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For immediate release

## **Regional housing and infrastructure at the forefront of the Shire's advocacy efforts**

The Shire of Broome has been actively engaging with key decision-makers over the past few months to address critical challenges in Broome. In the lead-up to the state and federal elections, the Shire has met with multiple government representatives to push for action on housing shortages, rental affordability, and regional infrastructure needs.

In recent discussions with senators from multiple parties, the Shire emphasised the need for housing solutions, raising concerns over state housing, urban renewal, and affordability challenges.

Meetings with Federal Ministers, the Hon Madeleine King and Hon Kristy McBain reinforced the need for stronger partnerships to advance key housing projects, while further discussions focused on progressing priority infrastructure projects.

The Shire also joined Regional Capitals Australia, standing alongside other prominent regional local governments to advocate for shared priorities on a national level. As part of this collaboration, the delegation met with key federal representatives, including ministers and shadow ministers, to discuss critical regional issues such as water security, social housing challenges, and priority housing projects. T

In partnership with Regional Capitals Australia, the Shire engaged directly with key federal leaders, including:

- Hon. Matt Thistlethwaite (Assistant Minister for Immigration)
- Hon. Dan Tehan (Shadow Minister for Immigration and Citizenship)
- Hon. Catherine King (Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, and Regional Development)
- The Office of the Minister for Housing and Homelessness
- The Office of the Minister for the Arts

These discussions reinforced the need for stronger federal and state collaboration on social housing, infrastructure, and regional priorities for the Kimberley.

Shire of Broome President stated, "Housing is a fundamental issue impacting our community's liveability, workforce retention, and economic growth. Without significant investment and reform, regional WA will continue to face mounting challenges in housing affordability and supply."

"Advocacy is key to securing long-term housing solutions. We are committed to ensuring regional housing challenges remain a priority at all levels of government."

The Shire will continue its advocacy efforts leading up to the 2025 Federal Election, working to secure critical investment in housing and infrastructure for the Kimberley region.

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