

SHIRE MATTERS

Issue 173 - July 2023

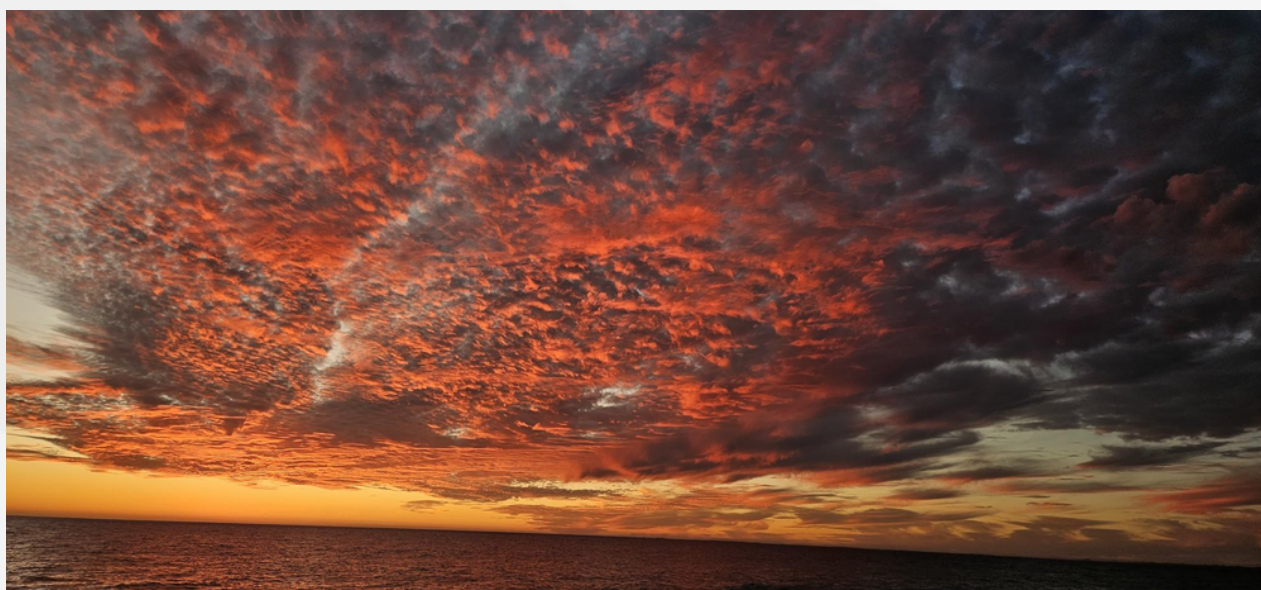


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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Cr Leslee Holmes
Ph. 0408 419 468

As I write this, I am on a beautiful terrace overlooking the bright blue ocean in a very lovely cove outside an old Mallorcan Hotel where we are staying. Our family have lived on the island of Mallorca for many years, but as old age creeps up on us, all but one has gone back to England to live, and that is where I will start our journey.



After the usual horrible confinement of a 22-hour flight, we arrived safely at Heathrow. A quick train ride to Paddington Station deposited us at our hotel which is located in the actual station. Overpriced for sure, but convenient as we were headed off to Devon the very next day by train. No amount of preparation could have prepared us for a bank holiday weekend in England that promised good weather. Us, like many others had pre-purchased tickets but the train was so full, no one could move. You could not get to your seats or put your luggage anywhere, so you just had to stand and put up with two hours of hell. The irony of the situation was the constant diatribe coming from the speaker system apologising profusely and offering to refund those who booked a seat and couldn't use it. At last, we reached Exeter, collected our hire car, and quickly found Mum's cottage and our lovely Airbnb rental.

My mother is as ever, fabulous. We all say if you never had to work a day in your life and you never had an illness, you could probably live forever so you could be forgiven for thinking her three daughters are somewhat envious perhaps?

During our stay, we have had the best two weeks of weather ever experienced in the UK. Devon and Cornwall are both very beautiful places to visit but also very expensive. We have no idea how the average person with a family manages to survive as food is just so costly and wages are low. Electricity is ridiculously priced, and they are trying to rely on renewables, however the windfarms we saw were so old compared to ours and clearly are not doing the job it is hoped they would.

