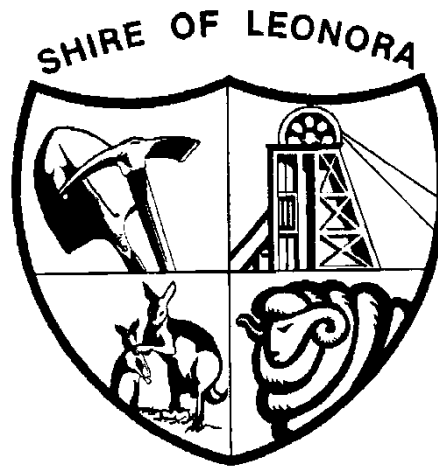


SHIRE OF LEONORA



**MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LEONORA
ON TUESDAY 17TH MARCH, 2026
COMMENCING AT 10:04AM.**

SHIRE OF LEONORA
ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR MEETING HELD
TUESDAY 17TH MARCH, 2026.

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1.0 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

1.1 The Shire President, Cr PJ Craig declared the meeting open at 10:04am.

1.2 Visitors or members of the public in attendance
Nil

2.0 DISCLAIMER NOTICE

3.0 COUNCIL MEETING INFORMATION NOTES

4.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

4.1 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE
Nil

4.2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
Nil

5.0 ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE PRESIDING MEMBER
Nil

6.0 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE

6.1 Attendance	
President (Chairperson)	PJ Craig
Deputy President	RA Norrie
Councillors	AE Taylor
	TM Nardone
	CA Cotterill
	NF Sprigg dos Santos
Chief Executive Officer	TD Matson
Manager of Business Services	KJ Lord
Manager of Community Services	AW Baxter
Manager of Works & Services	TD Bell
Executive Assistant (Minutes)	SC Watene
Visitors	Gary Gaffney

6.2 Apologies
Nil

6.3 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr F Harris requested a leave of absence from the meeting to be held today, 17th March 2026

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos

Seconded: Cr CA Cotterill

That Councillor F Harris be granted a leave of absence from the meeting to be held today, 17th March 2026.

CARRIED (6 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr PJ Craig, Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor,
Cr TM Nardone, Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

6.4 Approved Leave of Absence

Councillors

F Harris

7.0 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

7.1 Declaration of Financial Interest

Nil

7.2 Declaration of Proximity Interest

Nil

7.3 Declaration of Impartiality Interest

Councillor AE Taylor declared an impartiality interest in item 10.3.(D) 2025/26 Community Grants Round - Additional Allocation as he is a member of the club detailed in the item.

Councillor PJ Craig declared an impartiality interest in item 10.3.(D) 2025/26 Community Grants Round - Additional Allocation as he is a member of the club detailed in the item.

Manager of Community Services AW Baxter declared an impartiality interest in item 10.3.(D) 2025/26 Community Grants Round - Additional Allocation as he is a member of the club detailed in the item.

8.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr RA Norrie

Seconded: Cr AE Taylor

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17 February, 2026 be confirmed.

CARRIED (6 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr PJ Craig, Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor,
Cr TM Nardone, Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

9.0 PRESENTATIONS

9.1 Petitions

Nil

9.2 Presentations

Nil

9.3 Deputations

Nil

9.4 Delegates Reports

Nil

10.0 REPORTS

10.1 REPORTS OF AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEES

Nil

10.0 REPORTS

10.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

10.2.(A) RESPONSE TO WALGA ELECTORAL REFORM DISCUSSION PAPER

SUBMISSION TO: Ordinary Council Meeting
Meeting Date: 17th March 2026

AGENDA REFERENCE: 10.2.(A) MAR 26

SUBJECT: Response to WALGA Electoral Reform Discussion Paper

LOCATION/ADDRESS: Leonora

NAME OF APPLICANT: NA

FILE REFERENCE: TBC

AUTHOR, DISCLOSURE OF ANY INTEREST AND DATE OF REPORT

NAME: Ty Matson

OFFICER: Chief Executive Officer

INTEREST DISCLOSURE: Nil

DATE: 23rd February 2026

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Draft - Discussion Paper - Electoral Reform
2. Response to WALGA Electoral Reform Discussion Paper

BACKGROUND

The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) released an Electoral Reform Discussion Paper seeking sector feedback on potential changes to local government electoral arrangements. The Shire of Leonora has prepared a formal written submission outlining Council's position on the key issues raised.

The submission supports the continuation of four-year terms with two-year spill elections and the retention of voluntary voting for local government elections, noting the importance of governance stability, local choice, and the unique role of local government in regional communities.

This matter was considered by Council as an 'Out of Sessions' matter due to the timing of the request from WALGA. It was endorsed electronically and the submission has been made on Council's behalf.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Electoral arrangements for local governments are governed by the *Local Government Act 1995* and associated regulations. WALGA's consultation informs its advocacy to the State Government on potential legislative reform.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council's Policy A1.9 Approvals at Short Notice. No objections were received and as per the policy it was taken to be endorsed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this item.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The submission supports good governance, stability of elected member knowledge, and effective long-term planning, aligning with the Shire's Council Plan objectives relating to organisational effectiveness and leadership.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Failure to provide input into sector-wide advocacy may reduce the Shire's ability to influence reforms that impact governance stability and electoral administration, particularly for small and regional local governments.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council notes and endorses the submission provided to WALGA in response to the Electoral Reform Discussion Paper, as contained in Attachment 2.

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr AE Taylor

Seconder: Cr RA Norrie

1. That Council notes and endorses the submission provided to WALGA in response to the Electoral Reform Discussion Paper, as contained in Attachment 2.

CARRIED (6 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr PJ Craig, Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor,
Cr TM Nardone, Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*



Electoral Reform Discussion Paper

1. Background

1.1. Purpose

The purpose of this discussion paper is to request Council-endorsed Local Government feedback to inform WALGA's advocacy on Local Government electoral reforms expected to be proposed by the State Government, specifically:

- full spill elections every 4 years; and
- compulsory voting at Local Government elections

These options have been raised in statements by the Minister for Local Government, Hon Hannah Beazley MLA, but no formal proposals have yet been provided for consultation. While WALGA has relevant advocacy positions (discussed further below), the purpose of this discussion paper is to undertake early sector engagement to ensure WALGA's positions reflect the sector's current views and enable timely, well-informed and effective engagement with the anticipated State Government reform proposals.

1.2. WALGA existing advocacy positions

1.2.1. Elections

WALGA has established advocacy positions reflecting the sector's support of voluntary voting and elections of half the offices on Council every two years. These advocacy positions are provided in Appendix 1.

In late 2024 WALGA conducted a review of its Elections Advocacy Positions to ensure they reflected the sector's contemporary view.

Local Government responses at that time indicated strong (98%) support for half spills every two years, which was reflected in the adopted Advocacy Position [2.5.16 Elections](#).

While voluntary voting was supported by an overall majority of responses (74%), compulsory voting was supported by a majority (64%) of metropolitan respondents and a majority (61%) of Class 1 and 2 respondents.

State Council requested that the WALGA secretariat undertake further investigation of the implications of compulsory and voluntary participation in Local Government elections before reporting back to State Council.

In the interim, Advocacy Position [2.5.15 Participation in Local Government Elections](#) was retained, expressing support for voluntary voting with a note that further work was being undertaken.

This investigation was ongoing when the Minister for Local Government raised the prospect of further Local Government election reform.

A State by State comparison of electoral statistics is provided in Appendix 2.



1.2.2. Election costs

In 2024, WALGA conducted a review of five Local Government biennial election cycles up to and including the 2023 Local Government elections. The review demonstrated significant cost increases and concerns about the lack of transparency in costings provided by the Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC).

In September 2024, State Council adopted Advocacy Position [2.5.18 Local Government Elections Analysis 2015-2023](#), calling for an independent audit of the WAEC's cost allocation methods and the introduction of Service Level Agreements to ensure transparency of costing methodology.

Cost implications are a relevant consideration in assessing the appropriateness of any proposed electoral reform. However, the current lack of transparency in costing methodology makes it impossible to confidently forecast cost impacts.

This discussion paper seeks to identify the factors associated with each reform proposal that may affect election costs. This is further complicated by the interaction of possible reform options and external economic factors.

WALGA has requested that the Department of Local Government, Regulation and Industry Safety (LGIRS) and the Western Australian Electoral Commission, undertake modelling to identify the cost implications of any proposed reforms.

A comparison of available electoral costs data, State by State, is included as Table 4 in Appendix 2.

WALGA has contacted other Local Government associations to ask if they have experienced changes in costs associated with [compulsory four-year, all-in all-out](#), local government elections. As this has been the approach in most jurisdictions for some time, responses were largely unable to address changes in cost.

2. Election Frequency

Current situation

Western Australia holds biennial elections, with half of the offices on Council elected every two years for four-year terms. All other Australian jurisdictions hold full spill elections every four years (four-year terms).

Considerations

Considerations include:

- Voter participation and fatigue
- Continuity, knowledge retention and mentorship for new Council Members
- Stable whole-of-Council mandate and collective accountability
- Capacity for candidate recruitment
- Administrative requirements
- Extraordinary vacancies and backfilling
- Timing and transitional arrangements

Re-election rates



WALGA has analysed the composition of Councils following the last two Local Government elections in other Australian jurisdictions, all of which have full spill elections. A comparison of available data on re-election rates is included as Table 2 in Appendix 2.

This data suggests that on average, re-elected Council Members make up between 47% and 57% of Council following full spill elections.

By comparing over 700 consecutive ordinary election results, the review identified nine occasions when the membership of Council following an ordinary election was 100% different from the Council following the previous ordinary election. However, four of these local governments held mid-term extraordinary elections, meaning the changes in membership occurred over two or more elections within a four-year period.

Costs

In one respect, a change to a four-year cycle would reduce costs by reducing the number of elections. However, the cost of each election may increase. The WAEC uses the number of vacancies to inform quotations for the conduct of elections. Full spill elections would double the number of vacancies, with possible increased costs associated with printing and postage and increased staffing for the count.

WALGA cannot definitively determine an overall cost impact to Local Government without the requisite cost-modelling from the WAEC. WALGA has requested that the WAEC provide this modelling to LGIRS. The cost impact of a change in election frequency may also vary between Local Governments.

Questions

1. Does your Local Government support half spill elections every two years or full spill elections every four years?
2. What are the key considerations informing this view?
3. If full spill elections every four years were introduced, what transitional arrangements and consequential amendments may be required?
4. Any other comments?

3. Compulsory or Voluntary Voting

Current situation

Voting in Local Government elections is voluntary in Western Australia and South Australia. All other Australian jurisdictions have compulsory voting.

Considerations

Considerations include:

- Voter participation and democratic legitimacy
- Voter engagement, awareness and/or fatigue
- Administrative and enforcement requirements
- Application to owner and occupier rolls

Participation rates

A comparison of available participation data is included as Table 3 in Appendix 1.

Costs

Signed: 21 APRIL 2026

President:

17 MARCH 2026

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



The WAEC uses expected participation rates to inform quotations for the conduct of elections. It is likely that an increased participation rate would increase election costs through higher reply-paid charges and increased staffing for the count. However, in-person elections become more cost effective than postal elections at higher participation rates.

WALGA cannot definitively determine an overall cost impact to Local Government without the requisite cost-modelling from the WAEC. WALGA has requested that the WAEC provide this modelling to LGIRS. The cost impact of compulsory voting may also be different for each Local Government depending on their current participation rates and methods for holding elections, and whether these would change significantly.

Tasmania implemented compulsory voting in Local Government elections in 2022. Local Government Association Tasmania (LGAT) advised that this resulted in reasonably significant cost increases. The Tasmanian Electoral Commission reported a \$9.32 per elector cost for the first compulsory Local Government elections in 2022, a 35% increase from \$6.92 in 2018. An analysis of the factors contributing to this increase is not available and it may be challenging to draw direct comparisons between Tasmania and WA.

It is likely that the cost impact of compulsory voting would be moderated if elections also transition to a 4 yearly cycle.

DRAFT

Signed: 21 APRIL 2026

President:

17 MARCH 2026

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



Questions

5. Does your Local Government support compulsory voting or voluntary voting in Local Government elections?
6. If the frequency of Local Government elections were changed to every 4 years, would your Local Government support compulsory or voluntary voting?
7. What are the key considerations informing this view?
8. Any other comments?

DRAFT



Appendix 1- WALGA Elections Advocacy Positions

2.5.15 Participation in Local Government Elections

Position Statement	<p>The Local Government sector supports voluntary participation in Local Government elections.</p> <p><i>Noting that State Council at its 6 December 2024 State Council meeting resolved that the WALGA Secretariat further investigate implications of compulsory and voluntary participation in Local Government elections and report back to State Council.</i></p>
Background	<p>Voluntary participation in Local Government elections is a long-established position of the Local Government sector, and was confirmed as a result of sector feedback received during the Local Government reform process.</p>
State Council Resolution	<p>December 2024 - 090.5/2024</p> <p>February 2022 – 312.1/2022</p> <p>December 2020 – 142.6/2020</p> <p>March 2019 – 06.3/2019</p> <p>December 2017 – 121.6/2017</p> <p>October 2008 – 427.5/2008</p>
Supporting Documents	<p>Advocacy Positions for a New Local Government Act</p> <p>WALGA submission: Local Government Reform Proposal (February 2022)</p>

2.5.16 Elections

Position Statement	<p>The Local Government sector supports:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillors serve four-year terms with elections every two years and half of the Council positions spilled at each election. 2. First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) voting system for Local Government elections. If Optional Preferential Voting (OPV) remains as the primary method of voting, the sector supports the removal of the 'proportional' part of the voting method for general elections. 3. First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) voting system for internal Council elections.
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ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026



4. Councils holding elections by means of in-person, postal and/or electronic voting.
5. Current legislative provisions of Mayor/President of Class 1 and Class 2 Local Governments being directly elected by the community and Class 3 and Class 4 Local Governments determining whether its Mayor or President is elected by the Council or by the community.

Background

The sector positions on Local Government elections have been long-established. This was confirmed as a result of sector feedback received during the Local Government reform process.

Following the 2023 Local Government Elections where legislative reforms to Local Government elections processes were first implemented, sector wide consultation was conducted on key elements of the elections advocacy positions to determine if they accurately reflected the sector's contemporary view.

State Council Resolution

- December 2024 - 091.5/2024
- February 2022 - 312.1/2022
- December 2020 - 142.6/2020
- March 2019 - 06.3/2019
- December 2017 - 121.6/2017
- October 2008 - 427.5/2008

2.5.18 Local Government Elections Analysis 2015-2023

Position Statement

That WALGA advocate to the State Government:

1. For an independent Local Government election audit, focusing on the Western Australia Electoral Commission's (WAEC) service delivery and cost allocation methods and costing applications used, to confirm that marginal cost recovery principles are applied and that the costing program is being effectively managed.
2. For the requirement for the WAEC to develop and implement Service Level Agreements with Local Governments, similar to those agreements currently used in New South Wales and Victorian Local Government elections and that includes:
 - a. transparency of costing methodology,
 - b. direct engagement with Local Governments pre and post elections, and
 - c. the roles and responsibilities of the WAEC and Local Governments in the conduct of elections.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026



3. For a review of the legislative framework that would allow for more than one election services provider to conduct Local Government elections.
4. For a mandated WAEC Report to Parliament specific to Local Government elections post each election cycle, outlining costs, results, voter turnout and matters for improvement both in the conduct of elections and the legislation, if relevant.

Background

A comprehensive review and analysis of five election cycles up to and including the 2023 Local Government election against the backdrop of legislative reforms to the Local Government electoral process in Western Australia was carried out by WALGA.

With a focus on postal elections conducted exclusively by the Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC), the analysis has found evidence of the rising cost and reduced service level of conducting Local Government elections in Western Australia.

Elected Member feedback, costs vs service comparisons and engagement by the sector with WALGA's governance services over the 2023 Local Government election period, are the basis for the position outlined above.

State Council Resolution

September 2024 - 065.4/2024



Appendix 2 - Election Statistics

The data in the following tables is derived from publicly available reports issued by the respective State Electoral Commissions for the elections they conducted. The different content and format of reporting in each jurisdiction can make direct comparisons challenging.

Table 1: Comparative overview

Jurisdiction	Compulsory/optional voting	Frequency	Postal/In Person
Western Australia	Optional	Half spill every 2 years	Postal or in person
South Australia	Optional	Full spill every 4 years.	Postal.
Northern Territory	Compulsory	Full spill every 4 years	Postal or in person.
Queensland	Compulsory	Full spill every 4 years.	Postal or in person.
New South Wales	Compulsory	Full spill every 4 years.	In person.
Victoria	Compulsory	Full spill every 4 years.	Postal
Tasmania	Compulsory	Full spill every 4 years.	Postal

Table 2: Average percentage of returning Council Members (at individual Council level)

States with full spills only. Calculated using publicly reported ordinary election results including elections conducted by private providers.

State	Most recent election year Average % of Council Members who were Council Members the previous term	Previous election year Average % of Council Members who were Council Members the previous term
Queensland	2024 47%	2021 49%
New South Wales	2024 54%	2021 49%
Victoria	2024 46%	2020 47%
South Australia	2022 57%	2018 48%
Tasmania	2022 53%	2018 54%

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



Table 3: Percentage of all elected candidates who were returning Council Members (at State level)

States with full spills only. Official state level percentage reported by electoral commissions for elections they conducted.

State	Most recent election year % of returning Council Members	Previous election year % of returning Council Members
Queensland	2024 43.2%	2021 46.0%
New South Wales	2021 56.8%	2016/17 (amalgamations) 60.6%
Victoria	2024 43.0%	2020 51.9%
South Australia	2022 50.0%	2018 55.3%
Tasmania	2022 46.0%	2018 48.0%

Table 4: Election participation rates

State	Election Year	Election Year	Election Year
WA	2023 31.2%	2021 30.2%	2019 29.1%
NSW	2024 84.54%	2021 (2020 postponed) 83.56%	2016/2017 (amalgamations) 2017: 79.58% 2016: 79.27%
NT	2025 Official report not yet available.	2021 61.3%	2017 58.5%
QLD	2024 82.31%	2020 (COVID impacted) 77.71%	2016 83.04%
SA	2022 32.9%	2018 31.6%	2014 31.99%
TAS	2022 (First election with compulsory voting) 84.79%	2018 58.72%	2014 54.58%
VIC	2024 81.46%	2020 81.47%	2016 72.15%

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



Table 5: Election costs

Election costs invoiced to Local Governments.

State	Election Year	Election Year	Election Year
WA	2023 <i>postal elections only</i> \$5.17 per elector 1,763,392 electors (115 districts)	2021 <i>postal elections only</i> \$4.06 per elector 1,727,712 electors (92 districts)	2019 <i>postal elections only</i> \$3.70 per elector 1,619,431 electors (86 districts)
NSW	2024 \$55.67million 5,242,086 electors (125 councils)	2021 \$46million (<i>budgeted</i>) 4,838,137 electors (122 councils)	2016/2017 2017 \$19.17 million 2.73 million electors (45 councils) 2016 \$14.11 million 1.97million electors (76 councils)
NT	2025 NA	2021 \$1,864,193 142,546 electors	2017 \$1,593,775 133,927 electors
SA	2022 \$8.93million (ex GST) \$6.93 per elector (ex GST)	2018 \$6.57million (ex GST) \$5.41 per elector (ex GST)	2014 \$4.36million (ex GST) \$3.77 per elector (ex GST)
TAS	2022 <i>voting became compulsory</i> \$9.32 per elector 410,975 electors	2018 \$6.92 per elector 356,810 electors	2014 <i>first all-in all-out</i> \$5.59 per elector 375,355 electors

Note: Data in this table is taken from reports published by the relevant Electoral Commissions. Due to differences in the ways electoral costs are apportioned, a per elector cost is only provided if it was reported. Data for QLD and VIC is not clearly discernible in Election Reports, and therefore not presented in this table.



18 February 2026

Nick Sloan
Chief Executive Officer
Western Australian Local Government Association
Via email: environment@walga.asn.au

Our Ref: TDM 19.0

Dear Mr Sloan,

Response to WALGA Electoral Reform Discussion Paper

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on WALGA's Electoral Reform Discussion Paper. Council appreciates WALGA's role in leading sector-wide consultation on electoral settings and in advocating for reforms that strengthen local democracy while recognising the diversity of Western Australia's local governments.

Council's position on the key matters raised in the Discussion Paper are outlined below:

1. Election frequency and two-year spill arrangements

Council strongly supports the continuation of four-year terms with elections held every two years (two-year spills). Council considers this model strikes an appropriate balance between democratic accountability, organisational stability and community confidence.

Two-year spills:

- provide continuity of corporate knowledge and elected member experience, which is particularly important for smaller and regional local governments;
- reduce the risk of wholesale loss of council expertise at a single election;
- support more effective long-term strategic planning and delivery of major projects; and
- provide the community with regular opportunities to refresh representation without creating unnecessary instability.

From Council's perspective, this model offers a level of certainty for both the organisation and the community, while still maintaining strong democratic oversight.

2. Compulsory versus voluntary voting

Council supports the continuation of voluntary voting for local government elections.

While Council acknowledges the arguments that compulsory voting may increase voter turnout, it also recognises that local government is distinct from State and Federal government in its role, scale and proximity to the community. Council considers that voluntary voting:

- respects the principle of local choice and civic engagement;
- avoids imposing additional compliance and enforcement costs on the sector and the State; and
- reflects the community-based nature of local government decision-making.

Council is of the view that improvements in voter participation are better achieved through education, engagement and accessible election processes rather than compulsion.

3. Overall approach to electoral reform

Council supports a cautious and evidence-based approach to electoral reform, noting that frequent or significant changes to election arrangements can create confusion for electors and additional administrative burden for local governments.

Any future reforms should:

- recognise the diversity of local governments across Western Australia;
- preserve stability and continuity of governance; and
- be supported by adequate transition time, guidance and resourcing.

Closing comments

Council supports WALGA's advocacy for electoral arrangements that are practical, stable and appropriate for the local government sector. Council considers that maintaining two-year election cycles with voluntary voting best achieves these outcomes and looks forward to continued engagement as WALGA finalises its advocacy position.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Craig
Shire President
SHIRE OF LEONORA

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

10.0 REPORTS**10.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS****10.2.(B) RESPONSE TO WALGA WATER MANAGEMENT IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA
DISCUSSION PAPER**

SUBMISSION TO:	Ordinary Council Meeting Meeting Date: 17th March 2026
AGENDA REFERENCE:	10.2.(B) MAR 26
SUBJECT:	Response to WALGA Water Management in Western Australia Discussion Paper
LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Leonora
NAME OF APPLICANT:	NA
FILE REFERENCE:	TBC
AUTHOR, DISCLOSURE OF ANY INTEREST AND DATE OF REPORT	
NAME:	Ty Matson
OFFICER:	Chief Executive Officer
INTEREST DISCLOSURE:	Nil
DATE:	23rd February 2026
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water Management in Western Australia Discussion Paper 2. Response to WALGA Water Management in WA Discussion Paper

BACKGROUND

WALGA released the *Water Management in Western Australia – Discussion Paper (November 2025)* seeking feedback from local governments on water security, efficiency, and governance. The Administration have prepared a submission highlighting issues of particular importance to regional and remote communities.

Key matters raised include the cumulative impacts of mining dewatering, the need for coordinated whole-of-government water planning, long-term potable water and sewerage infrastructure planning, and continued support for urban infill sewerage and wastewater reuse.

A response has been drafted for Councils consideration (attached).

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Water management in Western Australia involves multiple State agencies, including DWER, Water Corporation and DMIRS, with local governments affected through land use planning, service delivery, and community water security outcomes. WALGA's advocacy informs State-level policy development.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate policy implications for the Shire. The submission aligns with Council's advocacy role and strategic planning responsibilities.

This matter was considered by Council out of sessions as per Policy A1.9 Approvals at Short Notice. All votes received were in the affirmative and no objections were raised. The submission has been made on Council's behalf.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications arising from this item. However, improved State coordination and investment in regional water infrastructure has the potential to reduce long-term costs for local governments and communities.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Water security is critical to community liveability, economic development, and future growth in the Shire. The submission supports Council's long-term strategic objectives relating to sustainability, infrastructure planning, and resilience.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Without strong advocacy, regional communities face ongoing risks associated with water scarcity, uncoordinated mining dewatering impacts, and reactive infrastructure provision. Council's submission assists in mitigating these risks by influencing State-level policy development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council notes and endorses the submission to be provided WALGA in response to the Water Management in Western Australia Discussion Paper, as contained in Attachment 3.

