

# Industry park closer to reality

DEVELOPMENT of the Shotts Industrial Park is a step closer.

At Tuesday night's Collie Shire Council meeting it was agreed to consider Landcorp's request to advertise an amendment to Local Planning Scheme 5.

Councillors also agreed to advertise a structure plan to aid development of the Shotts Industrial Park.

The Shotts Industrial Park will provide development of coal-related industries and associated uses which should be separate from residential and other sensitive areas, according to council documents.

It will also provide sustainable, efficient and environmentally responsible industrial development, provide community certainty to the long term development of the Coal Basin and to establish clear guidelines and provisions for the industrial park's ongoing monitoring.

In the late 1990s the South West Development Commission identified the Shotts area as suitable for a coal-related industrial estate.

A working group was established to investigate, with representatives from the Shire of Collie, Wesfarmers Premier Coal, Environment and Conservation Department and Landcorp.

Technical investigations started in 2003 and are continuing.

In May 2008 the former State Government committed to building an industrial park.

In March this year Premier Colin Barnett and Regional Development and Lands Minister Brendon Grylls announced development of about 250 hectares for the industrial park at the

Shotts site. The park would be developed by Landcorp.

Under Local Planning Scheme 5, the land is a combination of crown and freehold land zoned state forest, public purposes, local reserve and rural two zone.

Industry is prohibited in rural two zone and is not usually acceptable on reserves or in State Forest land.

The land needed to be rezoned for the industrial park to be built.

Under recommendations passed at the council meeting, 13 lots of land will be rezoned to special use zone number 11 - Shotts Industrial Park.

Also, 14 lots will be made special use zones and 11 lots will be made structure plan areas.

The draft Local Planning Scheme will be referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for assessment.

If the EPA advises the amendment does not need assessment, it will be advertised for 42 days.

The Shire president and Collie Shire chief executive officer Jason Whiteaker will then be authorised to execute the amendment documents.

The amendment and proposed structure plan will be forwarded to the West Australian Planning Commission for information.

Mr Whiteaker will then determine whether the Local Water Management Strategy is suitable for advertising as part of the proposed structure plan.

Once passed, the structure plan will be advertised for 21 days.

— MICHELLE STRIKE