The average person in the street couldn't care less about global warming, they just want to be able to put food on the table.

I could write a whole book on Britain's National Health Service system which, along with other important issues, is sending the country broke. Lots of jobs, however so many prefer to stay on the dole. Seems to be the same all over and I read just the other day that 600,000 are not working and yet there are jobs for everyone. The mind boggles.

We landed in the capital of Mallorca, Palma, on a Saturday and grabbed the hire car heading up to Cala Fornells, Peguera. Our family have lived here for over 40 years but over the years have gradually relocated back to the UK; all except for one sister who will never leave Mallorca. Brexit has changed everything however, and my dream of staying for one year in 2024 has been dashed as I could only come for 3 months.

I understand how they feel though as in the summer the island is packed with careless visitors who take over and ruin the lifestyle of the many Spanish people who call it home. Much the same as Bali one could assume.

Two receptionists that had been working in Brisbane advised us of how much they loved the experience, the money, and the very friendly Aussies.

A third receptionist is to travel to Brisbane in September. In years gone by most Mallorcans had never even heard of Australia, much less worked there and it is great to see the opportunities that youth have to travel the world.

The service here is unparalleled and they too are struggling like us and the UK with people not taking up jobs, however, the ones that are employed understand the importance of looking after visitors. Like WA, retail is really struggling and it could be many years before the economy starts moving again.

The similarities to our region are quite amazing with the residents of this small island feeling invaded, chased out, and deprived of their way of life due to tourism. The challenge is to make sure that while we need the jobs and prosperity that tourism brings, it doesn't ruin the way of life people have the right to expect.



In pointing out these similarities, it brings to mind Council's current major review of its Council Plan, formerly known as the Strategic Community Plan. A major review of this Plan is undertaken by Council and Shire administrative staff every four years and enables all members of the community to participate in the preparation of this important long term planning document. As it is so very important for Councillors to hear your views and feedback, the Shire has set up a new community consultation webpage named Engage Dandaragan. Through this medium you are invited to participate in a range of Shire projects and initiatives to help shape your community for the future. Please keep a look out for correspondence in your letterbox, through our Shire Facebook posts and website too.

On the way to our next destination in the Serra de Tramuntana mountain range, we climbed up a steep lane to my sister's last home to say goodbye to my Dad.

His ashes were scattered in his favourite bougainvillea tree in the garden after his passing. I only really knew my Dad for 19 years when I left the UK to travel the world and even though we went home to Mallorca nearly every year when I married Peter, it was not the same as living in the UK. Before that I had not seen any family for 20 years while I was looking after my own family in Australia.

We have walked through a towering pine forest on the way down to Cala Deià to watch the local children swimming and jumping off cliffs into the clear blue waters of the Mediterranean.

Deià is a very famous village which was home to the late Robert Graves who was a celebrated poet and author. He found perfect tranquillity in Mallorca after World War I however, I doubt he would find it tranquil today as Deià has become a place where artists, writers, and poets from all over the world come to visit and often stay with many Australians living here as it has become very fashionable.

Richard Branson built the very famous La Residencia Hotel in the village and bought many old houses and put them together to create a fabulous resort. The late Princess Diana went there often with her boys and many celebrities continue to holiday there also. Interestingly enough, it took him 20 years to get the planning permissions to do this and just this week he has done the same thing in another lovely little town called Banyalbufar. We are looking forward to going for a visit and maybe a coffee if we can afford it! This hotel took 28 years in planning, so evidently, we are not too bad in our Shire with planning approval times compared to this!



Spanish people are very different from Australians in the way they act. They speak very fast and loudly. If they are on the phone or talking to each other when you go into a shop or a market stall, they will finish their call or conversation before (if you are lucky), they acknowledge you.

Everything is done at a steady pace, and they will not be hurried although this is not the case in hotels and restaurants where customers are very important.

After leaving this magical place we drove up the coast to Sóller, a beautiful village with a very busy little port and where I have visited many times but never actually stayed. Sóller has a unique train which runs down to Mallorca's capital city, Palma, through the mountains - a very spectacular trip.

When we first came to Mallorca there was no other way, just a series of narrow roads like switchbacks.

Now we have a good road and a big tunnel.