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos

Seconder: Cr RA Norrie

1. That Council notes and endorses the submission to be provided WALGA in response to the Water Management in Western Australia Discussion Paper, as contained in Attachment 3.

CARRIED (6 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr PJ Craig, Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor,
Cr TM Nardone, Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*



Water Management in Western Australia

Discussion Paper

November 2025



Acknowledgement of Country

WALGA acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community. We embrace the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia, including Boorloo (Perth), on the land of the Whadjuk Noongar People, where WALGA is located and we acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present.

About WALGA

The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) is an independent, member-based, not for profit organisation representing and supporting the WA Local Government sector. Our membership includes all 139 Local Governments in the State.

WALGA uses its influence, support and expertise to deliver better outcomes for WA Local Governments and their communities. We advocate to all levels of Government on behalf of our members and provide expert advice, services and support to Local Governments.

WALGA's vision is for agile and inclusive Local Governments enhancing community wellbeing and enabling economic prosperity.



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1. Executive Summary

Water is an essential resource, including for Local Government operations, community health and wellbeing, environmental sustainability and economic activity. Local Governments contribute to the management of water through strategic planning, land management, development approvals, amenity, community behaviour change and, in some cases, direct water service provision. Local Governments' role in water service provision includes drainage, water use and re-use and aspects of wastewater and sewerage services. The challenges for future water management are escalating across Western Australia due to population growth, climate change and increased competition for limited water resources.

Water management in Western Australian is governed by a legislative framework at the State and Australian Government level which govern how water is accessed, used and regulated. Nationally, the [Water Act 2007](#) and the [Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 \(EPBC Act\)](#) establish controls over water use, especially in sensitive ecosystems and within the Murray-Darling Basin, while also ensuring national water data collection and reporting under the [National Water Initiative \(NWI\)](#). A 2024 review of the NWI in the [National Water Reform Inquiry Report](#) identified significant limitations in Western Australia's legislation, including the absence of statutory water entitlements and reliance on outdated legislation.

At the State level, governance is shared between the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) and the Water Corporation, with DWER operating under six primary Acts the [Water Agencies \(Powers\) Act 1984](#), the [Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914](#), the [Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947](#), the [Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewage and Drainage Act 1909](#), the [Water Conservation Act 1976](#) and [Metropolitan Arterial Drainage Act 1982](#). Although a Water Reform Bill was announced in 2006 to consolidate these laws, progress toward a consolidated Act was discontinued in [December 2023](#), with the State Government opting for other measures such as streamlining licence approvals and infrastructure delivery. Water Corporation is the main supplier of water, wastewater, drainage and bulk irrigation services in WA.

WALGA's consultation to date has highlighted **water security** and **water efficiency** as the key priorities for the Local Government sector. Water security relates to the reliable availability of water at a rate and quality to meet the needs of communities now and into the future. Key factors impacting water security include aging infrastructure, climate change, limited access to alternative or non-traditional water sources, regulatory and licensing barriers and inequitable water distribution, particularly in regional and remote communities. Addressing water security requires more strategic and integrated water use planning. Water efficiency focuses on improving community water literacy, promoting waterwise infrastructure and water sensitive urban design principles through encouraging the adoption of efficient technologies and design standards.

Local Governments across Western Australia are addressing water security and efficiency through various actions across strategic infrastructure planning, innovative water management practices and community awareness. Faced with increasing challenges such as aging infrastructure, declining water availability and the impacts of climate change, Local Governments are investing in adaptive upgrades, exploring alternative water sources and adopting water sensitive urban design principles.

This Paper outlines key water challenges for Local Government, the legislative and policy settings governing water and includes options to provide solutions in an increasingly water constrained environment. Questions for Local Government have been included to inform the development of an updated WALGA Water Management Advocacy Position. This Paper has been informed by consultation through Zone submissions, workshops and interviews with Local Governments across the state, in addition to key State Government stakeholders.



2. Purpose of this Paper

WALGA is seeking sector feedback on this Discussion Paper to assist WALGA's understanding of current water management issues facing the sector and inform the development of a new, consolidated Water Management Advocacy Position.

Local Governments are requested to provide comments on this Discussion Paper by **COB Thursday, 12 March 2026** to environment@walga.asn.au. WALGA welcomes all forms of feedback; Council endorsed, CEO or officer level feedback.

Feedback received will inform a draft Water Advocacy Position provided to WALGA Zones and State Council for consideration.

3. Introduction

Water is an essential resource, including for Local Government operations, community health and wellbeing, environmental sustainability and economic activity. Local Governments contribute to the management of water through strategic planning, land management, development approvals, amenity, community behaviour change and, in some cases, direct water service provision. While the direct management of wastewater and sewerage infrastructure is generally the responsibility of state or regional utilities, Local Governments have an indirect but significant interest in these systems, as effective wastewater treatment and disposal are essential for environmental health and community wellbeing.

Climate change is significantly reshaping Western Australia's water resources, with impacts varying across different regions. According to the 2024 [State of the Climate Report](#) by CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), there is increasing seasonal variability, changing rainfall patterns, intensifying of extreme heat events which is leading to disruption of water supply and quality.

Australia's climate is highly variable, both geographically and year to year¹. In Western Australia, the north is becoming hotter and wetter, though rainfall remains inconsistent². The rangelands are seeing more intense, short duration rainfall events alongside rising temperatures. Meanwhile, the southwest is becoming significantly drier, with reductions in rainfall, streamflow and groundwater, making it the most climate impacted region in the country³.

Since the mid-1970s, Perth's average rainfall has declined by 15%, resulting in an 80% reduction in streamflow⁴. More frequent short, intense rainfall events are placing pressure of ageing drainage infrastructure and increasing the risk of urban stormwater flooding. The [Integrated Water Supply Scheme \(IWSS\)](#), the potable water distribution network which covers Perth, the Goldfields and Agricultural Region and parts of the South West, supports residential, commercial and industrial water needs and sources water primarily from groundwater and desalination, supplemented by surface water (dams) and groundwater replenishment. In 2023-24 potable water sources consisted of 34% groundwater, 32% desalination, 28% surface water (dams) and 6% groundwater replenishment. Most parks, ovals and public gardens are the responsibility of Local Government and are irrigated using self-supplied groundwater⁵. Overall, 70% of all scheme and non-potable water for irrigation and farming in the south-west comes from groundwater reserves⁶. Increased groundwater extraction in some areas is placing severe stress on aquifer systems,

¹ [State of the Climate Report 2024](#)

² [CSIRO - Australia's changing climate](#)

³ [WA Government - Future climate projections for water management in Western Australia](#)

⁴ [WA Government - rebalancing our groundwater](#)

⁵ [WA Government - Water for Growth - WA's water supply and demand outlook to 2050](#)

⁶ [CSIRO - Groundwater yields in south-west Western Australia](#)

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contributing to the drying of wetlands, banksia woodlands and the inland movement of saline water⁷. These challenges are compounded by population growth and rising demand for water resources, making water management increasingly complex. These changes are placing growing pressure on Local Governments to adapt their water management practises and infrastructure.

From consultation and research WALGA has undertaken with Local Government, two key themes consistently emerged - **water security** and **water efficiency**. In discussions with Local Government, climate change was identified as a significant driver and amplifying factor across all aspects of water management, including across planning, policy and infrastructure.

Water security is a critical challenge across the State but particularly in regional WA, where Local Governments contend with the water use needs of heavy industry, inconsistent water availability and quality, higher costs compared to metropolitan areas and significant expenses associated with headworks and infrastructure upgrades. Local Governments also manage standpipes for agricultural and emergency management uses and saline groundwater for use on public open space. In response to these challenges, Local Governments are adopting water saving measures, collaborating with State agencies and exploring alternative technologies and water sources.

Water efficiency is an increasing priority for Local Governments across Western Australia, as they work to maximise limited water resources and reduce wastage. Local Governments are implementing waterwise technologies and water sensitive design principles such as smart irrigation, hydro and eco zoning, stormwater harvesting and participating in programs such as the Waterwise Council Program. However, feedback from Local Governments highlights a gap in water literacy within their organisations and amongst the broader community, with limited understanding of water sources, management practices and climate impacts, creating a disconnect between technical realities and public expectations.

To inform this Paper WALGA reviewed its existing Water Advocacy Positions and motions and feedback from WALGA Zones and undertook extensive direct consultation with the sector. Consultation included workshops with both metropolitan and non-metropolitan Local Governments, an online session with 40 officers focused on water security and efficiency and a regionally focused session with 30 Local Government representatives exploring the barriers to being waterwise in a regional setting. In addition, WALGA conducted 14 one-on-one interviews with officers from 22 metropolitan, regional and remote Local Governments to better understand key issues. Further insights were gained through meetings with officers from the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and the Water Corporation, as well as internal discussions with WALGA policy teams.

This Paper provides the current WALGA Advocacy Positions (Section 4) an overview of relevant legislation, policy and programs (Section 5) and outlines the key water issues identified by Local Governments (Section 6) as well as potential options for resolution.

4. Current Advocacy Positions

The current WALGA [Advocacy Positions](#) related to water include:

3.1.1 Service Delivery to Aboriginal Communities

This Advocacy Position highlights the commitment of Local Governments in Western Australia with Aboriginal communities to improving living standards and governance. It focuses on ensuring that essential services, such as power and water, are delivered at a standard consistent with other towns and cities across Australia. WALGA and the Local Government sector have advocated to

⁷ [WA Rebalancing our groundwater | Western Australian Government](#)

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the State Government for improvements in water quality to ensure consistency across all communities.

4.3 Clearing Permits and Water Licenses and Permits

This Advocacy Position addresses the sectors opposition to increased cost recovery for clearing permits and water licenses by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. Local Governments use water primarily for public open space (POS), benefiting the broader community without private gain. WALGA asserts that these costs should be borne by the public through taxation, not by Local Governments. This position notes the need for regulatory reforms to support contemporary water legislation.

6.10 Public Open Space (POS)

This Advocacy Position addresses the importance of POS recognising that as population densities increase, communities increasingly rely on functional POS for diverse purposes, including the integration of drainage, services and utilities. This position addresses the current requirement for 10% of developable residential land to be allocated for POS and highlights the need to review this requirement to ensure its modern relevance.

This position also emphasises the need for POS to be adaptable to varying water availability and climate conditions.

6.14 Planning for Water

This Advocacy Position underscores the need for formal support from relevant Local Governments for Water Management Reports related to water infrastructure projects. This support is crucial when a Local Government is expected to manage the infrastructure asset or when the proposed location of water infrastructure assets will affect Local Government assets or facilities.

5. Legislative and Policy settings

Water provision and licensing in Australia is governed by State and Australian Government legislation. The Australian Government, through the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW), leads National policy and legislative reform. State and Territory Governments are responsible for legislating and managing water assets within their jurisdictions.

5.1 Australian Government

Water Act 2007

The [Water Act 2007](#), administered by DCCEEW, governs water management across the Murray Darling Basin and provides for other matters of national interest in relation to water policy and water information. This includes the establishment of a National framework to ensure future provision of water through comprehensive data collection across all jurisdictions. It provides a mechanism for regular assessment of each state against the [National Water Initiative](#). The Act authorises the Bureau of Meteorology to collect and publish water information, including a [National Water Account](#) and periodic reports on water resource use and availability. The Act is scheduled for review in 2027.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The [Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999](#) (EPBC Act) regulates impacts on matters of National environmental significance, including significant impacts on water

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resources. This includes the "water trigger", which initially applied to coal seam gas and large coal mining developments.

On 15 December 2023, the EPBC Act Water Trigger was amended to include likely significant impacts on water resources from all types of unconventional gas developments, such as shale and tight gas. As a result, any proposed actions that are likely to significantly affect water resources from these developments must now be referred for assessment under the EPBC Act.

National Water Initiative

Established in 2004, the [National Water Initiative](#) (NWI) promotes sustainable water management through market, regulatory and planning based approaches. The NWI requires each State and Territory to develop water plans, manage over-allocated systems, maintaining water rights registers, improve water pricing and enhancing urban water management and demand. The NWI builds on from the [1994 Council of Australian Governments \(COAG\) Water Reform Framework](#).

The [2020 National Water Reform Inquiry](#) by the Productivity Commission highlighted the need to update the NWI to address climate change and water demand. A 2024 review, resulting in the [National Water Reform 2024](#) recommended focusing on developing a shared understanding of water security and considering all extreme climate events in water planning. It also recommended integrating water demand changes into net zero strategies to ensure sufficient water for Australia's net zero transition. The Australian, State and Territory Governments are currently collaborating to renew the NWI by developing a more adaptable [National Water Agreement](#) (NWA). WALGA, through the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) and directly, has provided input into this review.

National Drought Agreement

[The National Drought Agreement \(NDA\)](#) is intended to support the agricultural sector and regional communities by fostering collaboration, providing support and resources, guiding policy development, building capacity and promoting community engagement to enhance drought resilience. The Agreement establishes a National framework for addressing drought related challenges, ensuring collaboration across all levels of government to support the agricultural sector and rural communities. From 2024 until 2029, the NDA builds on the [First National Drought Agreement](#) focusing on long term preparedness to help businesses and communities manage and recover from the impacts of drought. This intergovernmental agreement outlines the roles and responsibilities of the National, State and Territory Governments in preparing for, managing through and recovering from drought. The NDA emphasises a consistent, collaborative approach to drought management across Australia.

Future Drought Fund

The [Future Drought Fund](#) (FDF), established by the Australian Government in 2019, under the [Future Drought Fund Act 2019](#) aims to enhance drought and climate resilience across the country. The FDF provides \$100 million annually for grants and programs to support initiatives, including local solutions for drought resilience, building knowledge and skills and innovative projects for transformational change.

Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hubs

[Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hubs](#), part of the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund, are designed to enhance drought resilience by fostering collaboration between researchers, farmers and communities.

The hubs serve as regional centres for innovation, focusing on developing [Regional Drought Resilience Plans](#). The Hubs also implement practical solutions, focusing on adaptive farming

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practices, community support networks and financial mechanisms to improve drought preparedness and response.

Example Plans include the [Mid-West Regional Drought Resilience Plan](#), which was developed through significant collaboration between the Mid-West Development Commission, Northern Agricultural Catchments Council (NACC NRM) and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

National Water Quality Management Strategy

The [National Water Quality Management Strategy](#) is the nationally agreed framework for water quality management, this strategy provides non-mandatory guidelines to support consistent water quality planning and management across jurisdictions.

5.2 State Government

In Western Australia, the [Department of Water and Environmental Regulation](#) (DWER) regulates and manages water resources under six acts:

- [Water Agencies \(Powers\) Act 1984](#)
- [Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914](#)
- [Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947](#)
- [Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewage and Drainage Act 1909](#)
- [Waterways Conservation Act 1976](#)
- [Metropolitan Arterial Drainage Act 1982](#)

The Water Corporation supplies water, wastewater and drainage services statewide. It also provides bulk irrigation supply for farming and agriculture, while also planning future resources to meet population growth.

Water Services Act 2012

[The Water Services Act 2012](#) regulates the provision of water services in Western Australia. It establishes a framework for licensing, regulating and overseeing water service providers to ensure the delivery of water services is efficient, safe and sustainable. The Act covers potable drinking water, sewerage, drainage, irrigation and wastewater services. It applies to both State-owned providers, such as the Water Corporation, Aqwest and Busselton Water, and private suppliers operating independently. Private suppliers typically service regional areas where connecting to State infrastructure is either not feasible or prohibitively expensive due to headworks and upgrade costs.

Under a Class Exemption from section 5(1) of *the Water Services Act 2012*, 21 small Local Governments can provide water services (sewage/non-potable water) in their communities. These include the Shires of Northam, West Arthur, Gnowangerup, Kent, Wickpin, Victoria Plains, Dumbleyung, Jerramungup, Brookton, Goomalling, Dowerin, Koorda, Denmark, Ravensthorpe, Dalwallinu, Morawa, Lake Grace, Yilgarn, Coolgardie, Moora, East Pilbara and City of Kalgoorlie Boulder. Without these exemptions, licensing would impose a substantial financial and resource burden on the sector. WALGA has consistently supported the Class Exemption.

Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914

[The Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914](#) (RiWI Act) provides the regulation, management, use and protection of water assets across the State. Local Governments operate under licences and

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permits in accordance with the RiWI Act. Under the RiWI Act, Local Governments can extract water using licences and permits:

- 5C Groundwater or Surface Water Licence: Required for extracting water from groundwater or surface water sources.
- 26D Licence: Required for the construction or alteration of wells, bores and soaks.
- Section 11, 17, or 21A Surface Water Permit: Required for works involving surface water, depending on whether the area is proclaimed and if access is via road or Crown land.

These licences are administered by DWER and are reported against in line with the licence agreement.

The other three Acts which Local Government have interactions with are the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1974*, which protects public drinking water sources in non-metro areas and controls land use and vegetation clearing in catchment areas. The *Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage, and Drainage Act 1909*, which regulates water supply and drainage infrastructure in metro areas. And the *Waterways Conservation Act 1976* which provides for the conservation and management of significant waterways so relevant for Local Governments managing foreshore reserves and waterway rehabilitation.

Water Reform Bill

The *Water Reform Bill*, first announced in 2006, aimed to consolidate and update the six acts governing Western Australia's water resources. However, in December 2023, the State Government [announced](#) that following feedback from water users and stakeholders, the Reform Bill would not proceed. Instead, the State Government would focus on prioritising license applications and delivering new water infrastructure across WA.

Feedback from the [National Water Reform 2024 Inquiry Report](#) highlighted various issues in Western Australia's current legislation. The report found that Western Australia lacks statutory water entitlements and plans, relying on outdated, 110-year-old legislation. The Inquiry Report noted the need for legislative reform, recommending that Western Australia adopt laws aligned with the NWI to enhance transparency around irrigation pricing, costs and subsidies and strengthen independent economic regulation to ensure water service pricing reflects cost recovery.

Gnangara Groundwater Allocation Plan

The [Gnangara Groundwater Allocation Plan](#) was developed to manage Perth's largest water resource, the Gnangara groundwater system in response to climate change. Since 1980, groundwater levels in the system have dropped by up to 10 metres, due to increased groundwater use and [declining rainfall across WA](#). This significant reduction has adversely affected Local Government assets, including lakes and wetlands, bushland and other ecological areas.

Under the Plan, Local Governments in the [affected area](#) must reduce groundwater extraction by 10% from July 2028. To support this transition, in 2023 the State Government allocated \$4 million through the [Gnangara Waterwise Councils Grants Program](#). The funding was for Local Governments within the Gnangara plan area to implement waterwise actions, to meet the 10% reduction. Funded projects included irrigation system upgrades, park retrofits to increase non-irrigated areas of waterwise vegetation, installation of weather stations and smart irrigation control systems and exploring alternative water sources such as stormwater harvesting and wastewater reuse.

Kep Katitjin – Gabi Kaadadjan Waterwise Action Plan 3

The [Kep Katitjin – Gabi Kaadadjan Waterwise Action Plan 3](#) (2024-2027) is the third Plan for Boorloo (Perth) and Bindjareb (Peel). Kep Katitjin is delivered in collaboration with 11 State

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Government agencies and includes 43 actions aimed at strengthening collaboration and conservation efforts, with the goal of creating climate resilient and waterwise communities by 2030.

Action four of the Plan is to research, scope and engage on expansion of the Waterwise program into regional urban centres. It prioritises research, scoping and stakeholder engagement to guide the expansion, with the findings intended to shape the fourth and final Waterwise Action Plan (2027-2030).

Waterwise Council Program

The [Waterwise Council Program](#), delivered in partnership by the Water Corporation and DWER, supports Local Governments in delivering water efficiency and sustainability measures in their communities. Initially focused on improving water use in community assets, such as facilities and public open spaces, the program now also promotes good governance, ecological health and promotes quality urban space. Currently, 47 Local Governments have Waterwise Council status. The Program largely focuses on the metropolitan areas and WALGA has consistently advocated for this Program to be adapted and expanded statewide.

Drainage for Liveability Program

The [Drainage for Liveability Program](#) is a collaborative initiative led by DWER and Water Corporation aimed at transforming traditional stormwater infrastructure into multifunctional assets that enhance community amenity and environmental outcomes. For Local Governments, Councils are encouraged to partner with State Government and Community groups to develop innovative projects, such as converting drains into living streams or integrating stormwater systems into parks, that deliver co-benefits like improved water quality, habitat creation, and enhanced amenity.

6. Water management themes

This section of the Paper provides detail on the two key themes of water security and water efficiency that were identified through the consultation process. The role and activities of Local Government are outlined and recommended solutions identified.

Water Security

Water security relates to the reliable availability, adequate quantity and acceptable quality of water needed to support human health, economic development and environmental amenity. Issues identified include:

- **Infrastructure:** The need for funding to repair and upgrade aging Local Government water infrastructure including irrigation, drainage and stormwater systems and to improve reliability of State-managed assets.
- **Alternative Sources:** The need to diversify water supply through non-traditional sources such as recycled water, stormwater harvesting, or desalination to support community assets.
- **Licensing:** Addresses challenges with the current water licensing system, including equity, access and regulatory enforcement.
- **Access:** Examines barriers to equitable water access, particularly for regional and remote communities.
- **Use:** Focuses on water planning for allocation and consumption across sectors.



Water Efficiency

Water efficiency is focused on reducing unnecessary loss through better practices, technologies and infrastructure. Issues identified include:

- **Technology:** This include adopting waterwise technologies to enhance water efficiency and adapt to the changing climate.
- **Water Literacy and behaviour change:** Addressing the need to for increased water literacy internally and at a community scale to support internal capacity and to support the adaptive capacity of communities.
- **Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD):** Encourages the adoption of efficient technologies and design standards to reduce water consumption across public and private infrastructure, while incorporating blue and green infrastructure.

7. Water security

An adequate and reliable supply of water is essential for healthy, resilient communities and for the sustained growth of WA's economy and population. This section explores infrastructure (headworks, infill sewer and expansion of the sewer system, dams and groundwater), alternative water sources, licensing, water access and use.

7.1 Infrastructure

Aging water infrastructure is an escalating concern for many Local Governments, who directly manage a significant portion of existing irrigation and drainage systems. These assets are increasingly prone to failures such as burst pipes, leaks and irrigation breakdowns, placing substantial financial and operational strain on Local Governments. In addition to managing their own extensive drainage and irrigation networks, Local Governments and their communities also rely heavily on State-managed infrastructure, some of which dates back to the 1800s. This includes regional bulk water supply systems, major irrigation schemes and arterial drainage networks overseen primarily by the Water Corporation and DWER. The combined aging of both Local and State infrastructure presents a growing challenge to water security, service reliability and long-term planning across Western Australia.

Local Governments rely on state managed infrastructure particularly in areas experiencing residential and commercial growth. Insufficient potable water infrastructure can limit new development and contribute to current housing supply challenges. Perth's water supply is currently sourced from a mix of desalination, groundwater, surface water (dams) and groundwater replenishment. Recognising the need for long-term water security, the State Government has invested heavily in desalination infrastructure, including two existing plants and a \$2.8 billion commitment to the Alkimos Seawater Desalination Plant, scheduled for completion in 2028. Whilst these investments reflect the shift away from traditional surface water systems, which are increasingly unreliable due to reduced rainfall and higher evaporation rates, desalination plants are energy intensive and should be considered within net zero plans for state owned assets.

Local Governments across Western Australia are increasingly prioritising infrastructure upgrades to ensure long-term water security in the face of the growing unreliability of traditional water sources. In response, Local Governments are undertaking upgrades to stormwater and water infrastructure to improve reliability, while also enhancing community resilience and emergency preparedness through improved water access and storage. Energy efficiency improvements are also being incorporated into water related infrastructure to reduce operational costs and energy consumption. In regional areas, Local Governments are exploring conservation technologies and practices, particularly for dams and natural water bodies, to extend water availability. However, the high costs associated with these initiatives often exceed the financial capacity of individual

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Local Governments, highlighting the need for coordinated funding and support to ensure critical infrastructure upgrades can be delivered.

Headworks

[Headworks](#) refer to the planning and construction of essential water infrastructure, such as potable water supply and sewage connections, required for new subdivisions and developments. These projects are typically funded through Water Corporation's five year capital works program or by developers with the cost and assets later recouped at the conclusion of the development by Water Corporation.

