MEMBERSHIP

Mayor Phill Stone

Cr Peter Borda	Cr Kathryn Campbell
Cr Mark Inglis	Cr Peter Klobucar
Cr David Knox	Cr Tamy Pond
Cr Bill Simpson	Cr Zia Westerman

NOTICE OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

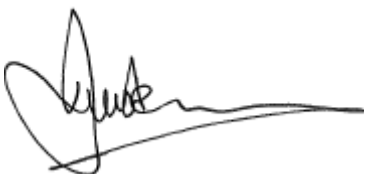
TO YOUR WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 83 of the Local Government Act that the next **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING** will be held in the Council Chamber, Civic on Grundel, 21 Grundel Street, Whyalla Norrie on **MONDAY 20 JULY 2026** commencing at 5.45 pm.

The Ordinary Council Meeting is open to the public and we encourage you to attend in person. If you're unable to attend the meeting in person, you can join electronically via Microsoft Teams
Click here to join the meeting

When attending the meeting via Microsoft Teams, participants' are agreeing to *Microsoft's Terms and Conditions* – follow this link Microsoft Privacy Statement – Microsoft privacy to view *Microsoft's Privacy Statement*.

A copy of the Agenda for the above meeting is supplied as required.



JUSTIN COMMONS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dated: 16 July 2026

AGENDA

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY 20 JULY 2026

1. WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Video presentation

2. OATH TO WHYALLA

We, the Whyalla Council Members, commit to serving the community of which we are a part and will work together diligently and collaboratively to create a prosperous future in which we all can share.

3. OBITUARY NOTICES

4. ATTENDANCE RECORD

4.1 Apologies – Cr P Klobucar
4.2 Leave of Absence – Nil

5. COUNCIL MEMBER / EXECUTIVE DECLARATIONS

5.1 Conflicts of Interest
5.2 Gifts and Benefits

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 15 June 2026 *Page 5*

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 15 June 2026, as per copies supplied to Members, be adopted as a true and correct record to that meeting.

6.2 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Monday 29 June 2026 *Page 16*

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Monday 29 June 2026, as per copies supplied to Members, be adopted as a true and correct record to that meeting.

7. MATTERS ADJOURNED / LAID ON THE TABLE – Nil

8. DEPUTATIONS – Nil

9. PETITIONS – Nil

10. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Public Question Time Protocol

The Mayor will read submitted Questions (on the Public Question Time Template) at the time of the meeting and will give an officer's response at the time of the meeting. (A written response will be given if an officer's response is not available.)

11. COUNCIL MEMBER ACTIVITIES

12. PRESENTATIONS – Nil

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

13.1 Mount Laura Homestead Advisory Group Meeting – 7 April 2026 *Page 26*

Recommendation

That the Notes of the Mount Laura Homestead Advisory Group Meeting held on Tuesday 7 April 2026, as per copies supplied to Members, be received and noted.

14. REPORTS – COUNCIL OFFICERS

14.1 Office of the Chief Executive – Ordinary Reports

14.1.1 Chief Executive Officer's Action Report – July 2026 *Page 33*
14.1.2 Updated Community Engagement Policy *Page 54*

14.2 Corporate Services – Ordinary Reports

14.2.1 Monthly Budget Report – June 2026 *Page 69*
14.2.2 Close Loan Facility *Page 82*
14.2.3 Review of Finance Policies *Page 87*
14.2.4 Certification of the 2025/26 Financial Statement *Page 114*

14.3 City Growth – Ordinary Reports

14.3.1 Substitution of Members on the Building Fire Safety Committee under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 *Page 117*
14.3.2 Granting of Easement over Crown Record 6073/446 for Electrical Connection *Page 123*

14.4 City Infrastructure – Ordinary Reports

14.4.1 Kerbside Waste Collection and Disposal Services Contract Extension *Page 130*

15. INFORMATION / DECISION REPORTS

15.1 Council Members

15.1.1 Mayor P Stone – List of Engagements *Page 138*

15.2 Corporate Services / City Growth / City Infrastructure

15.2.1 Monthly Information Report – July 2026 *Page 143*

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – Nil

17. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – Nil

18. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE *Page 184*

19. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE *Page 184*

20. CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

20.1.1 Agreement to Lease Lot 3 Lincoln Highway – Revised Terms – Confidential

21. CLOSE

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

- 3 August 2026 – Council Members Briefing Session
- 5 August 2026 – CEO Review Panel Meeting No. 2
- 12 August 2026 – CEO Review Panel Meeting No. 3
- 17 August 2026 – Ordinary Council Meeting
- 28 August 2026 – Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- 7 September 2026 – Council Members Briefing Session
- 21 September 2026 – Ordinary Council Meeting
- 6 October 2026 – Council Members Briefing Session
- 9 October 2026 – Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- 19 October 2026 – Ordinary Council Meeting

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHYALLA

HELD ON MONDAY 15 JUNE 2026 AT 5.45 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

PRESENT: Mayor P Stone, Deputy Mayor T Pond, Councillors P Borda, P Klobucar, D Knox, B Simpson, Z Westerman

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Officer *(Mr J Commons)*
General Manager Corporate Services *(Ms S King)*
General Manager Infrastructure *(Mr P Day)*
General Manager City Growth *(Mrs J Perone)*
Manager Finance and Knowledge Management *(Mr G Jennings)*
Manager Media and Communications *(Mr S Kelly)*
Manager Capital Works Delivery *(Mr L Jones)*
Manager People and Culture *(Mrs E Papoulis)*
Manager City Development *(Mr L Trevisan)*
Work Health Safety and Risk Advisor *(Miss V Kingi)*
Executive Co-ordinator – CEO and Mayor *(Mrs M Armstrong)*

1. Acknowledgement to Country

2. Oath to Whyalla

We, the Whyalla Council Members, commit to serving the community of which we are a part and will work together diligently and collaboratively to create a prosperous future in which we all can share.

3. Obituary Notices

Pete	MOUSLEY
Maxine	HOWELL
Drago	IVANUSEC
Margaret	SIVIOUR
Cactus	MARTENS
Rita	JONES
Mary	LAVENDER
Dot	METCALF
John	ANGUS
Olga	TESANOVIC
Roma	HANCOCK
Vera	VAN DER TUUK
Brian	SMITH

4. Attendance Record

Apologies – Crs K Campbell, M Inglis
Leave of Absence – Nil

5. Council Member / Executive Declarations

5.1 Conflicts of Interest – Nil
5.2 Gifts and Benefits – Nil

6. Minutes of Previous Meetings

6.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 18 May 2026

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Deputy Mayor Pond

C6107-2026

That the Minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 18 May 2026, as per copies supplied to Members, be adopted as a true and correct record to that meeting.

Carried

6.2 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Monday 1 June 2026

Moved Cr Borda, seconded Cr Knox

C6108-2026

That the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Monday 1 June 2026, as per copies supplied to Members, be adopted as a true and correct record to that meeting.

Carried

20. Consideration of Confidential Items

20.2 Office of the Chief Executive

20.2.1 *Korda Mentha, OneSteel Manufacturing Pty Ltd – Confidential*
Mr S Hams; Partner – Restructuring

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Borda

C6109-2026

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(d) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council orders that the public be excluded from the meeting with the exception of Justin Commons; Chief Executive Officer, Jodie Perone; General Manager City Growth, Sue King; General Manager Corporate Services, Paul Day; General Manager Infrastructure, Grant Jennings; Manager Finance and Knowledge Management, Sean Kelly; Manager Media and Communications, Les Jones; Manager Capital Works and Delivery, Ellisha Papoulis; Manager People and Culture, Lucas Trevisan; Manager City Development and Michelle Armstrong; Executive Co-ordinator – CEO and Mayor for Agenda Item 20.2.1 – Korda Mentha, OneSteel Manufacturing Pty Ltd – Briefing.

Council considers that the requirement for the meeting to be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in circumstances where the Council will receive commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which:

(i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and

(ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

Carried

Moved Cr Borda, seconded Cr Klobucar

C6110-2026

Council:

1. notes the confidential briefing provided by Korda Mentha; and
2. having considered Agenda Item 20.2.1 – Korda Mentha, OneSteel Manufacturing Pty Ltd – Briefing in confidence, under Sections 90(2) and (3)(d) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council pursuant to Section 91(7) of the Act, orders that the confidential briefing pertaining to this item, be kept confidential and not available for public inspection until June 2031 on the basis that it contains commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret), notwithstanding that it will be reviewed annually in February of each year.

Carried

Moved Cr Borda, seconded Cr Klobucar

C6111-2026

Council returns to Ordinary Meeting procedures.

Carried

7. Matters Adjourned / Laid on the Table – Nil

8. Deputations – Nil

9. Petitions – Nil

10. Public Question Time – Nil

11. Council Members Activities

11.1 Cr Z Westerman

Cr Westerman advised of her attendance at the following:

- 18 May 2026 – Ordinary Council Meeting
- 19 May 2026 – National Volunteer Week – Morning Tea
- 21 May 2026 – Biggest Morning Tea event
- 25 May 2026 – Sharon Todd – Celebration of Life
- 26 May 2026 – 'So you want to become a Councillor?'
- 1 June 2026 – Special Council Meeting
- 1 June 2026 – Council Members Briefing Session
- 4 June 2026 – Webinar: Disability Inclusion Series No. 4: Participation, Community Life and the Built Environment
- 4 June 2026 – Council Members Confidential Briefing Session
- 6 June 2026 – Salty Sea'esta
- 12 June 2026 – Whyalla Disability Inclusive Reference Group Meeting

11.2 Deputy Mayor T Pond

Deputy Mayor Pond advised of her attendance at the following:

- 18 May 2026 – Ordinary Council Meeting
- 19 May 2026 – National Volunteer Week – Morning Tea
- 20 May 2026 – Advertiser interview
- 20 May 2026 – Reconciliation Morning Tea at Gabmididi Manoo
- 20 May 2026 – Rates public consultation
- 20 May 2026 – Whyalla News
- 21 May 2026 – Biggest Morning Tea event
- 22 May 2025 – Resident, re Recreation Centre
- 25 May 2026 – Sharon Todd – Celebration of Life
- 25 May 2026 – Council Members Briefing Session
- 26 May 2026 – 'So you want to become a Councillor?'

- 28 May 2026 – Resident, re Special School site
- 28 May 2026 – Whyalla Career Road Show
- 28 May 2026 – Reconciliation at Fisk Street
- 28 May 2026 – Resident, re Seven Sisters Site
- 28 May 2026 – Networking Event
- 29 May 2026 – Resident, re Seven Sisters Site
- 1 June 2026 – Reconciliation Breakfast at Whyalla Hospital
- 1 June 2026 – Community Hub visit
- 1 June 2026 – Resident, re Pageant on Main Street
- 1 June 2026 - Resident, re Seven Sisters Site
- 3 June 2026 – Housing Trust visit
- 3 June 2026 – Nunga Screen – Reconciliation
- 3 June 2026 – Resident, re Main Street speed humps
- 3 June 2026 – Resident, re Seven Sisters Site
- 3 June 2026 – Hincks Avenue Reconciliation Fete
- 4 June 2026 – Agencies Meeting
- 4 June 2026 – Resident, re Seven Sisters Site
- 4 June 2026 – Resident, re Change Date for Pageant
- 6 June 2026 – Fundraiser for Hydrogen car trip
- 7 June 2026 – Resident, re jetty missing a pole
- 9 June 2026 – Alligator Energy Site Visit
- 9 June 2026 - Alligator Energy Dinner
- 9 June 2026 – Resident, re Seven Sisters Site
- 12 June 2026 – Meeting with Eddie Hughes; Member for Giles, re potential buyer of Whyalla Steelworks *(on behalf of Mayor Stone)*

12. Presentations – Nil

13. Committee Reports – Nil

14. Reports – Council Officers

14.1 Office of the Chief Executive Officer – Ordinary Reports

14.1.1 Chief Executive Officer's Action Report – June 2026

Moved Cr Borda, seconded Cr Knox

C6112-2026

Council notes the Chief Executive Officer's Action Report – June 2026.

Carried

14.2 Corporate Services – Ordinary Reports

14.2.1 Monthly Budget Report – May 2026

Moved Cr Simpson, seconded Cr Borda

C6113-2026

Council notes the Monthly Budget Report – May 2026.

Carried

14.2.2 2026/27 Annual Business Plan and Budget Adoption

Moved Cr Simpson, seconded Deputy Mayor Pond

C6114-2025

Council suspends formal meeting procedures to discuss Agenda Item 14.2.2 *"2026/27 Annual Business Plan and Budget Adoption"*.

Carried

Formal meeting procedures were suspended at 6.13 pm

Moved Cr Simpson, seconded Deputy Mayor Pond

C6115-2025

Council returns to formal meeting procedures.

Carried

Returned to formal meeting procedures at 6.25 pm

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

C6116-2026

That the rate increase be set at 5.3% and in doing so, Administration come back to Council with a modified expenditure budget to off-set this reduced income, without increasing the deficit.

Carried

14.2.3 Complaints Handling Procedure

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Deputy Mayor Pond

C6117-2026

Council notes and, subject to any feedback received, adopts the updated Complaints Handling Policy and Procedure, as outlined within this report

Carried

14.3 City Growth – Ordinary Reports

14.3.1 Community Grant

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Deputy Mayor Pond

C6118-2026

Council approves the application for Community Grant funding, as listed below:

Group	Project	Amount
Sunrise Whyalla	Hydrogen Car Projects	$5,000
	Total:	$5,000

Carried

14.3.2 Changes to Memorial Policy

Moved Cr Borda, seconded Cr Klobucar

C6119-2026

Council endorses the proposed changes to the Memorials Policy, Version 2.

Carried

14.4 City Infrastructure – Ordinary Reports

14.4.1 Whyalla Road Safety Centre – Lease Agreement

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

C6120-2026

Council:

1. endorses the granting of a Lease to the Whyalla Road Safety Centre over Allotment 101 (6 Plum Street), Deposited Plan 116773 comprised in Crown Record Volume 6223 Folio 237 for a period of five (5) years commencing on 1 August 2026 and ending on 31 July 2031 with a further five (5) year extension, subject to the outcomes of public consultation being undertaken as per Council's Public Consultation Policy; and
2. notes that, subject to the outcomes of public consultation, and in the absence of any substantial submissions, Administration is authorised to finalise and execute the lease agreement under delegated authority. Should substantial submissions be received, the matter will be referred back to Council for further consideration.

Carried

15. Information / Decision Reports

15.1 Council Members

15.1.1 Mayor P Stone – List of Engagements

Moved Deputy Mayor Pond, seconded Cr Simpson

C6121-2026

Council receives and notes the Mayor P Stone – List of Engagements report.

Carried

15.2 Corporate Services / City Growth / City Infrastructure

15.2.1 Monthly Information Report – June 2026

Moved Cr Borda, seconded Cr Knox

C6122-2026

Council notes:

1. the calendar of information reporting over the course of 12 months;
2. indicative schedule of upcoming items to be considered at future Council Meetings;
3. staffing update; and
4. June 2026 activity reports for the following services:

    - Customer Experience
    - Community and Library Services
    - RAP
    - Community Engagement/Media and Communications

Carried

16. Notices of Motion – Nil

17. Questions on Notice – Nil

18. Questions without Notice – Nil

19. Motions without Notice – Nil

20. Consideration of Confidential Items

20.1 City Growth

20.1.1 Property Modifications – Youth Foyer – Confidential

Moved Cr Klobucar, seconded Cr Knox

C6123-2026

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council orders that the public be excluded from the meeting with the exception of Justin Commons; Chief Executive Officer, Jodie Perone; General Manager City Growth, Sue King; General Manager Corporate Services, Paul Day; General Manager Infrastructure, Grant Jennings; Manager Finance and Knowledge Management, Sean Kelly; Manager Media and Communications, Les Jones; Manager Capital Works and Delivery, Ellisha Papoulis; Manager People and Culture, Lucas Trevisan; Manager City Development and Michelle Armstrong; Executive Co-ordinator – CEO and Mayor for Agenda Item 20.1.1 – Property Modifications – Youth Foyer.

The Council considers that the requirement for the meeting to be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in circumstances where the Council will receive and consider a report containing information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is proposing to conduct business or to prejudice the commercial position of the Council and would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

Carried

Moved Cr Borda, seconded Cr Klobucar

C6124-2026

Council endorses:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6. having considered Agenda Item 20.1.1 – Property Modifications – Youth Foyer in confidence under Section 90(2) and (3)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council pursuant to Section 91(7) of the Act orders that this Report and the Minutes be kept confidential and not available for public inspection until June 2031, on the basis that it contains commercial information of a confidential nature, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, notwithstanding that it will be reviewed annually in February of each year.

Carried unanimously

20.2 Office of the Chief Executive

20.2.1 Korda Mentha, OneSteel Manufacturing Pty Ltd – Confidential – refer Page 3 of these Minutes

Moved Cr Borda, seconded Cr Klobucar

C6125-2026

Council returns to Ordinary Meeting procedures.

Carried

Close – *meeting concluded at 6.33 pm*

21. Date of Next Meetings

- 19 June 2026 – Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- 6 July 2026 – Council Members Briefing Session
- 20 July 2026 – Ordinary Council Meeting
- 3 August 2026 – Council Members Briefing Session
- 17 August 2026 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Confirmed: ……
Presiding Member – July 2026

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHYALLA

HELD ON MONDAY 29 JUNE 2026 AT 5.45 PM IN THE CIVIC RECEPTION ROOM

PRESENT: Mayor P Stone, Councillors M Inglis, P Klobucar, D Knox, B Simpson, Z Westerman

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Officer *(Mr J Commons)*
General Manager Corporate Services *(Ms S King)*
General Manager City Growth *(Mrs J Perone)*
General Manager Infrastructure *(Mr P Day)*
Manager Finance and Knowledge Management *(Mr G Jennings)*
Manager Capital Works Delivery *(Mr L Jones)*
Manager Media and Communications *(Mr S Kelly)*
Manager City Activation *(Ms G Rostig)*
Executive Co-ordinator – CEO and Mayor *(Mrs M Armstrong)*

1. Acknowledgement to Country

2. Attendance Record

Apologies – Deputy Mayor T Pond, Crs P Borda, K Campbell
Leave of Absence – Nil

3. Declaration of Members' Conflict of Interests

3.1 Conflicts of Interest – Nil
3.2 Gifts and Benefits – Nil

4. Reports – Council Officers

4.1 Corporate Services

4.1.1 2026/27 Annual Business Plan and Budget Adoption and Rate Declaration

Moved Cr Simpson, seconded Cr Klobucar

2026/27 Annual Business Plan Adoption

C6126-2026

Council, in exercise of the power contained in Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1999 and Regulation 6 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011, having considered all submissions in accordance with Section 123(6) of the Local Government Act 1999 and in respect of the financial year ending 30 June 2027, adopt the Annual Business Plan for the 2026/27 financial year as detailed and laid before the Council at this meeting, updated to reflect a 5.3% rate increase and to remove 1 additional full time employee, and which;

a) supports the achievement of the City of Whyalla's Strategic Direction;

b) maintains predictability and stability in rating increases, in line with the LTFP;

c) seeks to fully fund required renewal; and

d) is considered to be financial responsible, taking into account the current opportunities and challenges the city is facing.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

2026/27 Budget Adoption

C6127-2026

Council, in exercise of the power contained in Section 123(7) of the Local Government Act 1999 and Regulation 7 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011, having considered the Budget presented in Annexure D in conjunction with and determined it to be consistent with the Council's Annual Business Plan as amended, adopt the Budget for the 2026/27 financial year with an operating deficit of $1,314,000, as detailed and laid before the Council at this meeting.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Adoption of Valuations of Land for the Purpose of Rating

C6128-2026

Council, pursuant to Section 167(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1999, adopt the valuations as at 12 June 2026 of capital value made by the Valuer-General for rating purposes for the year ending 30 June 2027, which aggregate $3,774,328,200, of which $3,563,099,800 is the valuation of rateable land.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Declaration of General Rates

C6129-2026

Council, having taken into account the general principles of rating contained in Section 150 of the Local Government Act 1999 and the requirements of Section 153(2) of the Local Government Act 1999, and pursuant to Sections 153(1)(b) and 156(1)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, declares that:

The differential general rates shall vary according to the locality of the land in various zones defined in the Planning and Design Code, established pursuant to the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016, and according to the use of the land, pursuant to Regulation 14(1) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2013, and the rate applies as follows:

(a) LOCALITY AND USE AS DIFFERENTIATING FACTORS:

(i) In respect of all rateable land situated in the Rural Living, Rural Shack Settlement and Rural Settlement zones and so recorded in the assessment records of the Council, a differential general rate of 0.2171 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of the land, excluding any land categorised as Commercial-Shop, Commercial-Office, Commercial-Other, Industry-Light and Industry-Other, and for which the general differential rate is declared in paragraph (b) hereunder;

(ii) In respect of all rateable land situated in the Significant Industry zone, and so recorded in the assessment records of the Council, a differential general rate of 6.8311 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of the land, excluding any land categorised as Commercial-Other, Primary Production and Vacant Land, and for which the general differential rate is declared in paragraph (b) hereunder;

Carried

(iii) In respect of all rateable land situated in the Visitor Experience zone and so recorded in the assessment records of the Council, a differential general rate of 6.8311 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of the land, excluding any land categorised as Commercial-Other, Vacant Land and Other, and for which the general differential rate is declared in paragraph (b) hereunder;

(iv) In respect of all rateable land situated in the Strategic Employment zone and so recorded in the assessment records of the Council, a differential general rate of 6.8311 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of the land, excluding any land categorised as Commercial-Other, Industry-Light, Industry-Other and Vacant Land, and for which the general differential rate is declared in paragraph (b) hereunder;

(b) LAND USE AS A DIFFERENTIATING FACTOR in respect of all land not otherwise falling within paragraph (a) above, as follows:

(i) Residential – a differential general rate of 0.3101 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of such land;

(ii) Commercial-Shop – a differential general rate of 0.8838 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of such land;

(iii) Commercial-Office – a differential general rate of 0.8838 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of such land;

(iv) Commercial-Other – a differential general rate of 0.8838 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of such land;

(v) Industry-Light – a differential general rate of 1.1629 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of such land;

(vi) Industry-Other – a differential general rate of 1.1629 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of such land;

(vii) Primary Production – a differential general rate of 0.0310 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of such land;

(viii) Vacant Land – a differential general rate of 1.1629 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of such land;

(ix) Other – a differential general rate of 0.8838 cents in the dollar on the assessed capital value of such land.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Fixed Charge

C6130-2026

Council, pursuant to Section 152(1)(c)(ii) of the Local Government Act 1999, impose a fixed charge amount of $869.00, payable by way of General Rates, on rateable land within the area of the Council for the year ending 30 June 2027.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Rate Cap for Primary Residence

C6131-2026

Council, pursuant to Section 153(3) of the Local Government Act 1999, determine that for the year ending 30 June 2027, it will not fix a maximum increase in the General Rate to be charged on rateable land that constitutes the principal place of residence of a principal ratepayer because the Council is providing relief in the nature of a rate cap pursuant to Section 166(1)(l) of the Act.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Declaration of Separate Rates – Regional Landscape Levy

C6132-2026

Council, pursuant to Section 69 of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019, Section 154 of the Local Government Act 1999 and Regulation 12 of the Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020, declares for the year ending 30 June 2027 a separate rate based on a fixed charge and differentiated according to land use, on all rateable land within its area and within the area of the Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board for the purpose of the Regional Landscape Levy.

Residential	$96.78
Commercial	$145.17
Industrial	$145.17
Primary Producer	$193.55
Other/Vacant	$96.78

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Declaration of Service Charges

C6133-2026

Council, pursuant to Section 155(2) of the Local Government Act 1999, impose for the year ending 30 June 2027, an annual service charge of $440.00 on rateable land within its area for the provision of the service of collection, treatment and disposal of hard waste where such a service is provided.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Rating Policy

C6134-2026

Council adopt the Rating Policy dated June 2026.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Rate Rebates

C6135-2026

Council, pursuant to Section 44 of the Local Government Act 1999, delegate its power to the Chief Executive Officer or their nominee, to determine applications and to grant a discretionary rebate of rates in accordance with Section 166 of the Local Government Act 1999, which includes any rebates provided under section 166(l) consistent with any other resolution of Council.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Rate Cap

C6136-2026

Council, pursuant to and in accordance with Section 166(1)(l)(i) of the Local Government Act 1999, to provide relief against what would otherwise amount to a substantial change in rates payable by a ratepayer due to a redistribution of the rates burden within the community arising from a change to the basis or structure of the council's rates:

a) grant a rebate of General Rates automatically for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 to the principal ratepayer in respect of any land categorised as Residential, Primary Production or Coastal and Rural Living, where such a rebate was provided for the year ending 30 June 2026 and where the amount of increase in respect of that land between the amount of General Rates imposed for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 and the amount of General Rates payable for the financial year ending 30 June 2026, is greater than 17%; or

b) grant a rebate of General Rates automatically for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 to the principal ratepayer in respect of any land categorised as Commercial, Industrial, Vacant or Other, where such a rebate was provided for the year ending 30 June 2026 and where the amount of increase in respect of that land between the amount of General Rates imposed for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 and the amount of General Rates payable for the financial year ending 30 June 2026:

i. is greater than 35.3% and the property is used for community use, private use or to operate a small business; or

ii. is greater than 65.3%, with Council reserving the right to make the final judgment on the application of this rebate, based on available information.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Waste Management Remission of Service Charges

C6137-2026

Council has a discretion to partially or wholly remit service charges, and being of the opinion that it is desirable to do so for the year ending 30 June 2027 for the purpose of providing relief to pensioners, the following remission of $180.00 for annual service charges shall be given for the principal place of residence provided the:

a) applicant is a pensioner as at 4 September 2026 and has a current Aged, Carers or Disability Support Pensioner Concession Card (AGE, CAR, DSP); or Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Gold Card (TPI, EDA, WW);

b) applicant must own and occupy the land as his/her principal place of residence for which the refuse charge remission is provided on or before the 4 September 2026;

c) remission is applicable to the first garbage collection service only at the land – no remission is applicable to additional services;

d) if the applicant becomes ineligible for a refuse charge remission, he/she must advise Council immediately; and

e) if a refuse charge remission is approved, it will be included on the next quarter rate notice.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Payment of Rates

C6138-2026

Council, pursuant to Section 181(2) of the Local Government Act 1999, declares that all rates for the year ending 30 June 2027 are payable by quarterly instalment on the 4 September 2026, 4 December 2026, 5 March 2027 and 4 June 2027.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Loan Borrowings

C6139-2026

Council, pursuant to Section 123(7a) of the Local Government Act 1999, approves total loan borrowings for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 up to a value of $19.0 million in line with Council's currently approved loan facilities, held with the Local Government Finance Authority.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Management Strategy

C6140-2026

Council updates the Long Term Financial Plan (as per Annexure "D") and Asset Management Strategy consistent with the 2026/27 Budget.

Carried

5. Consideration of Confidential Items

5.1 City Infrastructure

5.1.1 *Whyalla Splash and Play Plaza Development– Confidential*

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

C6141-2026

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council orders that all persons present, with the exception of Justin Commons; Chief Executive Officer, Sue King; General Manager Corporate Services, Jodie Perone; General Manager City Growth, Paul Day; General Manager Infrastructure, Grant Jennings; Manager Finance and Knowledge Management; Les Jones; Manager Capital Works Delivery, Sean Kelly; Manager Media and Communications, Gail Rostig; Manager City Activation and Michelle Armstrong; Executive Co-ordinator – CEO for Agenda Item 5.1.1 – Whyalla Splash and Play Plaza Development.

The Council is satisfied that pursuant to Sections 90(3)(b) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this Agenda Item:

a) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of Council; and

b) contains information provided on a confidential basis provided by another public authority.

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because on balance it would be contrary to the public interest as commercial information is to be discussed and disclosed.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Simpson

C6142-2026

Council:

1.

2.

2.1
2.2
2.3

3.

4. having considered Agenda Item 5.1.1 – Whyalla Splash and Play Plaza Development in confidence, under Sections 90(2) and (3)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council pursuant to Section 91(7) of the Act, orders that this Report and the Minutes pertaining to this item, be kept confidential and not available for public inspection for a period of twelve months from the date of this Council Meeting, or until completion of the procurement, tender award and construction phases (whichever occurs first), on the basis that it contains information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is proposing to conduct business or to prejudice the commercial position of the Council and would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest, notwithstanding that it will be reviewed annually in February of each year.

Carried

Moved Cr Knox, seconded Cr Inglis

C6143-2026

Council returns to Ordinary Meeting Procedures.

Carried

Close – *meeting concluded at 6.18 pm*

Confirmed: ……
Presiding Member – July 2026

NOTES

For the Mount Laura Homestead Advisory Group Meeting
held on Tuesday 7 April 2026 at 10.06am in the Whyalla Library Training Room

Meeting Chair –Gail Rostig (Yusuf absent)

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge that this meeting is held on the traditional lands of the Barngarla People, and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

2. WELCOME

Gail welcomed the attendees to the meeting.

3. ATTENDANCE RECORD

Present	
Gail Rostig	Manager Community Services
Greg Desmond	National Trust Mt Laura Homestead Museum
Joanne Blayney	Executive Coordinator (notes)
Paul Mazourek	Community Activation Officer – Tourism Assets
Petrina Morse	Secretary – National Trust Mt Laura Homestead Museum
Vicky Walker	Vice Secretary & Treasurer – National Trust Mt Laura Homestead Museum
Apologies	
Jenny Barnes	Events & Tourism Lead
Sue King	General Manager Corporate Services

4. DECLARATION/S OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

NIL

5. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

That the notes of the meeting held on 20 January 2026 received and confirmed as true and accurate.

Moved Paul Mazourek Seconded Greg Desmond

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Gail - It has been confirmed that the tram ramp belongs to The National Trust, we should still make sure that it's safe, but the Tram ramp is the responsibility of The National Trust as stated in the MOU.
Action *- Gail will bring the MOU to the 8 July meeting and so that everyone can go over the sections showing councils and The National Trusts areas of responsibility, so that everyone is on the same page.*

Petrina and Vicky advised that the yellow and green bins (Gail actioned from the last meeting) haven't been delivered yet, just need to advise how many are required, been told they must go on the road for collection on the relevant days. Paul spoke to Charuka, she said they will be delivered and there will be no charge as they're non-profit organisation. Petrina will bring up at the National Trust meeting so it can be actioned.
Action *- Paul will follow up with Charuka and ask her to contact Vicky to organise drop off.*

Greg asked about the Community Grant for the National Trust Eyre Peninsula meeting – Vicky advised that she contacted the National Trust, and there are three possible locations, it hasn't been decided if Whyalla will host it.
Action *– Vicky / Petrina to lodge an application for community grant if Whyalla is chosen to host the meeting.*

7. REPORTS

7.1 Stage 1 Future Developments actions – progress report Paul Mazourek

Paul supplied a detailed progress report and gave a verbal update, see attached document.