We arrived at Hotel Es Port in Port de Sóller in the afternoon and I was not prepared for the size and beauty of this very old hotel. The estate was one of the biggest private land ownerships on the island with the first buildings dating back to 1685 and the main house sometime in the early 1800's. The land is full of garden areas for resting and relaxing and our suite is very old and decorated in the Spanish tradition with Moorish tiled floors and dark wood furniture, with floor to ceiling shutters on the windows which give us a great view of one of the gardens. The hotel is full and as usual in these places, the pool is heaving with the grab a pool chair and put your towel on it then disappear for the day. This is a very common thing these days and causes plenty of arguments. As I hate pools, we prefer to swim at the beach, however, we were invited to use the private spa area which has a fabulous indoor pool, spa, and sauna etc. Peter is in heaven as it also has a beautiful private garden completed with an orange grove.



You park where you can!!

Not to be flippant, but we have become a bit tired of eating out which is why we love Airbnb's so much where you can prepare your own meals if you choose to. The restaurants here are beautiful with many on the beach but pretty much all have the same menu.

It is very much an availability issue, and they cook what is easy. We were fortunate one night to come upon a lovely Chinese restaurant down a little back street which provided us a change in culinary flavours.

During the winter months the coastal resort towns close for 3 months except for the odd ones that remain open to welcome hikers and walkers. Staff work long shifts and often 7 days per week, but they get 2-3 months off paid by the government. Very different from Australia looking towards a 4-day week perhaps in the future.

We have another couple of days here and then onto the capital, Palma where we stay in the old quarter again in a very traditional hotel where the taxi can't even pull up at the front door due to the narrow streets.

We love Palma and have plenty of exploring to do. When we leave the island, we will have our last few days with my sister in Cheltenham and then home to my little pug who has no doubt been spoilt rotten.

Before I go, I would just like to add my thanks to the Shire admin staff who managed to decipher my scribbles that made up this report as I have no computer here. Thank goodness for camera phones to message my handwritten notes. Rest assured next month I will be home and my report back to normal but for now, Adiós from Mallorca.

Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 27 July 2023 at the Jurien Bay Council Chambers, commencing at 4.00pm. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

OUR NEWEST AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN



Peter Scharf and Michael Lawson

Michael Lawson is our newest Australian Citizen in the Shire of Dandaragan. His Citizenship Ceremony was held in Badgingarra on May 25 2023. The Ceremony was officiated by Shire Deputy President, Peter Scharf, in the presence of Councillors, Staff and Michael's guests. Congratulations Michael.

CHANGES TO INTER LIBRARY LOANS



From the 1st of July 2023, material requested by library users not currently in an individual library's collection will be supplied in electronic format (e.g:E-books) in the first instance.

Printed copies can be purchased on demand when an electronic version is unavailable or cannot meet user needs.

Inter-library loans will still be available when requested materials cannot be supplied in either of these ways.

ENGAGE DANDARAGAN & ENVISION 2033




Idea Wall




NEW

Do you have a little or big idea?
Write your little or big idea in the comment box and click the submit button, below. You can show your support for other community members' ideas by leaving a comment or clicking the heart icon on their post.

NEW

Submit Your Idea

Public use of paved area beside Jetty cafe rather than it becoming a truck park

Posted by : Paul
13 days ago
 0  0

Provide a raised metal walkway from the ablution block on Hastings st to the beach. Use cut foliage/brush to cover bare spots like they do in Gr/head

Posted by : Pat
20 days ago
 0  0

Through Engage Dandaragan, you are invited to participate in a range of Shire projects and initiatives. Your feedback will help shape your community and the provision of programs, projects and facilities. Through this online engagement portal you can:

- Review projects currently open for feedback. Simply click the project tile. To participate and receive project updates you are encouraged to register.
- Stay informed about projects and initiatives happening across the Shire of Dandaragan.

Head to the website www.engage.dandaragan.wa.gov.au to have your say.



Envision 2033
Shire Of Dandaragan

Envision 2033


Did you know that you can join the conversation for Envision 2033 on our online forum by having your say or idea?

This is your opportunity to have your say or share your idea with council and the wider community.

We want to know what you would like to see change or stay the same, and the ideas you have for continuing the development of our region as an amazing place to live and visit.