Local Governments have raised that the current approach to headworks has negative impacts on the availability of residential development. Infrastructure expansion often favours high yield developments over smaller and regional projects, impacting economic and residential growth in those areas.

In [Western Australia](#), number of dwellings delivered per million dollars spent is a key driver of development feasibility, with [higher costs and lower yields](#) inhibiting [greyfield](#) and brownfield developments. Importantly, service providers are not engaged until a developer initiates local structure planning (LSP), which can limit opportunities to coordinate infrastructure across broader catchments, especially where multiple servicing options exist. This fragmented approach can hinder strategic water planning and infrastructure delivery.

Infill Sewer

In infill areas, fragmented land ownership complicates the coordination of sewer upgrades, which further constrains housing supply. The State Government infill sewerage program was intended to provide both environmental and social benefits, to enable upgrades of existing areas with on site disposal. However, funding cuts and delays have left many areas unconnected. Local Governments have advocated for renewed funding to complete infill sewerage upgrades and improve connections in existing urban areas.

Dams

Dams and water bodies are essential for irrigation, emergency management and community amenity, with many regional Local Governments responsible for managing their own infrastructure. However, drought and changing rainfall patterns are significantly reducing dam levels, prompting Local Governments to implement water restrictions and prioritisation of water use for essential services. Consultation with Local Governments show that many are forced to turn off irrigation for sporting ovals or reduce watering times when dam levels become critical. Maintaining and upgrading dams places a substantial financial burden on Local Governments, with limited support available from the State Government. In addition to high management costs, many dams experience significant water loss due to evaporation. While innovative solutions such as covers and dam balls are being explored by Local Governments to reduce evaporation rates, these options come with considerable cost barriers. Although inheriting State-owned dam infrastructure has provided benefits in terms of water storage and drought resilience, it also brings the financial responsibility of maintaining ageing systems that do not meet modern efficiency standards.

Waterways

Health of waterways is a key part of the States integrated water system. Local Government are responsible for maintaining drainage infrastructure that prevents nutrient-rich runoff from entering natural systems, a key contributor to algal blooms, as well as from severe weather events that trigger significant stormwater run-off. The economic impacts associated with sediment control alone can be significant for Local Governments, with substantial portions of drainage budgets allocated to remediation when development pollution occurs. Through land use planning and

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development approvals and active enforcement, Local Government have mechanisms to enforce erosion and sediment control measures that safeguard waterways and wetlands. WALGA has developed [guidance](#) for the sector on this issue.

Options

To assist Local Government with managing water infrastructure, key initiatives could include:

- State Government funding programs for:
 - Local Government water infrastructure upgrades, including irrigation, drainage and sewerage systems.
 - Local Government management and maintenance of water assets (e.g. dams and water catchments).
 - Regional Local Government to support small-scale sewerage infrastructure headworks costs.
 - Infill sewerage program to be sufficiently funded
 - Technical support and training, particularly in regional areas, to enable infrastructure upgrades.
- For the State Government to identify areas of critical non-potable water supply and assess any disused water assets that could be transferred to Local Governments to enhance water security.

Questions for Local Government

1. Are there any additional water infrastructure challenges impacting your Local Government?
2. What solutions or support would assist your Local Government in addressing water security and infrastructure needs? (*These could be as outlined or additional suggestions*).

7.2 Alternative water sources

In response to increased demand and declining water supply, both State and Local Governments are turning to alternative water sources to supplement and, in some cases, replace traditional water sources for irrigation and potable water supply. These alternatives include groundwater replenishment, managed aquifer recharge (MAR), stormwater harvesting, desalination and the treatment and reuse of wastewater.

Local Governments are investing in a range of initiatives including desalination, stormwater harvesting, wastewater reuse and feasibility studies for alternative water supply options. For example, the [City of Mandurah](#) responded to rapid population growth by developing a new irrigated public open space using treated wastewater from the Caddadup Wastewater Treatment Plant and managed aquifer recharger (MAR). The [City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder](#) has invested heavily in alternative water supply by recycling treated wastewater and harvesting stormwater to irrigate its public open spaces and provide non-potable water to local schools and industries. To bolster drought resilience, the City has invested in upgraded pipelines and storage dams and is planning a pilot brackish water desalination plant to further improve its water supply reliability. The [City of Kalamunda](#) utilises drainage water through managed aquifer for parks during summer months, the [Shire of Katanning's](#) brackish desalination plant supplies 30kL per day, supporting three local parks. The City of Swan is working with the Department of Communities to use stormwater and recycled water at a [new greenfield development](#). Regional Local Governments have been

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supported through the [Community Water Supplies Partnership](#) with funding for increased capture and storage of rainwater, groundwater, stormwater and recycled water.

In regional areas, salinity in groundwater is a concern, particularly across the Wheatbelt, where elevated salt concentrations make groundwater unsuitable for irrigation, road construction and bushfire control. As a result, many Local Governments rely on costly potable water supplies or are seeking alternative sources, such as water from State Government trials of brackish water desalination to sustain water needs.

Regional Local Governments have expressed interest in the expansion of brackish desalination (with infrastructure currently being trialled in the Shires of Dumbleyung, Merredin and Katanning) and exploring alternative water sources such as recycled wastewater and stormwater harvesting. Local Governments have emphasised the need for tailored solutions that reflect both metropolitan and regional contexts, noting that under resourced Local Governments often lack the technical expertise and internal capacity to initiate or manage these systems.

Concerns have also been raised about land released by the State Government for development when sites lack access to traditional groundwater sources for irrigating public open spaces. This forces reliance on costly and energy-intensive alternatives and raises equity concerns, especially for peri urban and regional Local Governments that are paying more for their water than their metropolitan counterparts. The absence of strategic, long-term planning prior to land release exacerbates these challenges and highlights the need for improved and integrated water management strategies.

While alternative water can contribute to water security, use should be assessed on a case-by-case basis. A multi-criteria analysis considering cost, greenhouse gas emissions, safety and long-term sustainability may, in some instances, identify scheme water as the most suitable option after groundwater. To ensure responsible and efficient water use, alternative water sources should only be considered after water efficiency and trading have been ruled out. Scheme water or potable water is used for irrigation in areas where groundwater and other alternative water sources are unsustainable or cost prohibitive.

Alternative water sources in WA include:

- Groundwater replenishment: Treats wastewater before recharging into deep aquifers for drinking water. Example: [Beenyup facility in Cragie](#), recharges 28GL annually.
- Managed aquifer recharge (MAR): Recharges water from aquifers or alternative sources (stormwater, treated wastewater) into underground aquifers. Example: bores, ponds, basins and trenches.
- Stormwater harvesting: Captures rainfall runoff for non-potable use like irrigation.
- Wastewater treatment and reuse: Treats sewage or industrial water for reuse, such as irrigation.

Options

To assist Local Government with alternative water sources, key initiatives could include:

State Government funding Programs for:

- Alternative water infrastructure, including dedicated funding for pilot projects, ongoing maintenance, monitoring and system upgrades.
- Provision of technical expertise and support to assist Local Governments in planning, accessing feasibility and implementing alternative water infrastructure.
- The development of integrated regional water management plans
- Community and developer incentives for the use of alternative water sources, such as rainwater and recycled wastewater, greywater and stormwater.

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- Further support from Department of Health (State) to assist Local Governments in understanding the process of utilising wastewater.

Questions for Local Government

1. Is your Local Government exploring any additional alternative water sources? If so, what challenges have limited the expansion of these efforts?
2. What further solutions or support mechanisms would be necessary to enhance your Local Government's water security through alternative water sources?

7.3 Licensing

Water Licensing is governed primarily by the [Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914](#) (RIWI Act) with DWER regulating over 12,000 active licenses across a range of sectors, authorising the extraction of over four trillion litres annually. Under this legislation, Local Governments are required to obtain a Section 5C license to lawfully extract water from either groundwater or surface water sources. In addition, a Section 26D license is necessary for the construction, modification, or replacement of well, bores or soaks. A Surface Water Permit is also required when activities interfere with or obstruct a watercourse. These apply in proclaimed areas and are designed to ensure water use is sustainable, equitable and aligned with environmental protection objectives.

These licenses are designed to ensure water is protected now and into the future. This is particularly important in WA, where 70% of all water used across the State comes from Groundwater⁸.

A recent [Office of the Auditor General audit of DWER's regulation of water licences](#) found significant deficiencies in DWER's compliance and enforcement practices. The audit found that DWER relied heavily on self-reporting by licence holders with minimal verification for compliance. Alarming, 87% of potential incidents over the last three years were not assigned to staff for investigation. In response to these findings, the State Government [announced](#) a \$16.9 million dollar boost to strengthen DWER's capacity to assess and monitor compliance.

A key concern for high growth, peri-urban and regional Local Governments is DWER's First-In-First-Served approach for groundwater licenses⁹. Applications are generally assessed in the order they are received which can disadvantage Local Governments with limited resources or slower administrative capacity. Based on this, and the need for sustainable water allocation, a shift from the traditional First-In-First-Served licensing system to an approach that prioritises highest value use could provide greater long-term benefits for communities and their aspirations as identified in Local Government Strategic Community Plans.

Under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation (RIWI) Act*, the decision to grant or refuse a license is at the department's discretion. Clause 7(2) states that when assessing an application, DWER must consider all relevant factors, including the ecological sustainability and environmental acceptability of the proposed water use. The withdrawal of the Water Reform Bill, which aimed to modernise water management legislation, has further complicated these challenges. The reform may have offered solutions to protect environmental water reserves and regulated wastewater and stormwater management, providing additional water supply to supplement traditional water.

⁸ [Office of the Auditor General - Regulation of Water Licences](#)

⁹ [DWER - Policy - Timely submission of required further information](#) and [Water Licensing – First In, First Served Policy Review](#).

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Options

To assist Local Government in navigating licencing, key initiatives could include:

- For the State Government to undertake a review of the framework that governs water services and supply, including dealing with issues relating to the First-In-First-Served approach for groundwater licences.
- For the State Government to ensure that approved water licences do not compromise the availability of water for high priority uses, particularly in ecologically sensitive areas, by applying rigorous assessment criteria during the licence approval process

Questions for Local Government

1. Are there any additional challenges your Local Government faces regarding your water licenses, and if so, what solutions would assist in solving them?
2. What solutions or support would assist your Local Government in addressing water licensing issues?

7.4 Access

Ensuring access to water and consistent water quality is still a key issue across Western Australia.

Aboriginal Communities

In July 2023, responsibility for water and wastewater services in 141 Aboriginal communities across Western Australia was transferred from the Department of Communities to Water Corporation and Horizon Power. This transition marked the beginning of the [Aboriginal Communities Water Services \(ACWS\) program](#), which aimed to deliver safe and more reliable water services.

While service levels vary depending on community size and remoteness, more than 95% of the Aboriginal population in these communities receives water quality testing in accordance with regulatory standards. In extremely remote communities with fewer than 10 residents, water quality testing may be less frequent due to logistical challenges. In these cases, risk assessments are undertaken in collaboration with health regulators to determine the most appropriate testing regime.

The Remote Essential and Municipal Services (REMS) Program supports remote communities by improving infrastructure and management practices to ensure access to safe drinking water, complementing the efforts of the ACWS program.

Inconsistent Quality

Local Governments across Western Australia have reported challenges related to water service delivery in certain areas, particularly where infrastructure is ageing or where services are classified as Non-Standard Water Services. These challenges can include fluctuations in water volume, pressure and quality, which may affect the reliability of supply. In response, alternative on-site treatment solutions, such as water tanks and filtration systems are often deployed by the State Government to maintain access to potable water. Once key townsite locations are declared a Non-Standard Water Service site, the ability to retain and grow populations is diminished with supply of potable water being a basic essential service.

Provision of water by the Water Corporation is highly regulated and operates under a Water Services Licence and complies with a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Health, adhering to the [Australian Drinking Water Guidelines](#).



Drought

Drought relates to the prolonged period of insufficient rainfall or groundwater recharge, leading to water shortages that can severely impact agriculture, ecosystems and communities. In Western Australia, [under the Future Drought Fund](#), seven regional drought resilience plans have been developed to map the vulnerabilities of communities to future drought impacts in the face of low and variable rainfall, high temperatures and reliance on agricultural production.

Water Deficiency Declaration

A [Water Deficiency Declaration](#) supports areas that experience prolonged dry conditions that impact the availability of stock water for commercial farmers. A water deficiency declaration involves an eligible Local Government making a formal request to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) which, after consulting with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), makes a recommendation to the Minister for Water. A water deficiency declaration is authorised when farmers are unable to access on-farm water and are required to travel long distances to access off-farm water due to prolonged dry conditions. In response, the State Government coordinates central watering points where water is carted to for farmers to access for their stock.

Fixed Standpipes

Fixed standpipes in regional areas provide bulk water supply directly from a water supply main and are typically owned and managed by Local Governments, DWER and the Water Corporation. These standpipes are critical in supplying water to communities with limited or no access to water, particularly when areas are declared as water deficient. They also support Local Government operations by providing potable and non-potable water to maintain street trees, undertake minor construction works and service businesses that rely on carted water. Community standpipes, usually with a low flow rate, are owned by Local Governments and available to the community. Commercial standpipes, which have a high flow rate, are often privately owned or provided by Local Governments and cater to commercial operators.

Case Study – Shire of Esperance

Deficiency Declarations are currently in place for Salmon Gums, Grass Patch and Cascades in the Shire of Esperance. As such, since 2024, the Water Corporation has been carting stock water on behalf of DWER to support emergency stock watering. The declaration in Salmon Gums was issued after an application from the Shire of Esperance on behalf of 13 farmers in Salmon Gums. A declaration of this kind is a last resort in a period of ongoing dry conditions which have impacted and depleted water availability on both the farm and within the community.

Local Governments are also participating in pilot programs and using drought vulnerability data to identify at-risk areas and prioritise interventions. By addressing these challenges, Local Governments aim to protect public and environmental assets, support sustainable water use and enhance community resilience to drought and other water-related challenges.

Options

To assist Local Government in improving water access and resilience, key initiatives could include:

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- Ensure consistent and reliable water services to both metropolitan and regional areas. This includes providing water at a quantity and quality that supports the health and economic growth of regional communities.
- Incorporate learnings from regional drought hubs into future regional water planning.

Questions for Local Government

1. Are there any additional challenges your Local Government is facing in receiving consistent and reliable water services?
2. Are there any solutions not included which would support your Local Government?

7.5 Use

Local Governments face challenges maintaining public green spaces under strict water restrictions, especially where groundwater is scarce or in high-density areas where public open space (POS) is critical for community wellbeing and liveability.

Local Governments reported challenges in consistently providing sufficient water to all POS, often having to prioritise sporting ovals within their communities. An additional concern relates to new developments, where developers initially secure establishment licences to access groundwater for irrigating POS. During this phase, plantings receive generous water allocations to support growth and aesthetics. However, upon handover to the Local Government, water access reverts back to standard licence restrictions, resulting in reduced irrigation capacity. This often leads to a visible decline in the quality and appearance of parks and reserves, causing resident dissatisfaction and highlighting the limitations of Local Government-managed water allocations.

Options

To assist Local Governments in managing public open space equitably and sustainably, key initiatives could include:

- Support for the consistent application of water sensitive urban design (WSUD) principles to capture water where it falls, helping sustain vegetation and enhance urban resilience.
- Development of consistent communication assets to better educate the community on water efficiency measures, such as browning off, to ensure increased community awareness of water allocations.

Questions for Local Government

1. Are there any additional challenges your Local Government is facing in maintaining consistent and high quality POS?
2. Are there any additional solutions which would support your Local Government?

8. Water efficiency

Water efficiency prioritises water resources in a way that maximises their utility while minimising water loss. In essence, it is doing more with less. For many Local Governments, this includes implementing measures with a combination of technologies that reduce water consumption, enhance water reuse and improves the overall management of water resources. It also includes ensuring efficient use of water, through ensuring effective community behaviour change programs



and interventions, water sensitive urban design principles, as well as efficiency in Local Governments' own operations.

8.1 Technology

Local Governments across Western Australia are increasingly adopting waterwise technologies to enhance water efficiency and adapt to the changing climate and associated impacts. These efforts include the use of smart irrigation systems that optimise watering schedules based on weather conditions and soil moisture, as well as hydro-zoning (grouping plants with similar water needs together to reduce water consumption) and eco-zoning (converting existing under-utilised irrigated turf areas into waterwise, native gardens) in public parks.

Stormwater harvesting projects, such as those implemented by the [City of Perth](#), are being used to capture and reuse water from sources like the Claisebrook main drain, a system that intercepts a mix of stormwater and groundwater. In addition, many Local Governments are interested in exploring wastewater reuse for irrigation and investigating opportunities to recharge shallow aquifers with recycled water to support urban tree stock and waterwise landscaping. Complementary initiatives such as leak detection technologies, water loggers, drought-tolerant plantings and community education programs further promote water efficiency practices.

Despite growing interest, the implementation of these practices is often hindered by high upfront costs (compared to costs of water saved), limited funding and a lack of technical expertise and capacity, particularly in regional areas. Where these efforts are successful, they are often backed by initiatives like the Waterwise Council Program and the Gngara Waterwise Councils Grants Program, which provide funding and resources to help Local Governments. Noting both programs of these are based in the Perth and Peel and do not provide direct support to regional areas.

Local Governments have also noted issues in accessing bulk billing water consumption data from the Water Corporation for inputting into reporting platforms. This data supports Local Government action improving water efficiency. Water Corporation is working with Local Governments and companies that provide data analysis services for the sector to streamline the provision of water data.

8.2 Water literacy and behaviour change

Feedback from Local Governments highlighted that community water literacy needs to be improved, including understanding of the water cycle, water sources, management practises and impacts of climate change on ecological areas dependant on groundwater resources. This gap has created a disconnect between the technical knowledge and operational realities faced by Local Governments and the public's expectations around water use. For example, despite declining rainfall and reduced water allocations, community expectations for green spaces, especially grassed areas remain unchanged. This lack of awareness makes it challenging for Local Government to gain community support for necessary measures such as water restrictions or reduced watering during drought conditions.

Improving water literacy within Local Governments is also essential to ensure that water efficiency measures are appropriately planned and budgeted for. Many Local Governments, particularly in regional areas, have reported having limited staff capacity and identified the need for further training for staff and elected members to support informed decision making.

Local Governments play an active role in promoting water literacy through a variety of initiatives. These include delivering community programs, hosting educational events and leveraging both social and print media channels to inform and engage residents. Under the [Waterwise Council Program](#), endorsed Local Governments can participate in a Water Sensitive Cities Index Benchmarking Workshop, funded by the Water Corporation, to asses current water management performances and identify actions to accelerate the transition to waterwise communities.



The 47 participating Waterwise Councils in Western Australia can access up to \$10,000 of in-kind funding to support greening initiatives such as native plant sales, educational workshops, the establishment of waterwise and native verges and the purchase of verge trees managed by Local Governments. While these initiatives are welcomed, Local Governments are also investing heavily in infrastructure upgrades to improve water asset management. This includes retrofitting outdated fixtures and appliances, upgrading irrigation systems, implementing hydro zoning and maximising the use of recycled water.

The Water Corporation offers a range of targeted education programs, such as the Waterwise Schools, Councils, Business and Aquatic Centres. However, Local Governments have expressed a need for expansion of the Council Program to include additional funding and educational support, enabling Local Governments to continually build on outcomes of the reporting process.

8.3 Water Sensitive Urban Design

Water sensitive urban design is a contemporary approach to managing the urban water cycle through integration into the natural and built landscape¹⁰. It uses planning and design principles that incorporates stormwater, groundwater, wastewater and water supply into our built form to achieve best practice water efficiency.

Local Governments are applying water-sensitive urban design principles to demonstrate best practices and educate residents on efficient water use. Collectively these efforts aim to improve water efficiency, reduce long-term costs and foster a culture of water literacy within the community. While the State government has embedded sustainable water resource management and water sensitive design in land and water planning policies, support is required by all decision-makers to ensure these policy objectives are implemented on-ground.

By recognising and incentivising Local Government that implement innovative water-saving initiatives—such as smart irrigation systems, stormwater reuse, and community education programs—the State can amplify grassroots efforts and align them with broader strategic goals. A coordinated approach that values both top-down policy and bottom-up innovation would not only improve water efficiency but also strengthen partnerships across jurisdictions, ensuring that water use is managed sustainably in the face of climate variability and population growth.

Drainage infrastructure not only underpins urban water management but also has significant environmental implications, including the potential for contamination if not managed effectively. WA Local Governments operate an extensive drainage network, including over 13,000 kilometres of longitudinal drains associated with roads in built-up areas. In addition, they manage more than 2,600 kilometres of stormwater drains and 2,400 kilometres of open drains not associated with roads. These figures do not include table drains and other drainage structures associated with rural roads, indicating the true scale of drainage infrastructure may be even greater.

Given these vast networks, the need for sophisticated drainage management is clear, not only to maintain infrastructure but to mitigate risks to the environment. Initiatives such as Drainage for Liveability and water sensitive urban design (WSUD) are being incorporated to support ecological health, improve water quality and manage flash flood events, while also contributing to urban amenity and reduced energy costs. The integration of WSUD with drainage infrastructure is particularly significant, as it links water management with broader sustainability and liveability objectives throughout communities.

¹⁰ [NewWAterWays website](#)



Options

To assist Local Governments in mainstreaming water efficiency practices, key initiatives could include:

For the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and Water Corporation to:

- Expand, and sufficiently resource, the Waterwise Council program applicable across the whole State and develop tiers within the program to enable whole-of-sector participation.
- Improve networks for Local Governments to share knowledge, resources and best practice relating to water efficiency.
- Provide water efficiency training opportunities for Local Government staff, executives and elected members.
- Develop a range of consistent communication assets for community education for use by Local Government.
- Partner with Local Government to invest in water efficiency pilots, such as stormwater harvesting, browning off of ovals and waterwise verges to increase community awareness and mainstream these applications
- Adopt a holistic framework that incorporates comprehensive water use data and actively incentivising Local Governments striving for water efficiency. This would involve enhancing data-sharing mechanisms between State and Local Governments, enabling evidence-based decision-making and targeted interventions.

Questions for Local Governments

1. Are there any additional challenges your Local Government is experiencing relating to water efficiency?
2. Are there any solutions not included which would support your Local Government?

9. Conclusion

Water is an essential resource to the health, wellbeing and sustainability of communities, the environment and the economy. However, climate change, combined with a growing population and increased groundwater extraction, is placing Western Australia's water systems under significant pressure.

Local Governments across Western Australia are working to reduce water consumption, upgrade infrastructure and explore alternative water sources. However, the scale and urgency of projected changes in water availability requires a more coordinated response. Strengthening partnerships between Local and State Governments is essential to secure long-term water resilience for communities, including through shared investment, strategic planning and expanding research into alternative water sources, alongside efforts to ensure existing infrastructure is fit for purpose. A more collaborative approach will better position the State to meet future water challenges.

Local Governments through land use planning, asset management and community education, play a central role in conserving water, implementing efficiency measures and supporting public health and environmental outcomes. Ensuring water security at the local level is critical for maintaining liveable, climate-adaptive communities now and in the future.



18 February 2026

Nick Sloan
Chief Executive Officer
Western Australian Local Government Association
Via email: environment@walga.asn.au

Our Ref: TDM 19.0

Dear Mr Sloan,

Response to WALGA Water Management in Western Australia Discussion Paper

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the *Water Management in Western Australia – Discussion Paper (November 2025)*.

Council's key areas of concern are outlined below:

1. Coordination of mining dewatering and cumulative impacts

Council is concerned that the Discussion Paper does not sufficiently address the lack of coordinated regional-scale management of mining dewatering activities. In regional and remote local governments, dewatering from mining operations can have significant cumulative impacts on local aquifers, town water supplies, ecosystems and future water availability. From Council's perspective, current regulatory and planning arrangements do not adequately integrate mining dewatering decisions with local and regional water planning, land use planning or long-term community needs.

Council considers there is a strong role for WALGA to advocate for improved whole-of-government coordination between DWER, Water Corporation, DMIRS and local governments to ensure that:

- cumulative impacts of dewatering are assessed at a regional or catchment scale;
- dewatering decisions are transparent and informed by long-term water security objectives for towns and communities; and
- opportunities for beneficial reuse of dewatered water (where appropriate and safe) are actively explored to support community and local government needs.