Paul thanked everyone for the work they have put in, especially Petrina and Vicky.

Paul advised that the yellow cabinets have served their purpose and now need to be moved on, he is unable to help due to WHS risks.

Tony Drobnyak called Paul this morning regarding the quote for the specialist cabinets, the price has increased due to the quality of lights, requiring certain electrical work; the cost is now $55,000 for everything. Paul will meet with Gail as this will now go through the CEO per the procedure as its over $44,000. Tony can start once the official purchase order etc is in place.

Gail thanked Paul for the in-depth report, photos and update, and congratulated him for all the work he has put into this project; it's been a great relationship between Paul and the National Trust, communication has been open and honest the whole time. Petrina and Vicky thanked Paul for the commitment and effort getting this project to move forward.

8. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Museum matters

Vicky is so happy with the progress and, the improvements and changes that have been made, Petrina has put in a lot of time and effort and has done a great job. Vicky said things are finally looking great and things are coming to fruition; she is excited to show her Mum the photographs and fill her in on all the developments. Petrina thanked Paul for being so proactive and helpful with seeing this through.

Vicky would like to host an opening event for past and present volunteers once the project is finished. There are a lot of people that have volunteered over the years that would love to see all the improvements.

Petrina advised that the four missionaries have been a great help, they are helping with anything needed including moving furniture etc. Gail asked Petrina to let her know if a skip was required, this could be sponsored through the community support budget line.

There was a lot of items sorted into ADRA and rubbish outside, what ADRA didn't take other people did, it's been good to see it being of use to other people in the community.

There are people living in the block behind the hands fence, they have an extension cord with double adapter attached connected to the Homesteads power, they also have water running under the fence, there is rubbish strewn, syringes etc lying around, Petrina asked if Council removes syringes, which we do. Neville has requested the tree be removed.
Action *– Petrina to show Gail the area, if they are still living there; she will contact Mission Australia and ask them to approach the people to see if they need any assistance with accommodation. Gail can arrange for the needles to be collected and the area cleaned up. If they are causing a ruckus and making a mess Gail is happy to approach them and move them on if they're causing destruction/mess/syringes and see what support council can offer them*

9.2 Any other business

Nil

10. NEXT MEETING

10.1 The next meeting

Will be held on Tuesday 7 July 2026 at 10.00am in the Whyalla Public Library Training Room; Sue King is chairing the meeting.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10.36AM

MOUNT LAURA HOMESTEAD MUSEUM FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS PROJECT

PROGRESS REPORT

Paul Mazourek

7 April 2026

- 11 March 2026 – meeting with Infrastructure project manager re the external repairs to the homestead building including interior ceiling repairs and painting. Storage container discussed and secured.
- 12 March 2026 – meting with NTSA Whyalla branch, latest information on homestead project. Agreement to placement of temporary shipping container on the Museum grounds.
- 17 March 2026 – T&D Cabinetmakers Whyalla, the preferred contractor, at the homestead building taking measurements for the new exhibition cabinets at Room 1 and Room 2 + practical decisions about the sizes of internal display sections, glass, sectioning, and colour.
- 27 March 2026 – the temporary storage container delivered to the Mt Laura Homestead Museum.
- 30 March 2026 – meeting with Tickled ink designer (Whyalla business) re her engagement in new homestead exhibition design including HD scanning of some of the original photographs, labels and practical help with installation.
- 30 March 2026 – preparation of pictorial guidance for the artefacts' removal order from the homestead to the shipping container.
- 30 March 2026 – the removal of artefacts and furniture started.
- 2 April 2026 – 90% of artefacts and furniture removed from the historic homestead building.

ROOM 1 BEFORE 	**ROOM 1 02/04/26** 
ROOM 2 BEFORE 	**ROOM 2 02/04/26** 
ROOM 3 BEFORE 	**ROOM 3 02/04/26** 
ROOM 4 BEFORE	**ROOM 4 02/04/26**





ROOM 5 BEFORE



ROOM 5 02/04/26



ROOM 6 BEFORE



ROOM 6 02/04/26



SHIPPING CONTAINER TEMPORARY STORAGE 02/04/26



14.1 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

14.1.1 Chief Executive Officer's Action Report – July 2026 – For Noting

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026
Author's Title: Justin Commons – Chief Executive Officer **File No.:** 1-0
Directorate: Office of the Chief Executive

Annexures:
A – Chief Executive Officer's Action Report – July 2026
B – Committee/ Working Party/ Workshop/ Sub-committee Meetings Listing
C – Summary of Key Meetings and External Engagements attended by the Chief Executive Officer

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:
In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Status:
Information classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Reason – Not applicable

PURPOSE

This report details the specific actions taken by administration, in respect to resolutions of Council, together with information regarding CEO activities and an update on a variety work in progress (**WIP**) matters.

SUMMARY

Council resolutions to be actioned are listed within **Annexure "A"**. This enables Council Members to view outstanding resolutions and gives advice as to the timeframe for the completion and outcome of the said resolutions.

Annexure "B" lists Council Member representation at meetings held during the month and meetings to be held over a period of three (3) months.

Annexure "C" provides a summary of key meetings and external engagements attended by the Chief Executive Officer during the period 15 June – 19 July 2026, inclusive.

The body of the report also provides an update on a variety of work in progress (WIP) matters, together with an indication of when these matters will next be presented to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

Council notes the Chief Executive Officer's Action Report – July 2026.

DUE DATE

Chief Executive Officer's Action Report – July 2026 – For Noting	20/07/2026

14.1.1 Chief Executive Officer's Action Report – July 2026 – <u>For Noting</u>

<u>REPORT</u>

DISCUSSION

This report details the specific actions taken by administration, in respect to resolutions of Council.

Annexures "A" and **"B"** list outstanding Council resolutions and meetings with Council Member representation, held over the month and meetings to be held over a period of three (3) months. Each outstanding resolution item has been allocated to a relevant Director/Council officer. This report, and annexures, provides a description of the process, which is to be followed, and timeframe allocated to outstanding resolutions.

Annexure "C" provides a summary of key meetings and external engagements attended by the Chief Executive Officer during the period 15 June – 19 July 2026, inclusive.

UPDATES – VARIOUS MATTERS

- **School Based Trainees**

  In the week commencing 22 June 2026, Whyalla City Council welcomed six School-Based Trainees through its Career Pathways Framework, supporting the development of local talent and future employment pathways for young people. This year's intake included two Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander trainees, reflecting Council's commitment to inclusive opportunities and actions under our Reconciliation Action Plan.

  The trainees were appointed through a merit-based recruitment process, designed to reflect real life employment practices. Candidates participated in panel interviews and had the opportunity to share their experience, interests and reasons for wanting to work with Council.

  Placements have commenced across Corporate Services, City Planning, Infrastructure and Depot Operations, Whyalla Early Learning Centre and Visitor Experience. Alongside their workplace experience, trainees have commenced Nationally-recognised vocational studies relevant to their roles, combining paid employment with formal education and training.

  The program was co-ordinated by the People and Culture Team in partnership with Whyalla Secondary College, Samaritan College and Career Employment Group. Council looks forward to supporting the trainees' growth and success over the next year.



- **Enterprise Agreement**

  Council current Enterprise Agreement expires in October 2026. Council has commenced the process to negotiate a new agreement.

- **Mayoral Reception for World Champions - H2 Grand Prix in the Modified Junior Race**

  Preparations are underway to host a Mayoral Reception Event to recognise the achievements of the Whyalla Team that won at the World Championship H2 Grand Prix.

Financial Implications – Nil

Strategic Plan

Objective 1.1 – Unearth community pride within the city

Strategy 1.1.1 – Regularly inform the community of Council activities, decisions and actions by promoting positive stories and positive images

Legislation – Nil

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

The Executive Management Team are aware of their obligations in declaring a 'conflict of interest' regarding any items discussed within this report.

Risk Assessment – Nil

Social Considerations – Nil

Community Engagement – Not applicable

Environmental Implications – Not applicable

Communication – Not applicable

Conclusion

Council Administration ensures that all outstanding Council resolutions are completed within an appropriate timeframe. Council Members are advised, via the attached annexures, of the process to be followed and timeframes to be applied.

Annexure "A"

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
C5088-2024 19/02/24	Lot 126 (Horseshoe Road) Mullaquana – Revoke Community Land Status, Remove Airport Encumbrance and Rezone Council: 1. requests the individual Ministers to allow Council to undertake the process of revoking Lot 126 (CT 6171/890) Mullaquana from community land status; 2. requests rezoning of Lot 126 (CT 6171/890) Mullaquana to Rural Living; and 3. requests the Commonwealth Government remove the encumbrance from Lot 126 (CT 6171/890) Mullaquana.	GMCG			10%	***In progress*** *Administration preparing documents to support the notification/ consultation to the community, to seek support to revoke the community land status. This action will take approximately 12 months.* *Administration is seeking to engage qualified support to assist with the rezone of the site – it is anticipated that this process could take up to 6 months. This action will not commence until formal feedback is received from the Commonwealth Government, regarding the encumbrance.* *A request has been made through Kelledy Jones Lawyers, to the Commonwealth Government, to remove the encumbrance from the site. Support from the Government was sought approximately 6 months ago, and initial feedback is that they will support the removal; however, it is difficult to advise a timeframe in relation to this request, as the Government appear to be slow in providing correspondence back to Council's lawyers.* *Kelledy Jones are following up with the Commonwealth regarding the encumbrance.* *Kelledy Jones continue to chase a formal response.* *Still waiting on a formal response from the Commonwealth Government, regarding the removal of the encumbrance.* *Commonwealth have still not responded. Kelledy Jones seeking a response.* *Email reminder has been sent to Kelledy Jones seeking update/action required.*

Chief Executive Officer's Outstanding Actions Report – July 2026

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
C5089-2024 19/02/24	**Removal of Easements at Lot 126 McIntyre Road** Council endorses the removal of the easements that no longer accommodate infrastructure within Lot 126 McIntrye Road.	GMCG			75%	***In progress*** *Final permissions are being lodged with State Commission Assessment Panel and we anticipate approval is imminent.* *No change – awaiting confirmation.*
C5234-2024 17/06/24	**Unsolicited Proposal – Purchase of Crown Land** Council provides support for the proposal to gain access to Crown Land at Colebrook Street Reserve and provides delegation to the Chief Executive Officer to progresses the process with Crown Lands, including the revocation of community land process.	MF			75%	***In progress*** *Crown Lands will now consult with Government Departments on any plans for the land, after which time they can put the land to market. This will take a number of months.*
C5527-2025 17/03/25	**Defence Land at Fitzgerald Bay Lookout Boundary Realignment** Council: 1. resolves to support the boundary realignment required to create the portion of land to purchase for the formalisation of the Fitzgerald Bay Lookout from the Australian Government for the amount of $30 plus GST; and 2. provide the Chief Executive Officer with the delegations to finalise the realignment and land transaction.	GMCG				***In progress*** *Contract is back with Defence for agreement of minor amendments. Also reviewing annexed reports to ensure they are satisfactory.* *No change – awaiting confirmation.*

Chief Executive Officer's Outstanding Actions Report – July 2026

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
C5533-2025 17/03/25	**GFG Ex-gratia Payment** Council: 1. requests the Chief Executive Officer to formally write to the current Administrators of the Steelworks (Korda Mentha) and the State Government, to request consideration of an increase in the ex-gratia payment amount payable by OneSteel to Council, to align with the rates that would be payable under Council's rating policy, if hypothetically, the Steelworks was on Council land; and 2. that this communication will be completed by no later than 18 April 2025.	MF				***In progress*** *Council has been advised that the requirement for the Steelworks to make an ex-gratia payment to Council, in lieu of rates, has been included in the Indenture Agreement that will be negotiated with the future owner.* *The quantum of the ex-gratia payment is to be negotiated by Council with the future owner, once the current tender process concludes.*

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
C5602-2025 19/05/25	**Tanderra Village – Future Asset Management Proposal** Council: 1. endorses the Chief Executive Officer entering into negotiations for a five-year lease term, for the Tanderra site with the current lessee, noting the parameters set out in the report; ~~2. reduces the service level for the following buildings at the Tanderra site to 'zero', with no future renewal to occur for the following two buildings at the site:~~ ~~a. Open Shed;~~ ~~b. Old Bake House – Storage Building~~ ~~3. reduces the service level for the following buildings at Tanderra, with future renewals to be kept to a preservation and public safety level for the following buildings at the site:~~ ~~a. J Block~~ ~~b. K Block~~ ~~c. H Block~~ ~~d. R Block~~ ~~e. Market Hall and Café~~ ~~f. Plant Nursery (Old Laundry); and~~ 4. notes that Administration will commence development of a masterplan for the 'tourism precinct' that seeks to improve visitation, activation and the overall visitor experience from an integrated precinct encompassing Tanderra Village, Steel Cap Gallery, Visitor Information Centre, Maritime Museum and a proposed Designated Overnight Stay RV Camping area.	GMCG				***In progress*** *Lease signed on 19 August 2025.* *The Master Plan works require agreement from the administrators regarding the short stay accommodation proposal at Tanderra, which currently sits with Korda Mentha. Once this matter is addressed, the small committee formed to undertake the master planning of the site can meet with stakeholders and begin the process.* *Still awaiting confirmation from OneSteel Manufacturing (via Korda Mentha).* *Meeting held on Wednesday 11 March with OneSteel Manufacturing, to discuss further.* *A further meeting has been scheduled for late June, to clarify request.*

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
C5740-2025 15/09/2025	**Program Maintenance Plans** That a report be prepared on program maintenance plans for Council's structural assets, paying particular attention to assets that are not currently included within such plans.	MAP	March 2027			***In progress*** *Asset Management Plans (AMPs) for Council's structural assets are currently under development. Due to the complexity of Council's asset portfolio, the number of assets requiring assessment, and the need to ensure the plans are prepared to a high professional standard, additional time is required for completion.* *The development of the AMPs involves comprehensive data validation, condition assessments, risk profiling, lifecycle modelling and alignment with Council's Long Term Financial Plan and Strategic Asset Management Framework. This work is being undertaken by existing staff alongside core operational responsibilities.* *As a result, Administration is advising Council that all Asset Management Plans will be completed by 31 March 2027.*

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
C5814-2025 17/11/25	**Update on Mount Laura Conservation Reserve** Council supports the "soft start' approach to the Trail and Bike Master Plan through minimalist signage, QR codes with maps and post-style maps identifying where the existing trails are, level of fitness required, and risk to rider acceptance as an early-stage implementation to the Master Plan.	MCWD				***In progress*** *A concept brief has been developed; outlining minimalist signage, QR codes with maps and post-style markers that identify existing trails, required fitness levels and rider risk.* *The Woking Party met with James Brown and Troy Brougham (local mountain bike event organiser) to review and refine the brief, confirming the high-level scope of work. James and Troy understand that the bike stand and repair toolkit stand will be provided by them at no cost to Council.* *Administration are now developing a detailed scope, including cost estimates, signage/directional marker locations and trailhead maps.* *Planning requirements have been reviewed with advice received that the signage associated with the Mount Laura bike tracks is exempt from requiring development approval.* *The project is scheduled to proceed, subject to approval of the anticipated low-cost expenditure and any planning requirements.*

Chief Executive Officer's Outstanding Actions Report – July 2026

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
C5817-2025 17/11/25	**Secure Public Lockers at the Beach** That Council investigate the feasibility of installing secure public lockers at the beach, to provide swimmers and beachgoers with a safe place to store their personal belongings.	GMCG				***In progress*** *Investigations to include the lockers into the new Café/SLSC building have begun.*
C5828-2025 15/12/25	**Economic Development Related Matters** Council: ~~a) considers the information within the report;~~ ~~b) writes to the South Australian Premier requesting that the Whyalla Steelworks Industrial Transformation Unit (WSITU) and Whyalla Regional Co-ordinator provide a quarterly update to a Whyalla Business and Economic Stakeholder Group comprising the State Member for Giles, Council, RDAEP and WBAT;~~ c) Council, RDAEP and WBAT also provide a quarterly update to a Whyalla Business and Economic Stakeholder Group regarding economic opportunities and challenges in Whyalla and the region; and d) Whyalla Business and Economic Stakeholder Group to discuss economic opportunities and challenges in Whyalla and the region and make recommendations to Council for consideration (as required).	CEO				***In progress*** *Correspondence forwarded to Premier and relevant Ministers requesting that the Whyalla Steelworks Industrial Transformation Unit (WSITU) and Whyalla Regional Co-ordinator provide a quarterly update to a Whyalla Business and Economic Stakeholder Group, comprising the State Member for Giles, Council, RDAEP and WBAT –* *27 January 2026.*

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
C5840-2026 27/01/26	**Revocation of Dedication to Council and Community Land Status** Council: ~~1. notes the public consultation process undertaken and the public submissions received;~~ 2. having prepared and made publicly available a report under Section 194(2) of the Act, makes a submission to the Minister under Section 194(3) of the Act for the revocation of community land status for the following land parcels: a. Lot 130 Lincoln Highway b. 20 Whitehead Street 3. having prepared and made publicly available a report under Section 194(2) of the Act, makes a submission to the Minister under Section 194(3) of the Act for the revocation of both community land status and care, control and management for the following land parcels: a. Lot 5437 Nicolson Avenue b. 15 Ayliffe Street c. Lot 1882 McEwin Street; and 4. resolves to not progress further at this time with the revocation of both community land status and care, control and management for Lot 1134 Playford Avenue.	MF			50%	***In progress*** *The McEwin Street property is already the subject of consultation by Crown Lands with Government Departments on whether any plans exist for the site, with the Nicolson Avenue property to follow soon. If there is no interest, they will likely both be sold on the open market.* *For Ayliffe Street, a contamination report needs to be undertaken by Council prior to Crown Lands considering taking back control of the site, with work underway to develop a simple report that is not excessively priced.* *Permission needs to be sought from the Minister for Local Government rather than Crown Lands, in relation to the two parcels owned by Council. This has been referred and some supplementary information has been requested. Once this is provided, this should progress quickly. This has been referred and some requested supplementary information has been provided. Hopefully these two parcels will now progress quickly.*

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
C6032-2026 16/02/26	**Whyalla Local Heritage Code Amendment** Council: ~~1. receives and notes the community feedback on the Whyalla Local Heritage Code Amendment, submitted during the formal consultation period, as contained in Annexure "B" (the Engagement Report, January 2026);~~ ~~2. endorses the Whyalla Local Heritage Code Amendment, under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act, as contained in Annexure "C" (the Code Amendment);~~ 3. submits the Whyalla Local Heritage Code Amendment, seeking approval of the Minister for Planning; and 4. delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer (or sub-delegate), to make any minor editorial or inconsequential changes following any feedback from the Minister's office.	MCD				***In progress*** *The Local Heritage Code Amendment has been submitted to the Minister for endorsement.* *The Minister's office has stated that no endorsement will occur until after the State election.* *Appears to be tracking well, however, Administration have heard that SAHT are not comfortable with the overlay that impacts a small number of their properties, which may hold things up.*

Chief Executive Officer's Outstanding Actions Report – July 2026

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
C6034-2026 16/02/26	**Honouring our Local Legends – Barrie Robran Gates** That research is undertaken to cost out design and construction of gates honouring local legend Barrie Robran at the entrance to Memorial Oval situated on Duncan Street, with findings to be brought back to Council for discussion/decision.	MCA				***In progress*** *A project team to be established, to address the depth of this project – in progress.* *A draft design has been presented to the Robran family and they have advised they would like a few small changes. Once changes are made and reviewed by the family, a report to Council will be prepared with costings.*
C6040-2026 16/02/26	**Animal Management** Council resolves to hold a community information event on an annual basis, focussed on education, responsible pet ownership, animal wellbeing and related topics	GMCS/ RS Co-ord	July 2026			***Complete*** *A community information day was held at the Westland Shopping Centre on 15 July, to coincide with dog and cat registration renewals.*
20/04/26	**Question without Notice** **Cr Inglis** Point Lowly Boat Ramp – rubbers are coming away from the floating pontoon, exposing bolts – rubbers need to be replaced.	GMI/MO			50%	***In progress*** *CRM I120089 created – 29/04/26.* *A local contractor has been engaged to provide a quote and identify a solution addressing the underlying systemic cause. The contractor has recently been unavailable but is expected to submit the quote for consideration, in the upcoming financial year.*

Chief Executive Officer's Outstanding Actions Report – July 2026

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
20/04/26	**Question without Notice** **Cr Knox** Sacred Rocks fencing – requested a report on what details are transpiring and/or discussion that has taken place with regard to the current fencing eyesore.	CEO/GMCS/ GMCG				
C6088-2026 18/05/26	**Updated Community Engagement Policy for Consultation** Council endorses the draft updated version of the Community Engagement Policy to go out for community consultation.	MMC				***Complete*** *Refer report Item 14.1.2 contained within this Agenda.*
C6116-2026 15/06/26	**2026/27 Annual Business Plan and Budget Adoption** That the rate increase be set at 5.3% and in doing so, Administration come back to Council with a modified expenditure budget to off-set this reduction income, without increasing the deficit.	MF				***Complete*** *Annual Business Plan and Budget submitted to the Special Council Meeting held on 29 June and adopted accordingly.*

Chief Executive Officer's Outstanding Actions Report – July 2026

Council Meeting Date	Outstanding Action	Actioned by	Expected Completion Date	Amended Completion Date	Percentage Complete	Comments
C6120-2026 15/06/26	**Whyalla Road Safety Centre – Lease Agreement** Council: 1. endorses the granting of a Lease to the Whyalla Road Safety Centre over Allotment 101 (6 Plum Street), Deposited Plan 116773 comprised in Crown Record Volume 6223 Folio 237 for a period of five (5) years commencing on 1 August 2026 and ending on 31 July 2031 with a further five (5) year extension, subject to the outcomes of public consultation being undertaken as per Council's Public Consultation Policy; and 2. notes that, subject to the outcomes of public consultation, and in the absence of any substantial submissions, Administration is authorised to finalise and execute the lease agreement under delegated authority. Should substantial submissions be received, the matter will be referred back to Council for further consideration.	GMI/MF				***In progress*** *Public consultation was completed on Friday 10 July 2026 – no submissions were received.* *Final lease agreement has been sent to lessee for signing on 14 July 2026.*

Annexure "B"

COMMITTEE / WORKING PARTY / WORKSHOP / SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING(S)

Meetings held: 18 May – 14 June 2026

Meeting Date	*Name of Meeting*	*Quorum*
15 June	Ordinary Council Meeting	Y
19 June	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting	Y
29 June	Special Council Meeting	Y
6 July	Council Members Briefing Session	N/A
13 July	CEO Review Panel Meeting No. 1	Y

Future meetings: July – October 2026

Meeting Date	*Name of Meeting*
20 July	Ordinary Council Meeting
3 August	CEO Review Panel Meeting No. 2
3 August	Council Members Briefing Session
10 August	CEO Review Panel Meeting No. 3
17 August	Ordinary Council Meeting
28 August	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
7 September	Council Members Briefing Session
21 September	Ordinary Council Meeting
6 October	Council Members Briefing Session
9 October	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
19 October	Ordinary Council Meeting

Annexure "C"

BACKGROUND

A summary of key meetings and external engagements attended by the Chief Executive Officer, is provided on a monthly basis.

DISCUSSION

Monday 15 June 2026

- Meeting with Peter Joy re City/Council Brand
- Ordinary Council Meeting

Wednesday 17 June 2026

- RAP Meeting
- Training : Organisational Culture: Holding effective Performance Conversations

Thursday 18 June 2026

- Australian Red Cross: Blood Donation
- Lunch Meeting with Jindal Steel –
  Harssha Shetty; Chief Executive Officer and Prakash Chaudhari; Chief Operating Officer)
  (also in attendance: Mayor Stone and Eddie Hughes; Member for Giles

Friday 19 June 2026

- Audit and Risk Committee Meeting

Monday 22 June 2026

- Monthly Executive Meeting with Whyalla Steelworks Transformation Unit
  (also in attendance: Executive Management Team)
- Meeting with Developer re manufacturing renewable energy components project
  (also in attendance: General Manager City Growth)
- School Based Trainees – Orientation/Welcome Day



School Based Trainees – Orientation/Welcome Day

Thursday 25 June 2026

- General catch-up with John Devlin; EPLGA Waste and Resource Officer

Friday 26 June 2026

- Regular catch-up with Department of Energy and Mining – online
  (also in attendance: General Manager City Growth)
- LGA President's Webinar
- Meeting with Renewable Energy Project Proponents
- One-on-one meeting with Cr Klobucar

Monday 29 June 2026

- Spencer Gulf Cities Meeting, re Regional Development Australia and SGC collaboration
- Follow-up meeting with South Australian Housing Trust re SAHT housing assets in Whyalla
  (also in attendance: Executive Leadership Team)
- Meeting re Enterprise Bargaining Arrangements
  (also in attendance: ELT, Manager People and Culture)
- External Stakeholders Meeting re Cuttlefish Season Messaging
  (also in attendance: Mayor Stone, ELT, Manager City Activation, Events Lead)
- Special Council Meeting
- Telephone Call with Minister Pearce re Cuttlefish Season
  (also in attendance: Mayor Stone)

Tuesday 30 June 2026

- One-on-one meeting with Cr Knox
- Work Inspirations Event with The Smith Family – official welcome
- One-on-one meeting with Cr Simpson
- Environmental Consultative Group Meeting



Work Inspirations Event with The Smith Family

Wednesday 1 July 2026

- Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network – Strategic Plan Workshop Draft Design / Feedback
- Upper Spencer Gulf Housing Advisory Group Meeting
- Attended 'Celebrating 30 Years of McLeod's Motors' Event

Thursday 2 July 2026

- Whyalla Services Leadership Group Meeting

Monday 6 July 2026

- Upper Spencer Gulf Workforce and Skills Advisory Group Meeting
- Council Members Briefing Session
- NAIDOC Picnic



NAIDOC Picnic

Tuesday 7 July 2026

- Meeting with Workforce Australia and DEWR
- Meeting with Developer re manufacturing renewable energy components project
- Taskforce Systems Theory of Change Meeting – Department of Human Services
- OneSteel Art Expo and NAIDOC Awards
- Catch-up with Scott Rathman (Indigenous artist) working on the NAIDOC community artwork at the Whyalla Recreation Centre



Community artwork at the Whyalla Recreation Centre

Wednesday 8 July 2026

- Meeting with John Chapman; Industry Advocate
- Meeting with M Resources – Community and HR Team
  (also in attendance: Mayor Stone, Manager Media and Communications)

Monday 13 July 2026

- Spencer Gulf Cities – CEOs Meeting
- Meeting re Whyalla OASIS Solar Agritech Project
- Weekly Catch-up with Mayor Stone and Executive Co-ordinator – CEO and Mayor

Tuesday 14 July 2026

- One-on-one meeting with Cr Westerman
- Meeting with Hon Chris Picton MP; Minister for State Development
  (also in attendance: Mayor Stone, General Manager City Growth, Senior Adviser to Minister, Chief Executive – Department of State Development)

Wednesday 15 July 2026

- Safety and Wellbeing Taskforce Meeting - Department of Human Services
- RAP Meeting
- Regular Meeting between Northern Water and Council
  (also in attendance: Executive Leadership Team, Manager Media and Communications)
- Eyre Peninsula Waste and Resources Working Group Meeting

Thursday 16 July 2026

- Meeting re Whyalla OASIS Solar Agritech Project

14.1 EXECUTIVE SERVICES

14.1.2 Updated Community Engagement Policy – For Adoption

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026
Author's Title: Manager Media and Communications **File No.:** 2-20
Directorate: Executive Services

Annexures:
A – Community Engagement Policy – Version 7

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:
In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Status:
Information classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Reason – Not applicable

PURPOSE

To provide Council with the updated Community Engagement Policy (formerly referred to as the Public Consultation Policy) for adoption.

SUMMARY

The State Government recently gazetted a new / updated Community Engagement Charter, which is now contained within Section 50(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999.* All South Australian councils are required to update their existing community engagement policies to ensure they comply with the new Charter.

Council staff updated the former Public Consultation Policy – now known as the Community Engagement Policy – and presented it to Council prior to seeking community feedback.

No submissions were received in response to consultation, so the version of the policy being presented to Council for adoption, is the same as the version endorsed to go out for consultation at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 May 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

Council adopts the Community Engagement Policy.

DUE DATE

Updated Community Engagement Policy – For Adoption	20/07/2026

14.1.2 Updated Community Engagement Policy – For Adoption

REPORT

BACKGROUND

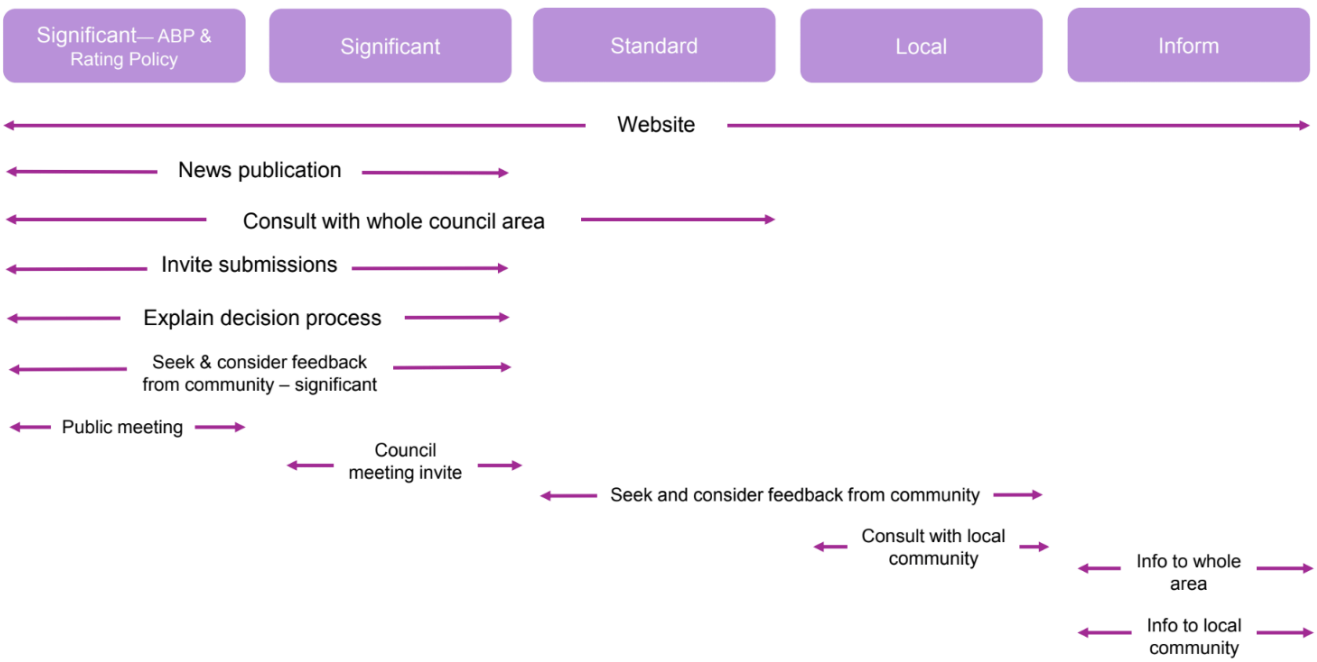
In 2021, the South Australian Government commenced a review of the *Local Government Act 1999* ('the Act'), aimed at introducing numerous improvements, including 'a modern approach to public consultation'.

