



# Media release

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**Authorised by: DENNIS WELLINGTON, MAYOR**

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## **Big crowds expected for Anzac Albany**

The City of Albany has welcomed figures released by Tourism WA today which confirm there is very strong interest in the November Anzac Centenary event program.

Albany Mayor Dennis Wellington said the data was pleasing and thanked Tourism WA for its valuable support.

“These figures clearly show there is significant interest in the Anzac Albany event program,” he said.

“However, as Tourism WA has noted, actual visitor numbers may be constrained by the accommodation available, which is booking out fast.”

Mr Wellington said the information showed the City of Albany would likely be at or near capacity in terms of accommodation, infrastructure and the general amenity of Albany.

“It is always difficult to quantify the maximum capacity for a regional centre such as Albany,” Mr Wellington said.

“However, the City estimates the maximum number of people we can handle during the course of the whole weekend – including visitors and locals – whilst still delivering a great experience could be up to 65,000.

“But we want the people who do visit to have a pleasant experience and not be overcrowded.”

As part of a sponsorship agreement which is yet to be finalised, one limited temporary accommodation area may be set up at Centennial Oval.

At this stage the City is not intending to activate any overflow accommodation beyond this arrangement. Details are expected to be finalised and made public soon.

Mr Wellington said there was still accommodation available in surrounding areas such as Denmark and Mt Barker and encouraged potential visitors to secure accommodation soon.

“I would also encourage all commercial operators to make sure they take deposits to secure their bookings,” he said.

“And as always, anyone with a spare room is encouraged to invite friends and family to stay.”

Mr Wellington strongly encouraged any potential visitors who miss out on accommodation this time to come back to Albany at other times, such as Anzac Day 2015.

“Our many attractions – such as the much-anticipated National Anzac Centre – will still be here waiting,” he said.

**END**