the premises will be inspected on a regular basis until the Shire is satisfied that all rules and regulations are adhered to.
- 6. Liquor Control Act 1988:**  
Although the position under this Act is under consideration, the primary concern is the safety hazard posed by distilling alcohol on the premises.
- 7. Monitoring Compliance:**

The Shire will monitor the Men's Shed to ensure compliance with health and safety requirements. Non-compliance could lead to a recommendation to terminate the lease.

8. Termination Clause:

The lease can be terminated by either party with three months' notice if the conditions are not met.

9. Return of Distilling Equipment:

The still discovered on the Norseman Men's Shed Premises will be returned to the Men's Shed Committee.

The Shire of Dundas remains committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all community members using the Men's Shed. We look forward to working together to maintain a safe and productive environment.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Fitchat', with a stylized flourish above the name.

Peter Fitchat  
CEO  
16/05/2024