2. Forward planning for potable water and sewerage infrastructure

Council strongly supports the Paper's emphasis on water security but considers that greater weight should be placed on the need for proactive, long-term planning for both potable water supply and sewerage infrastructure, particularly in regional areas.

Council regularly experiences challenges where land release, population growth or industrial activity outpaces the planning and delivery of water and wastewater infrastructure. Reactive approaches to headworks, potable water supply and sewerage servicing constrain development, increase costs for communities and limit the ability of local governments to plan for sustainable growth.

Council encourages WALGA to advocate for:

- earlier and more meaningful involvement of local governments in State-led water and wastewater infrastructure planning;
- integrated regional water and sewerage strategies that align land use planning, water licensing, mining activity and community growth; and
- equitable investment in regional potable water and sewerage infrastructure to support liveability, economic development and public health outcomes.

3. Continued support for urban infill sewerage and water use

Council strongly supports the continuation and expansion of urban infill sewerage programs. In addition to clear environmental and public health benefits, infill sewerage enables opportunities for treated wastewater reuse that are particularly valuable in water-constrained communities.

Council notes that recycled wastewater from urban sewerage systems can be effectively used for irrigating gardens, public open space and other non-potable purposes, reducing pressure on potable and groundwater supplies while maintaining urban amenity and liveability. Council would be keen to see stronger advocacy for:

- renewed and sustained funding for infill sewerage programs;
- clearer regulatory pathways and technical support for wastewater reuse at a local scale; and
- recognition of recycled water as a core component of future urban water security, particularly in regional towns.

Closing comments

Council supports WALGA's focus on water security and water efficiency and considers that stronger coordination, forward planning and recognition of local government experience will be essential to achieving sustainable water outcomes across Western Australia. Council looks forward to continued engagement as the Water Management Advocacy Position is developed.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Craig
Shire President
SHIRE OF LEONORA

Tower Street, Leonora WA
PO Box 56, Leonora WA 6438

Ph:
Fax:

08 9037 6044
08 9037 6295

Web: www.leonora.wa.gov.au
Email: admin@leonora.wa.gov.au

10.0 REPORTS

10.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

10.2.(C) REVIEW OF CODE OF CONDUCT - COUNCIL MEMBERS, COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND CANDIDATES

SUBMISSION TO:	Ordinary Council Meeting Meeting Date: 17th March 2026
AGENDA REFERENCE:	10.2.(C) MAR 26
SUBJECT:	Review of Code of Conduct - Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates
LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Leonora
NAME OF APPLICANT:	Shire of Leonora
FILE REFERENCE:	Council - Code of Conduct
AUTHOR, DISCLOSURE OF ANY INTEREST AND DATE OF REPORT	
NAME:	Ty Matson
OFFICER:	Chief Executive Officer
INTEREST DISCLOSURE:	Nil
DATE:	11th March 2026
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Index of Changes - Code of Conduct Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates2. Revised - Code of Conduct Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates (with track changes)3. Final - Code of Conduct Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates

BACKGROUND

The Shire has an adopted *Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates* prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021*.

The *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021* prescribe a mandatory Model Code of Conduct, which all local governments are required to adopt and maintain. Where amendments are made to the Model Code, local governments are required to amend their adopted Code of Conduct to incorporate those changes within the prescribed timeframe and by absolute majority of Council.

Recent amendments to the Regulations have introduced significant changes to the behavioural breach framework, including:

- clarification of the roles and responsibilities of the local government in receiving and managing complaints;

- enhanced provisions relating to the handling, dismissal and withdrawal of behavioural breach complaints; and
- formalised referral pathways to the Local Government Inspector, including mandatory referral in prescribed circumstances where repeated behavioural breaches have been determined on or after 1 January 2026.

These changes are intended to strengthen accountability, improve consistency across local governments, and provide greater clarity in the management of elected member conduct matters, particularly in relation to behavioural breaches under Division 3 of the Model Code.

In accordance with section 5.104(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, local governments must amend their adopted Code of Conduct to reflect amendments to the Model Code within three months of the amending regulations coming into operation, with adoption requiring an absolute majority of Council. The Chief Executive Officer is also required to ensure the adopted Code is published on the local government's official website and kept up to date. This is due by 31 March 2026.

This agenda item seeks Council's consideration and adoption of an updated Code of Conduct that:

- fully incorporates the current Model Code of Conduct;
- reflects the amended behavioural breach and complaint handling provisions; and
- ensures the Shire remains compliant with its statutory obligations and aligned with contemporary governance expectations.

Following adoption, the CEO will:

- publish the updated Code of Conduct on the Shire's website; and
- update associated Behavioural Breach Complaint Forms and Complaint Management Policies and Procedures, as required by the Regulations.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Stakeholder engagement has not been undertaken by the Shire as the changes have been mandated.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995

- Section 5.104 requires a local government to adopt a code of conduct consistent with the prescribed model.

Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021

- Prescribe the mandatory content of a Code of Conduct.
- Require local governments to incorporate amendments made to the model code.

Local Government Act 1995 – section 5.104(2)

- Requires the amended Code of Conduct to be adopted by Council.

Local Government Act 1995 – section 5.104(7)

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- Requires the Chief Executive Officer to publish the adopted Code on the local government's website.

The amendments must be implemented no later than 31 March 2026.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

A review of Policies will be undertaken to ensure that Councils Policies align with the new requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Work on this matter has been undertaken by the Governance Officer, and no additional costs have been incurred.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item supports the Shire's commitment to good governance, accountability and ethical leadership.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Failure to adopt an updated Code of Conduct by the statutory deadline may result in:

- non-compliance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulations;
- regulatory action by the Local Government Inspector; and
- governance and reputational risk to the Shire.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council by absolute majority:

1. Adopts the updated Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates, as attached; and
2. Notes that the Chief Executive Officer will publish the adopted Code on the Shire's website in accordance with section 5.104(7) of the Local Government Act 1995.

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Absolute Majority

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr TM Nardone

Seconder: Cr RA Norrie

That Council by absolute majority:

1. Adopts the updated Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates, as attached; and
2. Notes that the Chief Executive Officer will publish the adopted Code on the Shire's website in accordance with section 5.104(7) of the Local Government Act 1995.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (6 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr PJ Craig, Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor,
Cr TM Nardone, Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

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A range of amendments came into effect on 1 January 2026, and this included amendments to the Model Code of Conduct prescribed in the *Local Government (Model) Code of Conduct Regulations 2021*. This requires the Shire's Code of Conduct to be updated to reflect these amendments, with the updated Code of Conduct to be adopted by the Council by 31 March 2026.

These amendments mainly introduce the Office of the Local Government Inspector (a new independent oversight body for local governments in Western Australia) and update the terms and processes for handling breach allegations (e.g., changing how complaints about code breaches are described and managed).

Small updates to the Code of Conduct are also proposed to match recent changes in the Regulations.

The suggested changes appear in a marked-up version of the Code attached to this report. Here's a simple overview of the main proposed changes:

Section	Description of Amendment	Comment
2. Terms Used	Update the terms used section for improved clarity and to include a definition for the term "Inspector"	Replicates amendments to the model
3.A Referral of complaint to Inspector	New paragraph that provides clarity that a complaint against a person who has had two or more behavioural complaints found, must be referred to the Inspector.	Replicates amendments to the model
11. Complaint about alleged breach	Update to clause (2) to reference the Inspector and the form published by the Inspector New clauses (4), (4)(a), (4)(b), (5) and (6) which provides for complaints to be referred to and from the Inspector and how complaints referred from the Inspector are to be dealt with.	Provides for the form published by the Inspector to be the approved form, Replicates amendments to the model
14.A Appointment of Monitor	New clause to allow for the Inspector to appoint a Monitor to assist the Shire in dealing with matters raised by the complaint.	Replicates amendments to the model
14.B Performance of local government's functions	New clauses to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • guidance on the decision-making requirements for complaints; and • authorising an external person to perform a function on behalf of the Shire; 	Replicates amendments to the model

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • and the process to follow when authorising an external person to perform a function on behalf of the Shire. 	
Division 4 - Notes	Various amendments to update reference clauses and to replace “minor” with “conduct” to 21. Disclosure of Information reflect the updated levels of breach allegations under Local Government Reform and the introduction of the Office of the Inspector	Replicates amendments to the model
21. Disclosure of Information	Inclusion of new subsection of the Local Government Act and the inclusion of a new clause (b) that provides clarity around closed meetings	Replicates amendments to the model



Code of Conduct 2021

Council Members, Committee Members, and Candidates

*Adopted: February 2021
Amended: March 2026*

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Schedule 1 – Model Code of Conduct

Division 1 – Preliminary Provisions

1. Citation

This is the Shire of Leonora Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates

2. Terms Used

(1) In this Code –

Act means the Local Government Act 1995;

candidate means a candidate for election as a council member;

complaint means a **breach** complaint made under clause 11(1) to the Inspector or referred to the Inspector in accordance with Part 8A of the Act;

Inspector means the person holding officer of the Local Government Inspector established in accordance with the Act.

publish includes to publish on a social media platform.

(2) Other terms used in this code that are also used in the Act have the same meaning as they have in the Act, unless the contrary intention appears.

Division 2 – General Principles

3. Overview of Division

This Division sets out general principles to guide the behaviour of council members, committee members and candidates.

3.A Referral of complaint to Inspector (Act s. 105(3))

For the purposes of section 5.105(3) of the Act, a complaint must be referred to the Inspector if the person who is the subject of the complaint has, on at least 2 previous occasions, been found under a local government's code of conduct (as defined in section 8A.2(1) of the Act) to have committed, on or after 1 January 2026, a behavioural breach.

4. Personal Integrity

(1) A council member, committee member or candidate should —

- (a) act with reasonable care and diligence; and
- (b) act with honesty and integrity; and
- (c) act lawfully; and

- (d) identify and appropriately manage any conflict of interest; and
 - (e) avoid damage to the reputation of the local government.
- (2) A council member or committee member should —
- (a) act in accordance with the trust placed in council members and committee members; and
 - (b) participate in decision-making in an honest, fair, impartial and timely manner; and
 - (c) actively seek out and engage in training and development opportunities to improve the performance of their role; and
 - (d) attend and participate in briefings, workshops and training sessions provided or arranged by the local government in relation to the performance of their role.

5. Relationship with others

- (1) A council member, committee member or candidate should —
- (a) treat others with respect, courtesy and fairness; and
 - (b) respect and value diversity in the community.
- (2) A council member or committee member should maintain and contribute to a harmonious, safe and productive work environment.

6. Accountability

- A council member or committee member should —
- (a) base decisions on relevant and factually correct information; and
 - (b) make decisions on merit, in the public interest and in accordance with statutory obligations and principles of good governance and procedural fairness; and
 - (c) read all agenda papers given to them in relation to council or committee meetings; and
 - (d) be open and accountable to, and represent, the community in the district.

Division 3 – Behaviour

7. Overview of Division

- This division sets out —
- (a) requirements relating to the behaviour of council members, committee members and candidates; and
 - (b) the mechanism for dealing with alleged breaches of those requirements.

8. Personal Integrity

- (1) A council member, committee member or candidate —
- (a) must ensure that their use of social media and other forms of communication complies with this code; and act with honesty and integrity; and
 - (b) must only publish material that is factually correct.
- (2) A council member or committee member —

- (a) must not be impaired by alcohol or drugs in the performance of their official duties; and participate in decision-making in an honest, fair, impartial and timely manner; and
- (b) must comply with all policies, procedures and resolutions of the local government.

9. Relationship with Others

A council member, committee member or candidate —

- (a) must not bully or harass another person in any way; and
- (b) must deal with the media in a positive and appropriate manner and in accordance with any relevant policy of the local government; and
- (c) must not use offensive or derogatory language when referring to another person; and
- (d) must not disparage the character of another council member, committee member or candidate or a local government employee in connection with the performance of their official duties; and
- (e) must not impute dishonest or unethical motives to another council member, committee member or candidate or a local government employee in connection with the performance of their official duties.

10. Council or Committee Meetings

When attending a council or committee meeting, a council member, committee member or candidate —

- (a) must not act in an abusive or threatening manner towards another person; and
- (b) must not make a statement that the member or candidate knows, or could reasonably be expected to know, is false or misleading; and
- (c) must not repeatedly disrupt the meeting; and
- (d) must comply with any requirements of a local law of the local government relating to the procedures and conduct of council or committee meetings; and
- (e) must comply with any direction given by the person presiding at the meeting; and
- (f) must immediately cease to engage in any conduct that has been ruled out of order by the person presiding at the meeting.

11. Complaint about Alleged Breach

- (1) A person may make a complaint, in accordance with subclause (2), alleging a breach of a requirement set out in this Division.
- (2) A complaint must be made —
 - (a) in writing in the form approved by the local government; [which is the form published by the Inspector](#); and
 - (b) [to the Inspector](#), or a person authorised under subclause (3); and
 - (c) within 1 month after the occurrence of the alleged breach.
- (3) The local government must, in writing, authorise 1 or more persons to receive complaints and withdrawals of complaints.

- (4) A complaint must be dealt with under clauses 12 to 15 unless –
 - (a) the complaint is referred to the Inspector in accordance with subclause (5); and
 - (b) the Inspector refers the complaint to be dealt with under Part 8A Division 5 of the Act.

Note for this subclause: See section 5.105(1) of the Act.

- (5) If the Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021 regulation 3A applies to a complaint, a person authorised under subclause (3) must refer the complaint to the Inspector under section 5.105(3) of the Act.
- (6) A complaint must also be dealt with under clauses 12 to 15 if the Inspector refers the complaint to the local government under the Local Government (Local Government Inspector) Regulations 2025 regulation 6.

12. Dealing with a Complaint

- (1) After receiving a complaint referred to the local government by the Inspector, the local government must consider the complaint, ~~the local government must~~, and unless it dismisses the complaint under clause 13 or the complaint is withdrawn under clause 14(1), make a finding as to whether the alleged breach the subject of the complaint has occurred.
- (2) Before making a finding in relation to the complaint, the local government must give the person to whom the complaint relates a reasonable opportunity to be heard.
- (3) A finding that the alleged breach has occurred must be based on evidence from which it may be concluded that it is more likely that the breach occurred than that it did not occur.
- (4) If the local government makes a finding that the alleged breach has occurred, the local government may —
 - (a) take no further action; or
 - (b) prepare and implement a plan to address the behaviour of the person to whom the complaint relates.
- (5) When preparing a plan under subclause (4)(b), the local government must consult with the person to whom the complaint relates.
- (6) A plan under subclause (4)(b) may include a requirement for the person to whom the complaint relates to do 1 or more of the following —
 - (a) engage in mediation;
 - (b) undertake counselling;
 - (c) undertake training;
 - (d) take other action the local government considers appropriate.
- (7) If the local government makes a finding in relation to the complaint, the local government must give the complainant, and the person to whom the complaint relates, written notice of —
 - (a) its finding and the reasons for its finding; and
 - (b) if its finding is that the alleged breach has occurred — its decision under subclause (4).

13. Dismissal of Complaint

- (1) The local government must dismiss a complaint if it is satisfied that —
 - (a) the behaviour to which the complaint relates occurred at a council or committee meeting; and
 - (b) either —
 - (i) the behaviour was dealt with by the person presiding at the meeting; or
 - (ii) the person responsible for the behaviour has taken remedial action in accordance with a local law of the local government that deals with meeting procedures.
- (2) If the local government dismisses a complaint, the local government must give the complainant, and the person to whom the complaint relates, written notice of its decision and the reasons for its decision.

14. Withdrawal of Complaint

- (1) A complainant may withdraw their complaint at any time before the local government makes a finding in relation to the complaint.
- (2) The withdrawal of a complaint must be —
 - (a) in writing; and
 - (b) given to a person authorised under clause 11(3).

14.A Appointment of Monitor

- (1) The Inspector may appoint a monitor for the local government to assist the local government to deal with matters raised by a complaint.
- (2) If the Inspector appoints a monitor –
 - (a) the Inspector may direct the local government to defer further dealing with the complaint until the monitor reports to the Inspector on the outcome of the monitoring assignment; and
 - (c) the local government must comply with the direction.

14.B Performance of local government's functions under cl. 12 and 13

- (1) The local government's functions under clauses 12 and 13 must be performed by the council.
- (2) Despite subclause (1), the council may, by resolution carried with an absolute majority of the council, authorise a committee of the council comprising council members only to perform a function for and on behalf of the local government.
- (3) Despite subclause (1), the council may, by resolution carried with an absolute majority of the council, authorise a person who is none of the following to perform a function for

and on behalf of the local government -

- (a) a member of the council of any local government;
 - (b) a member of the governing body of any regional subsidiary;
 - (c) an employee of any local government or regional subsidiary;
 - (d) an employee of WALGA or the Local Government Professionals Australia (WA);
 - (e) a member of the governing body of, or an employee of, a body corporate the activities of which are, wholly or partly, advocating or otherwise acting for, or on behalf of, 1 or more of the following –
 - (i) local governments;
 - (ii) members of councils;
 - (iii) employees of local governments.
- (4) A resolution made under subclause (3) must include the following –
- (a) a statement to the effect that the council is satisfied that the person being authorised is suitably qualified and experienced to perform the function;
 - (b) an explanation as to why the council is satisfied as referred to in paragraph (a);
 - (c) a statement to the effect that the council is satisfied that the person being authorised is impartial and has no close association with any member of the council or any employee of the local government.
- (5) Nothing in this clause prevents an employee of the local government from providing, in relation to the performance of a function, any advice or other assistance to the council, a committee authorised under subclause (2) or a person authorised under subclause (3).

15. Other Provisions about Complaints

- (1) A complaint about an alleged breach by a candidate cannot be dealt with by the local government unless the candidate has been elected as a council member.
- (2) The procedure for dealing with complaints may be determined by the local government to the extent that it is not provided for in this Division.

Division 4 – Rules of Conduct

Notes for this division:

- 1. Under section ~~5.105(1)~~ 8A.3(1) of the Act a council member commits a ~~minor-conduct~~ breach if the council member contravenes a rule of conduct. ~~This Section 8A.3(2) of the Act extends this to the contravention of a rule of conduct that occurred when the council member was a candidate.~~
- 2. A ~~minor-conduct~~ breach is dealt with ~~by the standards panel~~ under section ~~Part 8A Division 5-110~~ of the Act.

16. Overview of Division

- (1) This Division sets out rules of conduct for council members and candidates.

- (2) A reference in this Division to a council member includes a council member when acting as a committee member.

17. Misuse of Local Government Resources

- (1) In this clause —

electoral purpose means the purpose of persuading electors to vote in a particular way at an election, referendum or other poll held under the Act, the Electoral Act 1907 or the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918;

resources of a local government includes —

- (a) local government property; and
 - (b) services provided, or paid for, by a local government.
- (2) A council member must not, directly or indirectly, use the resources of a local government for an electoral purpose or other purpose unless authorised under the Act, or by the local government or the CEO, to use the resources for that purpose.

18. Securing Personal Advantage or Disadvantaging Others

- (1) A council member must not make improper use of their office —

- (a) to gain, directly or indirectly, an advantage for the council member or any other person; or
- (b) to cause detriment to the local government or any other person.

- (2) Subclause (1) does not apply to conduct that contravenes section 5.93 of the Act or The Criminal Code section 83.

19. Prohibition Against Involvement in Administration

- (1) A council member must not undertake a task that contributes to the administration of the local government unless authorised by the local government or the CEO to undertake that task.
- (2) Subclause (1) does not apply to anything that a council member does as part of the deliberations at a council or committee meeting.

20. Relationship with Local Government Employees

- (1) In this clause —

- (a) *local government employee* means a person —
- (b) employed by a local government under section 5.36(1) of the Act; or
- (c) engaged by a local government under a contract for services.

- (2) A council member or candidate must not —

- (a) direct or attempt to direct a local government employee to do or not to do anything in their capacity as a local government employee; or
- (b) attempt to influence, by means of a threat or the promise of a reward, the conduct of a

local government employee in their capacity as a local government employee; or

- (c) act in an abusive or threatening manner towards a local government employee.
- (3) Subclause (2)(a) does not apply to anything that a council member does as part of the deliberations at a council or committee meeting.
- (4) If a council member or candidate, in their capacity as a council member or candidate, is attending a council or committee meeting or other organised event (for example, a briefing or workshop), the council member or candidate must not orally, in writing or by any other means —
 - (a) make a statement that a local government employee is incompetent or dishonest; or
 - (b) use an offensive or objectionable expression when referring to a local government employee.
- (5) Subclause (4)(a) does not apply to conduct that is unlawful under The Criminal Code Chapter XXXV.

21. Disclosure of Information

- (1) In this clause —
 - (a) **closed meeting** means a council or committee meeting, ~~or a part of a council or committee meeting~~, that is closed to members of the public under section 5.23(2), (3) or (4) of the Act;
and
 - (b) **includes a council or committee meeting held before 1 January 2026, or a part of a council or committee meeting held before 1 January 2026, that was closed to members of the public under section 5.23(2) of the Act as in force before 1 January 2026;**
- confidential document** means a document marked by the CEO, or by a person authorised by the CEO, to clearly show that the information in the document is not to be disclosed;
- document** includes a part of a document;
- non confidential document** means a document that is not a confidential document.
- (2) A council member must not disclose information that the council member —
 - (a) derived from a confidential document; or
 - (b) acquired at a closed meeting other than information derived from a non confidential document.
- (3) Subclause (2) does not prevent a council member from disclosing information —
 - (a) at a closed meeting; or
 - (b) to the extent specified by the council and subject to such other conditions as the council determines; or
 - (c) that is already in the public domain; or
 - (d) to an officer of the Department; or
 - (e) to the Minister; or
 - (f) to a legal practitioner for the purpose of obtaining legal advice; or
 - (g) if the disclosure is required or permitted by law.

22. Disclosure of Interests

- (1) In this clause —
interest —
 - (a) means an interest that could, or could reasonably be perceived to, adversely affect the impartiality of the person having the interest; and
 - (b) includes an interest arising from kinship, friendship or membership of an association.
- (2) A council member who has an interest in any matter to be discussed at a council or committee meeting attended by the council member must disclose the nature of the interest —
 - (a) in a written notice given to the CEO before the meeting; or
 - (b) at the meeting immediately before the matter is discussed.
- (3) Subclause (2) does not apply to an interest referred to in section 5.60 of the Act.
- (4) Subclause (2) does not apply if a council member fails to disclose an interest because the council member did not know —
 - (a) that they had an interest in the matter; or
 - (b) that the matter in which they had an interest would be discussed at the meeting and the council member disclosed the interest as soon as possible after the discussion began.
- (5) If, under subclause (2)(a), a council member discloses an interest in a written notice given to the CEO before a meeting, then —
 - (a) before the meeting the CEO must cause the notice to be given to the person who is to preside at the meeting; and
 - (b) at the meeting the person presiding must bring the notice and its contents to the attention of the persons present immediately before any matter to which the disclosure relates is discussed.
- (6) Subclause (7) applies in relation to an interest if —
 - (a) under subclause (2)(b) or (4)(b) the interest is disclosed at a meeting; or
 - (b) under subclause (5)(b) notice of the interest is brought to the attention of the persons present at a meeting.
- (7) The nature of the interest must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

23. Compliance with Plan Requirement

If a plan under clause 12(4)(b) in relation to a council member includes a requirement referred to in clause 12(6), the council member must comply with the requirement.

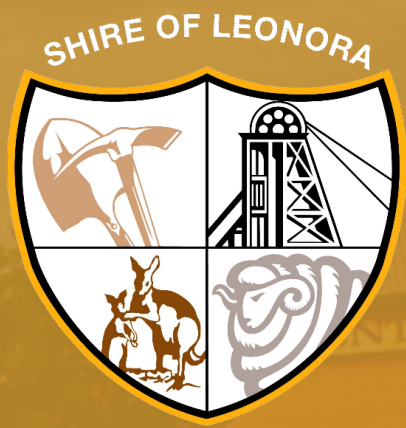
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Version Control

Doc #	Date Presented	Review Type ¹	Comments
1.0	16 th February, 2021	Adoption	New regulations required the adoption of a new Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members, and Candidates
2.0	17 th March 2026	Major	Amendments to the Model Code of Conduct prescribed in the Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021 provide for the new role of the Local Government Inspector and clarify decision-making responsibilities for behavioural breach complaints.