Join the Conversation

Have your say


Engagement
Published On
Thu, 20 Apr 2023

What would you like us to do over the next 10 years to improve the Shire of Dandaragan?
Think about where you would like us to focus our efforts to create your ideal Shire of Dandaragan. Let us know by leaving a comment on the discussion board.



View All Comments Add your comment


Pat
Commented on:
Mon, 29 May 2023




Provide a raised metal walkway from the ablution block on Hastings street to the beach

Use cut foliage / brush to cover bare spots like they do in Greenhead on the dunes

Fix the harbour by adding drainage pipes in the sea walls, so that the stale water flushes

 0  0

Add your comment

B I U    **Size** -

Submit

The Smoke Column

Bush Fire Mitigation

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, the Shire, and the local fire brigades, have been busy carrying out mitigation work to reduce the risk of bush fires and their impacts in the summer months.

This work has included several planned burns, fire break maintenance and enhancement of asset protection zones around infrastructure and assets in the community. Due to weather and other restrictive elements, several planned burns for the current season may be held off until after the winter months unless a suitable window becomes available in the meantime. If you have received notice that a burn may be taking place near you, please be patient as it will still be completed when the opportunity presents.



This Year's Stats
36 Bush fires
7100 Hectares burnt during bushfires.
2 Header fires
15+ Lightning fires
25% Busier than the five-year average
17 Planned burns around the Shire
Estimated 7800ha burnt during planned burns.

Flue Season!

We all love to come home from work in the winter months and bask in the comfort and warmth of the fire place.

Unfortunately, our local fire crews miss out on some of that time by the fire during winter, as chimney and flue fires present opportunities for problems both minor and devastating.

Built up soot gathers around the inside of your chimney, causing your fire place to choke and run poorly. Once enough is built up in the chimney it presents an opportunity to catch on fire, which may spread into your ceiling and be devastating.

Be sure to have your flue cleaned annually before winter to reduce the risk of a flue fire. If you're not sure how to clean your chimney, most home maintenance companies would be happy to get it sorted for you; otherwise, Dr Google has plenty of DIY remedies to help you out.



RATES TIME IS COMING

Attention Senior & Pension Card Holders

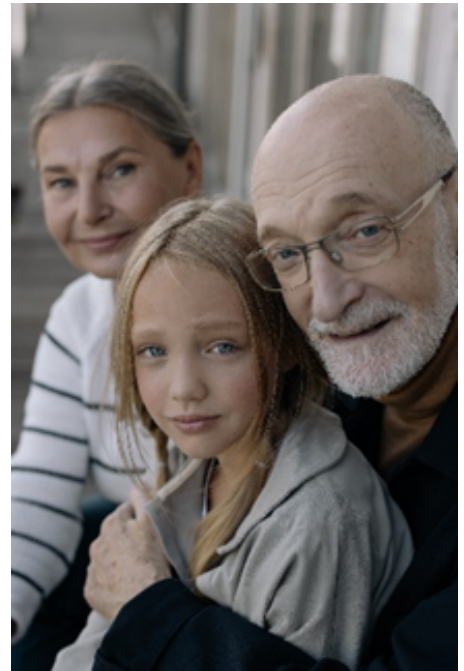
Do you own your own property?
Do you occupy the property as your ordinary place of residence?
Are you the holder of one or both of the following cards?

- Pension Concession Card; **or**
- State Concession Card; **or**
- Commonwealth Seniors Health Card **together with a**
WA Seniors Card; **or**
- WA Seniors Card

If you answered yes to all the above, you may be entitled to receive a rebate on your rates.

You must register your entitlement with the Water Corporation. Concessions only apply once your application is received and registered.

Apply online through the Water Corporation at www.watercorporation.com.au and click on 'Apply for Concession' or phone 1300 659 951.



