

Shire of Broome
PO Box 44, Broome WA 6725
Phone: 08 9191 3456
Fax: 08 9191 3455

MEDIA RELEASE



10 February 2020

For immediate release

Winning Shire of Broome contracts made easier

In an effort to increase opportunities and bolster the local economy, the Shire of Broome has launched a new platform to make it easier for the region's businesses to win local government contracts.

VendorPanel Marketplace, which is free for suppliers to use, invites local companies to submit quotes and tenders once work becomes available.

Once registered, they can receive invitations to quote on work across dozens of categories, from large building projects, to catering, to waste management.

The platform manages all communication between buyers and suppliers, reducing admin, saving time and ensuring good procurement practice is followed.

The economic benefits in other regional areas using Marketplace have been remarkable.

An audited case study of 26 councils using the platform found that in 84.4 per cent of cases, jobs were awarded to local suppliers. The study also found that local suppliers were competitive, delivering 9.74 per cent savings to the buyer on average.

VendorPanel chief executive James Leathem said the new Shire of Broome process would help local companies.

"Local government and large businesses want to work with local suppliers where they can," he said.

"In fact, locals are often better placed to meet buyers' needs than larger, distant competitors.

"VendorPanel Marketplace makes it easy for large organisations to find local suppliers and get better procurement outcomes, and it helps SMEs in the region to get access to these opportunities."

Shire of Broome chief executive Sam Mastrolembo said the new system would benefit small businesses across the Kimberley.

"I was extremely happy when the council backed the Small Business Friendly Local Government initiative in November 2018, which reiterates our focus on helping Broome companies win Shire contracts," he said.

"The VendorPanel Marketplace platform is designed to create a level playing field and I encourage all relevant local small businesses to register."

Businesses can register at www.broome.wa.gov.au/About-Council/Tenders-Quotes.

The Shire of Broome, in partnership with Kimberley Small Business Support, will be holding 'Tendering for Shire Contracts' workshops on March 5 and 6.

There are a range of times available but interested parties must register with the Shire procurement team on 9191 3467 or by e-mailing procurement@broome.wa.gov.au. Places are limited.

ENDS

MEDIA CONTACT:

Gareth McKnight, Marketing and Communications Coordinator, 08 9191 3483, 0408 599 134