This process was carried out in stages and took several years to complete*, incorporating engagement with / feedback from the community and the Local Government Association of South Australia (**LGASA**) on behalf of all South Australian councils.

This ultimately resulted in the establishment of the Community Engagement Charter (**the Charter**), which was incorporated into Part 5, Section 50 of the Act (formerly titled 'Public consultation policies', now titled 'Community engagement') by official gazette on 11 December 2025.

In relation to community engagement, this update:

- establishes categories of statutory processes (see chart below);
- specifies mandatory requirements;
- sets out principles and performance outcomes;
- specifies how councils will comply with the Charter or seek to achieve principles or performance outcomes; and
- provides for community consultation and participation in relation to other decisions, activities or processes.



** Council's Public Consultation Policy has not been updated since April 2020, due to administration awaiting the outcomes of this process prior to considering any required updates.*

All South Australian councils are now required to update their community engagement policies to reflect the new Charter and have been provided a timeline in which to consult on / adopt their updated policies, as outlined in the below table:

Timing	Milestone / Activity
April – May 2026	Policy development and internal approvals
May/June 2026	Council Meeting to endorse Draft Community Engagement Policy *(for consultation purposes)*
Mid June – late July 2026	Consultation Period *(Period to be determined by council)*
August 2026	Council Meeting to adopt Community Engagement Policy *(post consultation)*
11 September 2026	Date by which Community Engagement Policy must be adopted
11 September – 10 December 2026	Three-month transition period – both Public Consultation and Community Engagement Policies can be applied *(or earlier if adopted prior to 11 Sept)*
11 December 2026	Community Engagement Policy must be applied from *(or earlier if adopted prior to 11 Sept)*

Councils can keep using their current consultation policy until the earlier of:

- Three months after the new policy is adopted; or
- 10 December 2026.

UPDATE

Council endorsed the draft of the Community Engagement Policy (**the Policy**) going out for consultation at the May Ordinary Council Meeting. This policy is flagged as 'standard' in the Charter, so the process included:

- consulting for a minimum of 14 days (feedback was sought over 21 days), inviting written / online / verbal submissions;
- the Policy being promoted via a media release on Council's website, direct email, multiple social media channel posts; and the My Local Services app; and
- having the Policy available to view at Council's Civic Building and Public Library.

Each social media post was viewed by an average of just over 2,000 people; while the direct email was opened by ~400 people. No submissions were received in response to this consultation.

Given this, the version of the policy being presented to Council for adoption is the same as the version endorsed to go out for consultation at the May Ordinary Council Meeting.

Financial Implications – Nil

Strategic Plan

Objective 1.1	*Create a vibrant, diverse, actively engaged community with a sense of pride*
Objective 1.2	*Collaborative partnerships in our community*
Strategy 1.2.1	Collaborate with government agencies, non-government organisations and other stakeholders, to provide a platform for effective collaboration and connection in our community
Strategy 1.2.4	Encourage the participation of youth in our city by providing opportunities for leadership, social, community and economic and business participation
Theme 4	*A community engaged in the decision-making process*

Legislation – Nil

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest – Nil

Risk Assessment – Nil

Social Considerations – Nil

Community Engagement

The draft version endorsed by Council on 18 May 2026, has been out for consultation, as outlined above.

Environmental Implications – Nil

Communication

Multiple social media posts / media release issued to the community regarding the policy and the ways they can have their say (as outlined in the report).

Conclusion

The draft Policy has been updated to reflect the South Australian Government's new Charter and is now being presented to Council for adoption, following community consultation.

Annexure "A"

WHYALLA CITY COUNCIL

Whyalla City Council Community Engagement Policy	
Type	Governance
GDS Category	Governance - Public
Responsible Officer	Manager Media and Communications
Policy Adopted	20 July 2026
Review Period	Every 4 years
Last Reviewed	April 2020
Next Review Date	July 2030
Policy Version Number	1
Applicable Legislation	• Local Government Act 1999, Section 50 – Community Engagement Charter • Public Access and Public Consultation Notice (No 2) 2020
Related Documents	• Whyalla Council's Risk Management Policy • Whyalla Council's Risk Framework • Public Consultation Policy Schedule I • Local Government Association's Handbook of Public Participation
Public Consultation Required	Yes
Purpose	The Policy sets out the ways in which the community can be involved in governance and decision-making, through an effective community engagement process and therefore meeting the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

Introduction

Whyalla City Council ('Council') is committed to open, accountable and responsive decision making, which is informed by effective communication and engagement between Council and the community. Including communities in decision-making processes is important to the successful development of appropriate and informed decisions and policies by Council.

Council's community includes people who live, work, study, own property, conduct private or government business, visit or use the services, facilities and public spaces and places of Council. Council recognises that a community may be a geographic location (community of place), a community of similar interest (community of interest) or a community of affiliation, practice or identity (such as industry or sporting clubs).

Section 50A of the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act) requires Council to prepare and adopt a policy relating to community engagement for the purposes of the Act. The policy must be consistent with and comply with any requirements specified by the Community Engagement Charter (the Charter).

Policy Objective

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Council meets its legislative obligations regarding public consultation by:

- Meeting the requirements set out in the Act and the Charter.
- Using appropriate and cost-effective engagement methods which are relevant to the specific circumstances of each decision, activity or process.
- Providing for appropriate participation by the local community, key stakeholders and interested parties.
- Using feedback to enhance decision making.
- Providing information on the reasons for decision or actions of Council, where reasonable and appropriate.
- This policy is a statement of Council's general position in relation to community engagement (public consultation), as required under the Act and the Charter.

Scope

This policy applies to decisions, activities and processes undertaken by the Council, a delegate of the Council or a person exercising power on the Council's behalf, where public consultation is required to be undertaken in accordance with the Act, the Charter, or this policy. A reference in this policy to 'Council' includes a reference to a delegate or other person exercising power on the Council's behalf.

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the implementation and application of this policy, and where necessary reporting the outcomes of consultations to the Council. The specific delegations made under this Policy are outlined in part 8 of this policy.

This policy does not apply where the Council is exercising powers and functions under any other Act. Where there are consultation requirements under other legislation, e.g. the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016, those specific processes take precedence over this policy.

Policy Statement

The preparation and adoption of this policy fulfil the Council's obligations to prepare and adopt a policy under section 50(A) of the Act. The following principles in the Charter have been considered in the preparation of this policy:

- community members should have reasonable, timely, meaningful and ongoing opportunities to gain access to information about proposed decisions, activities, processes of councils and to participate in relevant processes;
- information about issues should be in plain language, readily accessible and in a form that facilitates community participation;
- participation methods should seek to foster and encourage constructive dialogue, discussion and debate in relation to proposed decisions, activities and processes of councils;
- participation methods should be appropriate having regard to the significance and likely impact of proposed decisions, activities and processes; and
- insofar as is reasonable, communities should be provided with information about how community views have been taken into account and reasons for decisions or actions of councils

Council will undertake public consultation in accordance with the Act, the Charter and this policy. Council may, in its absolute discretion, determine to undertake a step or steps in addition to those set out in this policy in relation to a matter for which it is required by the Act and/or the Charter to undertake public consultation.

However, Council is not required to give prior consideration and/or to determine whether or not to undertake any additional step or steps in relation to such a matter. A well-intentioned engagement that does not generate the anticipated level of engagement is not a breach of this policy. Council may, from time to time, alter or substitute a new policy, following public consultation.

Public Consultation Categories

The Charter addresses minimum mandatory community engagement activities for matters where the Act requires public consultation to be undertaken.
The Charter establishes different categories of consultation for matters, as follows:

- **Significant – Annual business plan and rating policy**
    - Adopting an Annual Business Plan - section 123(3)(b)
    - Changes to basis of rating, declaring differential rates, imposing a separate rate, service rate or service charge, or changing the basis on which land is valued for the purpose of rating - section 151(5)(e)
- **Significant**
    - Representation reviews - section 12(7)
    - Development and review of Strategic Management Plans - section 122(6)
    - Changes to use of differential rating - section 156(4a)(b)
    - Revocation of classification of land as community land - sections 194(2)(b)
    - Community Land Management Plans - adoption - section 197(1)
    - Community Land Management Plans – significant amendments - section 198(3)
    - Alienation of community land by lease or license - section 202(2)
- **Standard**
    - Opening hours and place of principal office - substantial changes - section 45(3)
    - Community Engagement Policy - section 50A(6)(b)
    - Council behavioural support policies - section 75F(6)
    - Access to meetings and documents - section 92(5)
    - Power to make orders - section 259(2)(b)
- **Local**
    - Proposed permit or authorisation for alteration or use of a road for business purposes when there are works and traffic impeded for more than 48 hours (with a detour in place) or where no detour will be available - section 223(1)

  - Proposed planting of vegetation on a road – significant impact - section 232(b)
- **Inform**
  - Opening hours and place of principal office – minor changes - section 45(3)
  - Proposed permit or authorisation for alteration or use of a road for business purposes when there are works and traffic impeded for less than 48 hours and the Council ensures that a detour is in place - section 223(1)
  - Election information - section 13A (2) of the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999

The table in Part 6 of this policy sets out the engagement activities that Council will undertake to meet the requirements of each matter for which public consultation must be undertaken in accordance with the Act and the Charter.

Charter Engagement Requirements
Council will comply with the minimum mandatory public consultation requirements for each category of matters set out in the Charter.

The following table sets out the engagement activities that Council will undertake to meet the public consultation requirements in the Act and the Charter.

In circumstances where more than one engagement activity is specified, there is no obligation on Council to utilise all engagement activities in respect of each Charter requirement.

Charter requirement	Mandatory minimum actions to achieve Charter requirement	Charter Category					Engagement activities
		Significant ABP and Rating Policy	Significant	Standard	Local	Inform	
Website	Publish information about the matter that can be easily found on a Council website.	X	X	X	X	X	Information published on a Council website
News publication	Publish information about the matter in a local news publication (print where available, but otherwise digital) that circulates in the Council area and is not produced by the Council.	X	X				Information published in a print or digital newspaper, community newsletter or other (non-council) publication circulating in the area of Council
Consult with the whole Council area	Consider appropriate forms of notifications to the Council area. Consider whether additional information or notification should be made available to the	X	X	X			Information published on a social media platform maintained by Council Information made available at Council offices, libraries and/or community centres

Charter requirement	Mandatory minimum actions to achieve Charter requirement	Charter Category					Engagement activities
		Significant ABP and Rating Policy	Significant	Standard	Local	Inform	
	community to bring their attention to the matter and to support participation.						Information available on My Local Services app, including push notification direct to users Media release issued to local media and emailed direct to 'Latest News' subscribers
Invite submissions	Provide information about how the community can make a submission, including timeframe.	X	X				Engagement material provides information about how the community can make a submission, including the minimum 21-day timeframe for submissions.
Explain decision making process	In material prepared explain what the Council proposes to do, why it proposes to do it, and what it seeks to achieve. Explain how community feedback will inform the Council's decision.	X	X				Engagement material explains what the Council proposes to do, why it proposes to do it, and what it seeks to achieve. Information published explains that feedback received will be taken into account by the Council before making a decision [or such other explanation as to how the feedback will inform the Council's decision]
Seek and consider feedback from the community—	Consider how best to invite feedback from the community. Provide a minimum community engagement period of 21 days to enable the community to provide feedback.	X	X				Feedback will be promoted / invited across numerous platforms. This could include: • Written submissions • Online submissions • Verbal submissions by attending in person at a Council meeting or public meeting

Charter requirement	Mandatory minimum actions to achieve Charter requirement	Charter Category					Engagement activities
		Significant ABP and Rating Policy	Significant	Standard	Local	Inform	
significant matters	Include a summary of community engagement feedback to the Council ahead of the decision.						An advertisement promoting opportunities to provide feedback will be published on at least one television, radio station or streaming service broadcasting in the area affected by the Council decision or action Community Engagement period open for a minimum of 21 days Summary of community engagement feedback considered by Council ahead of decision
Public Meeting	Hold a public meeting where the community is invited to provide submissions (written or verbal) on the matter. The public meeting may be part of a Council meeting or a separate event.	X					A public meeting will be held either as part of a Council meeting, or as a separate event, for the making of written or verbal submissions.
Council meeting invitation	Invite people who have made a written submission to attend a Council meeting to speak to their submission before the decision is made.		X				People who made written submissions will be invited to attend a Council meeting and speak to their submissions before a decision is made

Charter requirement	Mandatory minimum actions to achieve Charter requirement	Charter Category					Engagement activities
		Significant ABP and Rating Policy	Significant	Standard	Local	Inform	
Seek and consider feedback from the community	Consider how best to invite feedback from the community Provide information about how community feedback will inform the Council's decision. Ensure an appropriate period of time is provided to enable communities to provide feedback.			X	X		Feedback will be promoted / invited across numerous platforms. This could include: • Written submissions • Online submissions • Verbal submissions by attending in person at a Council meeting or public meeting Information published indicates that feedback received will be taken into account by the Council before making a decision Community Engagement period open for a period of 14 days or such other period as determined by Council
Consult with local community	Consider appropriate forms of notifications to the area within the Council affected by the Council decision or action. Consider whether additional information or notification should be made available to the local community to bring their attention to the matter and to support participation.				X		e.g. • Information published on a social media platform maintained by Council Information available on My Local Services app, including push notification direct to users • Media release issued to local media and emailed direct to 'Latest News' subscribers • Information made available at Council offices, libraries and/or community centres

Charter requirement	Mandatory minimum actions to achieve Charter requirement	Charter Category					Engagement activities
		Significant ABP and Rating Policy	Significant	Standard	Local	Inform	
							in the area within the Council affected by the council decision or action
Information to the whole Council area	Provide information to the whole of the Council's community if it may be directly affected by the Council decision or action.					X	e.g. • Information published on a social media platform maintained by Council • Information made available at Council offices, libraries and/or community centres • Information available on My Local Services app, including push notification direct to users • Media release issued to local media and emailed direct to 'Latest News' subscribers
Information to local community	Provide information to the local community that may be directly affected by the Council decision or action.					X	e.g. • Information published on a social media platform maintained by Council • Information available on My Local Services app, including push notification direct to users • Media release issued to local media and emailed direct to 'Latest News' subscribers

Charter requirement	Mandatory minimum actions to achieve Charter requirement	Charter Category					Engagement activities
		Significant ABP and Rating Policy	Significant	Standard	Local	Inform	
							• Information made available at Council offices, libraries and/or community centres in the local community that may be directly affected by the Council decision or action

Other decisions, activities and processes
Council recognises there may be decisions, activities and processes where the Act and Charter are silent in relation to community engagement, but for which community engagement may nevertheless be appropriate.

Council may undertake community engagement activities for community participation in relation to other decisions, activities or processes of the Council not specified in the Charter at its absolute discretion. However, Council is not required to give prior consideration and/or to determine whether or not to undertake any such steps in relation to these matters.

Delegation
Specific engagement activities to be undertaken in relation to any particular decision, activity or processes shall be determined on a case-by-case basis, by:

- Council, by resolution;
- the CEO;
- a delegate with the power to undertake community engagement under the Act, the Charter or this policy; or
- a delegate with power to make a decision or undertake an activity or process that requires community engagement under the Act, the Charter or this policy.

Council, the CEO or a delegate is not required by this policy to undertake, or to consider or determine whether to undertake, additional engagement activities or engagement methods. Such a decision is at the absolute discretion of the decision maker.

Review and evaluation
To ensure Council continues to meet legislative requirements and undertakes effective community engagement, this policy will be subject to periodic evaluation and review every four years.

Further Information
A copy of this policy can be obtained from the Council office listed below during ordinary business hours on request. It may also be downloaded from Council's website: www.whyalla.sa.gov.au.

Civic Building
21 Grundel Street
Whyalla Norrie SA 5608

Authority

Authorised by the CEO

14.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

14.2.1 Monthly Budget Report – June 2026 – <u>For Noting</u>

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026
Author's Title: Grant Jennings — **File No.:** 0-216
Manager Finance and Knowledge Management
Directorate: Corporate Services

Annexures:
A – Monthly Budget Report – June 2026

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:
In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Status:
Information classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Reason – Not applicable

PURPOSE

To provide Council a regular update on Council's financial position, identified budget issues and progress on Council's Major Projects.

SUMMARY

The report provides Council's financial position at the end of June 2026 and includes year to date income and expenditure figures for the 2025/26 financial year as at that date.

A timing difference that has occurred with the Financial Assistance Grant from the Federal Government will have a material impact on Council's financial position.

Council's budget remains tight, with little capacity to absorb unexpected increases. It is expected that Council's final position will be close to the updated budget, but there is always a risk that the final position will be worse.

RECOMMENDATION

Council notes the Monthly Budget Report – June 2026.

DUE DATE

Monthly Budget Report – June 2026 – <u>For Noting</u>	20/07/2026

14.2.1 Monthly Budget Report – June 2026 – <u>For Noting</u>

<u>REPORT</u>

BACKGROUND

As part of the Corporate Reporting Framework, a monthly report is presented to Council, outlining the current financial position, any identified budget variances and progress on Council's Major Projects. On a quarterly basis, an update on all projects over $100,000 is also included.

DISCUSSION

Refer **Annexure "A"** – Monthly Budget Report – June 2026

The report provides Council's financial position at the end of June 2026 and includes year to date income and expenditure figures for the 2025/26 financial year as at that date. High level analysis of transaction data has been undertaken and any identified budget variances not already reported through a Budget Review are listed for information.

All figures given in the report are as per the finance system as at 30 June 2026 and are provided for information only. These figures will change prior to the Audited Financial Statements being issued, as further invoices and journals are processed.

A timing difference that has occurred with the Financial Assistance Grant from the Federal Government will have a material impact on Council's financial position.

In previous years, this grant has been paid in advance to varying degrees, with 50% paid in advance last June. As part of the Federal Budget, it was announced that 80% would be paid in advance this year, with this received in the last week of June. When the portion paid in advance increases or decreases between years, it has a material impact on Council's financial result, due to the quantum that we receive.

This will result in a $2.4 million favourable difference in Council's financial result, with this being the advance payment received. This is a material amount, however, it is only a timing difference and is outside of Council's ability to control. The Adjusted Operating Ratio is designed to remove this simple timing difference and show the actual underlying result. Loan borrowings at 30 June 2026 are also much lower than projected because of this early grant payment.

Council's budget remains tight, with little capacity to absorb unexpected increases. It is expected that Council's final position will be close to the updated budget, but there is always a risk that the final position will be worse.

Approximately 75% to 80% of the updated capital budget will be spent, with more project timetables extending into 2026/27 than was projected a few months ago. However, $1.4 million of the underspend relates to the Airport Projects, which came in under budget and will result in a lower level of grant funding being claimed.

Financial Implications

This report is intended to provide Council with timely information on the state of Council's finances. There are no financial implications related to receiving this report. Any identified budget items will be reported during the next Budget Review, or at year end.

Strategic Plan

Objective 4.1 – Whyalla Council Members commit to serving the Community

Strategy 4.1.2 – We will make decisions based on facts, not emotions

Legislation

The information has been presented in a format consistent with the requirements of Section 9(1)(a) of *the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*, so that it is comparable to the information presented during the Budget Review process.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest – Nil

Risk Assessment

Nothing identified within the report is of a significant nature, so the financial risk to Council is considered to be low.

Social Considerations – Not applicable

Community Engagement – Not applicable

Environmental Implications – Not applicable

Communication – Not applicable

Conclusion

This report provides Council a regular update on Council's financial position, identified budget issues and progress on Council's projects.

Annexure "A"

WHYALLA CITY COUNCIL

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT - June 2026

UNIFORM PRESENTATION OF FINANCES	Original Budget $000	Current Budget $000	YTD Actual $000	% Budget
OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Income				**105%**
Rates	27,968	28,103	28,106	100%
Statutory Charges	476	454	480	106%
User Charges	5,794	5,890	5,621	95%
Grants, subsidies and contributions - capital	617	912	912	100%
Grants, subsidies and contributions - operating	7,069	7,813	10,276	132%
Investment Income	12	62	63	102%
Reimbursements	9	9	12	133%
Other Income	1,143	1,306	1,320	101%
Expenses				**97%**
Employee Costs	(15,917)	(15,677)	(15,594)	99%
Materials, contracts & other expenses	(19,116)	(20,872)	(19,636)	94%
Depreciation, amortisation & impairments	(9,588)	(9,940)	(9,929)	100%
Finance Costs	(541)	(286)	(300)	105%
Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)	**(2,074)**	**(2,226)**	**1,331**	
CAPITAL ACTIVITIES				
Net Outlays on Existing Assets				
Capital Expense on Renewal and Replacement of Existing Assets	(10,537)	(8,942)	(6,712)	75%
add back Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	9,588	9,940	9,929	100%
add back Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	85	176	174	99%
Net Outlays on Existing Assets	**(864)**	**1,174**	**3,391**	
Net Outlay on New and Upgraded Assets				
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets	(10,492)	(8,138)	(5,967)	73%
add back Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Asse	7,985	8,159	5,332	65%
add back Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets	-	-	-	
Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets	**(2,507)**	**21**	**(635)**	
Net Lending/ (Borrowing) for Financial Year	**(5,445)**	**(1,031)**	**4,087**	
FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
New Borrowings	1,400	4,000	-	
Repayment of Principal	-	-	(2,000)	
(Increase)/Decrease in Cash and Investments	(30)	7,806	7,719	
Net Balance Sheet Funding (Debtors & Creditors etc)	4,075	(10,775)	(9,890)	
Total Financing Transactions	**5,445**	**1,031**	**(4,171)**	

WHYALLA CITY COUNCIL

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT - June 2026

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	Original Budget $000	Current Budget $000	YTD Actual $000
INCOME			
Rates	27,968	28,103	28,106
Statutory Charges	476	454	480
User Charges	5,794	5,890	5,621
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions - Capital	617	912	912
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions - Operating	7,069	7,813	10,276
Investment Income	12	62	63
Reimbursements	9	9	12
Other Income	1,143	1,306	1,320
TOTAL INCOME	**43,088**	**44,549**	**46,790**
EXPENSES			
Employee Costs	15,917	15,677	15,594
Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses	19,116	20,872	19,636
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairments	9,588	9,940	9,929
Finance Costs	541	286	300
TOTAL EXPENSES	**45,162**	**46,775**	**45,459**
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**(2,074)**	**(2,226)**	**1,331**
Amounts Specifically for New or Upgraded Assets	7,985	8,159	5,332
Net Gain (Loss)	-	-	107
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**5,911**	**5,933**	**6,770**
Other Comprehensive Income	6,143	6,143	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	**12,054**	**12,076**	**6,770**

WHYALLA CITY COUNCIL

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT - June 2026

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	Original Budget $000	Current Budget $000	YTD Actual $000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	8,129	293	380
Trade & Other Receivables	3,790	7,140	3,397
Inventories	2,548	2,548	2,595
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	**14,467**	**9,981**	**6,372**
Non-current Assets			
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	429,786	429,394	418,970
Other Non-Current Assets	2,264	2,264	2,364
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	**432,050**	**431,658**	**421,334**
Total Assets	**446,517**	**441,639**	**427,706**
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	11,995	4,495	1,633
Short Term Borrowings	500	-	-
Short Term Provisions	2,503	2,503	2,845
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	**14,998**	**6,998**	**4,478**
Non-Current Liabilities			
Long Term Borrowings	5,400	8,500	2,500
Long Term Provisions	1,219	1,219	1,114
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	**6,619**	**9,719**	**3,614**
Total Liabilities	**21,617**	**16,717**	**8,092**
NET ASSETS	**424,900**	**424,922**	**419,614**
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus	71,211	71,233	75,391
Asset Revaluation Reserve	350,135	350,135	343,992
Reserves	3,554	3,554	232
TOTAL EQUITY	**424,900**	**424,922**	**419,615**

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY	Original Budget $000	Current Budget $000	YTD Actual $000
Accumulated Surplus			
Balance at Beginning of Period	65,300	65,300	68,621
Change in Financial Position Resulting from Operations	5,911	5,933	6,770
Transfers from Other Reserves	-	-	-
Transfers to Other Reserves	-	-	-
Balance at End of Period	**71,211**	**71,233**	**75,391**
Asset Revaluation Reserve			
Balance at Beginning of Period	343,992	343,992	343,992
Revaluation Increment	6,143	6,143	-
Balance at End of Period	**350,135**	**350,135**	**343,992**
Other Reserves			
Balance at Beginning of Period	3,554	3,554	232
Transfers to Accumulated Surplus	-	-	-
Transfers from Accumulated Surplus	-	-	-
Balance at End of Period	**3,554**	**3,554**	**232**
TOTAL EQUITY AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD	**424,900**	**424,922**	**419,615**

WHYALLA CITY COUNCIL

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT - June 2026

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS	Original Budget $000	Current Budget $000	YTD Actual $000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Rates	27,968	24,603	28,106
Statutory Charges	476	454	480
User Charges	5,794	5,890	6,014
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions - Operating	7,069	4,463	10,276
Investment Income	12	62	63
Reimbursements	9	9	12
Other Income	1,143	1,306	1,320
Payments			
Employee Costs	(15,917)	(15,677)	(15,594)
Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses	(19,041)	(24,797)	(29,835)
Finance Costs	(541)	(286)	(300)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	**6,972**	**(3,973)**	**542**
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets	7,985	8,159	5,332
Grants Utilised for Capital Purposes	617	912	912
Sale of Replaced Assets	85	176	174
Sale of surplus assets	-	-	-
Payments			
Purchase of Renewal/Replacement Assets	(8,537)	(8,942)	(6,712)
Purchase of New/Expansion Assets	(8,492)	(8,138)	(5,967)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities	**(8,342)**	**(7,833)**	**(6,261)**
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Proceeds from Borrowings - Council	1,400	4,000	-
Payments			
Repayment of Borrowings	-	-	(2,000)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities	**1,400**	**4,000**	**(2,000)**
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held	**30**	**(7,806)**	**(7,719)**
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	8,099	8,099	8,099
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period	**8,129**	**293**	**380**

WHYALLA CITY COUNCIL

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT - June 2026

Loans - June 2026

Fixed Loans

Loan	Term	Loan Value	Interest Rate	Expiry
139	3 years	$2,500,000	5.60%	17/07/2026
		$2,500,000		

Variable Loans

Loan	Total Facility Value	Drawn Down Value	Interest Rate	Expiry
139	$11,500,000	$0	5.85%	15/07/2030
140	$5,000,000	$0	5.85%	15/12/2031
141	$7,000,000	$0	5.85%	15/01/2028
	$23,500,000	**$0**		

Loan Summary

Fixed Loan Balance	$2,500,000	100%
Variable Loan Balance	$0	0%
Total Loan Balance	**$2,500,000**	
Loan Funds Available	$23,500,000	
Weighted Interest Rate	5.60%	

Accounts Payable - June 2026

Total Value of Payments made this month	$2,922,665
Total Value of Oustanding Accounts Payable	$515,745

Rates - June 2026

Value of Rates Payments received this month		$2,056,978	
Overdue Rates Value		$2,313,083	$2,270,759

Age of debt	Properties	Value	Comparative
Current Year	1158	$1,187,911	$1,274,342
Last Year	215	$425,363	$401,200
Two Years ago	135	$246,598	$206,450
Three Years ago	86	$148,374	$136,335
Four or more Years ago	65	$304,836	$252,432

WHYALLA CITY COUNCIL

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT - June 2026

Accounts Receivable - June 2026

Value of Invoices issued this month	$396,981
Value of Payments received this month	$1,375,425
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Receivable	**-$978,445**
Total Value of Oustanding Accounts Receivable	$429,300
Value of Doubtful Debt Provision	-$32,192
Expected value of Accounts Receivable to be received	**$397,108**

Consultants - June 2026

Total value of consultants used this month	$74,694
Total value of consultants used year to date	$665,655

High Value Operating Contracts - June 2026

Kerbside Waste Collection

Total estimated annual value of contract	$	3,025,700
Total expected spend year to date	$	2,773,500
Actual spend year to date	$	2,738,529
Variance	$	34,971

Comments

The estimated value of the contract is based on past number of bins collected and total tonnages. Increases in these items lead to increased costs to Council. The estimated contract figure is based on the updated budget as at the most recent budget review.

Airport Security Screening

Total estimated annual value of contract	$	1,260,000
Total expected spend year to date	$	1,155,000
Actual spend year to date	$	1,112,146
Variance	$	42,854

Comments

The estimated value of the contract is based on the updated pricing agreed with the contractor.

WHYALLA CITY COUNCIL

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT – June 2026

Operating Income

The majority of operating income is on track.

Statutory income is above budget, because of some large development applications that have been lodged over the last month few months.

User Charges look low, but some large income streams such as airport charges will be recognised during July when the relevant data is received.

Grant income is well above budget because the Federal Government paid 80% of the 2026-27 Financial Assistance Grant in June, higher than the 50% that Council has estimated would occur in line with last year. The adjusted operating result will remove this timing distortion.

Operating Expenditure

The majority of operating expenditure is on track.

Loan borrowings were higher than expected in April and May due to short term cashflow requirements, so interest expenses is $14,000 above the current budget.

Labour costs will be approximately $50,000 above the current budget, due to a backpay related to the correction of a historical classification issue for some childcare staff.

There are still some large invoices for June to be processed, so contracting, materials and other expenses will be tight once all expenses have been recognised.

Capital Activities

Approximately 75% of the updated capital program budget has been spent to date. A large invoice for work undertaken in June on the Whyalla Boat Ramp still needs to be processed. The additional Airport projects came in significantly lower than the budget, meaning there that there will be an underspend, which will mean that some grant funding won't be claimed. Some further project spend will need to be deferred to 2026/27.