¹Review Types are:

<i>Adoption</i>	Only used when the document is first created
<i>Major</i>	Major Amendment has been made due to legislative or organisational changes
<i>Minor</i>	Minor Amendment has been made such as formatting or wording changes
<i>No Change</i>	Review conducted with no changes identified for inclusion



Code of Conduct 2021

Council Members, Committee Members, and Candidates

Adopted: February 2021

Amended: March 2026

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- (e) must comply with any direction given by the person presiding at the meeting; and
- (f) must immediately cease to engage in any conduct that has been ruled out of order by the person presiding at the meeting.

11. Complaint about Alleged Breach

- (1) A person may make a complaint, in accordance with subclause (2), alleging a breach of a requirement set out in this Division.
- (2) A complaint must be made —
 - (a) in writing in the form approved by the local government; which is the form published by the Inspector; and
 - (b) to the Inspector, or a person authorised under subclause (3); and
 - (c) within 1 month after the occurrence of the alleged breach.
- (3) The local government must, in writing, authorise 1 or more persons to receive complaints and withdrawals of complaints.

- (4) A complaint must be dealt with under clauses 12 to 15 unless –
 - (a) the complaint is referred to the Inspector in accordance with subclause (5); and
 - (b) the Inspector refers the complaint to be dealt with under Part 8A Division 5 of the Act.

Note for this subclause: See section 5.105(1) of the Act.

- (5) If the Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021 regulation 3A applies to a complaint, a person authorised under subclause (3) must refer the complaint to the Inspector under section 5.105(3) of the Act.
- (6) A complaint must also be dealt with under clauses 12 to 15 if the Inspector refers the complaint to the local government under the Local Government (Local Government Inspector) Regulations 2025 regulation 6.

12. Dealing with a Complaint

- (1) After receiving a complaint referred to the local government by the Inspector, the local government must consider the complaint, and unless it dismisses the complaint under clause 13 or the complaint is withdrawn under clause 14(1), make a finding as to whether the alleged breach the subject of the complaint has occurred.
- (2) Before making a finding in relation to the complaint, the local government must give the person to whom the complaint relates a reasonable opportunity to be heard.
- (3) A finding that the alleged breach has occurred must be based on evidence from which it may be concluded that it is more likely that the breach occurred than that it did not occur.
- (4) If the local government makes a finding that the alleged breach has occurred, the local government may —
 - (a) take no further action; or
 - (b) prepare and implement a plan to address the behaviour of the person to whom the complaint relates.
- (5) When preparing a plan under subclause (4)(b), the local government must consult with the person to whom the complaint relates.
- (6) A plan under subclause (4)(b) may include a requirement for the person to whom the complaint relates to do 1 or more of the following —
 - (a) engage in mediation;
 - (b) undertake counselling;
 - (c) undertake training;
 - (d) take other action the local government considers appropriate.
- (7) If the local government makes a finding in relation to the complaint, the local government must give the complainant, and the person to whom the complaint relates, written notice of —
 - (a) its finding and the reasons for its finding; and
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- (1) The local government must dismiss a complaint if it is satisfied that —
 - (a) the behaviour to which the complaint relates occurred at a council or committee meeting; and
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 - (ii) the person responsible for the behaviour has taken remedial action in accordance with a local law of the local government that deals with meeting procedures.
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- (1) A complainant may withdraw their complaint at any time before the local government makes a finding in relation to the complaint.
- (2) The withdrawal of a complaint must be —
 - (a) in writing; and
 - (b) given to a person authorised under clause 11(3).

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- (1) The Inspector may appoint a monitor for the local government to assist the local government to deal with matters raised by a complaint.
- (2) If the Inspector appoints a monitor –
 - (a) the Inspector may direct the local government to defer further dealing with the complaint until the monitor reports to the Inspector on the outcome of the monitoring assignment; and
 - (c) the local government must comply with the direction.

14B Performance of local government's functions under cl. 12 and 13

- (1) The local government's functions under clauses 12 and 13 must be performed by the council.
- (2) Despite subclause (1), the council may, by resolution carried with an absolute majority of the council, authorise a committee of the council comprising council members only to perform a function for and on behalf of the local government.
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and on behalf of the local government -

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 - (i) local governments;
 - (ii) members of councils;
 - (iii) employees of local governments.
- (4) A resolution made under subclause (3) must include the following –
- (a) a statement to the effect that the council is satisfied that the person being authorised is suitably qualified and experienced to perform the function;
 - (b) an explanation as to why the council is satisfied as referred to in paragraph (a);
 - (c) a statement to the effect that the council is satisfied that the person being authorised is impartial and has no close association with any member of the council or any employee of the local government.
- (5) Nothing in this clause prevents an employee of the local government from providing, in relation to the performance of a function, any advice or other assistance to the council, a committee authorised under subclause (2) or a person authorised under subclause (3).

15. Other Provisions about Complaints

- (1) A complaint about an alleged breach by a candidate cannot be dealt with by the local government unless the candidate has been elected as a council member.
- (2) The procedure for dealing with complaints may be determined by the local government to the extent that it is not provided for in this Division.

Division 4 – Rules of Conduct

Notes for this division:

- 1. Under section 8A.3(1) of the Act a council member commits a conduct breach if the council member contravenes a rule of conduct. Section 8A.3(2) of the Act extends this to the contravention of a rule of conduct that occurred when the council member was a candidate.
- 2. A conduct breach is dealt with under section Part 8A Division 5 of the Act.

16. Overview of Division

- (1) This Division sets out rules of conduct for council members and candidates.

- (2) A reference in this Division to a council member includes a council member when acting as a committee member.

17. Misuse of Local Government Resources

- (1) In this clause —

electoral purpose means the purpose of persuading electors to vote in a particular way at an election, referendum or other poll held under the Act, the Electoral Act 1907 or the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918;

resources of a local government includes —

- (a) local government property; and
 - (b) services provided, or paid for, by a local government.
- (2) A council member must not, directly or indirectly, use the resources of a local government for an electoral purpose or other purpose unless authorised under the Act, or by the local government or the CEO, to use the resources for that purpose.

18. Securing Personal Advantage or Disadvantaging Others

- (1) A council member must not make improper use of their office —

- (a) to gain, directly or indirectly, an advantage for the council member or any other person; or
- (b) to cause detriment to the local government or any other person.

- (2) Subclause (1) does not apply to conduct that contravenes section 5.93 of the Act or The Criminal Code section 83.

19. Prohibition Against Involvement in Administration

- (1) A council member must not undertake a task that contributes to the administration of the local government unless authorised by the local government or the CEO to undertake that task.
- (2) Subclause (1) does not apply to anything that a council member does as part of the deliberations at a council or committee meeting.

20. Relationship with Local Government Employees

- (1) In this clause —

- (a) *local government employee* means a person —
- (b) employed by a local government under section 5.36(1) of the Act; or
- (c) engaged by a local government under a contract for services.

- (2) A council member or candidate must not —

- (a) direct or attempt to direct a local government employee to do or not to do anything in their capacity as a local government employee; or
- (b) attempt to influence, by means of a threat or the promise of a reward, the conduct of a

local government employee in their capacity as a local government employee; or

- (c) act in an abusive or threatening manner towards a local government employee.
- (3) Subclause (2)(a) does not apply to anything that a council member does as part of the deliberations at a council or committee meeting.
- (4) If a council member or candidate, in their capacity as a council member or candidate, is attending a council or committee meeting or other organised event (for example, a briefing or workshop), the council member or candidate must not orally, in writing or by any other means —
 - (a) make a statement that a local government employee is incompetent or dishonest; or
 - (b) use an offensive or objectionable expression when referring to a local government employee.
- (5) Subclause (4)(a) does not apply to conduct that is unlawful under The Criminal Code Chapter XXXV.

21. Disclosure of Information

- (1) In this clause —
 - (a) **closed meeting** means a council or committee meeting, that is closed to members of the public under section 5.23(2), (3) or (4) of the Act;
and
 - (b) includes a council or committee meeting held before 1 January 2026, or a part of a council or committee meeting held before 1 January 2026, that was closed to members of the public under section 5.23(2) of the Act as in force before 1 January 2026;
confidential document means a document marked by the CEO, or by a person authorised by the CEO, to clearly show that the information in the document is not to be disclosed;
document includes a part of a document;
non confidential document means a document that is not a confidential document.
- (2) A council member must not disclose information that the council member —
 - (a) derived from a confidential document; or
 - (b) acquired at a closed meeting other than information derived from a non confidential document.
- (3) Subclause (2) does not prevent a council member from disclosing information —
 - (a) at a closed meeting; or
 - (b) to the extent specified by the council and subject to such other conditions as the council determines; or
 - (c) that is already in the public domain; or
 - (d) to an officer of the Department; or
 - (e) to the Minister; or
 - (f) to a legal practitioner for the purpose of obtaining legal advice; or
 - (g) if the disclosure is required or permitted by law.

22. Disclosure of Interests

- (1) In this clause —
interest —
 - (a) means an interest that could, or could reasonably be perceived to, adversely affect the impartiality of the person having the interest; and
 - (b) includes an interest arising from kinship, friendship or membership of an association.
- (2) A council member who has an interest in any matter to be discussed at a council or committee meeting attended by the council member must disclose the nature of the interest —
 - (a) in a written notice given to the CEO before the meeting; or
 - (b) at the meeting immediately before the matter is discussed.
- (3) Subclause (2) does not apply to an interest referred to in section 5.60 of the Act.
- (4) Subclause (2) does not apply if a council member fails to disclose an interest because the council member did not know —
 - (a) that they had an interest in the matter; or
 - (b) that the matter in which they had an interest would be discussed at the meeting and the council member disclosed the interest as soon as possible after the discussion began.
- (5) If, under subclause (2)(a), a council member discloses an interest in a written notice given to the CEO before a meeting, then —
 - (a) before the meeting the CEO must cause the notice to be given to the person who is to preside at the meeting; and
 - (b) at the meeting the person presiding must bring the notice and its contents to the attention of the persons present immediately before any matter to which the disclosure relates is discussed.
- (6) Subclause (7) applies in relation to an interest if —
 - (a) under subclause (2)(b) or (4)(b) the interest is disclosed at a meeting; or
 - (b) under subclause (5)(b) notice of the interest is brought to the attention of the persons present at a meeting.
- (7) The nature of the interest must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

23. Compliance with Plan Requirement

If a plan under clause 12(4)(b) in relation to a council member includes a requirement referred to in clause 12(6), the council member must comply with the requirement.

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Version Control

Doc #	Date Presented	Review Type ¹	Comments
1.0	16 th February, 2021	Adoption	New regulations required the adoption of a new Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members, and Candidates
2.0	17 th March 2026	Major	Amendments to the Model Code of Conduct prescribed in the <u>Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021</u> provide for the new role of the Local Government Inspector and clarify decision-making responsibilities for behavioural breach complaints.

¹Review Types are:

Adoption

Only used when the document is first created

Major

Major Amendment has been made due to legislative or organisational changes

Minor

Minor Amendment has been made such as formatting or wording changes

No Change

Review conducted with no changes identified for inclusion

10.0 REPORTS**10.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS****10.2.(D) PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF A DUST AND NOISE MITIGATION WALL ON NAMBI ROAD**

SUBMISSION TO:	Ordinary Council Meeting Meeting Date: 17th March 2026
AGENDA REFERENCE:	10.2.(D) MAR 26
SUBJECT:	Proposed installation of a Dust and Noise Mitigation Wall on Nambi Road
LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Nambi Road, Leonora
NAME OF APPLICANT:	Shire of Leonora
FILE REFERENCE:	Infrastructure - Roads - Nambi
AUTHOR, DISCLOSURE OF ANY INTEREST AND DATE OF REPORT	
NAME:	Ty Matson
OFFICER:	Chief Executive Officer
INTEREST DISCLOSURE:	Nil
DATE:	11th March 2026
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Noise Wall Quote (confidential) Modular Panel Fence System

BACKGROUND

The unsealed Nambi Road Bypass has experienced a significant increase in heavy vehicle traffic associated with mining and freight movements. While use of the bypass reduces heavy vehicle movements through the Leonora townsite, it has resulted in increased dust, noise and light impacts on the nearby residential properties.

Residents near the corner of Nambi Road and the bypass, and along Braemore Road have raised concerns regarding ongoing amenity impacts, particularly dust and noise, and the potential for adverse health effects. These concerns have been raised formally with Council and through direct correspondence with Shire officers. Council has previously acknowledged these impacts and identified the sealing of the bypass as a high-priority project. This is now a joint Main Roads WA and Shire project however final construction is some time away.

As an interim mitigation measure, officers have investigated the feasibility of installing a dust and noise attenuation wall adjacent to the bypass to provide immediate protection for affected residents. These walls are common at all major road projects in the metropolitan area. Installation of a dust and noise wall would provide immediate and visible mitigation of amenity impacts while longer-term solutions, including the sealing of the bypass, are progressed. The wall will also reduce long term impacts to residents of increased traffic once the road is sealed.

The proposal supports Council's commitment to balancing economic activity with protection of residential areas.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Targeted consultation has been undertaken with directly affected residents. One formal written response was received in relation to the proposed installation of a dust and noise wall. That response supported action being taken to mitigate dust and noise impacts from the unsealed bypass. Previous complaints and representations regarding dust and noise from the bypass have been documented through Council meetings and officer correspondence.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

The Shire of Leonora has general powers under the Local Government Act 1995 to provide works and services for the benefit of the community and to take actions to protect public health, safety and amenity. The proposed wall would be installed on land under the care and control of the Shire and does not trigger development approval requirements under the Shire's local planning framework. Any works would be required to comply with relevant workplace health and safety and environmental management obligations.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no conflicts with existing Council policies.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A budget estimate has been obtained for the supply of approximately 200 metres of a 2.4-metre-high precast noise wall system. The quoted cost is \$146,973 plus GST, inclusive of freight to Leonora. The estimate does not include site preparation, installation, or painting, which would need to be undertaken by the Shire or through separate procurement. It is anticipated that the cost of installing the wall would be \$50,000. Funding for the works is not currently specifically allocated in the adopted budget however it has been included in the Mid-Year Budget Review that is being considered by Council.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Installation of a dust and noise wall would provide immediate and visible mitigation of amenity impacts while longer-term solutions, including sealing of the bypass, are progressed. The proposal supports Council's commitment to balancing economic activity with protection of residential areas.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Risks of not proceeding:

- Ongoing resident dissatisfaction and potential escalation of complaints.
- Continued exposure of residents to dust and noise impacts until the bypass is sealed. These risks can be managed through appropriate design, clear communication with residents, and integration with future bypass upgrade planning.

Signed: 21 APRIL 2026

President: _____

17 MARCH 2026

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council endorse the installation of a dust and noise attenuation wall along the Nambi Road Bypass adjacent to affected residential property
2. That Council endorse the allocation of \$211,671 towards the bypass noise wall.

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Absolute Majority

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr TM Nardone

Seconder: Cr RA Norrie

1. That Council endorse the installation of a dust and noise attenuation wall along the Nambi Road Bypass adjacent to affected residential property
2. That Council endorse the allocation of \$211,671 towards the bypass noise wall.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (6 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr PJ Craig, Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor,
Cr TM Nardone, Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*



Techniko

100mm Galvanised Post | 50mm Panels

Modular Panel Fence System

Wallmark
wallmark.com.au

Techniko | Modular Panel Fence



Techniko

Modular Panel Fence

Whether you want to enhance the value of your home or to protect your business, the Techniko modular fencing system brings style and sophistication to your property at a fraction of the cost of traditional block walls.

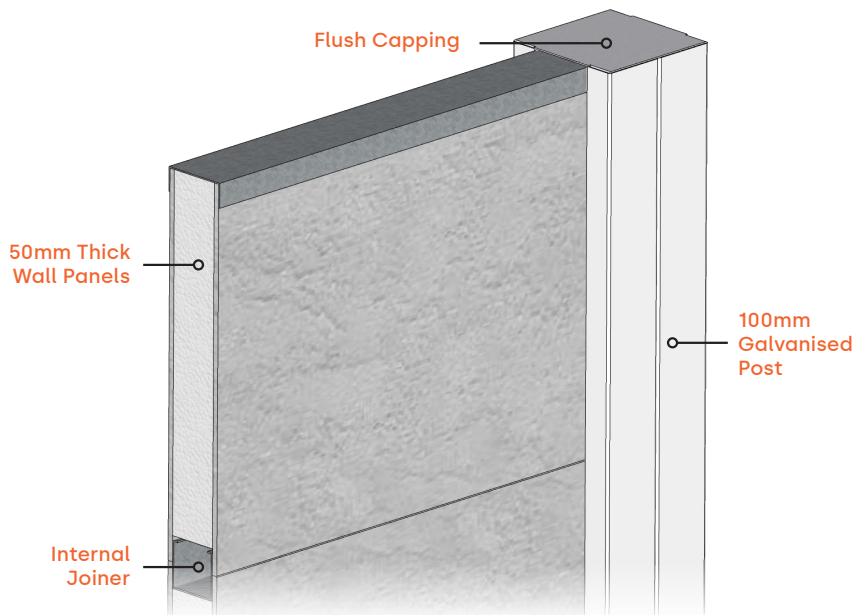
Best of all, the modular assembly ensures hassle-free installation with minimal site disruption and the smart design delivers a crack free finish for the lifetime of the wall.

Pre-engineered up to 2.4m, the Techniko modular fencing system is built from quality Australian products to handle Australia's

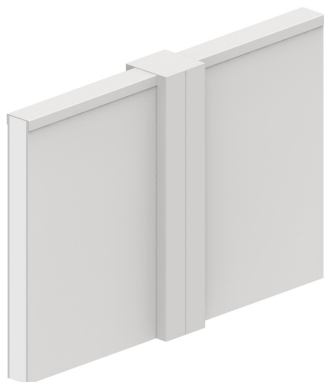
harshest conditions. You can add value, privacy and peace and quiet to your home or business with Techniko prestige masonry style feature fences.

Whether you install DIY or with your preferred local contractor, work with the team at Techniko for factory direct personalised service and great advice

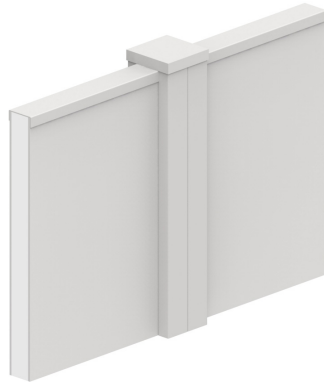
Features & Options



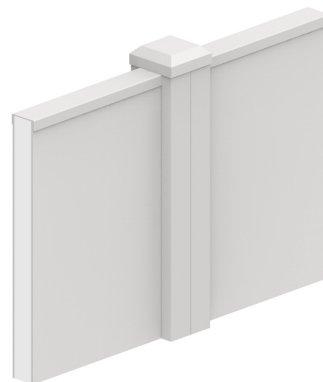
Capping Styles



Flush Wall Capping
Horizon Post Cap



Flush Wall Capping
Plateau Post Cap



Flush Wall Capping
Tableland Post Cap

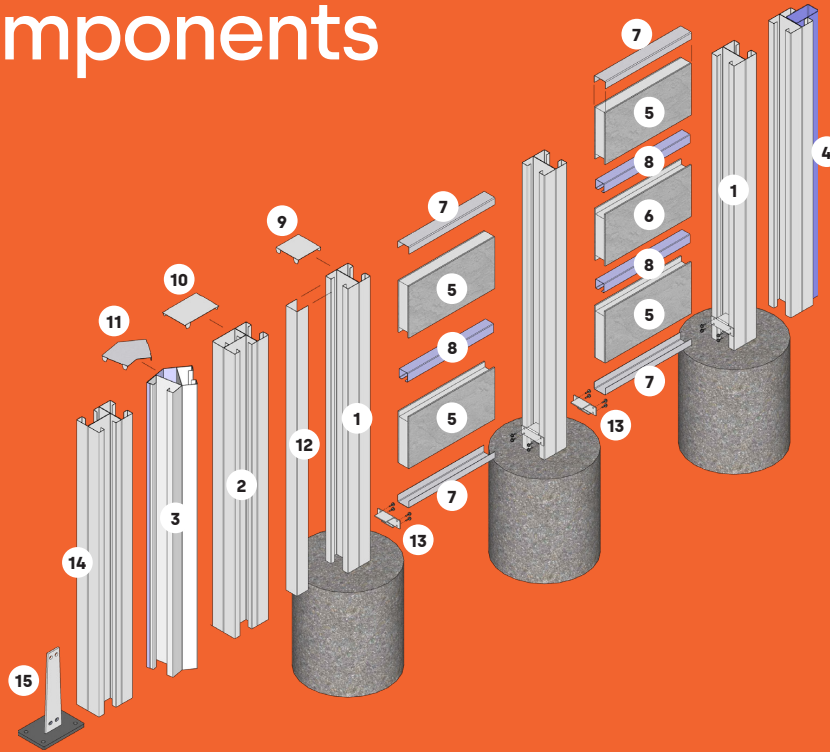
Fontirac & Ontinac

Actual product color may vary from the images shown.

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Techniko | Modular Panel Fence

Components



Posts



1. Centre Post
 TK100CE
 900/1200/1800/2100/
 2400/2700/3000 High



2. Corner Post
 TK100CP
 900/1200/1800/2100/
 2400/2700/3000 High



3. Angle Post
 TK100AN
 900/1200/1800/2100/
 2400/2700/3000 High



4. Gate Post
 TKGPOST
 900/1200/1800/2100/
 2400/2700/3000 High

Panels



5. Wall Panel Single Rebate
 WP50
 900H x 2400W
 1200H x 2400W



6. Wall Panel Double Rebate
 WP50D
 900H x 2400W
 1200H x 2400W

Capping / Joiner



7. Flush Capping
 FC5024



8. Internal Panel Joiner
 PJT5024

Post Caps



9. Post Cap
 PCTK100



10. Corner Post Cap
 PCTK150



11. Angle Post Cap
 PCTKAN

Additional



12. Post Infill
 ZINF50
 1800/2100/2400/2700/3000



13. Wall Support Bracket
 WSBT



14. Tee Post
 TK100T



15. Base Plate
 TKBDB

All Measurements in mm

4 | wallmark.com.au

Technical Information

Maximum Post Height & Wind Speeds

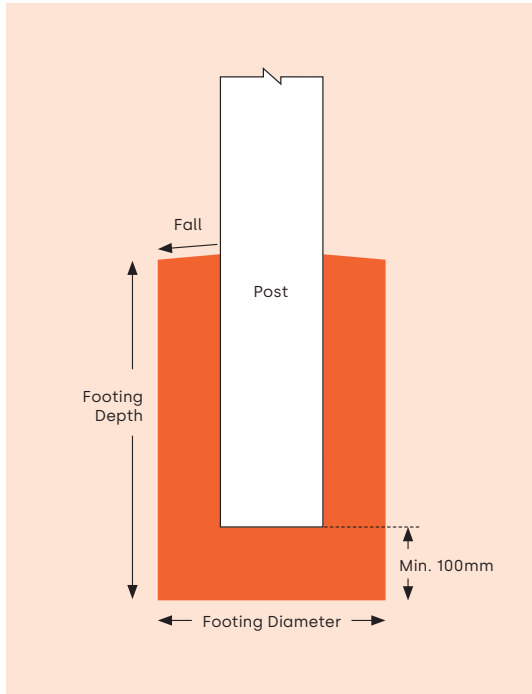
Panel Length	Wall Height			
	1800	2100	2400	3000
2400	50m/s	50m/s	40m/s	34m/s

Minimum Footing Depths for 2400mm Panels, 300mm Diameter Footings

Wind Speed	Wall Height					
	1200	1500	1800	2100	2400	3000
29m/s	600	600	600	600	600	800
34m/s (N1)	600	600	600	600	700	900
40m/s (N2)	600	600	600	700	800	-
50m/s (N3/C1)	600	700	800	900	-	-

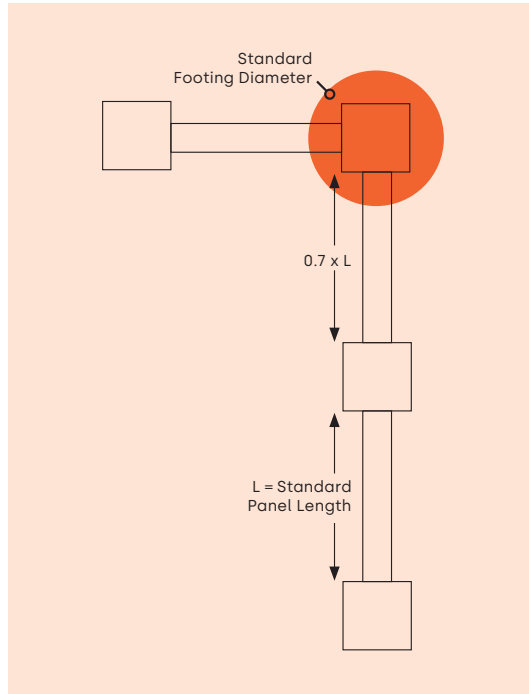
NOTE Design assumes there is firmly compacted soil at surface around footings. Corner and Angle Post Footing Diameter must be a minimum of 400mm.