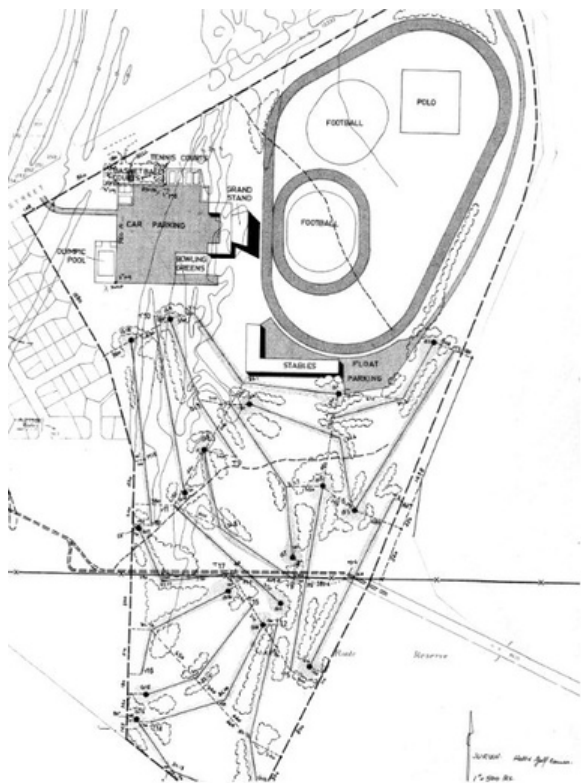
To receive your rates notice electronically you must register by 21 July 2023 through our website to receive your 2023/24 notice electronically.

Please visit our website to register:
www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au

Please ensure you have your reference number handy. This can be found on the top right of a previous rate notice and is a 7-digit number starting with a 9.

Once you register, a verification email will be sent as a part of the registration process. It is essential that you activate your registration by clicking the link in the email.

If you own more than one property, you will need to register separately for each property. Please note that interim rate notices, final notices and other correspondence will be issued by post.



Original photo plan from 11 February 1971

Jurien Bay Sport and Recreation Precinct Working Group – Nominations now open

The Shire of Dandaragan would like to call for expressions of interest for nominations to the Jurien Bay Sport and Recreation Precinct Working Group.

Due to the project's high level of local impact on the community, the aim of the Working Group will be to ensure that development of the Jurien Bay Sport and Recreation Centre Precinct is representative of the community's values.

If you are interested in being part of guiding the Jurien Bay Sport and Recreation Precinct Plan, please complete the Working Group Nomination Form, included in the Shire Matters Newsletter, and return to the Shire Administration Centre or via email to council@dandaragan.wa.gov.au by 4pm 30 July 2023.

www.engage.dandaragan.wa.gov.au/jsrc-working-groups

CBD DESIGN PLAN AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

In 2021 the Shire advertised a Draft Urban Design Plan for the continual redevelopment of the public realm within the Jurien Bay CBD.

A number of submissions were received on the Draft Plan at this time, and these have informed the revision of the Plan as now represented for comment.

The revision of Plan has also been heavily influenced by the development approvals issued in 2022 for the redevelopment of the Jurien Bay Tourist Park and for a four-storey motel on the corner of Roberts and Sandpiper Streets, respectively.

Both these approved developments result in significant changes to the road verges of Roberts and Sandpiper Streets as shown in the revised plan.

Other notable changes from the Draft Plan include:

- The removal of any physical building alterations on private land which is not under the care and control of the Shire;
 - Identified parking layout changes throughout the CBD, including summary of current and future parking bay numbers;
 - Inclusion of the previously designed realignment of Bashford Street as a local main street for if and when an Indian Ocean Drive bypass is constructed;
 - Preservation of Roberts Street as vehicle thoroughfare, with the long-term access to be one-way between Bashford Street and Sandpiper Street in the direction of the foreshore; and
 - Inclusion of an indicative public amenities within Pioneer Park.
- An electronic copy of the revised Plan is available for download on the Shire's website, or a hardcopy version is available from the Jurien Bay Administration Centre.

Comments on the revised Plan are invited until close of business Friday 4th August 2023.

Should you require any clarification or would like to meet to discuss the revised Plan further, please contact the Shire's Principal Planning and Building Officer, Rory Mackay on 9652 0800 or rorym@dandaragan.wa.gov.au



What's on at the library?



Better Beginnings Rhymetime at Jurien Bay Library

Enjoy Rhymetime from 9.00am at the Jurien Bay Library. Every Wednesday during school term. To reserve your spot contact the Jurien Bay Library on 9652 0810 or email jblibrary@dandaragan.wa.gov.au.

STEAM at Jurien Bay Library

Enjoy STEAM at Jurien Bay Library from 9.30am on 6 & 27 July to learn about science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. To reserve your spot contact the Jurien Bay Library on 9652 0810 or email jblibrary@dandaragan.wa.gov.au.