WHYALLA CITY COUNCIL

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT – June 2026

Loans

Council's target is for fixed loans to make up between 30% and 70% of total loan balances. Currently they are outside of this range at 100%. This is because of the Federal Government's decision to bring forward 80% of the Financial Assistance Grants for 2026/27 to June 2026, which has a large distorting impact on Council's cashflow. Even with this large forward payment, Council has not got a large cash reserve that could have been used to pay down loans further, so this level of fixed borrowings is considered to be around the right level. Fixed loans will be reviewed in July when the current fixed term ends, with a view to fixing a similar amount moving forward, but with a number of different terms.

Council's weighted interest rate is currently 5.60%. Council's current available loan capacity is $23.5 million.

Rates

Overdue rates balances are currently slightly above where they sat at the same time 12 months ago, being 2% higher. This suggests that financial stress on ratepayers is similar to the same time last year.

Short term arrears are actually 7% lower than where they were at the same time last year, but the arrears for properties that are over 1 year behind are up 13%, which will continue to be monitored.

Approximately 50% of properties with arrears are one quarterly payments or less behind, with 20% owing less than $100.

Consultants

The majority of consultant expenditure to date has related to:

- Employee Recruitment
- Cultural and Leadership Development
- IT Migration project
- Asset Management
- Planning and Building Assessment
- Major Events

Additional expenditure has also occurred in minor amounts in other areas.

Monthly Project Update - June 2026

2025-26 Capital Program - Monthly Reporting

		Budget	Actual Costs	Total Committed	Stage	% Spent	% Complete	Expected Completion
Project	**Transport Renewal Program**	$ 1,699,000	$ 1,443,167	$ 2,732,479	Delivery	85%	90%	June 2026
Description:	After the large program undertaken over the previous three years to address a large number of end of life assets, this new three year program returns to a more "normal" annual budget level. This program will renew kerb, footpath and road assets prioritised using extensive Council data.		Progress:	Works on the sealed road program has been completed, focusing primarily on spray sealing works on the Fitzgerald Bay Road. Both the footpath and kerbing contrcts will continue into the new year. Unsealed works on the False Bay Road have been delayed but will be progressed after the cuttlefish season. Some budget has been deferred to the 2026/27 program.				
				On Time		**On Budget**		

Project	**Airport Runway Upgrade**	$ 4,212,000	$ 4,158,789	$ 4,158,789	Completed	99%	100%	Complete
Description:	Urgent works required to the main runway to allow for Q400 flights to service the airport on an ongoing basis. The project is over 90% grant funded jointly by the State and Federal Governments.		Progress:	This project was completed on time and under budget.				
				On Time		**On Budget**		

Project	**Airport Upgrades**	$ 2,330,000	$ 468,605	$ 947,270	Delivery	20%	60%	2026-27
Description:	Works to complete a new airside fence, upgrade the water main and replace the terminal switchboard.		Progress:	The State and Federal Governments recently provided permission to use the underspend from the runway on a number of other airport projects, however they set a deadline of 30 June 2026. All work on the electrical upgrade and new airside fencing are complete, with hte exception of camera installation. Due to some delays with PVC products, the State and Federal Governments have provided an extension until 31 August for the water main project. The projects came in well under budget, so some of the grant funding will not be claimed.				
				On Time		**On Budget**		

Project	**Foreshore Plaza**	$ 233,000	$ 117,954	$ 338,696	Delivery	51%	10%	2026-27
Description:	Delivery of the first stage of the Foreshore Masterplan consisting of a plaza precinct including water play. This project is 50% externally funded.		Progress:	A report was recently presented to Council to secure the final budget required to progress this project. Final negotiations are underway on the contract and then on site works are expected to commence in late July or early August.				
				On Time		**On Budget**		

Project	**Marina Renewal**	$ 2,517,000	$ 1,818,427	$ 2,484,017	Delivery	72%	95%	2026-27
Description:	Based on urgent need, these funds will focus on renewal of the boat ramp and pontoons in the Whyalla Marina, while also decommissioning the Point Lowly wharf which is at end of life.		Progress:	As at the end of June the majority of works on the Whyalla Boat Ramp are complete, with comissioning to occur in early July. The demolition of the Pt Lowly Wharf has been completed. Some additional works on the Pt Lowly Boat Ramp have also been completed to ensure this asset can continue to be used.				
				On Time		**On Budget**		

		Budget	Actual Costs	Total Committed	Stage	% Spent	% Complete	Expected Completion
Project	**New Foreshore Building**	$ 100,000	$ 101,272	$ 101,272	Tender	101%	10%	2027-28
Description:	Construction of a new multi-use facility at the Foreshore to replace the current Surf Life Saving building. This project has $5 million in external funding and will be delivered over a number of financial years.		Progress:	The tender process is underway, and will take a number of months to select the preferred contractor and enter into a contract.				
				On Time		**On Budget**		

Project	**Recreation Centre Improvements**	$ 47,000	$ -	$ -	Delivery	0%	10%	2026-27
Description:	Installation of a significant solar array, with roof repairs to allow this to occur. Retiling and painting of the toilets to bring them up to the standard of the rest of the centre. Upgrade of the fire panel which is at end of life.		Progress:	The contract for the roof works has now been let, with works to commence soon. The solar project has been cancelled at this time due ot other priorities, but will be reconsidered in coming years. The other projects will progress after the roof is completed.				
				On Time		**On Budget**		

Project	**Civic Park Upgrades**	$ 841,000	$ 837,840	$ 843,197	Completed	100%	100%	Complete
Description:	Replacement of playground equipment at Civic Park, including improvements to the surroundings.		Progress:	The Civic Park playground replacement has been completed as part of the Stimulus Project. Construction of the new toilet has also now been completed, with this being funded from the toilet upgrade project.				
				On Time		**On Budget**		

2025-26 Significant Operating Projects - Monthly Reporting

Project	**Marina Dredging**	$ 1,045,000	$ 1,053,966	$ 1,047,283	Completed	101%	100%	Complete
Description:	Dredging of both the Whyalla and Pt Lowly Marinas.		Progress:	Dredging of both marinas has now been completed, with the work ensuring that the channel at each site is much more navigable at low side, particularly at Pt Lowly. Some additional costs were incurred due to the amount of material needing to be removed. This can only be estimated before the work commences.				
				On Time		**On Budget**		

14.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

14.2.2 Close Loan Facility – <u>For Endorsement</u>

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026
Author's Title: Grant Jennings **File No.:** 0-159
Manager Finance and Knowledge Management
Director: Corporate Services

Annexures:

A – Local Government Finance Authority Request

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest: *In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120*		**Status:** *Information classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act*	
☐ **Yes**	☑ **No**	☐ **Yes**	☑ **No**

Reason – Not applicable

PURPOSE

To consider a request to close one of Council's borrowing facilities approximately 18 months early.

SUMMARY

In April, the Local Government Finance Authority wrote to Council requesting that Council consider closing down Cash Advance Debenture 141. Based on current Long Term Financial Plan (**LTFP**) projections, it is recommended that this request be approved.

RECOMMENDATION

Council approves the closing of Cash Advance Debenture 141, held with the Local Government Finance Authority.

DUE DATE

Close Loan Facility – <u>For Endorsement</u>	20/07/2026

14.2.2 Close Loan Facility – <u>For Endorsement</u>

<u>REPORT</u>

BACKGROUND

Council currently has three Cash Advance Debenture (**CAD**) borrowing facilities open with the Local Government Finance Authority (**LGFA**), as detailed in the following table:

CAD #	Loan Limit	Loan Length	End Date
139	$14,000,000	10 years	15/07/2030
140	$5,000,000	10 years	15/12/2031
141	$7,000,000	4 years	15/01/2028
	$26,000,000		

At their meeting on 19 June 2026, the Audit and Risk Committee provided feedback that Council are under no obligation to grant the LGFAs request. They highlighted that the approval of new loan facilities is becoming more complex, with the LGFA putting conditions on some new loan facilities and rejecting others, using a risk-based approach. They believe that loan facilities that are already approved, should remain available for emergencies.

Administration agrees with this feedback; but based on the current facility having just over 18 months left to its term, and the fact that for this facility to be utilised, something extremely adverse would have needed to have occurred to Council's financial projections, it is still recommended to grant the LGFA request. Local Government have an excellent working relationship with the LGFA and they often go out of their way to assist the sector, so granting this request that has almost no impact on Council appears more than reasonable.

DISCUSSION

The last loan approved by Council was CAD 141, which commenced in April 2024. This loan with a value of $7 million, replaced an expiring CAD with the same value. At the time, this was approved in mid-2023, Council's LTFP projected that loan balances would peak at $28.5 million in the 2024/25 financial year, with the possibility that a further loan would be required to increase Council's $26 million borrowing capacity, if that projection remained in place.

Since that time, Council's LTFP has changed significantly. Firstly, Council reviewed and reduced the annual allocation for new capital projects by 75%, from around $4 million per annum to $1 million per annum. Additionally, Council was able to negotiate a large strategic land sale to the State Government. Due to these factors, and other less material ones, the LTFP now predicts that loan balances will peak at $10.5 million in 2027/28.

Refer **Annexure "A"** – Local Government Finance Authority Request

In April, the LGFA wrote to Council requesting that Council consider closing down CAD 141. Each Council supplies the LGFA with its updates LTFP projections each year, and so the LFGA could see that based on Council's current borrowing requirements, there was no longer a need for this facility. There are no direct costs to Council of having the facility sitting unused. However, it does increase the LGFA's overall wholesale borrowing costs, as they need to have the capacity to lend these funds to Council at less than 1 hours' notice. As the LGFA have shown over time that they are willing to pass on lower interest rates to Council whenever they can, Council has an interest in considering this request.

Whilst the ARC provided feedback that Council are under no obligation to grant the LGFAs request. They highlighted that the approval of new loan facilities is becoming more complex, with the LGFA putting conditions on some new loan facilities and rejecting others, using a risk-based approach. They believe that loan facilities that are already approved should be kept available for emergencies. Administration agrees with this sentiment from the ARC, however, for the reasons provided above, that the current facility having just over 18 months left to its term, and the fact that for this facility to be utilised, something extremely adverse would have needed to have occurred to Council's financial projections, it is recommended the closing of Cash Advance Debenture 141.

It should be noted that Council actually requested this loan facility for a period of 10 years. However, at the time, Council was projecting operating deficits over all 10 years of the LTFP and the LGFA was unwilling to approve this term without some covenants being put in place. It was agreed that they would approve a 4-year term without conditions, which was suitable based on the cash flow projections at that time. Council's LTFP projections have improved significantly in the meantime and so it is no expected that Council will have any issue securing unconditional loan approval in the future years, if required.

Based on current LTFP projections, it is recommended that the LGFA's request to close CAD 141 be approved. Council should not need to apply for any further loan facilities until at least 2030, when CAD 139 expires.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications relating to this decision. Decisions relating to required borrowing levels are made during budget and budget review processes.

Strategic Plan

Objective 1.1 – Unearth community pride within the city

Strategy 1.1.1 – Take a proactive, collaborative approach to the revitalisation of council services to ensure that they adapt to the changing needs and expectations of the community

Legislation

Under Section 44(3)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, Council cannot delegate decision in relation to loan facilities.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest – Nil

Risk Assessment

The financial risk of closing the borrowing facility is considered low, as Council's loan borrowings are projected to peak $8.5 million below the remaining borrowing capacity. As there is only approximately 18 months left before CAD 141 expires anyway, this is more than enough buffer for any changes in projections.

Social Considerations – Nil

Community Engagement

Community engagement is not required for loan facilities. Council's Annual Budget is based on extensive community engagement for both the Annual Budget and the Long Term Financial Plan, which include projections of Council's loan borrowings.

Environmental Implications – Nil

Communication – Not applicable

Conclusion

In April, the LGFA wrote to Council requesting that Council consider closing down CAD 141. Based on current LTFP projections, after discussion and feedback by Council's Audit and Risk Committee, and considering all information, it is recommended that this request be approved.

Annexure "A"

Local Government Finance Authority

9 April 2026

Mr. Justin Commons
Chief Executive Officer
Corporation of the City of Whyalla

via email: justin.commons@whyalla.sa.gov.au

Dear Justin

Re: Review of Existing Loan Facilities

Following our recent meeting last month, we write to recommend that Corporation of the City of Whyalla (CoW) consider reviewing its current loan facilities with the Local Government Finance Authority (LGFA), with a view to reducing excess borrowing capacity that is not expected to be required under the adopted Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) for FY27–36.

The Council's LTFP forecasts peak debt of approximately $11.8 million, while total approved borrowing facilities with the LGFA are $26 million. As at the date of this letter, over $18 million of the available facilities remain undrawn.

Given this surplus, CoW may wish to consider the option of terminating one of the existing facilities, specifically, Cash Advance Debenture (CAD) 141, a facility of $7 million expiring in January 2028, which remains undrawn.

By terminating this facility, the Council will retain access to approximately $19 million in borrowings, which is more than sufficient to cover the forecasted peak debt in the LTFP and provides a prudent buffer for contingencies or future needs. This approach also supports sound financial management principles by reducing unnecessary exposure while maintaining appropriate funding flexibility.

Can this letter please be provided to your Council and Audit & Risk Committee.

If you would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Davin Lambert
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Cc CoW Finance Manager, Grant Jennings (grant.jennings@whyalla.sa.gov.au)

14.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

14.2.3 Review of Finance Policies – <u>For Adoption</u>

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026
Author's Title: Grant Jennings **File No.:** 0-159
Manager Finance and Knowledge Management
Directorate: Corporate Services

Annexures:

A – Budget Management and Review Policy with track changes
B – Treasury Management Policy with track changes
C – Financial Hardship Policy with track changes

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:
In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Status:
Information classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Reason – not applicable

PURPOSE

To present a number of updated Financial Policies to Council, that have had minor changes made in line with the regular review process.

SUMMARY

Minor changes are suggested to a number of financial policies, to ensure that they are reflective of current practice.

RECOMMENDATION

Council:

1. **adopts the updated Budget Management and Review Policy;**
2. **adopts the updated Treasury Management Policy; and**
3. **adopts the updated Financial Hardship Policy.**

DUE DATE

Review of Finance Policies – <u>For Adoption</u>	20/07/2026

14.2.3 Review of Finance Policies – <u>For Adoption</u>

<u>REPORT</u>

BACKGROUND

The Budget Management and Review Policy, Treasury Management Policy and Financial Hardship Policy are due for review, and while no major updates are considered to be required, some minor wording changes are suggested to better align them with current practice.

The policies were presented to the Audit and Risk Committee on 19 June 2026 with minor feedback suggested for the Budget Management and Review Policy, which have been incorporated. The polices are now recommended to Council for feedback.

DISCUSSION

Budget Management and Review Policy

Refer **Annexure "A"** – Budget Management and Review Policy with track changes

The Budget Management and Review Policy is considered to be appropriate for managing Council's legislative requirements in relation to budget management and also sets out high level parameters for budget setting.

The suggested changes to the Budget Management and Review Policy focus around:

- adding more information around the budget process, including outlining the community consultation activities, which are greater than the minimum standards set by the Act; and
- adding extra clarity around the legislative timeframes for reports relating to reviewing Council's budget.

The Audit and Risk Committee also suggested some minor changes which have been incorporated, being:

- listing Council's Strategic Management Plans; and
- outlining how the ESCOSA process links to the budget process.

Treasury Management Policy

Refer **Annexure "B"** – Treasury Management Policy with track changes

The Treasury Management Policy is considered to align with contemporary practice and sets out a good balance between flexibility and oversight.

The only area of suggested change is to outline Council's strategy to complying with Section 123(7a) of the Act, in which Council authorises borrowings in line with the adopted budget. The policy position aligns with current practice and allows Administration to take advantage of the flexibility of Cash Advance Debentures to manage daily cash flow requirements in the most efficient manner.

Financial Hardship Policy

Refer **Annexure "C"** – Financial Hardship Policy with track changes

No significant changes are proposed to the Financial Hardship Policy, as it is operating as required. Some minor wording has been removed, as this is reflected in the Debtor Management Procedure, and isn't required here.

Debtor Management Procedure

As part of their Interim Audit, Council's External Auditor identified that the Debt Management Procedure had not been officially updated for a number of years. This has now been updated and the Audit and Risk Committee were of the opinion that this should only be an internal policy moving forward.

Legislation

Local Government Act 1999
Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest – Nil

Risk Assessment

Reviewing Council's financial policies regularly ensures they reflect current best practice and address the issues they need to.

Social Considerations – Nil

Community Engagement – Nil

Environmental Implications – Nil

Communication - Nil

Conclusion

Minor changes are suggested to a number of financial policies to ensure that they are reflective of current practice.

Annexure "A"

Whyalla City Council

Budget Management and Review Policy	
Type	Financial
GDS Category	Financial Management – Public
Responsible Officer	Manager Finance
Policy Adopted	~~August 2024~~July 2026
Review Period	Two years
Last Reviewed	August 202~~42~~
Next Review Date	~~August 2026~~July 2028
Policy Version Number	~~8~~7
Applicable Legislation	Local Government Act 1999; Section 123 Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011; Sections 7, 9 and 10
Related Documents	~~Annual Business Plan and Budget Process Procedure~~ ~~Budget Monitoring and Review Procedure~~Community Engagement Policy
Public Consultation Required	No
Purpose	This policy covers the key principles to consider when developing the annual budget and when making subsequent amendments to, and measuring performance against that budget

1. Policy Objective

To provide clear direction to Management and staff in the management, review and reporting of performance against Council's adopted Budget and to increase the accountability of responsible officers by providing a framework to operate within in regard to the following:

- content, timing and process to be followed for development and presentation for adoption of the Annual Budget;
- content, timing and process to be followed for reporting to Council on its performance against budget;
- mechanism for the process of approval of budget variations;
- the scope and conditions associated with the Chief Executive Officer approving variations in activity before obtaining Council approval; and
- the process required to be followed and general guidelines in relation to carry forward of expenditure associated with projects included in the budget for the previous year.

2. Scope

This policy covers the presentation of Annual Budget documents and the review of documents for both Operating and Capital Budgets.

3. Policy Statement

3.1 Annual Budget

The Annual Business Plan & Budget will be developed through consultation with senior staff, Elected Members, the Audit & Risk Committee and the community and must be consistent with the objectives of Council's Strategic Management Plans, consisting of:

- Strategic Plan
- Asset Management Strategy
- Long Term Financial Plan.

The budget should be prepared with the aim of operating within the Key Financial Indicator targets within Council's Long Term Financial Plan. Where this is not achieved, commentary shall be included as to why this is the case and the impact on Council's long-term financial sustainability.

When commencing the Annual Business Plan & Budget process, Council will consider and adopt a list of parameters that will form the framework for development of the plan. These would be expected to cover at a minimum the following areas:

- Financial sustainability
- Rating increases
- Service delivery and standards
- Asset management
- Funding for new assets

The budget will be adopted in a format consistent with the Model Financial Statements.

The Annual Business Plan will meet all requirements of the legislation relating to the Local Government Advice Scheme, including publishing the advice provided by ESCOSA, as well as Council's response.

The draft Annual Business Plan & Budget will be presented to Council's Audit & Risk Committee for feedback prior to being presented to Council to commence community consultation in line with Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Consultation will generally be undertaken from late April to mid-to-late May and Council will generally undertake the following activities as part of this process:

- Present a number of community information sessions.
- Allow for written feedback to be submitted in any format, including via a form on Council's website.
- Allow an hour at the May Council Meeting for members of the community to make a verbal submission, without needing to first register to do so.

Council will be presented with all the information collected during the community consultation period at a Special Council Meeting in late May or early June. At this meeting, Council will provide direction on the content of the Annual Business Plan and Budget they want developed, for consideration and adoption at the June Council Meeting.

3.2 Timing and Content of Budget Review Reporting

Each year, Council receives a total of four Budget Review Reports in the following formats.

3.2.1 *2 x Budget Update Reports*

These are to be prepared for the periods ending 30 September and 30 April each year and included in the Agenda of the Audit & Risk Committee and Ordinary Meeting of Council for review and adoption as soon as reasonably practical after these dates.

The first of these reports must be presented to Council on or after 30 September for the applicable financial year, but before the report required under section 3.2.2. The second of these reports must be presented to Council after the report required under section 3.2.2, but on or before 31 May for the applicable financial year.

~~–~~The report will include the following for both operating and capital activities:

- original budget;
- current amended budget;
- latest revised forecast of expected result for the year; and
- an explanation of any proposed budget variations that have not previously been approved.

This report will at a minimum present this information in a format consistent with the Uniform Presentation of Finances ~~(Note 16 of the Financial Statements)~~ but ideally will be in the format of a Budget Review, outlined below.

The impacts of the update on Council's Long Term Financial Plan will be discussed.

3.2.2 *1 x Mid-year Budget Review Report*

This is to be prepared for the period ending 31 January each year and included in the Agenda of the Audit & Risk Committee and Ordinary Meeting of Council for review and adoption as soon as reasonably practical after this date.

The report must be presented to Council on or after 30 November and on or before 15 March for the applicable financial year. In addition it must be presented to Council between the two reports required under section 3.2.1.

~~-~~The report will include the following:

- four principal financial statements showing a revised full year forecast compared to estimates set out in the original budget.
- revised forecast of key performance indicators compared with targets established in the original budget.
- original budget;
- current amended budget;
- latest revised forecast of expected result for the year; and
- an explanation of any proposed budget variations that have not previously been approved.

This report will present this information in a format consistent with the Model Financial Statements as well as the Uniform Presentation of Finances ~~(Note 16 of the Financial Statements)~~.

The impacts of the update on Council's Long Term Financial Plan will be discussed.

3.2.3 *Report on Financial Results*

This is an accountability document that compares audited information on financial results and compares this to results set out in the original budget for the previous year, including written explanation of material variances between actual and budgeted in the form of the Model Financial Statements as well as the Uniform Presentation of Finances ~~(Note 16 of the Financial Statements)~~. Variances in the Key Financial Indicators must also be presented.

Th~~e~~is report is to be prepared and included in the Agenda of the Audit & Risk Committee and Ordinary Meeting of Council for review alongside the Audited Financial Statements.

3.3 Approval of Variations outside the Scope of the Budget

Council approval must be sought and obtained before commitments are made that would result in activity outside of the budget limits (except where allowed for under this clause). Where administration can identify offsetting funds within the same business unit up to a limit of $50,000, without impacting on service or project delivery, Council approval is not required.

In considering a request for a revision to its budget, Council will consider the impact the approval would have on the achievement of the targets for financial indicators established in Council's original budget as well as the Long Term Financial Plan. It will also consider the capacity to increase revenue or reduce other expenditure (either of a corresponding operating or capital nature as appropriate) to off-set the variation and the merit of doing so.

Where circumstances warrant (e.g. for reasons of urgent necessity), the Chief Executive Officer may, authorise variations in activity. Whenever such variations are made, the following Budget Review or Update Report must include from the Chief Executive Officer a statement of changes and rationale for the decisions. Changes can only be those that do not:

- materially impact on the quantity, frequency, range and level of service previously provided for or implicitly intended in the original allocation; and
- impact on any explicit proposals Council has included in its Annual Business Plan or has otherwise publicly committed to and accommodated in its budget.

3.4 Guidelines in Relation to the Carry Forward of Expenditure included in the Budget for the Previous Financial Year

- Funding approved for non-project budget activity not completed at the end of any budget year is forfeited unless approval to carry-over the activity and remaining budget allocation is granted by Council either separately or as part of a budget update/review, except where that activity is covered by funding already received from an external source.
- Operational and Capital projects that will not commence in the year that they have been budgeted for, will be re-evaluated and considered against competing priorities and where warranted included in the budget for the following year. This will be completed as part of the final Budget Update of the year, unless known earlier.
- The scope and funding requirements of capital and operating activities that are underway or committed but not completed at the end of the financial year must be reviewed and considered for carry forward as part of the first annual Budget Update report.

3.5 A monthly budget report will be provided to Council, to show the financial position as at the end of the previous calendar month, identify budget trends or pressures that have been identified since the last budget update/review and to provide other items of interest from Council's finance processes, which may change from time to time.

3.6 Project Managers will report on all Council approved major projects, being those above $1 million or of high community interest, as part of the monthly budget report, providing a full review of the status of projects, current expenditure and revenue and current stage of completion. All projects above $100,000 will be reported on, on a quarterly basis.

3.7 Finance is responsible for providing timely and accurate budget reports to Directors and Managers each month to assist them to manage financial performance in accordance with Council's budget.

3.8 Budget savings arising as a result of works and other planned expenditure activities costing less than estimated shall be used in the first instance to offset any over-expenditure against related budget lines and thereafter to improve Council's operating result and reduce the amount of loan borrowings required.

3.9 In any year an increase in the scope of budgeted activities or the addition of new budget items or activities must be approved by Council.

3.10 Requests from the community for works and other activities not in the current budget may be added to the budget if of sufficient priority in accordance with 3.3 above. All other requests for additional works and activities will be considered during the planning process for the following year's budget.

4. Authority

Adopted by Council – ~~August 2024~~July 2026

5. History

Version 7: adopted by Council – August 2024
Version 6: adopted by Council – August 2022
Version 5: adopted by Council – October 2020
Version 4: adopted by Council – September 2015
Version 3
Version 2: adopted by Council – October 2012
Version 1: adopted by Council – September 2008

Annexure "B"

Whyalla City Council

Treasury Management Policy	
Type	Financial
GDS Category	Financial Management – Public
Responsible Officer	Finance Coordinator
Policy Adopted	~~May 2024~~July 2026
Review Period	Two years
Last Reviewed	May 2024
Next Review Date	~~May 2026~~July 2028
Policy Version Number	9~~8~~
Applicable Legislation	• Local Government Act 1999 Sections 44~~, Section~~, 47, ~~Section~~ 122,~~-~~ 123, ~~Section~~ 134, 135, 136, 139 and 140 • Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 5(1)
Related Documents	• LGA Financial Sustainability (paper 15)
Public Consultation Required	No
Purpose	To provide clear direction to Management, staff and Council in relation to the treasury function.

1. Introduction

This policy underpins Councils' decision-making regarding the financing of its operations as documented in its Annual Business Plan & Budget and Long Term Financial Plan and associated projected and actual cash flow receipts and outlays.

Council is committed to operating in a financially sustainable manner and maintains a Long Term Financial Plan to assist it to determine affordable service levels and revenue raising needs. This Plan also provides projections of future cash flow availability and needs.

2. Policy Objective

This Treasury Management Policy establishes a decision framework to ensure that:

- funds are available as required to support approved outlays;
- interest rates and other risks (e.g. liquidity and investment credit risks) are acknowledged and responsibly managed; and
- the net interest costs associated with borrowing and investing are reasonably likely to be minimised on average over the longer term.

3. Scope

The Treasury Management Policy covers the investments and borrowings of Council and is an important financial management tool that assists Councils' processes relating to borrowings and investments.

4. **Definitions** – Nil

5. Policy Statement

5.1 Treasury Management Strategy

Councils' operating and capital expenditure decisions are made on the basis of:

- identified community need and benefit relative to other expenditure options;
- cost-effectiveness of the proposed means of service delivery; and
- affordability of proposals having regard to Councils' long term financial sustainability (including consideration of the cost of capital and the impact of the proposal on Councils' Net Financial Liabilities ratio).

Council manages its finances holistically in accordance with its overall financial sustainability strategies and targets. This means Council will:

- maintain target ranges for its Net Financial Liabilities ratio;
- not retain and quarantine money for particular future purposes unless required by legislation or agreement with other parties;
- borrow funds in accordance with the requirements set out in its adopted budget and Long Term Financial Plan; and
- apply any funds that are not immediately required to meet approved expenditure (including funds that are required to be expended for specific purposes but are not required to be kept in separate bank accounts) to reduce its level of borrowings or to defer and/or reduce the level of new borrowings that would otherwise be required.

Council will hold all borrowings with the Local Government Finance Authority (LGFA), due to the following considerations:

- very competitive interest rates;
- paying a bonus each year on balances held with them therefore reducing the effective interest rate paid;
- easy and convenient processes for setting up new loan facilities;
- products that specifically cater to Local Government borrowing requirements; and
- profits are reinvested into the Local Government sector.

If at any time there are indications that the exclusive use of the LGFA is no longer of net benefit to Council, this policy will be reviewed.

Each year when adopting the Annual Business Plan & Budget, Council will pass a resolution in relation to its maximum borrowing level, to meet the requirements set out under section 123(7a) of the Act. The maximum level of borrowings will be set in line with Council existing loan facilities, which will normally be above the borrowing projections set out in the budget. This recognises that due to cash flow considerations, there may be times during the financial year where borrowings are higher than the projected balance at both 1 July and 30 June.

5.2 Interest Rate Risk Exposures

Council has a set range of limits for both fixed and variable interest rate borrowings in order to minimise net interest costs on average over the longer term and at the same time manage interest rate movement risk within acceptable limits.

5.2.1 Variable Interest Rate Borrowings

All borrowings will be established as Cash Advance Debenture facilities. These require interest-only payments and enables any amount of principal to be repaid or redrawn at call. This provides Council with access to liquidity when needed and flexibility to pay down borrowings with excess funds. As a default, these facilities are held at a floating variable rate which changes in line with official Reserve Bank of Australia rates.

5.2.2 *Fixed Interest Rate Borrowings*

To reduce Council's interest rate risk, approximately 50% of Council's total borrowings shall be fixed, with a target range of 30% to 70% over any financial year to allow for cash flow management. The decision to fix borrowings should be taken solely to remain with these targets, and not because fixed term rates are considered "low" at any particular time.

In order to spread its exposure to interest rate movements, Council will aim to have a variety of maturity dates on its fixed interest borrowings, with no more than 50% of total fixed loans maturing in one financial year.

If circumstances exist where administration considers that these targets cannot or should not be met, this will be reported to the next meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee, including a remediation plan for moving back to target range.

When fixing interest rates Council will use its existing Cash Advance Debenture facilities, which provide the flexibility to convert a portion of the balance from variable to fixed interest rates for a nominated period. In this way, fixed interest loans will not require principle repayments and will covert back to variable at the end of the nominated period.

The decision to fix interest rates in line with this policy is delegated to the ~~Director~~ General Manager Corporate Services for periods of up to 5 years. Fixing of interest rates greater than 5 years will be by a decision of Council, after review by the Audit & Risk Committee.

5.2.3 *Investments*

Council funds that are not immediately required for operational needs and cannot be applied to either reduce existing borrowings or avoid the raising of new borrowings, will be invested. The balance of funds held in any operating bank account that does not provide investment returns at least consistent with “at call” market rates shall be kept at a level that is not greater than is required to meet immediate working capital requirements.