Footing Detail



NOTE Footing Depths are based on Firm Clay. Engineering advice must be sought on Footing Depths for all other soil types.

Post Spacing



All Measurements in mm

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Technical Information

Techniko | Modular Panel Fence

Case Study



Food Precinct and Brewery

Brunswick, Victoria

Wallmark was approached by developers looking to turn an old run-down premises into an edgy, urban food precinct and brewery.

Using recycled industrial building supplies they created a vibrant, interesting and colourful space that reflected their brand.

Wallmark was approached to supply a fence that helped the acoustic problems faced by all food and beverage outlets, and also provided a 132m long, 3m high blank canvas to showcase local artists and their wall art.

The Techniko wall at 4 Pines provides so much inspiration to many, as it shows what can be achieved when you think inside the fence! The murals have become iconic in the area with many a selfie shot and shared!

6 | wallmark.com.au

Gallery



Techniko | Modular Panel Fence



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Techniko | Modular Panel Fence



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Techniko | Modular Panel Fence

Panel



AcoustX

The quiet advantage

Our wall panels are constructed from a very strong composite combination of Fibre Cement sheeting surrounding an Expanded Polystyrene core, creating excellent sound deadening properties.

Wallmark has had a complete wall section tested correctly and certified to AS 1191-2002. Testing data sheets and RMIT Transmission Loss Sound Report available on request. The panels can be easily cut or shaped on site using a circular or hand saw.

Residential	✓
Commercial	✓
Noise Reduction	✓
Weather Resistant	✓
Pre-Painted Option	✓
Fire Retardant	✓
Fire Rated	X
Panel Length (m)	2.4
Panel Height (m)	0.9 / 1.2
Panel Thickness (mm)	50
Reflective	✓
Absorptive	X
Retaining	X
Impact Resistant	X

panels

The Wallmark Product Range

We offer four core products that meet the needs for a variety of residential and commercial applications.



Residential	✓	✓	✓	X
Commercial	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alloy Posts - Pre Primed	100mm	-	-	-
Steel Posts - Galvanised Steel	X	240mm	100mm	Pre-engineered Custom
Panel Thickness	75mm	75mm	50mm	75 / 80 / 100mm
Slat Compatible	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maximum Panel Length	3m	3m	2.4m	4.2m
Pre-engineered to Height	2.4m	3m	2.4m	12m

The Wallmark Advantage

Innovative Solutions

We offer custom designed solutions for a wide range of industry sectors and applications.

Full Accreditation

Our products been approved by NATA. Our reflective noise walls also boast an acoustic rating of RW28 and our absorptive walls an NRC rating of 0.95.

Project Collaboration

We manage your project from the design process right through to completion using world class tradespeople and consultants.

Australian Made

Over 2 decades of trust and experience in the Australian construction industry.

At Wallmark, we recognise that when it comes to architectural wall solutions, one design does not fit all. We look forward to working hand in hand with you to solve your acoustic privacy wall challenges.

To find out more about our Smart Acoustic Wall Solutions visit www.wallmark.com.au or call **02 6057 7600**.



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10.0 REPORTS

10.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

10.2.(E) LOCAL PLANNING STRATEGY – ENDORSEMENT STATUS AND PROGRESSION OF LOCAL PLANNING SCHEME

SUBMISSION TO:	Ordinary Council Meeting Meeting Date: 17th March 2026
AGENDA REFERENCE:	10.2.(E) MAR 26
SUBJECT:	Local Planning Strategy – Endorsement Status and Progression of Local Planning Scheme
LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Leonora
NAME OF APPLICANT:	Shire of Leonora
FILE REFERENCE:	State Planning Leonora Scheme 5.33
AUTHOR, DISCLOSURE OF ANY INTEREST AND DATE OF REPORT	
NAME:	Ty Matson
OFFICER:	Chief Executive Officer
INTEREST DISCLOSURE:	Nil
DATE:	11th March 2026
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:	Nil

BACKGROUND

The Shire of Leonora’s local planning framework is comprised of two key statutory instruments that operate together to guide land use and development within the Shire:

Local Planning Strategy (LPS) – the strategic document that establishes the long-term vision, objectives and directions for land use and development, informed by community, environmental, economic and infrastructure considerations; and

Local Planning Scheme No. 2 (LPS 2) – the statutory planning instrument that gives legal effect to the Strategy by defining zones, reserves, land use permissibility’s and development controls.

These instruments are required to be progressed in sequence, with an endorsed Local Planning Strategy providing the strategic foundation for amendments to the Local Planning Scheme.

The Shire’s Local Planning Strategy was endorsed by the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) on 19 January 2021. The Local Planning Scheme No. 2 was subsequently gazetted on 29 July 2021.

On 16 February 2026, Councillors were emailed a copy of the Strategy for reference and consideration and provided with an overview of the planning framework and the current process requirements associated with progressing planning instruments, including the requirement to

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

submit the Local Planning Strategy to the WAPC prior to undertaking amendments to the Local Planning Scheme.

Council is now required to formally consider whether it is satisfied that the existing Local Planning Strategy remains current and fit-for-purpose, or whether it wishes to undertake a review or update of the Strategy prior to progressing amendments to Local Planning Scheme No. 2.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Stakeholder engagement was not required for the review of the Strategy. Comprehensive engagement will be undertaken for the review of the Scheme.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

The preparation, review and implementation of the Shire of Leonora's local planning framework is governed by the following legislative and policy instruments:

Planning and Development Act 2005

The Act establishes the statutory basis for land use planning in Western Australia and provides for the preparation, endorsement and amendment of local planning strategies and local planning schemes. It confers planning powers on local governments and the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC), and requires local planning instruments to be consistent with the State planning framework.

Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015

The Regulations prescribe the form, content and procedural requirements for local planning strategies and schemes.

In particular:

Regulation 68 requires a local government to review its Local Planning Strategy and report to the WAPC on whether the Strategy remains current, requires amendment, or should be replaced.

Regulation 68(3) provides that, following review, Council must make a recommendation to the WAPC as to the adequacy of the Strategy and its consistency with the Act, the Regulations and the State planning framework.

The Regulations also establish the requirement that amendments to a local planning scheme must be underpinned by an endorsed Local Planning Strategy.

Local Planning Strategy – Shire of Leonora

The Shire of Leonora Local Planning Strategy was endorsed by the Western Australian Planning Commission on 19 January 2021. The Strategy provides the strategic justification for land use planning and development decisions across the Shire and forms the strategic basis for the zoning, reservations and development controls contained within Local Planning Scheme No. 2.

Local Planning Scheme No. 2 – Shire of Leonora

Local Planning Scheme No. 2 was gazetted on 29 July 2021 and is the statutory planning instrument that regulates land use and development within the Shire. The Scheme must be consistent with,

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

and give effect to, the endorsed Local Planning Strategy. Amendments to the Scheme are required to be progressed in accordance with the Act and the Regulations and must align with the current State planning framework.

State Planning Framework

The Local Planning Strategy and Local Planning Scheme are required to be consistent with the State Planning Framework, including relevant State Planning Policies, Directions and Planning Codes as issued or amended by the WAPC from time to time. Recent and emerging changes to the planning framework, including the introduction of State Planning Codes and updated provisions relating to Short-Term Rental Accommodation, necessitate consideration through future amendments to Local Planning Scheme No. 2.

Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC)

The WAPC is the statutory authority responsible for the endorsement of Local Planning Strategies and the approval of local planning scheme amendments. Council's recommendation regarding the adequacy of the Local Planning Strategy is required to be formally considered by the WAPC prior to the progression of scheme amendments.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct policy implications arising from the recommendation of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Provision for a review of the strategy was included in the 2025/26 Budget, and a planning consultant was engaged to undertake this review. Costs have been incurred during this process and will also occur through the submission of the strategy to WAPC. These costs have been within expectations and budgetary provisions. Further provision will be considered for the 2026/27 Annual Budget.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Endorsing the status of the Local Planning Strategy ensures the Shire maintains an up-to-date strategic planning framework that underpins future land use decisions and provides a clear basis for progressing amendments to Local Planning Scheme No. 2.

RISK MANAGEMENT

If Council does not formally consider and make a recommendation to the Western Australian Planning Commission regarding the adequacy of the Local Planning Strategy, there is a risk of delay in progressing amendments to Local Planning Scheme No. 2. This may limit the Shire's ability to respond to emerging State planning requirements and implement updated land use controls in a timely manner.

Endorsing the status of the existing Local Planning Strategy mitigates this risk by confirming a clear and compliant strategic basis for future scheme amendments.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council, pursuant to Regulation 68(3) of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*, recommend to the Western Australian Planning Commission that:

1. The Shire of Leonora Local Planning Strategy, endorsed by the Western Australian Planning Commission on 19 January 2021, is satisfactory and does not require amendment, as it is up-to-date, complies with the Act and Regulations, is consistent with the State planning framework, and implements the Shire's long-term planning directions; and
2. Local Planning Scheme No. 2, gazetted on 29 July 2021, be amended (to gazettal) within a period of three (3) years to:
 - (a) account for recent and current draft Local Planning Scheme Regulation changes, including the creation of State Planning Codes and Short-Term Rental Accommodation provisions;
 - (b) provide for the adoption of a Heritage List under Local Planning Scheme No. 2 following the completion and adoption of a Local Heritage Survey; and
 - (c) review and respond to current and emerging land use demand within the Shire, including the provision of appropriate zoning and development controls to support residential growth and industrial activity.

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

COUNCIL DECISION**Moved: Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos****Seconder: Cr RA Norrie**

That Council, pursuant to Regulation 68(3) of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*, recommend to the Western Australian Planning Commission that:

1. The Shire of Leonora Local Planning Strategy, endorsed by the Western Australian Planning Commission on 19 January 2021, is satisfactory and does not require amendment, as it is up-to-date, complies with the Act and Regulations, is consistent with the State planning framework, and implements the Shire's long-term planning directions; and
2. Local Planning Scheme No. 2, gazetted on 29 July 2021, be amended (to gazettal) within a period of three (3) years to:
 - (a) account for recent and current draft Local Planning Scheme Regulation changes, including the creation of State Planning Codes and Short-Term Rental Accommodation provisions;
 - (b) provide for the adoption of a Heritage List under Local Planning Scheme No. 2 following the completion and adoption of a Local Heritage Survey; and
 - (c) review and respond to current and emerging land use demand within the Shire, including the provision of appropriate zoning and development controls to support residential growth and industrial activity.

CARRIED (6 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr PJ Craig, Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor,
Cr TM Nardone, Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

10.0 REPORTS

10.3 MANAGER OF BUSINESS SERVICES

10.3.(A) MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - FEBRUARY 2026

SUBMISSION TO: Ordinary Council Meeting
Meeting Date: 17th March 2026

AGENDA REFERENCE: 10.3.(A) MAR 26

SUBJECT: Monthly Financial Statements - February 2026

LOCATION/ADDRESS: Nil

NAME OF APPLICANT: Nil

FILE REFERENCE: 1.6 Current Budget

AUTHOR, DISCLOSURE OF ANY INTEREST AND DATE OF REPORT

NAME: Kiara Lord

OFFICER: Executive Officer

INTEREST DISCLOSURE: Nil

DATE: 10th March 2026

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: 1. Financial Statements - February 2026

BACKGROUND

In complying with the Local Government *Financial Management Regulations 1996*, a monthly statement of financial activity must be submitted to an Ordinary Council meeting within 2 months after the end of the month to which the statement relates. The statement of financial activity is a complex document but gives a complete overview of the “cash” financial position as at the end of each month. The statement of financial activity for each month must be adopted by Council and form part of the minutes.

It is understood that parts of the statement of financial activity have been submitted to Ordinary Council meetings previously. In reviewing the Regulations, the complete statement of financial activity is to be submitted, along with the following reports that are not included in the statement.

Monthly Financial Statements for the month ended 28th February 2026 consisting of:

- (a) Compilation Report
- (b) Statement of Financial Activity – 28th February 2026
- (c) Material Variances – 28th February 2026

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Part 4 – Financial reports – s. 6.4

34. *Financial activity statement report – s. 6.4*

(1A) *In this regulation –*

committed assets means revenue unspent but set aside under the annual budget for a specific purpose.

34. (1) A local government is to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the revenue and expenditure, as set out in the annual budget under regulation 22(1)(d), for that month in the following detail —
- (a) annual budget estimates, taking into account any expenditure incurred for an additional purpose under section 6.8(1)(b) or (c);
 - (b) budget estimates to the end of the month to which the statement relates;
 - (c) actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income to the end of the month to which the statement relates;
 - (d) material variances between the comparable amounts referred to in paragraphs (b) and (c); and
 - (e) the net current assets at the end of the month to which the statement relates.
34. (2) Each statement of financial activity is to be accompanied by documents containing —
- (a) an explanation of the composition of the net current assets of the month to which the statement relates, less committed assets and restricted assets;
 - (b) an explanation of each of the material variances referred to in subregulation (1)(d); and
 - (c) such other supporting information as is considered relevant by the local government.
34. (3) The information in a statement of financial activity may be shown —
- (a) according to nature and type classification; or
 - (b) by program; or
 - (c) by business unit.
34. (4) A statement of financial activity, and the accompanying documents referred to in subregulation (2), are to be —
- (a) presented at an ordinary meeting of the council within 2 months after the end of the month to which the statement relates; and
 - (b) recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which it is presented.
34. (5) Each financial year, a local government is to adopt a percentage or value, calculated in accordance with the AAS, to be used in statements of financial activity for reporting material variances.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications resulting from the recommendation of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendation of this report.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

There are no strategic implications resulting from the recommendation of this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council accept the Monthly Financial Statements for the month ended 28th February 2026 consisting of:

- (a) Compilation Report
- (b) Statement of Financial Activity – 28th February 2026
- (c) Material Variances – 28th February 2026

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr AE Taylor

Seconder: Cr RA Norrie

That Council accept the Monthly Financial Statements for the month ended 28th February 2026 consisting of:

- (a) Compilation Report
- (b) Statement of Financial Activity – 28th February 2026
- (c) Material Variances – 28th February 2026

CARRIED (6 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr PJ Craig, Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor,
Cr TM Nardone, Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

Shire President, Cr PJ Craig adjourned the meeting at 10:25am.

At 11:00am Deputy Shire President, Cr RA Norrie took up the Chair in the absence of Cr PJ Craig from the chambers due to a delay in an urgent concurrent meeting. Cr RA Norrie reconvened the meeting.



12 March 2026

Mr Ty Matson
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Leonora
PO Box 56
LEONORA WA 6438

Moore Australia

Level 15, Exchange Tower,
2 The Esplanade, Perth, WA 6000
PO Box 5785, St Georges Terrace, WA
6831

T +61 8 9225 5355

F +61 8 9225 6181

www.moore-australia.com.au

Dear Ty

COMPILATION REPORT TO SHIRE OF LEONORA

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial report of Shire of Leonora which comprise the statement of financial position as at 28 February 2026, the statement of financial activity, notes providing statement of financial activity supporting information, explanation of material variances for the year then ended and a summary of material accounting policy information. These have been prepared in accordance with *Local Government Act 1995* and associated regulations as described in Note 1 to the financial report. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is also set out in Note 1 of the financial report. We have provided the supplementary information of Shire of Leonora as at 28 February 2026 and for the period then ended based on the records of the Shire of Leonora.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SHIRE OF LEONORA

The CEO of Shire of Leonora is solely responsible for information contained in the special purpose financial report and supplementary information, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that the financial report was prepared.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

On the basis of information provided by Shire of Leonora we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial report in accordance with the requirements of *APES 315 Compilation of Financial Information* and the *Local Government Act 1995*, associated regulations and to the extent that they are not inconsistent with the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Australian Accounting Standards.

We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the financial report except for the matters of non-compliance with the basis of preparation identified with Note 1 of the financial report. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.

Supplementary information attached to the financial report has been extracted from the records of Shire of Leonora and information presented in the special purpose financial report.

ASSURANCE DISCLAIMER

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, we are not required to verify the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided to us by management to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on these financial statements.

The special purpose financial report was compiled exclusively for the benefit of Shire of Leonora who are responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. Accordingly, the special purpose financial report may not be suitable for other purposes. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the special purpose financial report.

NOTE REGARDING BASIS OF PREPARATION

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report where matters of non-compliance with the basis of preparation have been detailed. Supplementary information is provided for management information purposes and does not comply with the disclosure requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards.

Russell Barnes
Director
Moore Australia (WA) Pty Ltd

Moore Australia (WA) Pty Ltd trading as agent – ABN 99 433 544 961.
An independent member of Moore Global Network Limited - members in principal cities throughout the world.
Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

SHIRE OF LEONORA
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT
(Containing the required statement of financial activity and statement of financial position)
For the period ended 28 February 2026

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995
LOCAL GOVERNMENT (FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT) REGULATIONS 1996

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Please refer to the compilation report

| 1

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026

SHIRE OF LEONORA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

Note	Amended Budget Estimates (a) \$	YTD Budget Estimates (b) \$	YTD Actual (c) \$	Variance* \$ (c) - (b) \$	Variance* % ((c) - (b))/(b) %	Var.
OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
Revenue from operating activities						
General rates	10,711,726	10,711,726	10,671,728	(39,998)	(0.37%)	▼
Rates excluding general rates	203,390	203,390	203,390	0	0.00%	
Grants, subsidies and contributions	3,308,160	2,538,773	1,985,242	(553,531)	(21.80%)	▼
Fees and charges	3,208,108	2,138,739	2,180,915	42,176	1.97%	▲
Interest revenue	160,000	106,667	45,872	(60,795)	(57.00%)	▼
Other revenue	130,000	86,667	79,891	(6,776)	(7.82%)	▼
Profit on asset disposals	101,961	0	0	0	0.00%	
	17,823,345	15,785,962	15,167,038	(618,924)	(3.92%)	
Expenditure from operating activities						
Employee costs	(5,108,109)	(3,405,406)	(3,252,161)	153,245	4.50%	▲
Materials and contracts	(7,612,245)	(5,074,830)	(4,621,345)	453,485	8.94%	▲
Utility charges	(334,900)	(223,267)	(357,125)	(133,858)	(59.95%)	▼
Depreciation	(4,468,779)	0	0	0	0.00%	
Insurance	(367,920)	(367,920)	(376,133)	(8,213)	(2.23%)	▼
Other expenditure	(302,735)	(201,823)	(54,946)	146,877	72.78%	▲
Loss on asset disposals	(94,101)	0	0	0	0.00%	
	(18,288,789)	(9,273,246)	(8,661,710)	611,536	6.59%	
Non cash amounts excluded from operating activities	2(c) 4,460,919	0	0	0	0.00%	
Amount attributable to operating activities	3,995,475	6,512,716	6,505,328	(7,388)	(0.11%)	
INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
Inflows from investing activities						
Proceeds from capital grants, subsidies and contributions	2,340,737	1,560,491	991,483	(569,008)	(36.46%)	▼
Proceeds from disposal of assets	614,000	0	0	0	0.00%	
	2,954,737	1,560,491	991,483	(569,008)	(36.46%)	
Outflows from investing activities						
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(2,659,047)	(268,177)	(499,611)	(231,435)	(86.30%)	▼
Acquisition of infrastructure	(4,222,464)	(1,991,987)	(1,835,406)	156,581	7.86%	▲
	(6,881,511)	(2,260,164)	(2,335,017)	(74,854)	(3.31%)	
Amount attributable to investing activities	(3,926,774)	(699,673)	(1,343,534)	(643,862)	(92.02%)	
FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
Inflows from financing activities						
Transfer from reserves	0	0	11	11	0.00%	
	0	0	11	11	0.00%	
Outflows from financing activities						
Transfer to reserves	(5,682,660)	0	(21,378)	(21,378)	0.00%	
	(5,682,660)	0	(21,378)	(21,378)	0.00%	
Amount attributable to financing activities	(5,682,660)	0	(21,367)	(21,367)	0.00%	
MOVEMENT IN SURPLUS OR DEFICIT						
Surplus or deficit at the start of the financial year	2(a) 5,513,959	5,513,959	5,063,023	(450,936)	(8.18%)	▼
Amount attributable to operating activities	3,995,475	6,512,716	6,505,328	(7,388)	(0.11%)	▼
Amount attributable to investing activities	(3,926,774)	(699,673)	(1,343,534)	(643,862)	(92.02%)	▼
Amount attributable to financing activities	(5,682,660)	0	(21,367)	(21,367)	0.00%	▼
Surplus or deficit after imposition of general rates	(100,000)	11,327,003	10,203,450	(1,123,553)	(9.92%)	▼

KEY INFORMATION

▲▼ Indicates a variance between Year to Date (YTD) Budget and YTD Actual data outside the adopted materiality threshold.

▲ Indicates a variance with a positive impact on the financial position.

▼ Indicates a variance with a negative impact on the financial position.

Refer to Note 3 for an explanation of the reasons for the variance.

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Please refer to the compilation report

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**SHIRE OF LEONORA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026**

	Actual 30 June 2025	Actual as at 28 February 2026
	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	12,597,480	15,997,055
Trade and other receivables	1,319,635	1,946,888
Inventories	75,684	73,789
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	13,992,799	18,017,732
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Other financial assets	59,715	59,715
Inventories	45,052	45,052
Property, plant and equipment Infrastructure	37,966,510	38,466,121
	101,674,032	103,509,438
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	139,745,309	142,080,326
TOTAL ASSETS	153,738,108	160,098,058
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	982,088	485,081
Contract liabilities	976,194	1,227,823
Capital grant/contributions liabilities	943,650	52,167
Employee related provisions	266,978	266,978
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	3,168,910	2,032,049
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Employee related provisions	142,881	142,881
Other provisions	2,040,102	2,040,102
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,182,983	2,182,983
TOTAL LIABILITIES	5,351,893	4,215,032
NET ASSETS	148,386,215	155,883,026
EQUITY		
Retained surplus	53,279,308	60,754,752
Reserve accounts	6,027,844	6,049,211
Revaluation surplus	89,079,063	89,079,063
TOTAL EQUITY	148,386,215	155,883,026

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

SHIRE OF LEONORA
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

1 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARATION

This prescribed financial report has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and accompanying regulations.

Local Government Act 1995 requirements

Section 6.4(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995* read with the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, prescribe that the financial report be prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and, to the extent that they are not inconsistent with the Act, the Australian Accounting Standards. The Australian Accounting Standards (as they apply to local governments and not-for-profit entities) and Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board were applied where no inconsistencies exist.

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* specify that vested land is a right-of-use asset to be measured at cost, and is considered a zero cost concessionary lease. All right-of-use assets under zero cost concessionary leases are measured at zero cost rather than at fair value, except for vested improvements on concessionary land leases such as roads, buildings or other infrastructure which continue to be reported at fair value, as opposed to the vested land which is measured at zero cost. The measurement of vested improvements at fair value is a departure from AASB 16 which would have required the Shire to measure any vested improvements at zero cost.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, regulation 34 prescribes contents of the financial report. Supplementary information does not form part of the financial report.

Accounting policies which have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise. Except for cash flow and rate setting information, the financial report has been prepared on the accrual basis and is based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and liabilities.

PREPARATION TIMING AND REVIEW

Date prepared: All known transactions up to 10 March 2026

Matters of non-compliance with Basis of Preparation

1. Depreciation has not been raised during the current financial year.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

All funds through which the Shire controls resources to carry on its functions have been included in the financial statements forming part of this financial report.

All monies held in the Trust Fund are excluded from the financial statements.

MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Material accounting policies utilised in the preparation of these statements are as described within the 2025-26 Annual Budget. Please refer to the adopted budget document for details of these policies.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of a financial report in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that effect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses.