CROP SWAP

Wednesdays 10am - 12pm
Jurien Bay Library



A great place to share garden tips, info & ideas. Bring a cuppa and have a chat with like-minded people

Swap homegrown veggies, fruit, herbs, flowers, plants, seedlings & seeds

A free community initiative for all ages and abilities

Libraries - More than just books



BINGO

Friday 7 July 10am - 12pm
Jurien Bay Library



Free Event, for all ages and abilities. Bookings essential

Bring a plate to share for morning tea and come and have some fun

Please contact the Jurien Bay Library on 9652 0810 or email jblibrary@dandaragan.wa.gov.au for more information or to register

Libraries - More than just books



CERVANTES
2 Aragon St
9652 7647
cervanteslibrary@dandaragan.wa.gov.au

JURIEN BAY
67 Bashford St
9652 0810
jblibrary@dandaragan.wa.gov.au

BADGINGARRA
Cnr of North West Rd & Meagher Dr
9652 9233
badgingarralibrary@dandaragan.wa.gov.au

DANDARAGAN
3468 Dandaragan Rd
9651 4071
dandaraganlibrary@dandaragan.wa.gov.au

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES



**Announcing Shire of Dandaragan
NEW Economic Development Grant**

\$5k - \$30k grant opportunity
Applicant cash co-contribution required
Supporting investment in small business, tourism, aquaculture,
renewable energy, and value adding to primary production.
Applications Open 3 July - Close 31 August 2023
Contact Trish Slee for information and an application package
edm@dandaragan.wa.gov.au or 9652 0800

Calling for Expressions of Interest from Local Businesses: Retailers, Contractors, and Service Providers

If you have a business located within the Shire of Dandaragan and have the capacity to service large development projects, please register your business profile with me.

Details of your business will be outlined in a document we will share with companies proposing new industry development projects in the Shire. This may include renewable energies, agriculture / horticulture / aquaculture intensive production or processing, construction, mining, and resource projects.

Where realistic, we want to promote opportunities for major projects to engage local businesses, rather than suppliers outside of the Shire of Dandaragan. To register your business or to seek more information please email edm@dandaragan.wa.gov.au or phone Trish Slee on 9652 0800

Small Business Development Corporation

From the moment you decide to go it alone and start your own business, you'll never stop learning. You can access an online library of business development resources and register for a range of business skill development workshops via the website www.smallbusiness.wa.gov.au for low, or no cost.

Current Grant Opportunities

<u>Grant Name</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Focus</u>	<u>Min / Max Grant</u>	<u>Closes</u>
Value Add Investment Grant - Feasibility Stream	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	Business and Industry	\$30,000 - \$100,000	1 July
Lotterywest Grants	Lotterywest	Community Development	\$15,000 to \$3,000,000	Ongoing
Economic Development Grant	Shire of Dandaragan	Economic Development	\$5,000 to \$30,000	31 July
Growing Regions Program Round 1	Department of Industry Science and Resources	Economic Development / Community Infrastructure	\$500,000 to \$15,000,000	1 August
Regional Arts Foundation Project Fund WA	Regional Arts WA	Arts and Culture	Up to \$30,000	18 August
Contemporary Music Touring Program	Australia Council	Arts and Culture	\$5,000 to \$50,000	5 September
Financial Support to Hire an Apprentice	The Australian Apprenticeships Incentive System (Incentives System)	Business and Industry	Variable	Ongoing
Funding for Major Events that Promote Tourism in WA	Tourism WA	Tourism / Economic Development	Variable	12 months prior to proposed event

www.business.gov.au - Employment Contract Tools

Is your business employing staff? The Australian Government has developed two free resources to help you get it right.

Developed with the ATO, Fair Work Commission, Fair Work Ombudsman and Attorney-General's Department, they're designed to provide clarity on the employment process, and confidently meet Australian laws.

- The Hiring Employees checklist helps you understand the process of hiring, and the laws of employment.
- The Employment Contract tool helps you build a compliant contract, tailored to the needs of your business, in just 10 minutes.



(please indicate any interest groups or special contribution or perspective you would bring to the working group, eg, youth; access and inclusion; environmental, etc.)