Council funds available for investment will be lodged ‘at call’ or, having regard to differences in interest rates for fixed term investments of varying maturity dates, may be invested for a fixed term. In the case of fixed term investments, the term should not exceed a point in time where the funds otherwise could be applied to cost-effectively either defer the need to raise a new borrowing or reduce the level of Councils’ variable interest rate borrowing facility.

When investing funds, Council will select the investment type which delivers the best value, having regard to investment returns, transaction costs and other relevant and objectively quantifiable factors.

Council Management may, from time to time, invest surplus funds in:

- deposits with the Local Government Finance Authority; and/or
- bank interest bearing deposits.

A report is to be provided to Council by the Chief Executive Officer covering all the aspects in Section 139(3) for any other investment that requires the specific approval of Council.

5.2.4 *Reporting*

At least once a year, Council shall receive a specific report regarding treasury management performance relative to this policy document via the Audit & Risk Committee. The report shall highlight:

- the quantum of fixed term investments, interest rates and maturity dates;
- the quantum of total borrowings, interest rates and maturity dates; and
- the proportion of fixed interest rate and variable interest rate borrowings at the end date of the reporting period and an estimate of the average of these proportions across this period along with key reasons for significant variances compared with the targets specified in this policy.

6. Authority

Adopted by Council – 20 ~~May~~July 2026~~4~~

7. History

Version 8 – adopted by Council 20 May 2024
Version 7 – adopted by Council 16 May 2022
Version 6 – adopted by Council 15 June 2020
Version 5 – adopted by Council 16 July 2018
Version 4 – adopted by Council 21 September 2015
Version 3 – adopted by Council 16 June 2014
Version 2 – adopted by Council May 2012
Version 1 – adopted by Council 19 July 2010
Investment Policy subsumed – 19 July 2010

Annexure "C"

Whyalla City Council

Financial Hardship Policy	
Type	Financial
GDS Category	Financial Management – Public
Responsible Officer	Manager Finance
Policy Adopted	~~August 2024~~July 2026
Review Period	Two years
Last Reviewed	August 2024~~2~~
Next Review Date	~~August 2026~~July 2028
Policy Version Number	7~~6~~
Applicable Legislation	• Local Government Act 1999 – Chapter 10
Related Documents	• Rating Policy • Debtor Management ~~Guidelines/~~Procedure
Public Consultation Required	No
Purpose	To outline the options that Council can provide to assist debtors who are experiencing genuine financial hardship whilst ensuring that Council can sufficiently funds services and comply with the Local Government Act 1999 (the "Act")

1. Introduction

Council depends on income from rates and fees and charges to fund services and facilities for the community. The purpose of this policy is to outline the options that Council can provide to assist debtors who are experiencing genuine financial hardship whilst ensuring that Council can sufficiently funds services and comply with the Local Government Act 1999 (the "Act").

2. Policy Objective

Council undertakes recovery action for overdue rates and debtors to ensure the fair, equitable and consistent collection of outstanding monies in an effective and timely manner. Council will attempt to recover all costs, interest and expenses incurred by Council, while recognising the need to identify and consider individual cases of genuine financial hardship.

The Act allows Council to remit or defer a whole or part of any rate, charge, fine or interest if a person is suffering financial hardship. Council will only consider remittance of rate charges (excluding fines and interest) in exceptional circumstances.

Council aims to:

- provide the community with assistance and options to pay their accounts in a timely manner;
- provides equitable treatment to all members of the community; and
- maintain legislative compliance.

3. Scope

The Financial Hardship Policy is mainly concerned with the collection of General Rates, Waste Service Charges and NRMLandscape Levy, but will consider flexible payment arrangements for other classes of Debtors, including but not limited to:

- General Debtors;
- Library Debtors;
- Animal Management Debtors;
- Child Care Centre Debtors; and
- Cemetery and Crematorium Debtors.

4. Definitions

Debtor – any person, corporation, business or other entity owing money to Council.

Provision for Doubtful Debts – an estimate of the amount of debt raised that is unlikely to be collected.

Financial Hardship – means a circumstance of experiencing a lack of financial means, which may be either ongoing or temporary, but does not include circumstances where a person chooses not to meet a liability for an unpaid debt.

A "~~deferment~~deferral" of payment can be provided in whole or in part and be for a specified period and subject to any conditions determined by Council. When rates are deferred, payment is not required until the Council sends the person a notice requiring payment.

A "remission" removes the liability to pay and may be offered to include the whole or part of any interest or, where applicable, part of rates and charges. The variance between a remission and a deferral is that a deferral suspends payment for a period of time, whereas a remission permanently excuses payment.

Fine or interest – charges raised to overdue rates accounts in accordance with the Act.

Prescribed Percentage - the interest rate advised by the Local Government Finance Authority each financial year, in accordance with the Act.

5. Policy Statement

Council rates become overdue when not paid in accordance with a rate notice that is issued pursuant to Section 180 of the Act. Debtors become overdue when not paid in accordance with the terms on the invoice issued by Council. Councils' standard payment terms for debtors is 30 days.

Council may apply fines and interest for rates that are overdue.

Council may commence its legal recovery process through a debt collection agent on all overdue amounts for rates or debtors.

Where Council incurs legal costs, the legal costs may be recoverable from the ratepayer or debtor.

Payment plans and flexible payment arrangements will be made available to ratepayers and debtors for overdue amounts upon application.

The Council may, at its discretion, under delegated authority, remit penalties and related expenses for late payment of rates and debtors, including where genuine hardship can be substantiated.

Writing-off debts will only be considered when all reasonable attempts have been made to recover the outstanding amount. Writing-off of rates (excluding fines and interest) requires a decision of Council, except where delegated to the Chief Executive Officer in relation to Financial Hardship.

Where rates on a property become more than three years in arrears, Council may commence proceedings to sell the property in accordance with Chapter 10, Section 184 of the Local Government Act 1999.

Assisting the Community

Where customers are experiencing difficulty in making payments, Council will make available flexible payment plans, including setting up Centrepay arrangements for customers receiving Centrelink payments. These flexible payment arrangements may be short term in nature to handle a cash flow shortage, with a maximum extension of one month, but any ongoing arrangements will need to be sufficient to cover current year rates over a 12-month period. Fines and interest raised under the Local Government Act 1999 will be waived only if the arrangement is made before the due date and the account was current.

It should be noted that customers are able to set up recurring BPAY payments through their online banking to make rate payments on periodic basis. Council staff can provide assistance in calculating the amount required to keep up to date with payment due dates.

Assessing Genuine Financial Hardship

Where the flexible arrangements provided above are not sufficient for the customers circumstances, Council will rely on the advice of an accredited financial counsellor or recognised welfare agency to identify if a person or persons~~/s~~ are~~is~~ experiencing genuine financial hardship.

An individual who is experiencing financial hardship is someone who is identified by an accredited financial counsellor, or by a welfare agency as having the intention, but not the financial capacity, to make required payments in accordance with our payment terms.

There are two types of financial hardship: ongoing and temporary. Depending on the type of hardship being experienced, individuals will have different needs and will require different solutions.

Individuals who are identified as experiencing ongoing hardship are generally those on low or fixed incomes. These individuals may require ongoing assistance and management.

Individuals who may be identified as experiencing temporary hardship are those who have experienced a short-term change in circumstances, such as serious illness, disability or death in the family, loss or change in income, separation, divorce or other family crisis, a loss arising from an accident, or some other temporary financial difficulty. These customers generally require flexibility and temporary assistance, such as an extension of time to pay or an alternative payment arrangement.

Where we assess an individual's eligibility for hardship assistance, we will consider indicators including (but not limited to) whether the individual:

- is on a Centrelink income and holds a Pensioner Concession Card or holds a Centrelink Low Income Health Care Card;
- is eligible for a South Australian Government concession;
- advises they have previously applied for emergency relief (irrespective of whether or not their application was successful);
- payment history indicates that they have had difficulty meeting their rates bills in the past; and
- through self-assessment, has identified their position regarding their ability to pay.

Customers can access free financial Counselling through a number of different organisations, including but not limited to;

Anglicare SA - Outreach Centre
34-36 Galpin St, Whyalla Stuart, 5608 SA
(08) 8649 3267

Centacare Catholic Country SA – Whyalla Office
28 Head St, Whyalla Stuart, 5608 SA
(08) 8645 8233

Affordable SA Helpline
1800 025 539

National Debt Hotline
1800 007 007

Customers will need to sign an Authority to Act form to allow the financial counsellor to deal with Council on their behalf.

Where an individual has been identified as experiencing financial hardship, we will work with the individual's financial counsellor to determine a hardship payment arrangement will take into account the customers current ability to pay. The arrangement may include the waiving of fines for late payment and will be one of the following payment options:

- payments lower than what is required to keep up with quarterly payments; or
- an extended period where payments are not required.

It should be noted that any arrears are still payable in the future.

For customers who receive a Centrelink payment, approved hardship payment arrangements can be set up through Centrepay if requested. Council will assist with this process.

Any arrangements made on the recommendation of a financial counsellor will need to be reviewed after 12 months, with a further recommendation being required to extend the arrangement.

Senior Postponement of Rates

In accordance with provisions of Section 182A of the *Local Government Act 1999*, persons who hold a current Seniors Card may apply to postpone any rate amount in excess of $500 per annum ($125 per quarter) ~~less any concession entitlement for their principal place of residence~~. ~~-~~Conditions apply as per the Act. Interest will accrue at the prescribed rate on postponed balances, with the accrued debt being payable on the disposal or sale of the property. Interest on postponed rates will be levied in accordance with the Act.

~~Seniors Card holders do not have to prove financial hardship to access this provision, but do need to meet the following requirements:~~

- ~~the rates are payable on land that is the principal place of residence of the applicant; and~~
- ~~the land is owned by—~~
  ~~(i) the applicant; or~~
  ~~(ii) the applicant and his or her spouse or domestic partner (and no other person) has an interest (as owner) in the land.~~

Remission of Rates

Remission of rates (excluding fines and interest) will only be considered in extenuating circumstances relating to Financial Hardship. Delegation for decisions on remission of rates for up to two financial years is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer and shall not be sub-delegated. Any remission of rates other than this will be presented to Council for consideration in a confidential report.

Any remission is a one-off remission in response to circumstances presented at the time.

Failure to Meet Payment Arrangement

Customers on a payment arrangement should contact Council if at any time they are not able to meet the conditions of the arrangement, to make alternative plans. If the conditions of a payment arrangement are not met, Council will proceed with normal debt collection processes.

6. Delegations

Council acknowledges that the Chief Executive Officer may sub-delegate matters related to this policy to staff or other persons employed or engaged by Council.

Contact details for further information

Phone: 08 8640 3444
~~Fax: 08 8569 1931~~
Email: council@whyalla.sa.gov.au

Where an individual believes that the Council has failed to properly apply this policy, it should raise the matter with the Council. In the first instance, contact our Rates Officer on 8640 3444 to discuss the matter. If, after this initial contact, a ratepayer is still dissatisfied they can write and explain the nature of their concern to:

The Chief Executive Officer
Whyalla City Council
PO Box 126
WHYALLA SA 5600

Availability of Policy

This policy will be available for inspection at Council's Principal Office as per the contact details above during ordinary business hours and on the Council's web-site www.whyalla.sa.gov.au.

Copies will also be provided to interested members of the community upon request, and upon payment of a fee in accordance with Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges.

7. Authority

Adopted by Council – ~~August 2024~~July 2026

14.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

14.2.4 Certification of the 2025/26 Financial Statements – <u>For Endorsement</u>

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026
Author's Title: Sandra Vigar – Finance Co-ordinator **File No.:** 0-209
Directorate: Corporate Services

Annexures – Nil

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:
In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Status:
Information classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Reason – Not applicable

PURPOSE

Regulation 14 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* requires that a certification statement (in the prescribed form) be included in the Annual Financial Statements and be signed by the Principal Member of the Council and the Chief Executive Officer.

SUMMARY

Council to authorise the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to certify the 2025/26 Annual Financial Statements and sign the certification of the statements in their final form when completed.

RECOMMENDATION

Council authorises the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to certify the 2025/26 Annual Financial Statements in their final form and sign the certification statement.

DUE DATE

Certification of the 2025/26 Financial Statements – <u>For Endorsement</u>	09/10/2026

14.2.4 Certification of the 2025/26 Financial Statements – <u>For Endorsement</u>

<u>REPORT</u>

BACKGROUND

A certification statement (in the prescribed form) is mandatory to be included in the Annual Financial Statements, as per Regulation 14 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

DISCUSSION

Regulation 14 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* requires that a certification statement (in the prescribed form) be included in the Annual Financial Statements and be signed by the Principal Member of the Council and the Chief Executive Officer.

The certification statement indicates that Councils' Annual Financial Statements:

- have complied with the Local Government Act, Local Government Regulations and Accounting Standards;
- present a true and fair view of the Council's financial position at 30 June 2026;
- internal controls implemented by the Council provide a reasonable assurance that the Councils' financial records are complete, accurate and reliable and were effective throughout the financial year; and
- accurately reflect the Councils' accounting and other records.

Once the Audit Committee are satisfied the Annual Financial Statements present fairly the accounts of Council, the certifying officers will complete and date the certificate. This will form the date of authorisation for the issue of the Annual Financial Statements. The Annual Financial Statements will then be tabled at the following Council Meeting.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with authorising the certification of the 2025/26 Financial Statements.

Strategic Plan

Objective 4.1 – Whyalla Council Members commit to serving the Community

Strategy 4.1.2 – We will make decisions based on facts, not emotions

Legislation

Regulation 14 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest – Nil

Risk Assessment – Nil

Social Considerations – Nil

Community Engagement – Nil

Environmental Implications – Not applicable

Communication – Not applicable

Conclusion

Authorisation to be given by Council for the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to certify the 2025/26 Annual Financial Statements in their final form and sign the certification statement.

14.3 CITY GROWTH

14.3.1 Substitution of Members on the Building Fire Safety Committee under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 – For Action

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026
Author's Title: Lucas Trevisan – Manager City Development **File No.:** 1-253
Directorate: City Growth

Annexures:
A – Draft Terms of Reference

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:
In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Status:
Information classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Reason – Not applicable

PURPOSE

To substitute members of the Whyalla City Council Building Fire Safety Committee, following the resignation of Nadene Denton from Council and the official resignation of Peter Harmer from the Committee.

Due to frequent staffing changes within the SA Metropolitan Fire Service, an update has additionally been made to reflect a position-based nomination rather than named member.

SUMMARY

Whyalla City Council's Building Fire Safety Committee (**BFSC**) remains active under its current three-year term, which commenced on 16 September 2024. However, due to recent personnel changes and operational requirements, this report seeks Council's endorsement to substitute multiple committee members.

Nadene Denton resigned from Council. Currently, Whyalla Council's Building Assessment Officer holds a Building Level 3 accreditation and the PDI Act requires a Building Level 2 Accreditation for this position, Courtney Cox of the Port Augusta City Council will be contracted to the BFSC through a shared services arrangement. Additionally, Peter Harmer has officially resigned from the Committee and will be replaced by Troy Olds as the independent member with expertise in fire safety.

Finally, to address frequent personnel rotations within the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (SAMFS), this report establishes a generic, position-based appointment. This ensures any authorised officer approved by the SAMFS Chief Officer can seamlessly serve on the committee without requiring repeated Council interventions.

The appointed Council Member will remain unchanged.

The new appointments are for the remainder of the current three-year term, as per the updated Terms of Reference – refer **Annexure "A"**.

RECOMMENDATION

Council endorses:

1. **Courtney Cox of the Port Augusta City Council be appointed to the Whyalla City Council's Building Fire Safety Committee, pursuant to Section 157 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*, effective immediately for the remainder of the current committee term expiring on 19 July 2027, as a person who holds prescribed qualifications as an Accredited Professional – Building Level 2, replacing Nadene Denton;**
2. **an authorised officer under Part 3 Division 5 or Section 86 of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* who has been authorised by the Chief Officer of the relevant fire authority, be appointed to the Whyalla City Council's Building Fire Safety Committee pursuant to Section 157 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*, effective immediately for the remainder of the current committee term expiring on 19 July 2027;**
3. **Troy Olds be appointed to the Whyalla City Council's Building Fire Safety Committee pursuant to Section 157 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*, effective immediately for the remainder of the current committee term expiring on 19 July 2027, as a person with expertise in the area of fire safety, replacing Peter Harmer;**
4. **Troy Olds be appointed as the Presiding Member of the Whyalla City Council Building Fire Safety Committee for the remainder of the current term;**
5. **the Terms of Reference of the Whyalla City Council's Building Fire Safety Committee be amended as described within Annexure "A" to reflect the membership updates;**
6. **Council wishes to express its appreciation to both Nadene Denton and Peter Harmer for their invaluable input and service to the Committee; and**
7. **to forward correspondence to Nadene Denton and Peter Harmer thanking them for their service.**

DUE DATE

Re-establishment of the Building Fire Safety Committee and Re-appointing/appointing Officers under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 – <u>For Action</u>	20/07/2026

14.3.1 Substitution of Members on the Building Fire Safety Committee under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 – For Action

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Whyalla City Council Building Fire Safety Committee was formally re-established at the Council Meeting held on 16 September 2024, for a three-year term running through to 19 July 2027.

Due to the resignation of Nadene Denton from her employment with the Whyalla City Council, and the formal resignation of independent expert Peter Harmer from the Committee, a substitution of members is required to ensure the committee maintains its required composition and legislated numbers under Section 157 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (PDI Act).

Additionally, operational rotations within the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (SAMFS) frequently result in individual nominees shifting mid-term. Consequently, an adjustment is proposed to establish a position-based appointment framework for the fire authority, ensuring continuous committee function and long-term legislative compliance without recurrent administrative delays.

DISCUSSION

The continued function of Whyalla City Councils Building Fire Safety Committee is critical to ensure legislative compliance within the PDI Act and to ensure the continuance of a qualified authority focusing on building fire safety for the protection of building occupants, visitors, and general public.

The PDI Act strictly prescribes the qualifications for persons appointed to the Committee, embracing relevant disciplines across municipal building surveying, independent fire safety expertise, and operational fire service representation. To address recent resignations and operational staffing updates while maintaining the integrity of the active 2024–2027 term, the following updates are proposed:

- **Shared Services Representative:** Courtney Cox, currently employed by the Port Augusta City Council, holds the required Building Level 2 accreditation. She will be contracted to the Whyalla BFSC under a shared services arrangement, taking over the role previously held by Nadene Denton.
- **Independent Fire Safety Expert:** Troy Olds possesses the required extensive expertise in the area of fire safety and will replace Peter Harmer. As Peter Harmer previously served as the Presiding Member, it is recommended that Troy Olds also be appointed as the Presiding Member for the remainder of the term.
- **Fire Authority Representation:** Due to frequent operational staffing and regional placement changes within the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (SAMFS), individual nominees regularly cycle out of the committee before a term expires.

- To ensure continuous compliance and eliminate ongoing administrative delays, the appointment for the fire service representative has been structurally updated to a position-based nomination. This allows any authorised officer approved by the SAMFS Chief Officer, to seamlessly step into the committee role for the remainder of the active term.

The designated Council Member remains on the committee as appointed on 16 September 2024. All proposed updates ensure the committee remains robustly staffed and fully compliant until the conclusion of the term in July 2027.

Financial Implications – Nil

Strategic Plan

Objective 1.1 – Unearth community pride within the city

Strategy 1.1.2 – Take a proactive, collaborative approach to the revitalisation of council services to ensure that they adapt to the changing needs and expectations of the community

Legislation

Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest – Nil

Risk Assessment – Nil

Social Considerations – Nil

Community Engagement – Nil

Environmental Implications – Nil

Communication – Nil

Conclusion

Adopting the substitutions ensures that Whyalla City Council retains an uninterrupted, legally compliant power to monitor and maintain proper levels of fire safety in buildings in accordance with the legislated requirements of the PDI Act 2016.

Annexure "A"

Draft Terms of Reference

1. Establishment & Status of the Building Fire Safety Committee

1.1 Pursuant to Section 157(17) of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (PDI Act), the Council establishes a body to be known as the Whyalla City Council Building Fire Safety Committee (BFSC).

1.2. The Building Fire Safety Committee is established for the purpose of acting as the "appropriate authority" (as that term is defined in the PDI Act) in respect of all fire safety matters arising under the PDI Act (including those commenced under section 71 of the *Development Act 1993* and which are treated as having been commenced under the PDI Act by virtue of section 15 of the *Acts Interpretation Act, 1915)* for the period 19 July 2024 until 19 July 2027.

2. Membership

2.1 Membership of the Building Fire Safety Committee (BFSC) shall consist of:

- ***Courtney Cox, Port Augusta City Council,*** being a person appointed by the Council and who holds prescribed qualifications in building surveying; and
- An authorised officer under Part 3 Division 5 or section 86 of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005*, approved by the Chief Officer of the relevant fire authority; and
- ***Troy Olds, Tecon Australia***, being a person appointed by the Council as a person with expertise in the area of fire safety.
- An Elected Member as selected by the Council under section 157(17)(iv) of the PDI Act.

2.2 The Council appoints Troy Olds as the Presiding Member of the BFSC.

2.3 All members of the BFSC are appointed for a term of 3 years, or until such time that the current BFSC lapses.

2.4 The office of a member of the BFSC will become vacant if the member:

2.4.1 dies; or
2.4.2 completes a term of office and is not reappointed; or
2.4.3 resigns by written notice addressed to the Council; or
2.4.4 removed from office by the Council for any reasonable cause.

3. Terms of Reference

The terms of reference for the BFSC are as follows:

3.1 The BFSC is charged with the responsibility for all matters arising under Section 157 of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016, which are of a building fire safety nature;

3.2 A quorum for a meeting of the BFSC shall be two (2) persons, one of whom shall be the person authorised by the Chief Officer of the relevant fire authority;

3.3 All decisions of the BFSC shall be made on the basis of a majority decision of the members present;

3.4 The BFSC shall meet at the Council's office at the Civic Building, 21 Grundel Street, Whyalla or at such other places as the BFSC may, from time to time, determine;

3.5 The BFSC shall meet on a day and at a time nominated by the Presiding Member, with a minimum of 2 ordinary meetings in each calendar year and may hold a special meeting at any other time at the direction of the Presiding Member.

3.6 A member of the BFSC who has a personal interest or a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in any matter before the BFSC (other than an indirect interest which exists in common with a substantial class of persons) must not take part in any deliberations or decisions of the BFSC in relation to that matter;

3.7 The following provisions apply to the calling of meetings:

3.7.1 In the case of an ordinary meeting of the BFSC, the Presiding Member must give each member of the BFSC notice of a meeting at least three (3) clear days before the date of the meeting.

3.7.2 In the case of a special meeting of the BFSC, the Presiding Member must give each member of the BFSC notice of the meeting at least four (4) hours before the commencement of the meeting.

3.7.3 Notice may be given to a member of the BFSC:

3.7.3.1 personally;
3.7.3.2 by posting to the person at their usual or last known place of business; or
3.7.3.3 by an email known to be used by the person.

3.8 Each member of the BFSC present at a meeting must, subject to that person having an interest in the matter, vote on a question arising for decision at that meeting;

3.9 The Presiding Member of the BFSC must keep, or arrange to be kept, minutes of every meeting of the BFSC. The minutes of the proceedings and meetings must include:

- the names of the members present;
- in relation to each member present, the time at which the person entered or left the meeting;
- all motions and amendments, and the names of the mover and seconder;
- whether a motion or amendment is carried or lost;
- any disclosure of interest made by a member; and
- any other matter required to be included in the minutes by direction of the Council.

3.10 The procedure to be observed at a meeting of the BFSC insofar as the procedure is not prescribed by these terms of reference, may be determined by the Committee.

DRAFT

14.3 CITY GROWTH

14.3.2 Granting of Easement over Crown Record 6073/446 for Electrical Connection – <u>For Action</u>

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026
Author's Title: Lucas Trevisan – Manager City Development **File No.:** 2-20
Directorate: City Growth

Annexures:
A – Deposited Plan

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:
In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120

Status:
Information classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act

☐ **Yes**	☑ **No**	☐ **Yes**	☑ **No**

PURPOSE

To seek consent from the Council for the placing of an easement for the purposes of unrestricted right of way for electrical connection infrastructure. The easement is to be applied in part to Crown Record 6073/446, under the care and control of the Whyalla City Council.

The extent of the proposed easement is detailed in **Annexure "A"**.

The subject land is shown highlighted in the below aerial from South Australia Property Planning Atlas.



SUMMARY

SA Power Networks is seeking a formal 11kV underground electricity easement over a portion of Crown Record Volume 6073 Folio 446 in Whyalla Norrie.

The proposed easement, designated as Identifier C on Survey Plan FX257741, runs along property boundaries near Sunrise Lane to avoid disrupting the site's primary layout.

Withholding consent risks delaying critical network reinforcement works, which could restrict utility capacity and negatively impact local economic development. Given that the physical risks to Council's asset are exceptionally low and fully protected, it is recommended that Council approve the easement and authorize the execution of the Custodian Consent under Common Seal.

RECOMMENDATION

Council approves the new easement over Crown Record 6073/446, at the proposed location illustrated in Annexure "A".

DUE DATE

Granting of Easement over Crown Record 6073/446 for Electrical Connection – <u>For Action</u>	20/07/2026

14.3.2 Granting of Easement over Crown Record 6073/446 for Electrical Connection – For Action

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The land subject to the requested easement is designated as Crown Record Volume 6073 Folio 446, for which The Corporation of the City of Whyalla acts as the formal Custodian. The land is currently under the care and control of the Council.

Currently, Council delegations for creating or accepting new easements apply only to private land. They do not extend to creating new easements on Crown-dedicated land where the Council acts as the custodian. Consequently, any formal decision relating to new easements affecting this parcel must be explicitly determined by the elected Council body.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of the requested easement is for the installation, operation, and ongoing maintenance of an 11kV underground electrical cable and associated infrastructure managed by SA Power Networks (SAPN).

The alignment has been deliberately designed to follow property and lane boundaries (adjacent to Sunrise Lane and Common Property C26042) to ensure minimal disruption to the primary functions of the site.

Financial Implications – Nil

Strategic Plan

Objective 2.2 *Ensure that assets and facilities infrastructure is maintained and managed to meet the community's needs*

Strategy 2.2.1 Sustainably fund Whyalla's Asset Management Strategy

Legislation

Real Property (Registration of Titles) Act 1945
Local Government Act 1999
Crown Land Management Act 2009

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest – Nil

Risk Assessment

The primary risk of not approving the easement and withholding custodian consent is the delay or prevention of necessary network reinforcement works by SA Power Networks. This could restrict infrastructure capacity and affect power delivery and reliability for surrounding developments, leading to negative economic impacts for the city.

Social Considerations – Nil

Community Engagement – Nil

Environmental Implications

The environmental impact associated with the installation of the 11kV underground cable infrastructure is expected to be minimal. The alignment is designed to 'hug' property and lane boundaries to avoid significant disruption.

Conclusion

Granting custodian consent aligns with Council's strategic objective to ensure regional utility infrastructure effectively meets the community's needs.

The assessment finds that risks to the asset are low and fully protected via reinstatement covenants, while failing to approve the easement would compromise critical utility delivery. Therefore, it is recommended that Council approve the easement and authorise the execution of the Custodian Consent under Common Seal.

PURPOSE: EASEMENT

AREA NAME: WHYALLA NORRIE

MAP REF: 6431/01/K, 6431/01/Q

COUNCIL: THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WHYALLA

LAST PLAN:

DEVELOPMENT NO:

APPROVED: 11/05/2022

FILED: 11/05/2022

FX257741

SHEET 1 OF 3

113180_text_01_v04_Version_4

AGENT DETAILS: SA POWER NETWORKS - SURVEY GROUP
1 ANZAC HWY
KESWICK SA 5035
PH: 8404 4252
FAX:

AGENT CODE: SAPG

REFERENCE: 20210116

SURVEYORS CERTIFICATION:

Annexure "A"

SUBJECT TITLE DETAILS:

PREFIX	VOLUME	FOLIO	OTHER	PARCEL	NUMBER	PLAN	NUMBER	HUNDRED / IA / DIVISION	TOWN	REFERENCE NUMBER
CR	6073	446		ALLOTMENT(S) COMPRISING PIECES	(198*,199*)	D	86250	RANDELL RANDELL		SECTION 285 SECTION 383
CT	6078	807		COMMON PROPERTY		C	26042	RANDELL		SECTION 383

OTHER TITLES AFFECTED:

EASEMENT DETAILS:

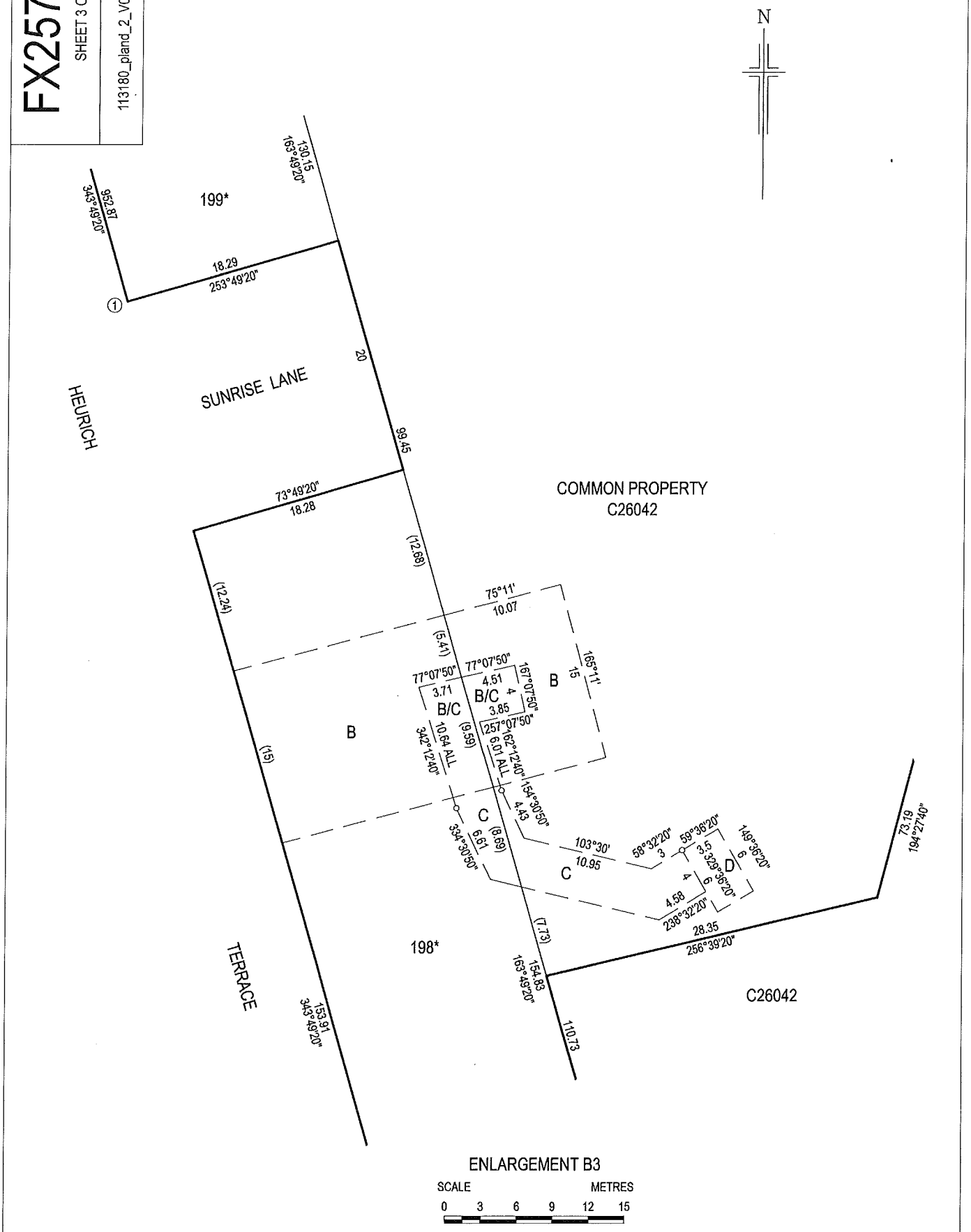
STATUS	LAND BURDENED	FORM	CATEGORY	IDENTIFIER	PURPOSE	IN FAVOUR OF	CREATION
EXISTING		LONG	RIGHT(S) OF WAY	A		198*.199*	GG 5/10/2006 PAGE 3631
PROPOSED	198*.COMMON PROPERTY	LONG	EASEMENT(S)	B	FOR ELECTRICITY SUPPLY PURPOSES	DISTRIBUTION LESSOR CORPORATION (SUBJECT TO LEASE 8890000)	
PROPOSED	198*.COMMON PROPERTY	LONG	EASEMENT(S)	C	FOR ELECTRICITY SUPPLY PURPOSES	CKI UTILITIES DEVELOPMENT LTD. PAI UTILITIES DEVELOPMENT LTD. SPARK INFRASTRUCTURE SA (NO. 1) PTY. LTD. SPARK INFRASTRUCTURE SA (NO. 2) PTY. LTD. SPARK INFRASTRUCTURE SA (NO. 3) PTY. LTD.	
PROPOSED	COMMON PROPERTY	LONG	EASEMENT(S)	D	FOR ELECTRICITY SUPPLY PURPOSES	CKI UTILITIES DEVELOPMENT LTD. PAI UTILITIES DEVELOPMENT LTD. SPARK INFRASTRUCTURE SA (NO. 1) PTY. LTD. SPARK INFRASTRUCTURE SA (NO. 2) PTY. LTD. SPARK INFRASTRUCTURE SA (NO. 3) PTY. LTD.	