The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors believed to be reasonable under the circumstances; the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

As with all estimates, the use of different assumptions could lead to material changes in the amounts reported in the financial report.

The following are estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year and further information on their nature and impact can be found in the relevant note:

- Fair value measurement of assets carried at reportable value including:
 - Property, plant and equipment
 - Infrastructure
- Impairment losses of non-financial assets
- Expected credit losses on financial assets
- Measurement of employee benefits
- Measurement of provisions

Please refer to the compilation report

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SHIRE OF LEONORA
 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
 FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

2 NET CURRENT ASSETS INFORMATION

	Amended Budget Opening 1 July 2025	Actual as at 30 June 2025	Actual as at 28 February 2026
(a) Net current assets used in the Statement of Financial Activity			
Current assets	\$	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	12,597,480	12,597,480	15,997,055
Trade and other receivables	967,513	1,319,635	1,946,888
Inventories	173,216	75,684	73,789
	<u>13,738,209</u>	<u>13,992,799</u>	<u>18,017,732</u>
Less: current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	(191,367)	(982,088)	(485,081)
Other liabilities	(2,005,039)	(1,919,844)	(1,279,990)
Employee related provisions	(223,961)	(266,978)	(266,978)
	<u>(2,420,367)</u>	<u>(3,168,910)</u>	<u>(2,032,049)</u>
Net current assets	11,317,842	10,823,889	15,985,683
Less: Total adjustments to net current assets	2(b) (5,803,883)	(5,760,866)	(5,782,233)
Closing funding surplus / (deficit)	5,513,959	5,063,023	10,203,450
(b) Current assets and liabilities excluded from budgeted deficiency			
Adjustments to net current assets			
Less: Reserve accounts	(6,027,844)	(6,027,844)	(6,049,211)
Add: Current liabilities not expected to be cleared at the end of the year - Current portion of employee benefit provisions held in reserve	223,961	266,978	266,978
Total adjustments to net current assets	2(a) (5,803,883)	(5,760,866)	(5,782,233)
(c) Non-cash amounts excluded from operating activities			
Adjustments to operating activities			
Less: Profit on asset disposals	(101,961)	0	0
Add: Loss on asset disposals	94,101	0	0
Add: Depreciation	4,468,779	0	0
Total non-cash amounts excluded from operating activities	4,460,919	0	0

CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT CLASSIFICATION

In the determination of whether an asset or liability is current or non-current, consideration is given to the time when each asset or liability is expected to be settled. Unless otherwise stated assets or liabilities are classified as current if expected to be settled within the next 12 months, being the local governments' operational cycle.

SHIRE OF LEONORA
 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
 FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

3 EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL VARIANCES

The material variance thresholds are adopted annually by Council as an indicator of whether the actual expenditure or revenue varies from the year to date actual materially.

The material variance adopted by Council for the 2025-26 year is \$30,000 or 10.00% whichever is the greater.

Description	Var. \$	Var. %
	\$	%
Revenue from operating activities		
General rates Timing of interim rates to be raised, there is a delay in mining tenement schedules to be received.	(39,998)	(0.37%) ▼
Grants, subsidies and contributions Grants for the annual budget profiled at 8/12th. YTD budget includes amounts from grants received but held as a contract liability such as Community led job support and Local partners. There has been more received from the MRWA grant and Financial Assistance grant than budgeted.	(553,531)	(21.80%) ▼
Fees and charges Annual budget profiled at 8/12th. Actual revenue received is higher than YTD budget.	42,176	1.97% ▲
Interest revenue Annual budget profiled at 8/12th. Timing of actual interest received is lower than expected.	(60,795)	(57.00%) ▼
Expenditure from operating activities		
Employee costs Some employment positions are vacant.	153,245	4.50% ▲
Materials and contracts Budget profiled at 8/12th. Maintenance costs for roads and facilities has not occurred on this basis.	453,485	8.94% ▲
Utility charges Annual budget profiled at 8/12th. Actual expenditure is higher than adopted budget.	(133,858)	(59.95%) ▼
Other expenditure Annual budget profiled at 8/12th. YTD budget includes amounts expensed for elected members and golden gift donations which have not occurred.	146,877	72.78% ▲
Inflows from investing activities		
Proceeds from capital grants, subsidies and contributions Timing of the budgeted grant income to be received does not match the actual amounts received. YTD budget includes amounts from capital grants not received such as Regional Road Group and EV Fast charges	(569,008)	(36.46%) ▼
Outflows from investing activities		
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment Capital works budget has not been allocated to months.	(231,435)	(86.30%) ▼
Acquisition of infrastructure Capital works budget has not been allocated to months.	156,581	7.86% ▲
Surplus or deficit at the start of the financial year Refer to note 2(a) for detail of differences.	(450,936)	(8.18%) ▼
Surplus or deficit after imposition of general rates Due to variances described above.	(1,123,553)	(9.92%) ▼

Please refer to the compilation report

| 6

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

10.0 REPORTS**10.3 MANAGER OF BUSINESS SERVICES****10.3.(B) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT FEBRUARY - MARCH 2026**

SUBMISSION TO: Ordinary Council Meeting
Meeting Date: 17th March 2026

AGENDA REFERENCE: 10.3.(B) MAR 26

SUBJECT: Accounts for Payment February - March 2026

LOCATION/ADDRESS: Nil

NAME OF APPLICANT: Nil

FILE REFERENCE: 1.8 Financial Statements

AUTHOR, DISCLOSURE OF ANY INTEREST AND DATE OF REPORT

NAME: Kiara Lord

OFFICER: Manager Business Services

INTEREST DISCLOSURE: Nil

DATE: 10th March 2026

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Credit Cards - Feb 2026
2. Accounts for Payment - MAR 26

BACKGROUND

Attached statements consist of accounts paid by Delegated Authority totalling **\$1,508,036.90** since the previous council meeting consisting of:

- (1) Credit Card Transactions February 2026 totalling **\$15,897.44**;
- (2) Direct Bank Transactions totalling **\$66,267.09**;
- (3) Batch Payments totalling **\$1,082,397.83**; and
- (4) Payroll Payments from **Pay Periods Ending 16/02/2026 and 02/03/2026** totalling **\$343,474.54**

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995 S6.10 & Financial Management (1996) Regulation 12 & 13 apply to how the information is to be presented within this report for authorisation by Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications resulting from the recommendation of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendation of this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

There are no strategic implications resulting from the recommendation of this report.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council accepts the accounts for payment, as detailed:

- (1) Credit Card Transactions February 2026 totalling **\$15,897.44;**
- (2) Direct Bank Transactions totalling **\$66,267.09;**
- (3) Batch Payments totalling **\$1,082,397.83;** and
- (4) Payroll Payments from **Pay Periods Ending 16/02/2026 and 02/03/2026** totalling **\$343,474.54**

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr CA Cotterill

Seconded: Cr TM Nardone

That Council accepts the accounts for payment, as detailed:

- (1) Credit Card Transactions February 2026 totalling **\$15,897.44;**
- (2) Direct Bank Transactions totalling **\$66,267.09;**
- (3) Batch Payments totalling **\$1,082,397.83;** and
- (4) Payroll Payments from **Pay Periods Ending 16/02/2026 and 02/03/2026** totalling **\$343,474.54**

CARRIED (5 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor, Cr TM Nardone,
Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

Signed:

21 APRIL 2026

President: _____

17 MARCH 2026

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Credit Card Charges Card 5772 - 02 2026 - CEO

Date	Supplier	Description	GL	Job No	Task	DEP	PRO	ACT	LOC	Total	GST
2/02/2026	DMIRS	Tenement Application & Rent	22101			2400	1060	0135	B1040	1,287.30	Yes
2/02/2026	Bunnings	Reticulation Supplies	22313			2100	0910	0286	H1011	217.43	Yes
2/02/2026	DMIRS	Tenement Application & Rent	22101			2400	1060	0135	B1040	2,432.70	Yes
3/02/2026	BP	Fuel for P1	23301			4200	1440	0203	P1009	68.00	Yes
3/02/2026	Planning Institute	Rural, Regional & Remote Conference	21301			2100	1450	0122	B1003	1,160.00	Yes
10/02/2026	Starlink	Internet youth	23505			3900	0830	0109	B1028	56.42	Yes
11/02/2026	Butson Group Pty Ltd	Consultants Lunch	22101			2400	1060	0144	B1003	92.00	Yes
27/02/2026	NAB	Card fee	22519			2100	1450	0144	B1003	9.00	No
27/02/2026	Starlink	CEO Internet	23505			2100	0910	0109	H1011	219.00	Yes
27/02/2026	IPEWA	Asset Management training	21302			2100	1450	0122	B1003	2,172.50	Yes
			Total							7,714.35	

Employee Declaration

I Declare that the above changes are a true and correct record in accordance with company policy

CEO Signature: _____

MBS Signature: _____

Signed:

21 APRIL 2026

President: _____

17 MARCH 2026

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

9/03/2026 Credit Card Charges Card 5772 - 02 2026 - CRC

Date	Supplier	Description	GL	Job No	Task	DEP	PRO	ACT	LOC	Total	GST
27/02/2026	NAB	Card fee	22519			2100	1450	0144	B1003	9.00	No
			Total							9.00	

Employee Declaration

I Declare that the above changes are a true and correct record in accordance with company policy

CEO Signature: _____

MCS Signature: _____

Signed:

21 APRIL 2026

President: _____

17 MARCH 2026

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

9/03/2026 Credit Card Charges Card 5772 - 02 2026 - MBS

Date	Supplier	Description	GL	Job No	Task	DEP	PRO	ACT	LOC	Total	GST
16/02/2026	Microsoft	Office 365 emails - Councillors	23504			1600	0410	0144	B1003	831.60	Yes
18/02/2026	Microsoft	Office 365 Subscriptions - Shire Emails	23504			2100	1450	0144	B1003	1,330.18	Yes
23/02/2026	Australia Post	Annual post box fees	22522			2100	1450	0135	B1003	209.00	Yes
23/02/2026	Path Builder	Recreation Allowance - MBS	20504			2100	1450	0101	B1003	9.97	No
27/02/2026	NAB	Card fee	22519			2100	1450	0144	B1003	9.00	No
			Total							2,389.75	

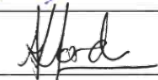
Employee Declaration

I Declare that the above changes are a true and correct record in accordance with company policy

CEO Signature: _____



MBS Signature: _____



Signed:

21 APRIL 2026

President: _____

17 MARCH 2026

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

9/03/2026 Credit Card Charges Card 5772 - 02 2026 - MWS

Date	Supplier	Description	GL	Job No	Task	DEP	PRO	ACT	LOC	Total	GST
6/02/2026	Ampol Kalgoorlie	Fuel for return trip to Leonora	23301			4200	1440	0203	P1034	99.75	Yes
6/02/2026	Reece Plumbing	Sprinkler retic pop up	22307			4300	1220	0509	PG1002	705.84	Yes
9/02/2026	Supercheap Auto	Jerry can (two stroke)	22311			4300	1440	0201	B1008	36.88	Yes
9/02/2026	Supercheap Auto	two stroke oil and Jerry can	22311			4300	1440	0203	B1008	149.94	Yes
9/02/2026	Bunnings Kalgoorlie	Various irrigation supplies	22307			4300	1220	0509	PG1002	632.95	Yes
16/02/2026	Bunnings Kalgoorlie	Retic Airport	22307			4500	1260	0286	B1004	1,286.03	Yes
16/02/2026	Bunnings Kalgoorlie	Building supplies	22305			4600	1070	0260	B1011	224.66	Yes
26/02/2026	Outcamp	Starlink mount & lead	22305			4200	1220	0201	B1008	335.00	Yes
27/02/2026	NAB	Card fee	22519			2100	1450	0144	C198	9.00	No
			Total							3,480.05	

Employee Declaration

I Declare that the above changes are a true and correct record in accordance with company policy

CEO Signature: _____



MWS Signature: _____





**Accounts for Payment
Presented to Council
17th March 2026**

Accounts for Payment - March 2026

Shire of Leonora					
Monthly Report – List of Direct Bank Transactions Paid by Delegated Authority					
Submitted to Council on the 17th March 2026					
The following list of accounts relate to Direct Bank Transactions paid under delegation by the Chief Executive Officer, since the previous list of accounts. Transactions are dated from 2nd February 2026 to 27th February 2026 and total \$66,267.09					
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER					
Date	Transaction	Name	Item	Payment by Delegated Authority	Balance
02/02/2026	BR00203	Avdam	FDMSA Fee - January 2026	\$32.91	32.91
02/02/2026	BR00204	Alex Taylor	23 Queen Victoria Rent - February 2026	\$2,166.67	2,199.58
02/02/2026	DD31	National Australia Bank	Credit card transactions January 2026	\$7,184.19	9,383.77
04/02/2026	DD32	Click Super	Superannuation PPE020226	\$26,053.56	35,437.33
05/02/2026	BR00205	Quest	Quest Merchant Fees -January 2026	\$11.00	35,448.33
13/02/2026	BR00206	3E Advantage	Monthly Photocopier Fees - January 2026	\$3,638.61	39,086.94
18/02/2026	BR00207	Click Super	Monthly Click Super Fees -January 2026	\$25.63	39,112.57
18/02/2026	DD34	Click Super	Superannuation PPE160226	\$26,251.66	65,364.23
27/02/2026	BR00208	National Australia Bank	Monthly Account Keeping Fees - February 2026	\$13.00	65,377.23
27/02/2026	BR00209	National Australia Bank	Monthly Merchant Fees February 2026 - Rec	\$25.00	65,402.23
27/02/2026	BR00210	National Australia Bank	Monthly Merchant Fees February 2026 - Depot/Events	\$25.00	65,427.23
27/02/2026	BR00211	National Australia Bank	Monthly Merchant Fees February 2026 - Airport	\$25.00	65,452.23
27/02/2026	BR00212	National Australia Bank	Monthly Merchant Fees February 2026 - CRC	\$26.51	65,478.74
27/02/2026	BR00213	National Australia Bank	Monthly Merchant Fees February 2026 - Info	\$29.79	65,508.53
27/02/2026	BR00214	National Australia Bank	Monthly Merchant Fees February 2026 - Admin/Museum	\$758.56	66,267.09
GRAND TOTAL				\$66,267.09	

Accounts for Payment - March 2026

Shire of Leonora							
Monthly Report – List of Accounts Paid by Delegated Authority							
Submitted to Council on the 17th March 2026							
<p>Batch Payments totalling \$1,082,397.83 have been paid by delegated authority by the Chief Executive Officer and has been checked and are fully supported by remittances and duly certified invoices with checks being carried out as to prices, computations and costing. Bank Details are reconciled against those invoices by two officers.</p>							
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER							
Batch Ref	ID	Date	Name	Item	Payment by delegated Authority	Balance	
EFT00036	001	30/01/2026	Kalgoorlie Retravision	ARO ipad and accessories	\$1,038.00	1,038.00	
EFT00036	002	30/01/2026	Talis	Talis consultants - Report Road additions	\$753.50	1,791.50	
EFT00036	003	30/01/2026	Bidfood Kalgoorlie	Catering and consumables for Hoover House	\$601.53	2,393.03	
EFT00036	004	30/01/2026	Fiona Sturges	Reimbursement for depot supplies	\$370.36	2,763.39	
EFT00036	005	30/01/2026	Water Corporation	Water and supply charges shire buildings	\$85,752.18	88,515.57	
EFT00036	006	30/01/2026	Kennedys (Australia)	Professional charges for AHRC	\$2,333.34	90,848.91	
EFT00036	007	30/01/2026	GTN Services	Fleet servicing and repairs	\$1,589.86	92,438.77	
EFT00036	008	30/01/2026	PWT Electrical Pty Ltd	Electrical work for shire facilities	\$6,432.53	98,871.30	
EFT00036	009	30/01/2026	BOC Limited	Gas cylinders for depot	\$145.85	99,017.15	
EFT00036	010	30/01/2026	Netlogic Information Technology	Computer consultation and subscriptions as requested	\$2,188.51	101,205.66	
EFT00036	011	30/01/2026	Angela Sutherland	Face painting for Australia Day	\$3,261.83	104,467.49	
EFT00036	012	30/01/2026	Bookeasy Australia Pty Ltd	Monthly Room Manager fee	\$84.70	104,552.19	
EFT00036	013	30/01/2026	PFD Food Services Pty Ltd	Catering and consumables for Hoover House	\$2,457.85	107,010.04	
EFT00036	014	30/01/2026	Lo-Go Appointments	Placement of Finance Officer A Ritchie	\$5,776.45	112,786.49	
EFT00036	015	30/01/2026	Pink Sugar Crafts	Craft class for Australia Day and Fairy Floss	\$5,112.00	117,898.49	
EFT00036	016	30/01/2026	Bracklemann Deli	Food truck for Australia Day	\$4,821.00	122,719.49	
EFT00036	017	30/01/2026	Air Liquide W.A. Ltd	Monthly container fees for medical centre	\$26.06	122,745.55	
EFT00036	018	30/01/2026	Bunnings Building Supplies Pty Ltd	Cleaning supplies for Hoover House	\$160.74	122,906.29	
EFT00036	019	30/01/2026	Harvey Norman Av/IT Kalgoorlie	Appliances for depot and Hoover House	\$1,839.95	124,746.24	
EFT00036	020	30/01/2026	Alita Ritchie	Reimbursement for meal expenses	\$46.06	124,792.30	
EFT00036	021	30/01/2026	Kevis Water Cartage	Dry Hire Wheel Water Cart - 19/01/26 - 25/01/26	\$3,850.00	128,642.30	
EFT00036	022	30/01/2026	Hersey's Safety Pty Ltd	Depot staff uniform	\$467.50	129,109.80	
EFT00036	023	30/01/2026	Council First Pty Ltd	Recordkeeping Plan - Draft Documents	\$11,274.95	140,384.75	
EFT00036	024	30/01/2026	Luck Thai Cleaning	Fortnightly cleaning of Shire building minus 15% ATO	\$7,232.23	147,616.98	
EFT00036	025	30/01/2026	ATO - Netlogic	15% ATO payment	\$386.21	148,003.19	
EFT00036	026	30/01/2026	Tyrepower	Wheel alignment for depot vehicle	\$190.00	148,193.19	
EFT00036	027	30/01/2026	Bluepen Collective Pty Ltd	Provision of Project Management- AGRN, RFT/RFQ	\$20,498.73	168,691.92	
EFT00036	028	30/01/2026	Pier Street Medical	Pre-employment medical - Depot Staff	\$392.00	169,083.92	

Accounts for Payment - March 2026

Batch Ref	ID	Date	Name	Item	Payment by delegated Authority	Balance
EFT00036	029	30/01/2026	Executive Media Pty Ltd	Advertising Gwalia in Caravanning Australia Autumn 2026	\$1,500.00	170,583.92
EFT00036	030	30/01/2026	E. Fire and Safety	Fire equipment servicing	\$2,550.35	173,134.27
EFT00037	031	13/02/2026	Vanguard Print	Vanguard Print	\$285.26	173,419.53
EFT00037	032	13/02/2026	ATO Luck Thai	15% ATO payment	\$1,276.28	174,695.81
EFT00037	033	13/02/2026	Bookeasy Australia Pty Ltd	Monthly Room Manager subscription	\$84.70	174,780.51
EFT00037	034	13/02/2026	Hames Sharley	Support for Town Planning Scheme and Strategic Planning	\$5,995.57	180,776.08
EFT00037	035	13/02/2026	Bunnings Building Supplies Pty Ltd	Supplies for pools, Hoover House and depot	\$1,985.34	182,761.42
EFT00037	036	13/02/2026	Combined Tyres	Tyres for P2515	\$16,654.00	199,415.42
EFT00037	037	13/02/2026	Office National Kalgoorlie	Office supplies and printer repairs	\$2,526.27	201,941.69
EFT00037	038	13/02/2026	Leonora Motel Pty Ltd	Accommodation - Late cancellation	\$175.00	202,116.69
EFT00037	039	13/02/2026	Nomad Plumbing	Repairs for staff housing, truck stop toilets and depot	\$3,054.48	205,171.17
EFT00037	040	13/02/2026	Canine Control	Ranger services 5th-7th January	\$4,670.20	209,841.37
EFT00037	041	13/02/2026	Altus Planning	Town Planning services	\$1,897.50	211,738.87
EFT00037	042	13/02/2026	Kalgoorlie Retravision	Equipment for library and LELC	\$176.00	211,914.87
EFT00037	043	13/02/2026	Eagle Petroleum (WA) Pty Ltd	Plant oils and Shell card transactions December '25 and January '26	\$2,206.60	214,121.47
EFT00037	044	13/02/2026	Seven Network Operations Ltd	Advertising Gwalia on 7 network	\$1,100.00	215,221.47
EFT00037	045	13/02/2026	GTN Services	Plant servicing and repairs	\$2,444.29	217,665.76
EFT00037	046	13/02/2026	Northern Goldfields Earthmoving Pty Ltd	Shire maintenance grading - January 2026	\$71,280.49	288,946.25
EFT00037	047	13/02/2026	Transaction Network Services	AVGAS transaction fees	\$68.42	289,014.67
EFT00037	048	13/02/2026	Horizon Power	Power and supply charges - Streetlights	\$6,920.04	295,934.71
EFT00037	049	13/02/2026	Catalytic IT	Tender scope documents - IT Services	\$4,719.00	300,653.71
EFT00037	050	13/02/2026	Kalgoorlie	Appliances for staff housing	\$198.00	300,851.71
EFT00037	051	13/02/2026	Xstra Group Pty Ltd	Monthly CRC PAXX hosting	\$500.53	301,352.24
EFT00037	052	13/02/2026	PWT Electrical Pty Ltd	Electrical work at cafe, youth centre and depot	\$4,175.77	305,528.01
EFT00037	053	13/02/2026	PFD Food Services Pty Ltd	Catering and consumables for Hoover House	\$1,327.50	306,855.51
EFT00037	054	13/02/2026	Team Global Express Pty Ltd	Freight for depot and rec centre	\$4,111.02	310,966.53
EFT00037	055	13/02/2026	Broca Contracting	Kerb removal in preparation for new kerbing	\$46,816.00	357,782.53
EFT00037	056	13/02/2026	KB Security Group	Alarm monitoring and repairs to security system after storms and break ins	\$12,336.50	370,119.03
EFT00037	057	13/02/2026	Bidfood Kalgoorlie	Catering and consumables for Hoover House	\$647.72	370,766.75
EFT00037	058	13/02/2026	Hersey's Safety Pty Ltd	Embroidery for depot staff bags	\$126.50	370,893.25
EFT00037	059	13/02/2026	MetroCount	Supplies for road counter	\$1,148.40	372,041.65
EFT00037	060	13/02/2026	Haulmore Trailer Sales Pty Ltd	New Water Tanker	\$171,223.00	543,264.65
EFT00037	061	13/02/2026	The Runner's Tribe	50% payment for athlete management GG '26	\$12,500.00	555,764.65
EFT00037	062	13/02/2026	Makers Tribe Studio	Art workshops December 2025	\$3,200.00	558,964.65
EFT00037	063	13/02/2026	Motor Pass	Motor Pass card transactions January 2026	\$2,129.50	561,094.15