ANNOTATIONS:

FX257741

SHEET 3 OF 3

113180_pland_2_V02_Version_4



ENLARGEMENT B3

SCALE METRES

0 3 6 9 12 15

FX257741

SHEET 2 OF 3

113180_pland_1_V02_Version_4

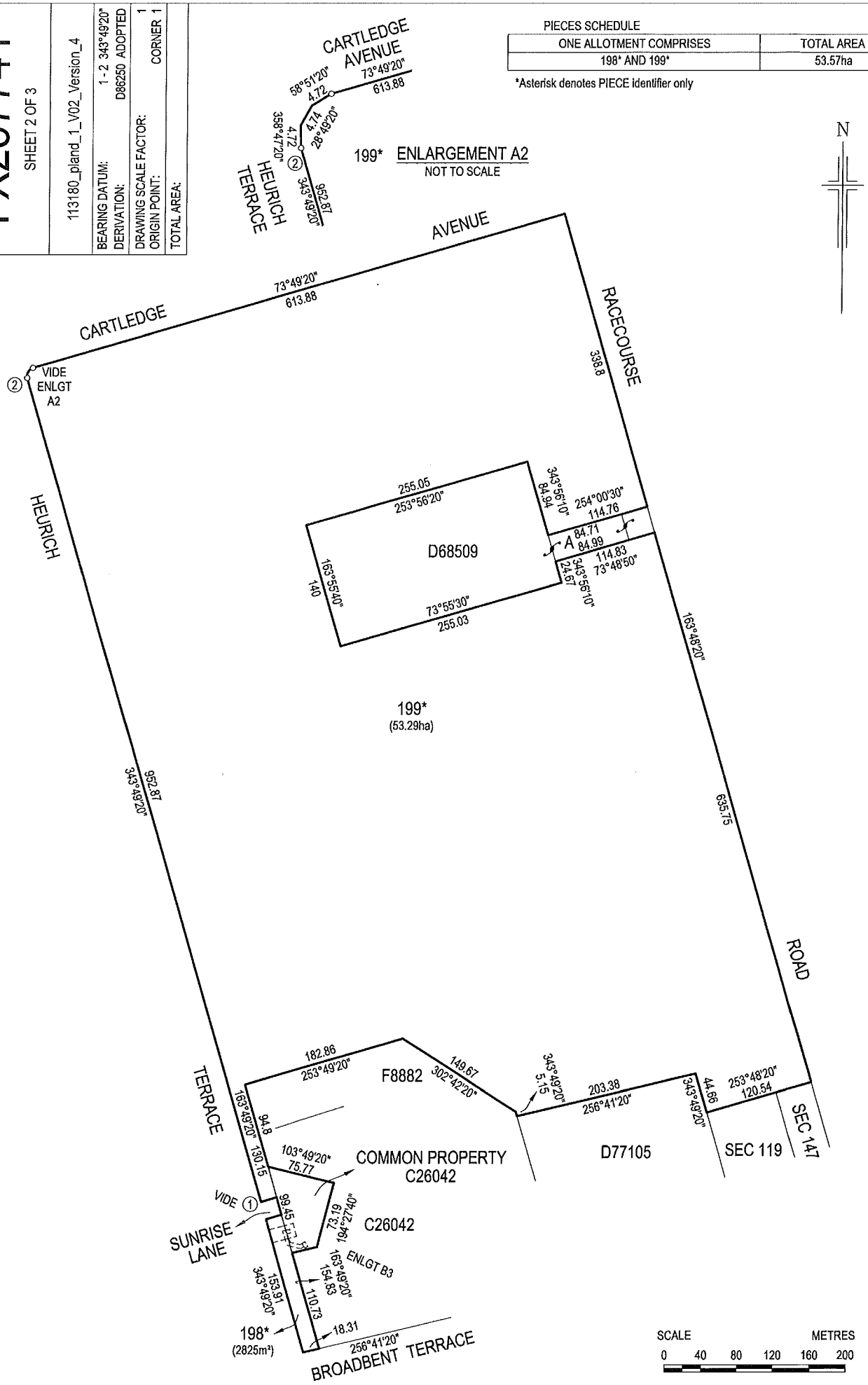
BEARING DATUM:	1 - 2 343°49'20"
DERIVATION:	D86250 ADOPTED
DRAWING SCALE FACTOR:	1
ORIGIN POINT:	CORNER 1
TOTAL AREA:	

PIECES SCHEDULE

ONE ALLOTMENT COMPRISES	TOTAL AREA
198* AND 199*	53.57ha

*Asterisk denotes PIECE identifier only

199* ENLARGEMENT A2
NOT TO SCALE



14.4 CITY INFRASTRUCTURE

14.4.1 Kerbside Waste Collection and Disposal Services Contract Extension – For Endorsement

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026
Author's Title: Colin Sharp – Manager Operations
Charuka Sanduni – Waste Officer
File No.: 3-102
Directorate: City Infrastructure

Annexures:
A – Waste Management and Disposal Services Agreement – under separate cover – confidential

Officer Direct or Indirect **Conflict of Interest:**
In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Status:
Information *classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act*

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Reason – Not applicable

PURPOSE

To seek Council approval to exercise the contract extension option and extend the current Kerbside Waste Collection and Disposal Services Contract with Veolia for a period of twelve (12) months, from 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2027, to ensure continuity of essential waste services while Council completes the procurement and implementation of future waste collection, disposal and transfer station service arrangements.

SUMMARY

Council's current Waste Management and Disposal Services Contract with Veolia expires on 30 September 2026. To ensure continuity of essential waste services and provide adequate time to finalise future procurement and contractual arrangements, it is proposed that Council exercise the available contract extension provision and extend the contract for a further twelve (12) months to 30 September 2027.

The proposed extension will align the expiry of Whyalla's waste services contract with the City of Port Augusta's current waste services arrangements, creating an opportunity for both councils to explore a co-ordinated procurement process. A joint procurement approach may improve market interest, increase economies of scale, strengthen negotiating leverage and deliver more competitive pricing and service outcomes for both communities.

The extension period will also provide Council with sufficient time to complete its review of future waste service delivery requirements, undertake market testing, continue negotiations regarding future service arrangements and establish fit-for-purpose contractual frameworks for kerbside collection, waste disposal and transfer station operations.

Extending the existing contract represents the lowest-risk option for maintaining uninterrupted service delivery while supporting long-term operational, financial and environmental outcomes. It will minimise procurement and transition risks, ensure continuity of service for residents and provide Council with greater flexibility to pursue collaborative regional opportunities.

Accordingly, it is recommended that Council approve the proposed 12-month extension and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to execute the necessary documentation.

RECOMMENDATION

Council:

1. **approves a twelve (12) month extension of the Waste Management and Disposal Services Contract with Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd from 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2027; and**
2. **authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute all documents necessary to give effect to the extension.**

DUE DATE

Kerbside Waste Collection and Disposal Services Contract Extension – For Endorsement	20/07/2026

14.4.1 Kerbside Waste Collection and Disposal Services Contract Extension – For Endorsement

REPORT

BACKGROUND

Council entered into a Waste Management and Disposal Services Agreement with Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd in 2017, for the provision of integrated waste management services, including kerbside collection, waste disposal and transfer station operations. The contract forms a key component of Council's waste management framework and supports the delivery of essential services to residents and businesses throughout Whyalla.

Since commencement, the contract has provided:

- reliable kerbside collection services for general waste, recyclables and organics;
- access to waste disposal and transfer station facilities;
- support for Council's environmental sustainability and waste diversion objectives; and
- efficient delivery of waste management services under a single contractual arrangement.

The current contract is due to expire on 30 September 2026. The contract includes provisions enabling Council to extend the contract term, subject to Council approval and completion of the necessary contractual arrangements.

Council is currently reviewing future waste service delivery arrangements, including the potential separation of kerbside collection, waste disposal and transfer station operations into individual service contracts to improve flexibility, accountability and long-term value for money. Additional time is required to complete this review, undertake market engagement and finalise future procurement requirements.

The proposed extension would also align the expiry date of Whyalla's waste services contract with similar arrangements in neighbouring councils, including the City of Port Augusta. This alignment provides an opportunity to investigate collaborative procurement options which may increase market interest, improve economies of scale and deliver more competitive pricing and service outcomes across the region.

Accordingly, a twelve (12) month extension of the existing contract is proposed to ensure continuity of service while Council completes its review and procurement process for future waste management services.

DISCUSSION

Contract Extension Rationale

Extending the current contract for a period of twelve (12) months is considered the most appropriate course of action for the following reasons.

Service Continuity

The extension will ensure the uninterrupted delivery of essential waste management services to the Whyalla community, while Council undertakes a comprehensive review of future service arrangements. This will minimise the risk of disruption to kerbside collection, waste disposal and transfer station operations.

Procurement and Contract Development

The additional term will provide Council with sufficient time to review service requirements, refine specifications and undertake a robust procurement process for future waste management services. It will also allow Council to complete negotiations and determine the most appropriate contracting model for the delivery of kerbside collection, waste disposal and transfer station operations.

Regional Collaboration Opportunities

The proposed extension will align the expiry of Whyalla's current waste services contract with similar arrangements in neighbouring councils, including the City of Port Augusta. This alignment creates an opportunity to investigate a collaborative procurement approach that may increase market interest, improve economies of scale and strengthen Council's purchasing power. A co-ordinated procurement process may also result in more competitive pricing and improved service outcomes for participating councils and their communities.

Risk Mitigation

Extending the existing contract reduces the risk associated with undertaking a compressed procurement process and provides Council with greater flexibility to test the market, evaluate service delivery options and secure long-term value-for-money outcomes. It also allows adequate time for transition planning, should alternative service arrangements be adopted in the future.

Strategic Alignment

The extension supports Council's objective of delivering efficient and sustainable waste management services while ensuring future contract arrangements are fit-for-purpose, financially responsible and aligned with community expectations and environmental objectives.

Procurement Strategy

During the extension period, Council will undertake a comprehensive review of its future waste management service delivery requirements and procurement approach. The review will consider the most effective contractual model for the provision of kerbside collection, waste disposal and transfer station operations, with the objective of delivering sustainable, efficient and cost-effective services to the community.

Key activities during the extension period will include:

- reviewing and refining service specifications and performance requirements;
- assessing market capability, pricing trends and emerging industry practices;
- evaluating future contract structures, including separate contracts for kerbside collection, waste disposal and transfer station operations;
- incorporating contemporary governance, reporting and performance management frameworks;
- ensuring compliance with Council's Procurement Policy and relevant legislative requirements;
- undertaking market engagement to maximise competition and attract quality submissions; and
- investigating opportunities for collaborative procurement with neighbouring councils, including the City of Port Augusta, to improve economies of scale, market competitiveness and value-for-money outcomes.

The additional time provided through the contract extension will enable Council to undertake a robust and competitive procurement process, minimise procurement and transition risks and establish fit-for-purpose contractual arrangements that support long-term operational, financial and environmental objectives.

Contract and Governance Considerations

The proposed extension provides Council with sufficient time to review existing contractual arrangements, evaluate future service delivery models and develop a robust procurement strategy for waste management services. The extension period will support the strengthening of governance, contract management and performance reporting frameworks, while ensuring future arrangements align with Council's strategic objectives, legislative obligations and long-term financial sustainability goals. It will also provide an opportunity to explore collaborative procurement arrangements with neighbouring councils to improve value for money and market competitiveness.

Financial Implications

The proposed contract extension will be delivered under the existing contractual framework, including the agreed rise and fall pricing mechanisms contained within the current agreement.

The proposed extension is not expected to result in any unbudgeted expenditure and will ensure continuity of service while Council undertakes a comprehensive review and procurement process for future waste management services.

Strategic Plan

Theme 1 - Our People

Objective 1.1 *Unearth community pride within the city*

Strategy 1.1.1 Regularly inform the community of council activities, decisions and actions by prompting positive stories and positive images

Strategy 1.1.2 Take a proactive, collaborative approach to the revitalisation of council services to ensure that they adapt to the changing needs and expectation of the community

Objective 1.4 *To support and encourage initiatives for the community to connect and work together to improve*

Strategy 1.4.1 Collaborate with government agencies, non-government organisations and stakeholders, to provide a platform for effective collaboration and connection in our community

Theme 2 – Our Places

Objective 2.2 *To protect our natural environment, minimise our ecological footprint and the impact of environmental issues on the city*

Strategy 2.2.2 Promote environmental sustainability including: reducing carbon emissions as an organisation and across the city, reducing waste levels into landfill, and review storm water management.

Theme 4 – Our Image

Objective 4.1 *Instil community pride*

Objective 4.2 To create an attractive city for the community, visitors and potential investors

Legislation

Local Government Act 1999
Environmental Protection Act 1993

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest – Nil

Risk Assessment

The proposed contract extension is considered a low-risk approach that supports continuity of service, while Council undertakes a comprehensive review and procurement process for future waste management services.

The key risks and mitigation measures are outlined below:

Service Delivery Risk

Should the current contract expire before replacement arrangements are established, there is a risk of disruption to essential waste collection, disposal and transfer station services. Extending the existing contract for twelve (12) months will ensure continuity of service while future arrangements are developed.

Procurement Risk

Undertaking a procurement process within a compressed timeframe may reduce market participation, limit competitive tension and increase the likelihood of suboptimal contract outcomes. The proposed extension provides sufficient time for market engagement, procurement planning and the development of robust contract documentation.

Financial Risk

Future waste management costs may be affected by market conditions, fuel prices and disposal costs. The extension allows Council to undertake detailed market analysis and evaluate alternative delivery models to achieve the best value-for-money outcome. Budget provision has been made for anticipated contractual cost increases during the extension period.

Contract Transition Risk

Transitioning to a new contractor or service delivery model without adequate planning may result in operational disruption and increased implementation costs. The extension period will allow sufficient time for procurement, contract mobilisation and transition planning.

Strategic and Regional Collaboration Risk

Failure to align procurement timing with neighbouring councils may reduce opportunities to leverage economies of scale and collaborative purchasing arrangements. Extending the contract will align Whyalla's contract expiry with neighbouring councils, including the City of Port Augusta, enabling Council to investigate potential regional procurement opportunities and associated efficiencies.

Social Considerations

Effective waste management services are essential to protecting public health, maintaining community amenity and supporting environmental outcomes. The proposed extension will ensure the continued delivery of kerbside waste collection, waste disposal and transfer station services while Council undertakes procurement activities for future service arrangements. Maintaining service continuity will minimise impacts on residents and support community expectations for reliable and efficient waste management services.

Community Engagement – Not applicable

Environmental Implications

Effective waste management services contribute to Council's environmental sustainability objectives through the diversion of waste from landfill and the promotion of resource recovery. Under the current service agreement, approximately 8,675 tonnes of waste are managed annually, with around 44 per cent diverted from landfill.

The proposed contract extension will ensure continuity of waste collection, recycling and organic waste services while Council undertakes procurement activities for future service arrangements. This will maintain existing environmental outcomes and provide Council with the opportunity to explore future service models that further support waste minimisation, resource recovery and environmental sustainability objectives.

Conclusion

Extending the current Waste Management and Disposal Services Contract with Veolia for a further twelve (12) months is considered the most appropriate and lowest-risk option available to Council.

The extension will ensure continuity of essential waste services, provide sufficient time to undertake a robust procurement process and support the development of future contract arrangements that deliver long-term value for money. It will also enable Council to explore regional procurement opportunities with neighbouring councils, including the City of Port Augusta, with the potential to achieve improved service and financial outcomes.

Accordingly, Council approval of the proposed extension is recommended.

15.1 COUNCIL MEMBERS

15.1.1 Mayor Phill Stone – List of Engagements – <u>For Noting</u>

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026
Author's Title: Michelle Armstrong, Executive Co-ordinator – CEO and Mayor **File No.:** 0-97

Annexures – Nil

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:
In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Status:
Information classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Reason – Not applicable

PURPOSE

To provide a list of engagements attended and/or activities undertaken by Mayor Phill Stone for the period 15 June – 19 July 2026, inclusive.

SUMMARY

A list of engagements attended and/or activities undertaken by Mayor Phill Stone.

RECOMMENDATION

Council notes the Mayor Phill Stone – List of Engagements report.

DUE DATE

Mayor Phill Stone – List of Engagements – <u>For Noting</u>	20/07/2026

15.1.1 Mayor Phill Stone – List of Engagements – <u>For Noting</u>

<u>REPORT</u>

BACKGROUND

A summary of engagements attended by Mayor Phill Stone is provided on a monthly basis.

DISCUSSION

Monday 15 June 2026

- Council media: Interview with ABC Adelaide (Jo Laverty, Afternoons) re cuttlefish
- Council media: Interview with ABC Adelade Statewide (Narelle Graham, Drive Show), re cuttlefish
- Weekly Briefing with Mayor and Executive Co-ordinator – CEO and Mayor
- Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 16 June 2026

- Filming 'From the Mayor's Desk'

  Topics included: Wrap up of a very successful Salty Sea'esta event, even if the VIPs – our cuttlefish – hadn't arrived, correcting inaccurate Adelaide media report, still a big Cuttlefest program on land, latest on Council budget deliberations and Winter Solstice on Sunday.

- Eyre Peninsula Mayors – Informal Catch-up

Wednesday 17 June 2026

- Council media: Interview with ABC North and West (Tom Mann, Breakfast program) re cuttlefish
- Monthly catch-up with Manager Media and Communications

Thursday 18 June 2026

- Lunch Meeting with Jindal Steel – Invited as a "meet and greet" with representatives of one of the two final bidders for the Whyalla Steelworks: Harssha Shetty; Chief Executive Officer and Prakash Chaudhari; Chief Operating Officer)
  (also in attendance: Chief Executive Officer, Eddie Hughes; Member for Giles)
- Council media: Photo shoot to support Council customer service request article
- Council media: Filming promotional video for "From the Mayor's Desk"

Friday 19 June 2026

- Audit and Risk Committee Meeting

Tuesday 23 June 2026

- Triple Y Council Radio Show
- Eyre Peninsula Mayors – Informal Catch-up

Thursday 25 June 2026

- Whyalla News edition of "From the Mayor's Desk"

  Topics included: Where have our cuttlefish gone; When is a library more than a library – when it's the Whyalla Library and new boat ramp achieves latest milestone.

Friday 26 June 2026

- LGA President's Webinar

  Topic included: the SA Government announcement that the scheduled Local Government election in November, would be deferred until April, next year.

- Council media: Filmed a statement re the current cuttlefish lack of numbers for Adelaide TV

Monday 29 June 2026

- Internal cuttlefish meeting
  (also in attendance: Chief Executive Officer; Manager City Activation)
- Meeting with stakeholders regarding potential cancellation of the cuttlefish season and appropriate community messaging
- Council media: Interview with ABC Statewide (Drive, Narelle Graham) re: cuttlefish
- Special Council Meeting
- Evening phone meeting of Chief Executive Officer and Mayor with the Minister for Tourism, Emily Bourke MLC, briefing on measures to be implemented to protect cuttlefish breeding due to the low aggregation numbers

Tuesday 30 June 2026

- Council media: Interviews with ABC TV Adelaide, Channel 9 TV Adelaide, and ABC radio North and West (Tom Mann) re cuttlefish
- Rotary Club of Whyalla - Annual Changeover Dinner

Wednesday 1 July 2026

- Council media: Interview on ABC TV National Breakfast (6.20am) re cuttlefish and why visitors should still visit Whyalla
- Council media: Interview on ABC Adelaide, Breakfast program (Mike Smithson and Gus Macdonald) re cuttlefish and Whyalla generally
- Council media: Interview on 5AA, Breakfast program (Will Goodings and David Penberthy) re cuttlefish and Whyalla generally

Saturday 4 July 2026

- Council media: Interview on 5AA, Weekend Breakfast program (Michael Keelan and Sam Daddow) re cuttlefish with an emphasise on promoting Whyalla generally to visit during the school holidays

Monday 6 July 2026

- Council Members Briefing Session

Tuesday 7 July 2026

- Catch-up with Scott Rathman (Indigenous artist) working on the NAIDOC community artwork at the Whyalla Recreation Centre
- OneSteel Art Expo and NAIDOC Awards

Wednesday 8 July 2026

- Meeting with M Resources – Community and HR Team
  (also in attendance: Chief Executive Officer, Manager Media and Communications)
- CEO Performance Review – phone meeting with Independent Advisor
- Dinner with the M Resources Community and HR Team
  (also in attendance: CEO Justin Commons)

Thursday 9 July 2026

- Council media: Photo at Bedford, re furniture repurposing and briefing on the initiative
- NAIDOC Week Elders Lunch

Friday 10 July 2026

- Council media: Photo shoot at boat ramp for accompanying article focussing on how Council endeavours to support local contractors and suppliers
- Council media: Interview on "Around SA" with Chris Guscott, broadcast on 5AU and affiliates, re reasons to still visit Whyalla to counter the cuttlefish issue
- Lions Club of Whyalla – President's Handover Dinner

Monday 13 July 2026

- Internal Cuttlefish Catch-up meeting with staff stakeholders addressing next steps
- CEO Review Panel Meeting No 1. Purpose: To approve schedule, process, and timeline

Tuesday 14 July 2026

- Meeting with Hon Chris Picton MP; Minister for State Development
  (also in attendance: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager City Growth, Senior Adviser to Minister, Chief Executive – Department of State Development)
- Eyre Peninsula Mayors – Informal Catch-up
  Topics discussed included health issues facing smaller communities throughout Eyre Peninsula, changes implemented to the next Local Government elections, steelworks matters (bast furnace, two final bidders and their visits to Whyalla, the future)

Wednesday 15 July 2026

- Monthly catch-up with Manager Media and Communications

Financial Implications – Nil

Strategic Plan

Objective 1.1 – Unearth community pride within the city

Strategy 1.1.1 – Regularly inform the community of Council activities, decisions and actions by promoting positive stories and positive images

Legislation – Not applicable

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest – Not applicable

Risk Assessment – Not applicable

Social Considerations – Not applicable

Community Engagement – Not applicable

Environmental Implications – Not applicable

Communication – Not applicable

Conclusion – Not applicable

15.2 CORPORATE SERVICES/CITY GROWTH/EXECUTIVE

15.2.1 Monthly Information Report – July 2026 – For Noting

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026

Author's Title: Ellisha Papoulis – Manager People and Culture
Grant Jennings – Manager Finance and Knowledge Management
Rachel Coles – Regulatory Services Co-ordinator
Jodie Perone – General Manager City Growth
Jenny Barnes – Tourism and Events Lead
Ali Sanders – Visitor Experience Co-ordinator
Ryan Sutherland – Events Co-ordinator
Paul Mazourek – Community Activation Officer – Tourism Assets
Louise Fiedler – People and Culture Advisor

File No.: 0-1

Directorate: Corporate, City Growth, Executive

Annexures:

A – Information Reporting Calendar
B – Indicative Schedule of Upcoming Items
C – Staffing Update
D – Corporate Services
E – Regulatory Services
F – Economic Development – deferred
G – Tourism and Events

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:
In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Status:
Information classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Reason – Not applicable

PURPOSE

The purpose of this monthly report is to provide a summary of key activities over a twelve-month period highlighting how the ongoing activities of Council are contributing to Whyalla's wellbeing, economy, environment and leadership.

DISCUSSION

Council Administration have developed a calendar of reporting that provides information about key activities across Council services to:

- Inform the community and Council members of key activities and achievements in the reported period and service area.
- Celebrate milestones and report on operational activities for the past quarter as well as expected focus areas for the next quarter.
- Provide opportunity for Council to monitor performance and ensure the work of Council is continuously aligned with community expectations.

The calendar of reporting is provided at **Annexure "A"**. Note that other activity reports are provided separately, as identified.

In addition to the calendar of reporting, Administration also maintains an Indicative Schedule of Upcoming Items outlining possible reports that will be listed for consideration at future Council, Audit and Risk Committee, Chief Executive Review Panel meetings and Council Member Briefings, over a rolling four-month period.

RECOMMENDATION

Council notes:

1. **the calendar of information reporting over the course of 12 months;**
2. **indicative Schedule of Upcoming Items to be considered at future Council Meetings;**
3. **Staffing Update; and**
4. **July 2026 activity reports for the following services:**

    - **Corporate Services**
    - **Regulatory Services**
    - **Economic Development**
    - **Tourism and Events**

DUE DATE

Monthly Information Report – July 2026 – <u>For Noting</u>	20/07/2026

Annexure "A"

INFORMATION REPORTING CALENDAR

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Open Space	Customer Experience	Corporate Services	Asset Mgmt (inc Rec Cnt)	Open Space	Customer Experience	Corporate Services	Asset Mgmt	Open Space	Customer Experience	Corporate Services	Asset Mgmt (inc Rec Cnt)
Civil Works	Community & Library Services	Regulatory Services	Airport Operations	Civil Works	Community & Library Services	Regulatory Services	Airport Operations	Civil Works	Community & Library Services	Regulatory Services	Airport Operations
Waste	RAP	Economic Dev	Whyalla Early Learning Centre	Waste	RAP	Economic Dev	Whyalla Early Learning Centre	Waste	RAP	Economic Dev	Whyalla Early Learning Centre
Env / Climate	Community Engage / Media & Comms	Tourism & Events	Building & Planning	Env / Climate	Community Engage / Media & Comms	Tourism & Events	Building & Planning	Env / Climate	Community Engage / Media & Comms	Tourism & Events	Building & Planning

Other regular reports include:

- Monthly CEO action report, providing an update on the progress of Council resolutions.
- Monthly finance report, providing a regular update on Council's financial position, identified budget issues and progress on Council's major capital and operational projects.
- Quarterly budget review, updating projections of Councils' operating and capital budgets for the relevant financial year, identifying any variations sought to Councils' original budget and the resulting cumulative financial implications.
- Quarterly procurement update, outlining procurement activities for the quarter including policy exemptions and local spend.
- Quarterly update: delivery of 4-year Delivery Plan.
- Half yearly performance report, outlining performance against Council's adopted key performance indicators.
- Annual report, providing a compilation of key achievements during the year, performance against Council's adopted key performance indicators and end of year financial statements.
- Community grants

.

Annexure "B"

INDICATIVE SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION
for the period July 2026 – October 2026

Monday **20 July 2026**	**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING** • CEO's Action Report • Mayor's Report • Information Report • Monthly Budget Report • April A&RC Meeting minutes and summary • Quarterly Procurement Report • Review of Finance Policies • Veolia Waste Management Contract
Friday **24 July 2026**	**AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING** • Entertainment and Hospitality Policy • Financial Hardship Policy • Quarterly Procurement Report • Review Emergency Management and BCP Policies and Plans • Cyber Security Review Report • Review Performance Assessment Methodology • Receive and Consider Internal Audit Report on Council's Systems of Control on Ethical Standards etc.
Monday **3 August 2026**	**COUNCIL MEMBER BRIEFING SESSION** • Verge Discussion • Cuttlefish Dive Site Parking Fees • Fire – Jubilee Basketball
Monday **17 August 2026**	**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING** • CEO's Action Report • Mayor's Report • Information Report • Monthly Budget Report • Records Management Policy
Monday **7 September 2026**	**COUNCIL MEMBERS BRIEFIENG SESSION** •
Monday **21 September 2026**	**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING** • CEO's Action Report • Mayor's Report • Information Report • Monthly Budget Report
Tuesday **6 October 2026**	**COUNCIL MEMBER BRIEFING SESSION**
Friday **9 October 2026**	**AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING**
Monday **19 October 2026**	**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

Annexure “C”

Staffing Update July 2026

	Employee Name	Position Title	Start Date	End Date	Length of service
Staff Leaving	Louise Fiedler	People and Culture Advisor	23/06/2025	17/07/2026	1 years, 0 months, 16 days
Staff Commencement	Kaylee Chapman	Assistant Childcare Educator	15/06/2026		
Staff Commencement	Fiona Higgins	Visitor Information Officer and Tour Guide	15/06/2026		
Staff Commencement	Emma Simms	Visitor Information Officer and Tour Guide	18/05/2026		
Staff Commencement	Reef Pople	Municipal Employee Grade 4	13/07/2026		
Staff Movement	Kane Boss	Relief ARO	08/06/2026		Relief ARO following internal recruitment process
Staff Movement	Nicole Gibbons	Relief Cemetery Curator	20/05/2025	29/06/2026	2 years, 1 month, 28 days Remaining Relief ARO and Depot
Staff Movement	Jo-Anne McGrath	Procurement Administration Officer	06/07/2026		Recruitment process appointment
Staff Movement	Kirsty Takasch	Asset and Contract Support Officer	06/07/2026		Recruitment process appointment

Annexure “D”

Finance & Knowledge Management

Budget Review

The Third Quarter Budget Review was presented to Council at the April Meeting. It presented a fairly neutral position in line with previous projections. There were still negative budget variances identified; however these were able to be offset by other income streams. It is expected that the ability of Council to operate within its adopted budget will improve over the next 12 to 24 months.

2026/27 Annual Business Plan and Budget

Consultation on the draft 2026/27 Annual Business Plan and Budget was undertaken in May, with much more feedback received compared to previous years. The feedback, while varied, seemed to focus on the rate increase being as close to CPI as possible at this time. Ultimately this resulted in Council adopting a rate increase of 5.3%, only 0.4% above CPI, much less than the increase of 1.8% above CPI which was the lower of the two options consulted on.

External Audit

Council appointed a new External Auditor for the period covering 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2030. It is a legislative requirement to change auditor every 5 years. The newly appointed auditor is Galpins, who have a lot of experience in auditing local government. The first interim audit occurred in March 2026 and the feedback from Galpins was very positive. The process went very smoothly for an initial audit and no concerning items were identified.

Sale of Property for Non-payment of Rates

Council had planned to undertake an auction for the sale of properties for non-payment of rates on Thursday 21st May. However, all but one of the listed properties made suitable arrangements with Council and so the decision was made to cancel the auction. All related payment arrangements are currently being met. Council is attempting to reach an arrangement with the remaining property and it has been made clear to the owner that the property will be auctioned in the future if the debt is not cleared.

Information Technology

A project is being undertaken to transfer the Foreshore cameras to a new wireless network that can be connected to the corporate network without the requirement for a radio tower at Hummock Hill. The works were expected to be completed in May, but some contractor delays mean that this is now expected to be completed in mid-July. This project is expected to save Council around $150,000.

The backup server at the Depot recently failed, with a replacement costing around $60,000. This is an unplanned expenditure, however the IT project load is being reprioritised to deliver this within current approved budget.

Procurement

It has been a very busy period for Procurement, with a number of tender processes run. The most significant was the Airport Security Screening contract, which resulted in a new supplier being appointed for the next 5 years. The transition will occur in August.

Three tenders were undertaken for the projects being undertaken at the airport, which has very tight timeframes for delivery.

The tender process for the Pt Lowly Cleaning contract was also undertaken, with a new provider appointed.

The Foreshore Splash & Play Plaza tender was undertaken in the previous period, but due to the complex nature of the negotiations, the contract has not yet been signed.

The Foreshore Building tender will be released in early July.

Records

Two Freedom of Information Requests have been processed over the past 4 months. Two further initial requests were received, however these will be rolled into the next period, as the required follow up information from the applicant has not yet been received.

The Information Management Strategy and Framework are both nearing finalisation. These documents will ensure that Council is managing its information in the way that most benefits the organisation, while still meeting legislative requirements.

A Records Management Policy has been developed and will be presented to Council in August.

Day-to-day Activities

Much of the work undertaken by the Finance & Knowledge Management Team relates to ongoing processes. Below are some random statistics covering the 2025/26 financial year that may be of interest. Comparative figures for the previous two financial years are also provided.

	23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**
Number of Creditor invoices processed	9,080	8,810	8,845
Value of Creditor invoices processed	$31,880,000	$56,610,000	$35,294,000
Number of Creditors paid	810	815	855
Number of Creditors paid more than $1 million	8	8	8
Percentage of total payments to these creditors	39%	67%	44%
Total number of employee pays processed	3,970	4,010	4,087
Number of incoming records created	18,674	20,261	20,595
Number of purchase orders created	3,690	4,020	4,087

People and Culture Quarterly Report

Career Roadshow



Council was pleased to support the UniHub Spencer Gulf Career Roadshow in Whyalla.

The 2026 Roadshow, held across Whyalla, Kadina, Port Pirie, Port Augusta and Port Lincoln, was the largest careers and workforce event in regional South Australia, attracting more than 4,500 attendees and 160 participating organisations.

Council held two stalls at this year's event. The first was dedicated to the Whyalla Early Learning Centre, while the second showcased Council's Grow Your Own framework, volunteering opportunities and the broad range of careers available across local government.



Job seekers and school leavers were supported to register their interest through QR codes and the People and Culture iPad, creating a database for future employment engagement.

The stall was staffed by the People and Culture Team, City Development and Outdoor Spaces crews, highlighting the diversity of career pathways across Council. In partnership with Community Services, the smoothie bike also provided a popular engagement activity throughout the day.

National Volunteer Week Morning Tea

As part of National Volunteer Week (18–24 May 2026), the People and Culture Team coordinated Council's annual volunteer recognition activities, celebrating the significant contribution volunteers make across Council's services, programs and community initiatives. A volunteer appreciation morning tea was hosted, with Mayor Phill Stone presenting certificates of recognition to acknowledge the dedication, time and expertise contributed by Council's volunteers. The event provided an opportunity to formally thank volunteers for the important role they play in supporting Council and strengthening community connections.



In conjunction with the recognition event, the People and Culture Team is progressing a comprehensive review of Council's Volunteer Management Framework to ensure it reflects current legislative requirements, contemporary best practice and continues to support a positive volunteer experience.

As part of this review, benchmarking has been undertaken with several South Australian councils to identify opportunities for improvement. As a commitment to continuous improvement, volunteers attending the National Volunteer Week event were also invited to provide anonymous feedback, which will inform the development of an enhanced volunteer management framework and support the continuous improvement of Council's volunteer program.

This work reinforces Council's commitment to recognising, supporting and investing in its volunteer workforce, ensuring volunteers remain well supported while continuing to make a valuable contribution to the Whyalla community.

School Based Traineeships

In the week commencing 22 June 2026, Whyalla City Council welcomed six School-Based Trainees through its Career Pathways Framework, supporting the development of local talent and future employment pathways for young people. This year's intake included two Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander trainees, reflecting Council's commitment to inclusive opportunities and actions under our Reconciliation Action Plan.



The trainees were appointed through a merit-based recruitment process, designed to reflect real-life employment practices. Candidates participated in panel interviews and had the opportunity to share their experience, interests and reasons for wanting to work with Council.



On their first day, trainees took part in staff discussions, inductions and an interactive city tour showcasing the broad range of services Council delivers to the community.

Placements have commenced across Corporate Services, City Planning, Infrastructure and Depot Operations, Whyalla Early Learning Centre, and Visitor Experience. Alongside their workplace experience, trainees have commenced nationally recognised vocational studies relevant to their roles, combining paid employment with formal education and training.

The program was coordinated by the People and Culture Team in partnership with Whyalla Secondary College, Samaritan College and Career Employment Group. Council looks forward to supporting the trainees' growth and success over the next year.

Work Inspirations



On 30 June 2026, Whyalla City Council hosted 13 students from Whyalla Secondary College as part of a career exploration initiative coordinated in partnership with The Smith Family. The session provided students with the opportunity to gain insight into the diverse career pathways available within local government and the broad range of professions that contribute to Council's operations.

The event was coordinated by the People and Culture Team, who facilitated the discussion and provided an overview of employment pathways, qualifications and development opportunities within Council. Students were welcomed by Chief Executive Officer Justin Commons, who spoke about the important role local government plays in supporting the community and encouraged students to consider future careers within the sector.



Council employees Sam Bourne (Project Manager), Zoe Ritchie (Municipal Employee), Joanne Peden (Customer Service Coordinator) and Lacey Groenveld (Whyalla Early Learning Centre) participated in a career panel, sharing their individual career journeys, experiences and advice with students. Their insights highlighted the variety of professional pathways available at Council and demonstrated the diverse skills and opportunities that exist across the organisation.

The initiative supports Council's ongoing commitment to promoting local government careers, engaging with young people and strengthening future workforce development through meaningful partnerships with local education providers and community organisations.





Work Health and Safety



Annual Skin Screenings

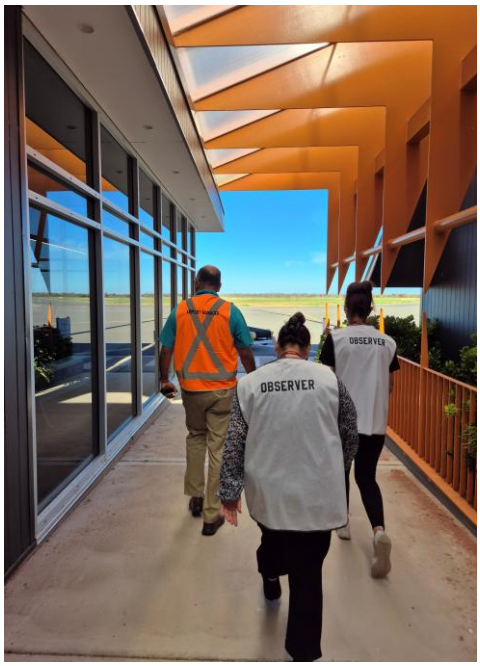
During 2025/26, Council participated in the Workers' Compensation Scheme Health Assessments delivered through Career Health Group (CHG).

As part of the program, skin checks were undertaken in May, achieving the highest level of staff participation (54 staff) over the recent three-year period. 11 of the 54 staff skin screened were referred to specialist services for further assessment, demonstrating the value of early detection and preventative health screening.

The report findings and program suggestions will assist Council in developing targeted health and wellbeing programs that support a healthier, more resilient workforce.

Fitness For Work

Council consulted and had adoption of its Fitness for Work management procedure and supporting resources. This provides a pathway for non-work-related injuries and illness in the workforce, which can hold impact to physical, mental health and wellbeing. The procedure aims to support both employees and managers in understanding, recognising, managing fitness in the workplace.



Airport Emergency Exercise

In March 2026, the WHS Team supported the planning and observation of a multi-agency emergency management exercise coordinated by Tanvir Sadeque, Airport Operations Lead.

The exercise was held on a Saturday morning and involved an active threat scenario at the Whyalla Airport. The activity provided an opportunity to test emergency response arrangements in a controlled environment, strengthen preparedness, and improve coordination between Council staff, security and stakeholders, alongside responding agencies SAPOL, SA Ambulance, MFS and CFS.

A valuable debrief was held following the scenario. The exercise highlighted the value of scenario-based training in building confidence, clarifying roles and responsibilities, and identifying practical improvements to communication and response processes. It also reinforced the importance of regular emergency exercises to ensure plans remain current, understood and operationally effective.

Key learnings from the activity will support Council's broader emergency management planning, including the review of WHS emergency scenarios for inclusion in the 26-27 Emergency Exercise Calendar.

WHS will work towards a best-practice Emergency Management Procedure as part of the WHS IM review to be held in the second half of the year.



WHS Injury Management Plan

Council continues to work towards 100% achievement of the WHS and Injury Management Rebate Plan. The plan currently sits at 60%

completion, with work planned to end of September 2026

Risk Management



Council nominated the Whyalla Airport Project, *From Taxiway to Take Off*, for a Local Government Risk Services Award and was successful in winning the Risk Incentive Category. The award secured $10,000 in funding from the LGA Mutual Scheme which was presented at the May 2026 Local Government Ordinary General Meeting from Tony Gray, General Manager of JLT (pictured) to Chief Executive Officer, Justin Commons.

The calibre of applications was noted by Local Government Risk Services as being particularly high this year, and Council was pleased to celebrate this achievement, which recognises the strong risk management approach applied throughout the Airport Project.

Council continues to progress its risk maturity in partnership with Local Government Risk Services, with oversight from the Audit and Risk Committee across strategic and operational risk. Council's strategic risk is under review, with risk appetite sessions scheduled for 2026.

Council will also participate in a risk-profiling survey through Local Government Risk Services. This year's review focuses on playgrounds, a key risk area for councils across the sector. The survey will assess Council's risk management practices and provide a valuable opportunity to highlight and share learnings from Council's recent work in playground risk management.

Training and Development

- Training Room has been upgraded as a location for staff to undertake Training and Development. The space also functions as a ‘study hub’ with access to desktop set-up for new and existing staff to undertake inductions, conduct research or undertake professionally aligned study.

- Review of the Training Needs Analysis has occurred, with finalisation of the TNA expected to occur in order to deliver a planned and proactive approach to the 26-27 Training Needs of the organisation.

- Progress continues to deliver support to staff, through engaging and modernised inductions; moving away from the standard PowerPoint to a more interactive platform. Council has been working on a new platform to deliver inductions to better support the learning needs of the organisation.



The Whyalla City Council acknowledges its obligation to manage workplace risks associated with drugs and alcohol. This induction provides an overview of the Drug and Alcohol Procedure and how it supports a safe, healthy and productive workplace.

Annexure "E"

Regulatory Services Information Report

Council Meeting July 2026

Animal Management:

During the period 1 April 2026 - 30 June 2026, 9 dog attacks/harassments were reported.

As a result of investigations into the above dog attacks/harassments, 3 expiation notices were issued to the owners, including unregistered dog (if dog was unregistered at the time of the offence).

A Destruction Order for a dangerous dog was also issued. This Order is currently being appealed through the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT).

35 general animal nuisance complaints (barking dogs, dogs wandering, dogs jumping at fences, nuisance cats, noisy roosters, people feeding pigeons and galahs, snakes, livestock, kangaroos etc.).

34 expiation notices have been issued for dog and cat related offences (unregistered, not microchipped, wandering at large, breeding offences, and dog attack/harassment).

Expiation notices can include up to three offences related to the same animal. Some of the notices issued are for multiple offences.

Number of reports received in previous years:

	Dog attack and harassment	Animal nuisance complaints (barking dogs and nuisance cats)	Expiations issued for dog and cat related offences
FY 2021/2022	51	92	138
FY 2022/2023	69	141	142
FY 2023/2024	46	165	113
FY 2024/2025	35	264	114
FY 2025/2026	**38**	**194**	**132**

Dog and Cat Centre (DACC) Impoundments:

Dogs	Number of Dogs Impounded (incl. surrendered to Council by owner)	Number Returned to Owner	Number Surrendered by Council to RSPCA for Rehoming	Euth'd
FY 2021/2022	295	140	145	10
FY 2022/2023	275	139	124	12
FY 2023/2024	242	124	99	19
FY 2024/2025	257	110	123	23
FY 2025/2026	**289**	**147**	**111**	**31**

Cats	Number of Cats Impounded (incl. surrendered to Council by owner)	Number Returned to Owner	Number Surrendered by Council to RSPCA for Rehoming	Euth'd
FY 2021/2022	504	12	427	65
FY 2022/2023	404	17	277	110
FY 2023/2024	302	10	224	68
FY 2024/2025	318	16	189	111
FY 2025/2026	**337**	**16**	**208**	**113**

Registrations

Dog and Cat registrations expired on 30 June. All dogs and cats must be renewed for the 25/26 year by 31 August. After months of the statewide dog and cat registration database (DACO) being unavailable to the public, it is back online and dog and cat owners can now access the system.

Renewal notices have been posted, emailed and sent via text message (SMS) to dog and cat owners across the State.

This year's registration fees for Whyalla residents are $45 for a standard dog (microchipped and desexed), and $22.50 for a standard cat. A dog or cat that is not microchipped or desexed is $90. A 50% discount applies to all fees for concession card holders.

Compliance

Litter and Illegal Dumping

During the period 1 April – 30 June 2026 Council received 172 reports of illegal dumping, including items left on the verge.

Reports were related to rubbish that had been dumped on the verge, in rear laneways, on street corners, in park reserves, and in surrounding bushland. Types of rubbish include green waste, car tyres, building materials, concrete, engine oil, lounges, mattresses, and general household items and furniture.

6 expiation notices were issued during the reporting period for those caught illegally dumping (and those who fail to clean up their illegal dumping).

Expiation fee of $1000 applies to general litter of more than 50 litres.

	Number of illegal dumping reports to Council in previous years:	Litter Expiations Issued
FY 2021/2022	230	10
FY 2022/2023	277	11
FY 2023/2024	381	11
FY 2024/2025	524	18
FY 2025/2026	**648**	**23**

Unsightly Properties

During the period 1 April – 30 June 2026, 10 complaints were received about unsightly properties. Most of these complaints relate to untidy front yards and accumulated items. Housing SA and Real Estate Agents are informed if any complaints are received from residents pertaining to properties that are tenanted (so they can try and assist their tenants to clean up any untidy properties).

	Number of reports of unsightly premises in previous years:
FY 2021/2022	26
FY 2022/2023	35
FY 2023/2024	38
FY 2024/2025	50
FY 2025/2026	56

Abandoned Vehicles

During the period 1 April – 30 June 2026, Council had 23 reports of abandoned vehicles. There is a legislated process for dealing with these vehicles under the Local Government Act. All reports were investigated, and none of the vehicles were required to be towed.

	Abandoned vehicle reports received in previous years:
FY 2021/2022	33
FY 2022/2023	37
FY2023/2024	54
FY 2024/2025	46
FY 2025/2026	57

Parking

During the period 1 April – 30 June 2026, 46 parking/vehicle complaints were received. Council's compliance officer responds to various parking complaints received across the city. School zones are regularly monitored, and warning/expiation notices are issued where appropriate. During this period 11 expiation notices were issued.

	Parking complaints:	Parking Expiation notices issued:
FY 2021/2022	113	88
FY 2022/2023	142	48
FY 2023/2024	112	10
FY 2024/2025	150	60
FY 2025/2026	164	25

Illegal Camping / Homelessness

Council's Authorised Officers continue to deal with people camping in tents or sleeping rough in various parts of the city. Attempts are made to connect vulnerable people to the relevant government agencies that may be able to help those who are experiencing homelessness.
25 reports of illegal camping were made to Council during the 25/26 year.

TOURISM & EVENTS

INFORMATION REPORT

Annexure "G"

JULY 2026



REPORT PREPARED BY

JENNY BARNES	TOURISM & EVENTS LEAD
ALI SANDERS	VISITOR EXPERIENCE COORDINATOR
RYAN SUTHERLAND	EVENTS COORDINATOR
PAUL MAZOUREK	COMMUNITY ACTIVATION OFFICER - TOURISM ASSETS

UNEARTH WHYALLA

REPORT ENCOMPASSES MARCH, APRIL, MAY & JUNE 2026

MARKETING & MORE

LG Professionals Award of Excellence in Customer Service or Delivery WINNERS



On 22 May 2026, the Whyalla Visitor Centre was announced as the winner of the LG Professionals Award of Excellence in Customer Service or Delivery, following a competitive assessment process comprising a written submission and panel interview.

The Whyalla Visitor Centre team was recognised for redefining the traditional visitor information model by delivering a dynamic, experience-led tourism service underpinned by customer service excellence.

This win is a testament to the dedication of staff who consistently deliver high-quality service and play a key role in showcasing Whyalla as a welcoming and memorable destination. Finalists were:

- Adelaide Plains Council Customer Experience Team - From Outsourced to Outstanding: Capability Built from Within
- City of Marion Continuous Improvement and Change Team and CI Champions - People-Powered Continuous Improvement Success
- City of Tea Tree Gully IT and CX Teams - Digital CX Optimisation Program
- Whyalla City Council Visitor Information Centre - **Tourism Triumphs: Wild Vision, Real Action WINNER**

You can read a summary of the finalist's submissions here 7. Excellence in Customer Service or Experience.pdf.

Top Tour Guide Award FINALIST



We're proud to say that our longest-serving steelworks tour guide, Rod Masters, was a finalist in the inaugural 2026 Top Tour Guide Awards.

Launched by TICSA (Tourism Industry Council of South Australia) in 2026, the Top Tour Guide Awards recognise the significant contribution quality tour guides make in providing memorable experiences to visitors.

Feedback from the judges included:

- "It's clear that Rod's passion and in-depth knowledge of the steelworks is directly related to the success of this tour. His authenticity clearly comes from a place of fierce love and loyalty to his community, hometown, and the natural environment."
- "Rod certainly was the embodiment of a 'true blue Aussie'; and Whyalla is lucky to have him as an ambassador both for the steelworks and for the town."

Rod recognised as one of the best tour guides in the state | Whyalla City Council

Point Lowly campsites

The campsites at Point Lowly became online bookable as of 1 December 2025, with 1015 nights booked in total since our upgrades and launching online.

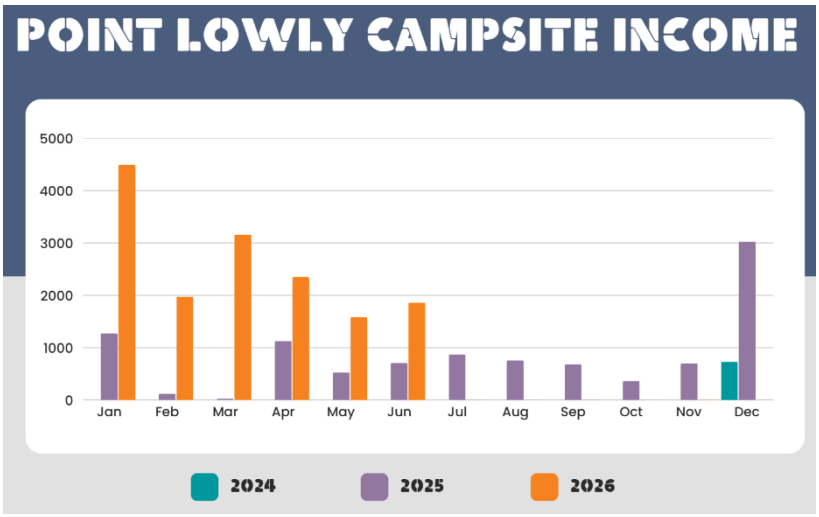
The Point Lowly campsites in order of popularity (from highest to lowest) are



Tommy Ruff and Garfish campsites are both singular campsites with no immediate neighbours & wonderful views of the lighthouse, this pattern indicates that visitors are self-contained, value their privacy and don't require proximity to the toilet block.

Please note the following:

- December 2024 figure is included for comparison
- figures are ex-gst
- previous year's income can be haphazard as:
    1. the honesty box system was vandalised, and
    2. the cash income depended upon when the cash was picked up.



We have registered our new street libraries, which are located on the Point Lowly amenities block, with the Street Library website.



They have also been featured in an article titled 'Street Libraries of the Moment', this positive feature begins with "*three cheers for the legends at Whyalla City Council who have installed not one, but two beautifully decorated Street Libraries at the Point Lowly campsite in coastal South Australia.*"

You can read the article here Street Libraries of the Moment: Point Lowly Libraries - Street Library Australia

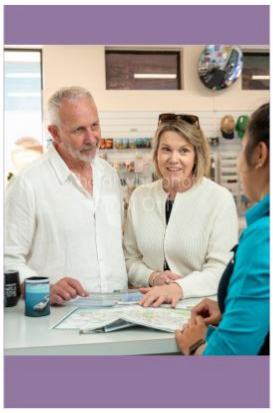
Upgraded marketing collateral

We organised for a professional photographer to be here for 2 days (5 & 6 June) capturing images of:

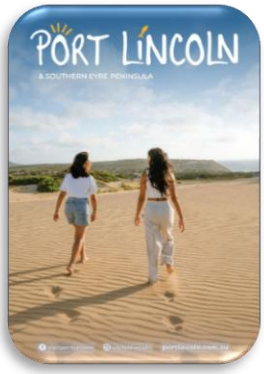
- Visitor Centre and Maritime Museum
- New tour bus
- Salty Sea'esta
- Point Lowly campsites

This was an opportunity to update our marketing collateral to ensure that we have an updated library of curated images that are on-brand, professional and ready to showcase our uniqueness. We have been careful to ensure that these images will appeal to our key target markets and are suitable for use in ongoing promotional activities. The wider Council organisation will also have access to these images for use in corporate publications and on the website.






Port Lincoln and Southern Eyre Peninsula Visitor Guide



We will once again feature a full page advert in this publication in the prime location of INSIDE BACK COVER.

This A5 sized brochure has a print run of 25,000 copies and is distributed digitally via website, online flip book and socials, with hard copies distributed via accredited Visitor Information Centres.

As Whyalla is the gateway to the Eyre Peninsula, this provides an opportunity to collaboratively market with the high-profile town of Port Lincoln, giving us the ability to capitalise on visitors who are already in or planning to come to the region.

The cover of the current edition is pictured at right.

Dive Log Australasia *

Dive Log Australasia shares articles and news within the Scuba Diving industry.



We have advertised in Dive Log Australasia in 2024 and 2025, with our advertising being supported by multi-page Whyalla editorial features.

We again advertised in the June 2026 edition, our advert features our iconic Cuttlefest messaging and a simple push to our upgraded website whyalla.com for further information.

Our advert was again supported with an editorial feature, with a four-page Whyalla spread from pages 26 – 29 in the June 2026 issue 418 DIVE LOG AUSTRALASIA JUNE 2026

Our full page advert is pictured at right.

Scuba Diver ANZ*



Scuba Diver Magazine ANZ is a premium, free distribution magazine that is stocked in most dive centres in Australia and New Zealand, and distributed through Adreno, Underwater Australasia and Sharkskin plus several other distributors, who include the magazine in their online orders

We ran full page adverts in both their May and June 2026 editions, for brand reinforcement we used the same advert pictured above featuring our iconic Cuttlefest messaging and a simple push to our upgraded website whyalla.com for further information.

The front page of their June edition is pictured right.

**Please note that this advertising was organised in March in anticipation of a normal Cuttlefish season.*

Port Pirie and Surrounding Districts Visitor Guide



We have secured a full page advert in this publication in the prime location of INSIDE BACK COVER.

This A4 sized printed brochure is also available as an online flipbook and digital visitor guide and is promoted and distributed via an extensive network including accredited Visitor Information Centres, RAA, accommodation houses and tourism attractions.

This provides an opportunity to collaboratively market with the town of Port Pirie, giving us the ability to capitalise on visitors who may be planning to come to the neighbouring Eyre Peninsula region.

A mock-up of the cover is pictured at right.

Socials & technology

Social media continues to play an increasingly important role in promoting Whyalla as a visitor destination and engaging with both existing and potential visitors.

During the reporting period, the Whyalla Visitor Centre expanded its digital presence by establishing a TikTok account, providing an additional platform to connect with a younger demographic and showcase Whyalla through engaging short-form video content.

The Visitor Centre's Facebook audience has continued to grow strongly, reaching **7,808** followers, representing a **19.1%** increase over the past 12 months. This growth reflects the continued effectiveness of the Centre's digital marketing activities and the strong interest in Whyalla as a destination.

In response to the lower-than-expected cuttlefish aggregation this season, the social media strategy has been adapted to highlight the breadth of experiences available across Whyalla. Content has focused on promoting the city's diverse tourism offerings, including its maritime history, natural attractions, events, accommodation, local businesses, and unique visitor experiences, reinforcing Whyalla as a year-round destination rather than one defined by a single attraction.

In the coming financial year, a greater strategic emphasis will be placed on growing and strengthening the Visitor Centre's presence across Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. This will include the development of a more targeted content strategy, ongoing analysis of audience engagement, and investment in professional development to ensure content is tailored to the appropriate audiences on each platform, maximising reach, engagement and visitation outcomes.

The Visitor Centre will continue to monitor and explore the application of artificial intelligence (AI) within the visitor information sector. Recent tourism conferences have identified AI as an emerging and rapidly evolving tool that is expected to play an increasingly important role in destination marketing, visitor servicing and operational efficiency.

As the technology continues to develop, it is important that the Whyalla Visitor Centre remains informed about new opportunities and adopts appropriate AI tools where they can enhance service delivery, improve productivity and support visitor engagement.

While AI has the potential to complement many aspects of visitor servicing, it will not replace the value of personal interaction. The knowledge, local expertise and genuine hospitality provided by Visitor Centre staff remain fundamental to delivering personalised recommendations, creating meaningful visitor experiences and sharing Whyalla's unique stories. Storytelling, local insights and tailored customer service will continue to be key strengths of the Visitor Centre, with AI viewed as a tool to support, rather than replace, these important human elements.

WHYALLA.COM

During this reporting period, the Whyalla Visitor Centre team assumed oversight and management of Whyalla.com, marking an important step in strengthening Council's digital tourism presence.

Working in partnership with JABA, the website has undergone a comprehensive refresh, introducing a modern design, improved navigation, enhanced drop-down menus and a more user-friendly layout. The updated site provides visitors with easier access to information on attractions, accommodation, events, dining experiences and itinerary planning, creating a more engaging and seamless online experience.

The Visitor Centre team is also developing new content to showcase the destination and the people behind the visitor experience. This includes a "Meet the Visitor Centre Team" video series, designed to introduce staff, highlight their local knowledge and encourage visitors to connect with the Centre for personalised travel advice before and during their stay.

To ensure the website remains current and responsive, Visitor Centre staff are undertaking training in website management and content maintenance. This will enable the team to update listings, promote events, publish stories and respond quickly to changes, ensuring the site remains a dynamic and relevant resource for both visitors and the local community.

The redevelopment of Whyalla.com forms part of a broader digital tourism strategy, with several exciting initiatives planned over the coming months. The website will continue to evolve as a key platform for showcasing Whyalla's tourism experiences, supporting local businesses and inspiring visitors to discover all that the region has to offer.

With several additional features and campaigns scheduled for release in the coming months, Whyalla.com is set to become the primary digital gateway for promoting the city's tourism, events and visitor experiences.

VISITOR SERVICES

Whyalla Visitor Centre

Between March and June 2026, the Whyalla Visitor Centre welcomed just over 7,500 visitors. Visitation during this period was impacted by several external factors, most notably the national fuel supply disruption, which affected travel across Australia and resulted in lower visitor numbers compared with the same period in 2025.

Adding to these challenges, the 2026 Giant Australian Cuttlefish aggregation has not occurred in the numbers experienced in previous years, contributing to reduced visitation throughout June. Despite this, the Visitor Centre experienced strong patronage over the June long weekend, welcoming 172 visitors on the Sunday alone. While visitor numbers at the Point Lowly cuttlefish viewing site have been significantly lower than in previous seasons, staff have responded proactively by adapting marketing messages and social media content to reinforce that Whyalla remains open for business and offers a diverse range of experiences beyond the Giant Australian Cuttlefish.

Retail sales also reflected the challenging tourism environment, with May recording the most significant decline, followed by June. This represents the first year in three years that retail sales have fallen below the previous year's performance. Despite this, total Visitor Centre retail sales for the 2025/26 financial year finished only approximately $3,000 below the 2024/25 result, demonstrating the resilience of the operation in a difficult trading environment.

Visitor Centre staff continue to carefully curate and refine the merchandise and souvenir range, ensuring it meets visitor expectations while showcasing products that reflect the unique character and experiences of Whyalla.

Work Experience Students

This quarter, the Whyalla Visitor Centre welcomed Tigerlillee from Whyalla Secondary College as part of her Vocational Education and Training (VET) studies. Tigerlillee quickly became a valued member of the team, demonstrating enthusiasm, professionalism and a willingness to learn. Staff enjoyed mentoring and supporting her development, providing practical experience across a range of visitor services while fostering her growth and confidence in the workplace.

Biannual Visitor Survey

During March, the Whyalla Visitor Centre participated in the South Australian Visitor Information Servicing Network's biannual visitor survey. A total of 214 visitor surveys were completed, providing valuable insights into visitor behaviour and satisfaction.

The survey results demonstrate the important role the Visitor Centre continues to play in enhancing the visitor experience and contributing to the visitor economy:

Star Rating	Category	Statewide Average
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ 4.94 star	Customer Service	4.9
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ 4.88 star	Information Display & Range	4.8
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ 4.74 star	Range & Quality of Souvenirs	4.7

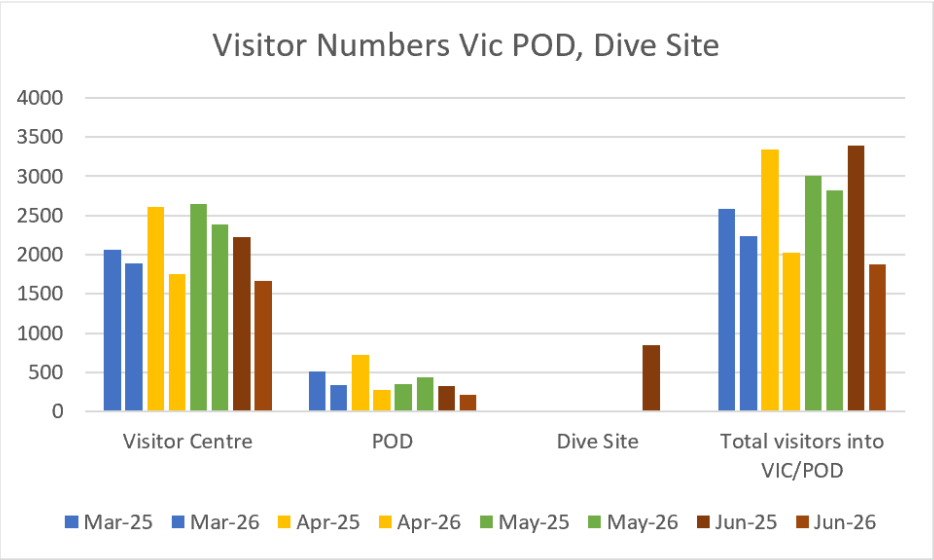
These results reinforce the value of the Whyalla Visitor Centre in delivering high-quality visitor services and contributing to increased visitor dispersal, length of stay and economic benefit for the region.

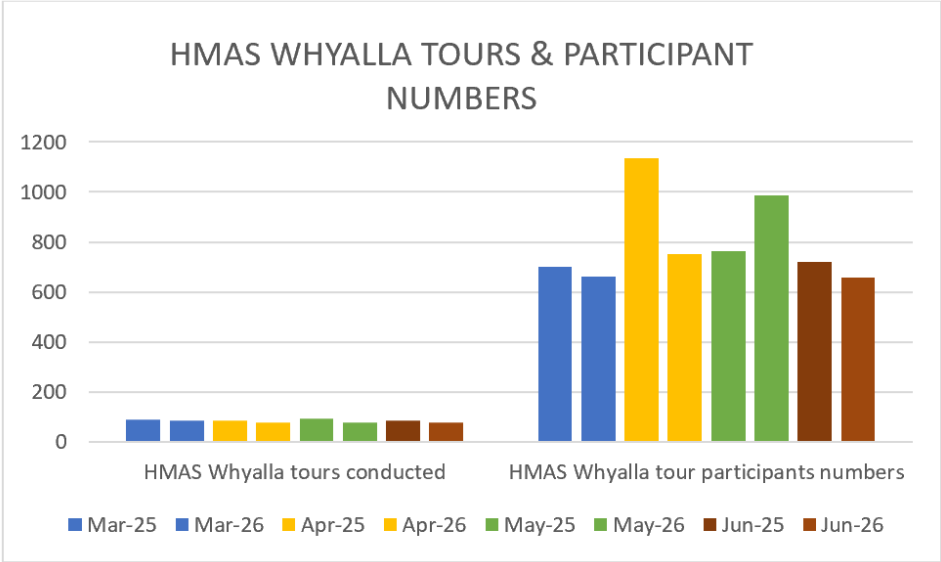
62%	rated staff advice highest as their reason for visiting the Visitor Centre.
93%	indicated that, as a result of advice received from the Visitor Centre, they would definitely or possibly experience more attractions, stay longer in the region, or spend more money than originally intended.
86%	Statewide average for the above question, which we exceeded by 7%

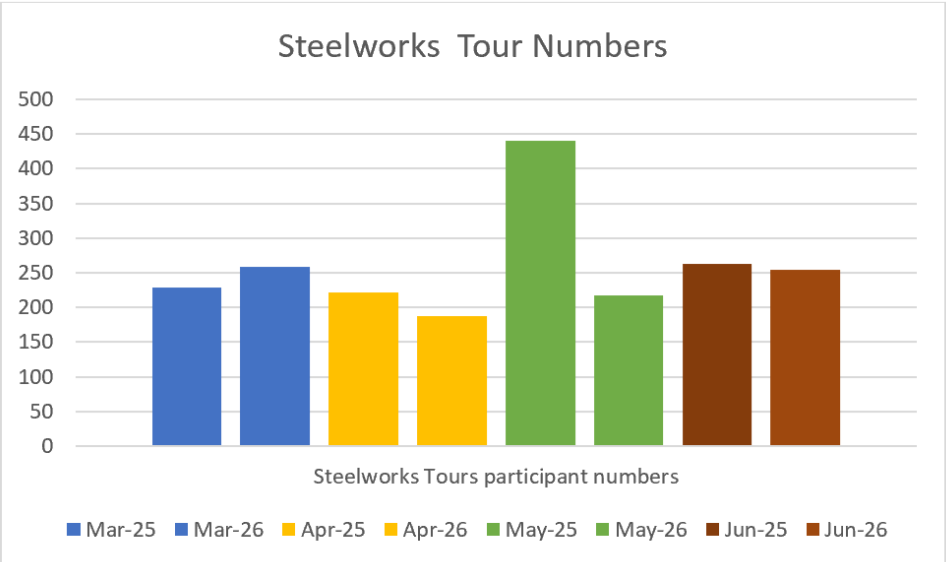
Tour Groups

MARCH	Maritime Museum	Steelworks Tours
Taylor Made Tours		30
Whyalla Secondary College photography class		13
APRIL		
Cowell Area School	15	
Travel Marvel group	12	
MAY		
SA Engineer Group		22
Retired Steelworkers		11
Skill Up	15	15
Travel Industry Famil Tour	10	
JUNE		
Rufus bus tours	25	25
Rufus Bus tours	25	25
Curdnatta Probus		14
Aust Wide tours	44	
Clontarf Whyalla students	10	
Kimba Kindy	12	
TOTALS	**168**	**155**

Visitor data specific to March, April, May and June is displayed in the graphs below.


Visitor Numbers Vic POD, Dive Site
4000
3500
3000
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0
Visitor Centre
POD
Dive Site
Total visitors into VIC/POD
Mar-25
Mar-26
Apr-25
Apr-26
May-25
May-26
Jun-25
Jun-26


HMAS WHYALLA TOURS & PARTICIPANT NUMBERS
1200
1000
800
600
400
200
0
HMAS Whyalla tours conducted
HMAS Whyalla tour participants numbers
Mar-25
Mar-26
Apr-25
Apr-26
May-25
May-26
Jun-25
Jun-26


Steelworks Tour Numbers
500
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
Steelworks Tours participant numbers
Mar-25
Mar-26
Apr-25
Apr-26
May-25
May-26
Jun-25
Jun-26

School holiday programs

During the April school holidays, the Whyalla Visitor Centre hosted the "I Spy Adventure" school holiday program, an engaging problem-solving and sleuth-themed activity designed to encourage exploration and critical thinking.

The program attracted 140 participating children, visiting the Centre to enjoy the activity throughout the holiday period.

The program also met the requirements of the Children's University guidelines, enabling participating children to earn credits towards their Children's University achievements.

The success of the program highlights the Visitor Centre's ongoing commitment to providing educational, family-friendly experiences that encourage learning through fun and interactive activities.





Visitor Feedback

Our dedicated staff continue to receive amazing feedback from our visitors through all mediums: social media, verbally and in writing.

Just wanted to give a shout out to Sky at the Whyalla Information Centre, she was absolutely lovely and extremely helpful and knowledgeable about the area .People like that need to be recognised 😊😊😊 thanks,Mikayla Emailed to Whyalla City Council

Wonderful tour. I have been on sister ship Castlemaine many times and truly enjoyed this experience. Visiting the HMAS Whyalla was a bucket list item for me. Janine was a wonderful guide, please pass on my gratitude. Kevin Green google reviews April 2026

Great stuff. Knowledge was great. Friendly and polite. Information was quickly found and shown. Best tourist information I have visited Terr Howlett Google Review – April 2026

As a group of six, we arrived and we had just missed the last tour of the Whyalla, by 15 minutes. Skye was wonderful enough to offer and give us a tour but had to be back for a meeting. Skye was extremely knowledgeable, friendly and an awesome guide. We all thoroughly enjoyed our visit to the visitors centre, and upon returning to the office the staff were very helpful and friendly. Tanya Battle May 2026

Expanded Tour Offerings

During this reporting period, the Whyalla Visitor Centre expanded its tour offerings with the development of a new guided experience, the Wild Dog Hill Tour. The tour was researched and developed by Visitor Information Officer and Tour Guide, Jason, demonstrating the team's commitment to creating authentic visitor experiences that showcase Whyalla's unique natural environment.





The new tour takes visitors by the Visitor Centre's tour bus to Wild Dog Hill within the Whyalla Conservation Park, where participants are provided with interpretive commentary highlighting the area's natural landscape, local history, native flora and fauna, and the significance of the conservation park. Guests are then given time to climb Wild Dog Hill at their own pace, taking in the panoramic views across Whyalla, the Upper Spencer Gulf and the surrounding bushland, while enjoying the opportunity to observe the region's native wildlife.

The experience concludes with a relaxed morning tea in the natural surroundings before returning to the Whyalla Visitor Centre.

The Wild Dog Hill Tour has been designed as a seasonal experience and will operate during the cooler months, providing a comfortable outdoor activity while further diversifying the Visitor Centre's tour program. The addition of this tour strengthens Whyalla's nature-based tourism offering, encourages longer visitor stays and provides another opportunity to showcase the region's unique landscapes beyond the city's traditional attractions.

May saw the return of the popular Twilight Steelworks Tours as part of South Australia's History Month celebrations. The tours attracted strong community interest, with 49 participants taking the opportunity to experience the Steelworks in the unique atmosphere of the early evening.

The Twilight Tours continue to showcase Whyalla's rich industrial heritage while supporting History Month by providing engaging opportunities for both residents and visitors to connect with the city's history through guided interpretation and storytelling.

A complimentary, dedicated Steelworks Tour was offered to former employees of the Whyalla Steelworks and Shipyard who worked on site prior to 1980. Eleven participants accepted the invitation, joining our Steelworks Tour Guide for a memorable journey through Whyalla's industrial history.

The initiative provided a valuable opportunity for former employees to share their firsthand experiences and personal stories, allowing our tour guides to gain deeper insights into the people, events and workplace culture that shaped the city's industrial heritage. These authentic accounts will

further enrich the storytelling and interpretation delivered on future tours, ensuring visitors receive a more engaging and meaningful experience.

The tour was extremely well received by those who attended and were excited to share with others, and due to its success, another dedicated session is planned for late August.





Accessibility accreditation

As part of the Whyalla Visitor Centre's ongoing commitment to inclusive tourism, work has continued on renewing our accessibility accreditation with TicSA.

This process has driven several important initiatives to improve the visitor experience for people of all abilities.

Key outcomes and future plans include the development of:

- large-print brochures for visitors with low vision,
- read-along tour scripts to support visitors who are deaf or hard of hearing,
- a social script to inform visitors of the sounds/sights/smells they may encounter on a ship our, in the museum, in the garden or on a Steelworks Tour, and
- a dedicated brochure highlighting accessible attractions, experiences and facilities throughout Whyalla.

The Visitor Centre also trialled a new neurodiversity-friendly tour, with members of the local community invited to participate and provide valuable feedback.

The insights gathered will be used to refine the experience, with the aim of introducing the tour as a permanent offering that caters specifically to the needs of neurodiverse visitors.

Work has commenced on the development of an audio-visual guided tour of the HMAS Whyalla as part of the Visitor Centre's ongoing commitment to improving accessibility and visitor experiences.

The professionally produced tour will provide an alternative way for visitors to experience the ship, particularly those who are unable to participate in the physical guided tour due to mobility, sensory or other accessibility requirements.

Once completed, the audio-visual guided tour will complement the existing guided tour, ensuring a broader range of visitors can engage with the stories, history and significance of the HMAS Whyalla in an inclusive and accessible format.

Grant writing success

The outcome of the Whyalla Visitor Centre's application to the Department of Veterans' Affairs *Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program*, submitted in January 2026, has been announced, with funding of $7,200 successfully secured.



The grant will support the restoration and interpretation of the Petty Officers' Quarters aboard the HMAS Whyalla. This section of the ship was not included in the original refurbishment and has remained inaccessible to visitors.

Work is expected to be completed over the next six months, with the Petty Officers' Quarters scheduled to be incorporated into the guided HMAS Whyalla tour experience from January 2027. The project will further enhance the historical interpretation of the vessel and provide visitors with a more comprehensive understanding of life on board during its naval service.

"*Congratulations to the organisations and community groups in the electorate of Grey who have been awarded funding under the 2025/26 round of the Saluting their Service Commemorative Grants Program. These grants play a vital role in ensuring the service and sacrifice of our veterans continue to be appropriately acknowledged and remembered by future generations*."
Tom Venning MP, Federal Member for Grey

Clontarf Garden

The final stage of interpretive signage has been installed at the Clontarf Garden, completing the project's visitor interpretation elements. The new signage explains the purpose and development of the garden, recognising the vision and efforts behind its creation while enhancing the visitor experience.

The installation also includes interpretive panels sharing the story of Singing to the Sharks, providing visitors with a deeper understanding of the cultural significance of the area and further strengthening the connection between the landscape, local stories and Whyalla's unique identity.





EVENTS

uneARTh Festival – March 2026

uneARTh Festival returned in March 2026 with an extensive program delivered in partnership with local and state-wide organisations including Country Arts SA and the Adelaide Fringe along with multiple Whyalla business and organisations.

With over 30 events delivered city-wide, the program featured live music, theatre, dance, comedy, visual arts, one of a kind immersive experiences and hands-on workshops.

Program highlights included:

- The Dome 360- Immersive Worlds held at the Middleback Arts Centre was presented by Adelaide Fringe in partnership with Adelaide University. This unique experience had an extended season offering 14 different films – including the Cuttlefish: Colour and Camouflage which was very popular.
- A number of Fringe performances, including the remount of Whyalla's very own D'Faces of Youth Arts performance of Apocalypse
- Whyalla Recreational Centre hosted an event at Ada Ryan Gardens – Pilates in the Park which involved a Pilates class followed by cocktails on the garden grass
- headspace Whyalla worked with the Council Community Activation Officer - Youth Focus to present a Silent Disco- uneARTh the Beat. Held at the Whyalla Foreshore. This was a stunning sunset event that had people dancing their way along the path to the Jetty and around the jetty before returning to the grassed area outside the VIC Pod for a dance party with glow sticks. DJ Rick brought the beats and the team hyped up those in attendance
- Hands on workshops – included SOLD OUT Gum Trees in the Mist painting workshops presented by the Whyalla Art Gallery
- A jam packed schedule of live music and comedy at the Left-Hand Club
- Council's own Foreshore Fridays and Sumthin' Sundays events (see below)
- And we finished the festival with the Forged in Steel Event – Produced and presented by Open Eyre Events – with support from Council.





uneARTh Festival Foreshore Fridays & Sumthin Sunday Program

Foreshore Fridays
The Foreshore Fridays program, activated the Whyalla foreshore for three Fridays throughout March with live music, family-friendly activities and activations including a roving magician, D'faces circus skills, performance and balloon making, and face painting by Pixie Dust Entertainment.

Each Friday the foreshore grassed area came to life with families sitting back having a picnic or indulging in the food and beverages from the Whyalla Waves Cafes.





The Events Coordinator appreciates the support of the Community Activation Officers- Youth Focus and Arts and Cultural Facilitator who delivered the first of three Foreshore Friday events, and Open Spaces Kane Boss who supported the delivery of the last two events.

This year we were blessed with mostly good weather which helped to create a great atmosphere and encouraged attendance. All three Foreshore Friday events were well received and the live music lineup included local artists Chasing Sunsets, Emma Taylor and Two Mirage

Sumthin Sundays

Sumthin Sundays returned being presented at the Jim Pollock Wetlands- Sumthin Tastee café, featuring live background music from Musically Inclined on March 8 and Brie Ryan on March 29.



Both events were well attended with the café super busy and people enjoying the relaxed brunch atmosphere.

Forged in Steel – March 2026

The Events Coordinator, Media and Communications team and Depot team provided support to the Open Eyre Events team to ensure the successful delivery of Forged in Steel, our headliner event which closed off the month long uneARTh Festival for 2026.





The music festival activated the Ada Ryan Gardens, with over 500 tickets purchased and a great lineup of artists headlined by the Screaming Jets this event was delivered smoothly and feedback received was positive.

Cuttlefest – Open Air Gallery Event May 2026

The Community Activation Officer - Youth Focus, Arts and Cultural Facilitator and Events Coordinator worked together to deliver the Open Air Gallery Event.



The event was a celebration of a collaborative youth focused project between Council and Alligator Energy which saw young people from schools and around Whyalla creating marine, cuttlefish and Whyalla inspired artwork. Alligator Energy then chose some of the works and turned them into Jetty Decals, which were stuck down on the Jetty- creating the Open Air Galley. To launch the opening of gallery we held the Open Air Gallery event.

During the day some of the schools that participated in the project attended the Jetty to view the works before we held a free community event which was an overwhelming success with a few hundred people attending over the two hours. Free hot chips, donuts and drinks were supplied by Rotary, with cookies also given out by Council administration.

Additional engagement at the event included music by local artist Ashton Hillman, face painting by Jozal and Deb, roving engagement by D'Faces of Youth Arts and the first outing of our new cuttlefish mascot Spencer.

The weather was perfect and the evening was a buzz, with lots of people walking the Jetty viewing the works.





Cuttlefish Dive Site Activation – May 2026

May saw the Cuttlefish Coast dive site activation. The Events Coordinator managing the implementation of the activation plan, working alongside the depot team and with various contractors to activate the site.

Reconciliation Week - Nunga Screen – Wednesday 28 May 2025

Produced by Country Arts SA, Nunga Screen is a program held annually between Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week and is a FREE short film showcase for all ages that shares and celebrates First Nations culture, stories and language through film.

To acknowledge and celebrate National Reconciliation Week the Events Coordinator coordinated the corporate screenings for Council across our sites with all staff encouraged to attend one of the following sessions:

27 May – Civic Building & Visitor Centre; 28 May – Depot & Early Learning Centre; 3 June - Library

The Nunga Screen content was later shared to those that could not attend in person to view in their own time.





Cuttlefest- June and July 2026

Cuttlefest is now in full swing on land, with the Cuttlefest program delivering a number of the city-wide activation of marine-themed events, workshops and promotions.

The Cuttlefest working group have this year worked to increase community involvement, business participation, and visitor engagement.

Council put the call out to the community, businesses and organisations to get on board and embrace Cuttlefest 2026 with a city-wide expression of interest (EOI) issued to encourage businesses and organisation to be a part of the official Cuttlefest 2026 program.

The EOI's were collated and the program built.

The Cuttlefest program promoting some fun, educational and engaging events and activations for community and visitors to the city to enjoy over June and July.

Some highlights include:

- Headline event – Salty 'Sea'esta
- Cuttlefest Art Prize
- Cuttlefish Pool Party at the Whyalla Recreation Centre
- A number of hands-on workshops, including sold out watercolour workshops with the Whyalla Art Group held at the gallery
- Loads of school holiday events for young people and families being held at the Library, Visitor Centre and Westland Shopping Centre

To check out the full program visit the website Cuttlefest

Salty ‘Sea’esta – Saturday 6 June 2026

Salty 'Sea'esta delivered a spectacular start to Cuttlefest, with several thousand people gathering at Ada Ryan Gardens to enjoy a day of free entertainment, activities and community celebration. Blessed with perfect weather, the event attracted both locals and visitors, creating a vibrant atmosphere throughout the day.

The free community event featured eleven market stallholders. Four information stalls, including Northern Water, Boomerang Bags, KESAB providing waste education and the ever-popular kitchen caddies along with Alligator Energy handing out freebies.

Eight food and beverage vendors who kept the crowds fed, with some selling out and having to run for more supplies throughout the event!

The free engagement entertainment on offer was well received with these opportunities busy for the full duration of the event.

Rec Fish SA attended for the first time with their fishing boat simulator, Carl Charter with his VR googles, Whyalla Jumpy Castles, henna tattoo artists, face painting and a Kids zone which was delivered by the team from D’Faces of Youth Arts.

The return of the Nylon Zoo drew the attention of the younger children. With large marine themed inflatables which the children explored before heading inside our very own Sparkles the Cuttlefish for story time. The children then putting on capes and participating in a parade around the gardens. A beautiful colourful display!





Entertainment was provided on the mainstage and a second performance space in the food and beverage soon, with the lineup of musicians featuring local’s musicians and visiting artists SUEDAN and The Kavs, along with some hilarious roving by the Seagulls and Lifesavers from Slack Taxi, Mr Oppy our energetic bubble artists and Spencer our very own Cuttlefish mascot also out and about enjoying the many photo opportunities.

Months of planning and collaboration with all the various stakeholders ensured that the event ran smoothly, with the on the day event delivery team consisting of staff from Open Spaces Depot Team, Media and Communications, Community Activations and the Events Coordinator working seamlessly together.

Thanks to the Council Administration for their support to make this hallmark event such a success and shout out to our sponsors who without them these events could not take place:

- Alligator Energy
- Signarama
- Des Transport – Who sponsored the bus – which had more than 60 people onboard for the day
- South Australian Tourism Commission through the Regional Event Fund

This year's Salty 'Sea'esta once again showcased the very best of the Whyalla community and provided a memorable launch to the 2026 Cuttlefest season.





Council supported, community and commercially presented events

The Events Coordinator continues to assist the permitting officers to navigate major community events held on Council land. These events currently include

- Whyalla Show – the Events Coordinator has begun working with the Depot team and Asset and Building Maintenance staff along with the Whyalla Show Society to work through the Council deliverables for the Whyalla Show. Also, working with the permitting officer to provide support and knowledge on the permitting process for this event.
- Khanacross
- Wild Dog Enduro
- Howling Dog Run
- NAIDOC Week events – including:
    - NAIDOC Community March, taking place on Monday 6 July
    - NAIDOC Community Event, taking place on Monday 6 July
    - IMF Colour Run event, taking place on Saturday 11 July

      Council will also play a formal role at several NAIDOC week events this year with the Events Coordinator working with the Community Activation Officer – Youth Focus to arrange a Council stall at the NAIDOC Community Day.

Future Event Planning

Christmas on the Avenue

Discussions have commenced with the various stakeholders to begin the event planning for the 2026 Christmas on the Avenue event, with meetings of the working group due to commence soon.

TOURISM ASSETS

March/April

Mount Laura Homestead Museum Future Developments

Between 30/03/26 and 10/04/26, CATA Officer with NTSA Whyalla Branch members and community volunteers completely removed all artefacts, furniture and fittings from the historic Homestead building and stored the objects in a safe temporary storage.

The interior was thus prepared for ceiling repairs and walls and ceiling painting, the first such activity since the early 1970s.





April

Cowell Area School



CATA Officer provided curatorial talk to Year 7 students from the Cowell Area School on the subject of World War Two and its connection to Eyre Peninsula and Whyalla in particular.

Temporary Exhibition

CATA Officer created and installed a new temporary exhibition '**1946 Whyalla after the War'** at the Whyalla Maritime Museum.
This exhibition is an official part of the South Australia's History Festival 2026 and will be available for viewing until the end of April 2027.





Feedback on Council's socials in response to a post on the exhibition include:
"We are very lucky to have Paul Mazourek Museum Curator in Whyalla. He has done an outstanding job in preserving our history in his many years here. We could have lost so much without his research, compilation and management of publication and displays of oral, written and pictorial material. Big thank you Paul for all your work and dedication for our city. Of course he has always been so well supported by museum staff, so a big thank you to them also. You all do our city proud."
Lyn Breuer

May

SA History Festival – Public Lecture



On 20 May 2026, CATA Officer delivered a public lecture '**Introduction to Whyalla Coastline**', the official part of the SA History Festival 2026, to the audience of 35 at the Whyalla Public Library.

The presentation was also recorded and is available on YouTube: https://youtu.be/PWT_GgZEGhU

Whyalla Secondary College



CATA Officer was invited to talk to the **Whyalla Secondary College** Year 7 about Whyalla history. The audience of 150 students plus teachers and other adults prepared questions about different aspects of Whyalla's past and further enquired on the topics during an hour-long session.

Interpretive Signage

As per request from Landscape SA EP, CATA Officer prepared and installed **new** interpretive sign at the SA Heritage shingle ridge site at Fitzgerald Bay. The cost was covered from a Landscape SA grant to Council for the beautification of the area.

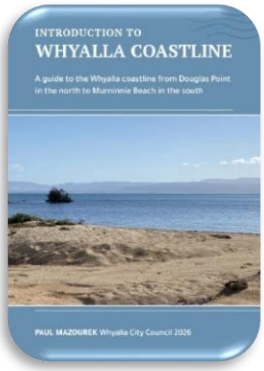


June

New book - Introduction to Whyalla Coastline

CATA Officer published a new book '**Introduction to Whyalla Coastline'**. The publication details five sections of the overall 120km long coastline between Douglas Point North to Murninnie in the South.

Each section contains chapters about topography, marine and terrestrial environments, Aboriginal and early European history, how to get there and recreational activities.



The book is available from the Visitor Centre for $16.50.

Copies of the book were sent as legal deposits to the Australian National Library, Library of South Australia, SA Parliament Research Library, SA Government House, Flinders University Library and also acquired by professionals from South Australia, NSW, New Zealand and Switzerland.

Early testimonies:
'My uncle had a shack at Douglas Point when I was growing up. So many weekends were spent having fun, fishing and exploring the coastline around the shack. I really enjoyed reliving those memories when looking at the content for your book.' **Narelle Crack, Director, WOOF Media**

'Dear Paul, thank you so much for sending me a copy of your new book 'Introduction to Whyalla Coastline'. It is a tribute to your multifaceted skills as a geographer, historian, naturalist, photographer and author – and to your powers of observation!' **Her Excellency Frances Adamson AO, Governor of South Australia**

Flinders and Freycinet statues reinstalled



The **Flinders and Freycinet statues** were restored, painted and re-installed at the Farrell Street lookout.

These statues were originally installed back in 2001 as Whyalla's very first public sculptures.

This restoration work fixed some minor steel corrosion and provided high quality new coat that should protect the unique public art for another twenty plus years.

Cuttlefest 2026 – Connect with the Past, People in the Landscape.

CATA Officer provided his regular June weekly talks to the schools and general public.



The overall attendance was 35 people and 2 dogs. The visitors came from Whyalla, Cowell, VIC, WA and New Zealand.

Date	Attendance
June 2024	88
June 2025	N/A CATA on A/L
June 2026	35

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – Nil

17. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – Nil

18. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

19. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

20. CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

20.1 CITY GROWTH

20.1.1 Lot 3 Lincoln Highway – Agreement to Lease – For Endorsement – Confidential

Council Meeting: 20 July 2026
Author's Title: Jodie Perone – General Manager City Growth **File No.:** 2-20
Directorate: City Growth

Annexures:

A – Proposed Term Sheet
B – Project Background – Summary provided by the Proponent
C – Reverse Planning Assessment undertaken by URPS Planning Consultants
D – OneSteel Manufacturing's Conditional Support for this project

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:
In accordance with Local Government Act 1999, Section 120

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

Status:
Information classified confidential under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act

☑ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Reason – Commercial in Confidence

RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council orders that the public be excluded from the meeting with the exception of Justin Commons; Chief Executive Officer, Jodie Perone; General Manager City Growth, Sue King; General Manager Corporate Services, Paul Day; General Manager Infrastructure, Grant Jennings; Manager Finance and Knowledge Management, Sean Kelly; Manager Media and Communications, Les Jones; Manager Capital Works and Delivery, Lucas Trevisan; Manager City Development, Michelle Armstrong; Executive Co-ordinator – CEO and Mayor and Lisette Symons; Executive Co-ordinator – Corporate for Agenda Item 20.1.1 – Lot 3 Lincoln Highway – Agreement to Lease.

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to Section 90(3)(b) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this Agenda Item could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting, or proposing to conduct business, or to prejudice the commercial position of Council.

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because on balance it would be contrary to the public interest as commercial information is to be discussed and disclosed.

21. CLOSE

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

- 3 August 2026 – Council Members Briefing Session
- 5 August 2026 – CEO Review Panel Meeting No. 2
- 12 August 2026 – CEO Review Panel Meeting No. 3
- 17 August 2026 – Ordinary Council Meeting
- 28 August 2026 – Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- 7 September 2026 – Council Members Briefing Session
- 21 September 2026 – Ordinary Council Meeting
- 6 October 2026 – Council Members Briefing Session
- 9 October 2026 – Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- 19 October 2026 – Ordinary Council Meeting