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026

Accounts for Payment - March 2026

Batch Ref	ID	Date	Name	Item	Payment by delegated Authority	Balance
EFT00037	064	13/02/2026	Western Australian Electoral Commission	Local Government Elections - Support fees	\$3,868.06	564,962.21
EFT00037	065	13/02/2026	Air Liquide W.A. Ltd	Monthly container fee for medical centre	\$26.06	564,988.27
EFT00037	066	13/02/2026	Lo-Go Appointments	Placement of Finance Officer A.Ritchie	\$3,874.86	568,863.13
EFT00037	067	13/02/2026	Europcar WA	Bluepen Consultants - Vehicle Booking	\$1,478.36	570,341.49
EFT00037	068	13/02/2026	Tyrepower	Tow bar for Museum vehicle	\$1,941.00	572,282.49
EFT00037	069	13/02/2026	AFGRI Equipment Australia Pty Ltd	Loader parts and freight	\$734.29	573,016.78
EFT00037	070	13/02/2026	Terry Sargent	EHO onsite services February 2026	\$10,596.00	583,612.78
EFT00038	071	27/02/2026	Helen Smith	Additional Ranger visit Week of 02/02/2026	\$4,543.00	588,155.78
EFT00038	072	27/02/2026	Telstra	Camping requisites	\$210.00	588,365.78
EFT00038	073	27/02/2026	Hersey's Safety Pty Ltd	Depot supplies	\$284.53	588,650.31
EFT00038	074	27/02/2026	Creative Spaces	Replacement of storm damaged interpretative panels	\$6,616.01	595,266.32
EFT00038	075	27/02/2026	Major Motors Pty Ltd.	Parts and repairs for Isuzu tip truck	\$84.06	595,350.38
EFT00038	076	27/02/2026	Earth Australia Contracting Pty Ltd	BBQ gas bottles for shire facilities	\$220.00	595,570.38
EFT00038	077	27/02/2026	Modern Teaching Aids Pty Ltd	Activity supplies for LELC	\$15.95	595,586.33
EFT00038	078	27/02/2026	Pier Street Medical	Staff medicals.	\$597.00	596,183.33
EFT00038	079	27/02/2026	Leonora Village.	Accommodation	\$175.00	596,358.33
EFT00038	080	27/02/2026	Nomad Plumbing	Plumbing work throughout shire facilities	\$26,237.85	622,596.18
EFT00038	081	27/02/2026	KleenWest	Cleaning supplies	\$737.99	623,334.17
EFT00038	082	27/02/2026	Lo-Go Appointments	Finance Office A. Ritchie	\$10,645.68	633,979.85
EFT00038	083	27/02/2026	Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd	Road repairs supplies	\$1,900.80	635,880.65
EFT00038	084	27/02/2026	Bidfood Kalgoorlie	Catering and consumables for Hoover House	\$392.69	636,273.34
EFT00038	085	27/02/2026	GTN Services	Services of fleet vehicles	\$1,225.30	637,498.64
EFT00038	086	27/02/2026	Elite Gym Hire	Gym equipment hire	\$2,302.51	639,801.15
EFT00038	087	27/02/2026	Office National Kalgoorlie	Stationery supplies for depot, CRC, admin	\$1,133.32	640,934.47
EFT00038	088	27/02/2026	Harvey Norman Bedding Kalgoorlie	Furniture for shire housing	\$10,035.00	650,969.47
EFT00038	089	27/02/2026	Eagle Petroleum (WA) Pty Ltd	Oils for equipment	\$258.50	651,227.97
EFT00038	090	27/02/2026	Queen Bees Coffee	Coffee Van for CRC event	\$1,000.00	652,227.97
EFT00038	091	27/02/2026	Department of Fire and Emergency Services	ESL Quarter 3 payment	\$55,372.61	707,600.58
EFT00038	092	27/02/2026	West Oz Linemarking Pty Ltd	Line marking of shire streets	\$27,611.10	735,211.68
EFT00038	093	27/02/2026	Goldfields Mining Supplies	Pipe fitting for little water truck	\$49.37	735,261.05
EFT00038	094	27/02/2026	PFD Food Services Pty Ltd	Catering and consumables for Hoover House	\$1,764.65	737,025.70
EFT00038	095	27/02/2026	Northern Goldfields Electrical Pty Ltd	Electrical work at shire facilities	\$3,150.40	740,176.10
EFT00038	096	27/02/2026	Regional Airport Management Services Pty	survey for OLS airport/crane lift	\$1,200.00	741,376.10
EFT00038	097	27/02/2026	Rob The Door Guy	New Door for Library	\$3,025.00	744,401.10
EFT00038	098	27/02/2026	Spectrum Picture Framing	Printing and framing of maps	\$2,586.00	746,987.10
EFT00038	099	27/02/2026	Kevids Water Cartage	Dry hire of water cart for bypass road	\$18,642.80	765,629.90

Accounts for Payment - March 2026

Batch Ref	ID	Date	Name	Item	Payment by delegated Authority	Balance
EFT00038	100	27/02/2026	Team Global Express Pty Ltd	Freight for admin and depot	\$383.20	766,013.10
EFT00038	101	27/02/2026	BOC Limited	Gas cylinder fees for depot and medical centre	\$133.29	766,146.39
EFT00038	102	27/02/2026	Heatley's Sales Pty Ltd	Safety cabinet for Fuel storage	\$2,115.03	768,261.42
EFT00038	103	27/02/2026	Nick Gahan	Reimbursement for safety goggles	\$518.00	768,779.42
EFT00038	104	27/02/2026	Council First Pty Ltd	Professional services and Microsoft azure subscriptions	\$1,276.59	770,056.01
EFT00038	105	27/02/2026	Netlogic Information Technology	Computer consulting, server monitoring and monthly subscriptions	\$2,549.16	772,605.17
EFT00038	106	27/02/2026	Luck Thai Cleaning	Cleaning of shire facilities	\$19,569.56	792,174.73
EFT00038	107	27/02/2026	EV Charging Systems	EV Charging Systems	\$88,516.11	880,690.84
EFT00038	108	27/02/2026	Maintenance	Maintenance to airport runway	\$9,814.20	890,505.04
EFT00038	109	27/02/2026	PWT Electrical Pty Ltd	Electrical work at Mumma Sam's Cafe	\$2,938.67	893,443.71
EFT00038	110	27/02/2026	Teletrac Navman	Monthly vehicle tracking	\$2,225.30	895,669.01
EFT00038	111	27/02/2026	Butsons Building Service	Accommodation for K.Mills	\$660.00	896,329.01
EFT00038	112	27/02/2026	ALU Glass	ALU Glass Alugard Mess and Repair glass to Masic Hall	\$5,379.99	901,709.00
EFT00038	113	27/02/2026	Hames Sharley	Assistance with Town Planning	\$2,505.27	904,214.27
EFT00038	114	27/02/2026	Bluepen Collective Pty Ltd	Project management services - RFT, RFQ and Roads	\$32,764.58	936,978.85
EFT00038	115	27/02/2026	Wrangler Stockyards and Trailer Pty Ltd	Deposit for depot trailers	\$15,633.42	952,612.27
EFT00038	116	27/02/2026	Whelans Group	Assistance with bypass road	\$9,196.00	961,808.27
EFT00038	117	27/02/2026	LGISWA	Employee Assistance Program	\$1,354.10	963,162.37
EFT00038	118	27/02/2026	Leonora Motel Pty Ltd	Accommodation for CRC class instructors	\$505.00	963,667.37
EFT00038	119	27/02/2026	Smartsheet Inc	Smartsheet Subscription	\$4,950.00	968,617.37
EFT00038	120	27/02/2026	LPD Surveys	Creation of easement for transformer	\$8,192.25	976,809.62
EFT00038	121	27/02/2026	Leonora Post Office	Freight for admin	\$649.21	977,458.83
EFT00038	122	27/02/2026	Blue Diamond Machinery Pty Ltd	Genset parts and freight	\$497.20	977,956.03
EFT00038	123	27/02/2026	Goldfields Controlled Waste.	Disposal of oil	\$3,300.00	981,256.03
EFT00038	124	27/02/2026	Komatsu Australia Pty Ltd	Purchase of Excavator	\$100,573.00	1,081,829.03
EFT00038	125	27/02/2026	Bunnings Building Supplies Pty Ltd	Quick set concrete for depot	\$568.80	1,082,397.83
GRAND TOTAL					\$1,082,397.83	

Accounts for Payment - March 2026

Shire of Leonora					
Monthly Report – List of Accounts Paid by Delegated Authority					
Submitted to Council on the 17th March 2026					
The following list of accounts has been paid under delegation by the Chief Executive Officer, since the previous list of accounts. Transactions contain Wages & Payroll Liability payments since the previous list of accounts paid by Delegated Authority totalling \$343,474.54					
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER					
Cheque	Date	Name	Item	Payment by Delegated Authority	Balance
PJ000040	17/02/2026	Shire of Leonora - Wages	Salaries & Wages PPE160226	\$124,318.53	124,318.53
PJ000041	23/02/2026	Shire of Leonora	Pay Liabilities - 16/02/2026	\$46,484.13	170,802.66
PJ000042	3/03/2026	Shire of Leonora - Wages	Salaries & Wages PPE020326	\$126,269.75	297,072.41
PJ000043	4/03/2026	Shire of Leonora	Pay Liabilities - 02/03/2026	\$46,402.13	343,474.54
GRAND TOTAL				\$343,474.54	

17th February 2026

10.0 REPORTS

10.3 MANAGER OF BUSINESS SERVICES

10.3.(C) 2025/26 MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW

SUBMISSION TO: Ordinary Council Meeting
Meeting Date: 17th March 2026

AGENDA REFERENCE: 10.3.(C) MAR 26

SUBJECT: 2025/26 Mid-Year Budget Review

LOCATION/ADDRESS: Leonora

NAME OF APPLICANT: Shire of Leonora

FILE REFERENCE: 1.6

AUTHOR, DISCLOSURE OF ANY INTEREST AND DATE OF REPORT

NAME: Kiara Lord

OFFICER: Manager Business Services

INTEREST DISCLOSURE: Nil

DATE: 10th March 2026

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: 1. 2024-25 Mid-Year Budget Review

PURPOSE

To consider the Shire of Leonora's financial position as at 31 January 2026 and performance for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025 in relation to the adopted annual budget and projections estimated for the remainder of the financial year.

BACKGROUND

The budget review has been prepared to include information required by the *Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* and Australian Accounting Standards. The report for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 January 2026 shown in the attachment has been prepared incorporating year to date budget variations and forecasts to 30 June 2026 and is presented for council's consideration.

Consideration of the status of various projects and programs was undertaken to ensure any anticipated variances were captured within the review document where possible.

The material variance levels which have been reported for the budget review, have utilised the same materiality levels as monthly reporting to determine the extent of explanation / are based on a materiality level of \$15,000 or 8% implemented for the purpose of the budget review) / are based upon management judgement where explanations are considered appropriate.

COMMENT

The budget review report includes at Note 4 a summary of predicted variances contained within the Statement of Financial Activity, including whether variances are considered to be permanent (where a difference is likely between the current budget and the expected outcome to 30 June) or due to timing (e.g. where a project is likely to be delayed).

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026

Description	Change
Revenue from Operating Activities	
Rates Excluding General Rates Interim mining tenement schedules	\$22,000
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions Reallocation of Safe House from capital to operating. Increase budget for the Financial Assistance Grants funding received to agree with the schedule. Reallocation of Genesis Minerals infrastructure upgrade funding from operating to capital. Decrease to the Childcare Sustainability DSS funding as will not be receiving until 26/27.	(\$325,814)
Fees and Charges Increase budgets for the rentals, standpipe water, building licence & town planning fees, avgas at the airport and catering at Hoover House. Decrease in budget for the bulk refuse disposal, Hoover House merchandise, rates instalment fees and the disposal of tyre waste.	(\$6,880)
Interest Revenue Interest earnings weren't as high as projected.	(\$60,000)
Other Revenue Budget for other reimbursements category reduced.	(\$15,000)
Profit on Asset Disposals Disposal of plant as per the replacement program and other older surplus plant stock items.	\$109,670
Expenditure from Operating Activities	
Employee Costs Increase budget for FBT, allowances, employee consumables and clothing.	(\$161,768)
Materials and Contracts Decrease to the ICT budget, vehicle & plant repairs maintenance, council subscriptions, WHS, commercial refuse collection, publications, postage & freight, merchant fees, facilities maintenance, accommodation, Heritage buildings maintenance and consultants. Increase budget for the phone & internet facilities, IT operational, archival record keeping, Safer Leonora Plan, traffic signs, photocopier, nurse incentive program, community projects, pest & weed control, Hoover House catering, shire housing, roads maintenance, parks & gardens, cleaning facilities.	(\$706,799)
Utility Charges Increase budget for the standpipe, parks and gardens, housing and public facilities.	(\$302,723)
Insurance New insurance policy for employee continuance. Reallocated some of the budget for motor vehicles into materials and contracts.	(\$11,936)
Other Expenditure Reduction in refunds expenditure budget. Small increase to the elected member sitting fees as per YTD actual. Reallocation of Genesis Minerals infrastructure upgrade funding from operating to capital.	\$798,238

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026

Description	Change
Loss on Asset Disposals Disposal of plant as per the replacement program and other older surplus plant stock items	(\$25,079)
Non-cash amounts excluded from operating activities	(\$84,591)
Inflows from Investing Activities	
Capital Grants, Subsidies and Contributions Reallocation of Safe House from capital to operating. Reallocation of Genesis Minerals infrastructure upgrade funding from operating to capital.	\$650,000
Proceeds from disposal of assets Disposal of plant as per the replacement program and other older surplus plant stock items.	\$200,969
Outflows from Investing Activities	
Purchase of Land and Buildings Increase budget for the accommodation units, recreation centre painting, Doctor's swimming pool and 84 Tower Street land. Decrease to childcare centre toilets and CRC privacy cubicles as projects are complete. Reallocation of safe house expenditure budget from capital to operating. Decrease in budget for the Masonic Lodge refurbishment. Youth Centre building budget no longer required. Decrease and carry forward to 26/27 budget the 26 Queen Victoria carport & gutter, 40A & 40B Hoover kitchen & bathroom. Reallocation of Gwalia Trail from buildings category to other infrastructure.	(\$736,569)
Purchase of Plant and Equipment Increase budget for the admin vehicle, ride-on mower, rubbish truck, street sweeper, watercart & trailer, excavator trailer, slasher. Decrease to budgets as purchases are finalised the building maintenance truck, cleaner van and youth centre equipment. Decrease to mini excavator budget as final quotes received. Remove budget for shire-wide phone system as looking at alternatives for 26/27 budget.	(\$425,919)
Purchase and Construction of Infrastructure-Other Increase budget for the CCTV security system, emergency washdown bay, pool heating, standpipe payment system, swimming pool retiling. Reallocation of Genesis Minerals infrastructure upgrade funding from operating to capital. Decrease to budget as projects are complete 40A & 40B Hoover fencing & gates, depot security gate. Decrease some budget and carry forward to 26/27 the airport upgrade.	(\$734,490)
Cash Inflows from Financing Activities	
Transfers from Reserve Accounts Building reserve, Waste Management reserve and Pool reserve.	\$591,653
Cash Outflows from Financing Activities	
Transfers to Reserve Accounts Interest earnings on investment accounts, transfer to the Aerodrome reserve, Bypass reserve and Eastern Precinct reserve.	\$1,775,974

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026

Description	Change
Surplus or Deficit at the Start of the Financial Year Actual opening surplus was lower than expected at budget time, due to final year end amendments	(\$450,936)
Surplus or Deficit after Imposition of General Rates Updated budget estimates deficit has been addressed through this budget review.	(\$100,000)
Overall Change	\$0

In considering the above variances and projections within the attached budget review, the closing position remains as budgeted in the original 2025/2026 Budget which is reflected in the Statement of Budget Review.

As part of the review, Reserve transfers were adjusted to accommodate the increase to the overall expense, as well as the slightly decreased surplus amount from 2024/25. Amended Reserve movement as follows:

Description	30-Jun-25	Transfer To	Transfer From	30-Jun-26
Employee Leave Reserve	309,818	3,052		312,870
Building Reserve	1,635,736	15,029	231,653	1,419,112
Fire Disaster Reserve	41,241	383		41,624
Plant Reserve	575,745	5,251		580,996
Gwalia Reserve	504,805	4,683		509,488
Waste Management Reserve	755,752	6,930	260,000	502,682
Aerodrome Reserve	1,237,895	2,312,686		3,550,581
IT Reserve	15,000	90		15,090
Pool Reserve	489,482	4,474	100,000	393,956
Heritage Reserve	462,370	4,109		466,479
Bypass Reserve	0	500,000		500,000
Eastern Precinct Reserve	0	1,050,000		1,050,000
Total	6,027,844	3,906,686	591,653	9,342,877

Following completion of the budget review and to properly consider the impact of estimated projections at 30 June 2026, some items have been identified as requiring a budget amendment to properly account for these variances where appropriate. Required budget amendments have been included in Note 4 of the attached budget review document for information and also presented as a separate recommendation to the budget review for council consideration.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Regulation 33A of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* requires:

- (1) Between 1 January and the last day of February in each financial year a local government is to carry out a review of its annual budget for that year.
- (2A) The review of an annual budget for a financial year must —
 - (a) consider the local government's financial performance in the period beginning on 1 July and ending no earlier than 31 December in that financial year; and
 - (b) consider the local government's financial position as at the date of the review; and

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

- (c) review the outcomes for the end of that financial year that are forecast in the budget; and
 - (d) include the following —
 - (i) the annual budget adopted by the local government;
 - (ii) an update of each of the estimates included in the annual budget;
 - (iii) the actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income as at the date of the review;
 - (iv) adjacent to each item in the annual budget adopted by the local government that states an amount, the estimated end of year amount for the item.
- (2) The review of an annual budget for a financial year must be submitted to the council on or before 31 March in that financial year.
- (3) A council is to consider a review submitted to it and is to determine* whether or not to adopt the review, any parts of the review or any recommendations made in the review.
**Absolute majority required.*
- (4) Within 14 days after a council has made a determination, a copy of the review and determination is to be provided to the Department.

Section 6.8(1) (b) of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides that expenditure can be incurred when not included in the annual budget provided it is authorised in advance by resolution (absolute majority required).

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications resulting from the recommendation of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Authorisation of expenditure through budget amendments recommended. Other specific financial implications are as outlined in the body of this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Shire of Leonora Council Plan 2025-2035

Strategic Objective 4, Leadership: An innovative and proactive local government.

Outcome 4.2, An effective organisation, providing strong leadership and services.

RISK ASSESSMENT

This item has been evaluated against the Shire's Risk Management Framework, Risk Assessment Matrix. The perceived level of risk is medium prior to treatment. The adoption of the recommendations as presented will result in reassessed low level of risk.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council, by absolute majority, adopt the 2025/26 mid-year budget review as attached.
2. That the Council, by absolute majority, adopt the following budget amendments to the 2025/2026 adopted annual budget:

OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Revenue from operating activities

Rates excluding General Rates	Increase \$22,000
Grants, subsidies and contributions	Decrease (\$325,814)
Fees and charges	Decrease (\$6,881)
Interest revenue	Decrease (\$60,000)
Other revenue	Decrease (\$15,000)
Profit on asset disposals	Increase \$109,670

Expenditure from operating activities

Employee costs	Increase (\$161,768)
Materials and contracts	Increase (\$706,797)
Utility charges	Increase (\$302,723)
Insurance	Increase (\$11,936)
Other expenditure	Decrease \$798,238
Loss on asset disposals	Increase (\$25,079)

INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Inflows from investing activities

Capital grants, subsidies and contributions	Increase \$650,000
Proceeds from disposal of assets	Increase \$200,969

Outflows from investing activities

Purchase of land and buildings	Increase (\$736,569)
Purchase of plant and equipment	Increase (\$425,919)
Acquisition of infrastructure-other	Increase (\$734,490)

FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Inflows from financing activities

Transfers from reserve accounts	Increase \$591,653
---------------------------------	--------------------

Outflows from financing activities

Transfers to reserve accounts	Decrease \$1,775,974
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VOTING REQUIREMENT

Absolute Majority

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**COUNCIL DECISION****Moved: Cr TM Nardone****Seconded: Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos**

1. That Council, by absolute majority, adopt the 2025/26 mid-year budget review as attached.
2. That the Council, by absolute majority, adopt the following budget amendments to the 2025/2026 adopted annual budget:

OPERATING ACTIVITIES**Revenue from operating activities**

Rates excluding General Rates	Increase \$22,000
Grants, subsidies and contributions	Decrease (\$325,814)
Fees and charges	Decrease (\$6,881)
Interest revenue	Decrease (\$60,000)
Other revenue	Decrease (\$15,000)
Profit on asset disposals	Increase \$109,670

Expenditure from operating activities

Employee costs	Increase (\$161,768)
Materials and contracts	Increase (\$706,797)
Utility charges	Increase (\$302,723)
Insurance	Increase (\$11,936)
Other expenditure	Decrease \$798,238
Loss on asset disposals	Increase (\$25,079)

INVESTING ACTIVITIES**Inflows from investing activities**

Capital grants, subsidies and contributions	Increase \$650,000
Proceeds from disposal of assets	Increase \$200,969

Outflows from investing activities

Purchase of land and buildings	Increase (\$736,569)
Purchase of plant and equipment	Increase (\$425,919)
Acquisition of infrastructure-other	Increase (\$734,490)

FINANCING ACTIVITIES**Inflows from financing activities**

Transfers from reserve accounts	Increase \$591,653
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Outflows from financing activities

Transfers to reserve accounts	Decrease \$1,775,974
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CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (5 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor, Cr TM Nardone,
Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*



12 March 2026

Mr Ty Matson
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Leonora
PO Box 56
LEONORA WA 6438

Moore Australia

Level 15, Exchange Tower,
2 The Esplanade, Perth, WA 6000
PO Box 5785, St Georges Terrace, WA
6831

T +61 8 9225 5355

F +61 8 9225 6181

www.moore-australia.com.au

Dear Ty

COMPILATION REPORT TO THE SHIRE OF LEONORA – BUDGET REVIEW REPORT

We have compiled the accompanying statutory budget review report of the Shire of Leonora. This has been prepared in accordance with *Local Government Act 1995* and associated regulations as described in Note 1 to the budget review report. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is also set out in Note 1 of the budget review report.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SHIRE OF LEONORA

The CEO of the Shire of Leonora is solely responsible for information contained in the special purpose budget review report, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that the budget review report was prepared. Management is solely responsible for the forecast information presented within the report and for estimating revenue and expenditure for the year.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

On the basis of information provided by the Shire of Leonora we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial report in accordance with the requirements of *APES 315 Compilation of Financial Information* and the *Local Government Act 1995*, associated regulations and to the extent that they are not inconsistent with the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Australian Accounting Standards.

We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile the budget review report in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the budget review report. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.

Information attached to the statutory budget review report has been extracted from the records of the Shire of Leonora and management forecasts and estimates the appropriateness of these has not been determined.

ASSURANCE DISCLAIMER

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, we are not required to verify the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided to us by management to compile these forward-looking financial statements. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on these financial statements.

The statutory budget review report was compiled exclusively for the benefit of the Shire of Leonora who are responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. Accordingly, the statutory budget review report may not be suitable for other purposes. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the statutory budget review report.

NOTE REGARDING BASIS OF PREPARATION

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report where matters of non-compliance with the basis of preparation have been detailed. Supplementary information is provided for management information purposes and does not comply with the disclosure requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards.

Russell Barnes
Director
[Moore Australia \(WA\) Pty Ltd](http://www.moore-australia.com.au)

Moore Australia (WA) Pty Ltd trading as agent – ABN 99 433 544 961.
An independent member of Moore Global Network Limited - members in principal cities throughout the world.
Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

SHIRE OF LEONORA

BUDGET REVIEW REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

*LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995
LOCAL GOVERNMENT (FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT) REGULATIONS 1996*

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ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026

SHIRE OF LEONORA
STATEMENT OF BUDGET REVIEW
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

Budget v Actual					
Note	Adopted Budget	Updated Budget		Estimated Year at End Amount (b)	Predicted Variance (b) - (a)
		Estimates (a)	Year to Date Actual		
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES					
Revenue from operating activities					
General rates	10,711,726	10,711,726	10,671,728	10,711,726	0
Rates excluding general rates	4.1 203,390	203,390	203,390	225,390	22,000 ▲
Grants, subsidies and contributions	4.2 2,308,160	3,308,160	843,353	2,982,346	(325,814) ▼
Fees and charges	4.3 3,208,108	3,208,108	1,942,106	3,201,228	(6,880) ▼
Interest revenue	4.4 160,000	160,000	36,569	100,000	(60,000) ▼
Other revenue	4.5 130,000	130,000	79,221	115,000	(15,000) ▼
Profit on asset disposals	4.6 101,961	101,961	0	211,631	109,670 ▲
	16,823,345	17,823,345	13,776,367	17,547,321	(276,024)
Expenditure from operating activities					
Employee costs	4.7 (5,108,109)	(5,108,109)	(2,869,163)	(5,269,877)	(161,768) ▼
Materials and contracts	4.8 (6,662,245)	(6,612,245)	(4,302,945)	(7,319,044)	(706,799) ▼
Utility charges	4.9 (334,900)	(334,900)	(336,005)	(637,623)	(302,723) ▼
Depreciation	(4,468,779)	(4,468,779)	0	(4,468,779)	0
Insurance	4.10 (367,920)	(367,920)	(373,902)	(379,856)	(11,936) ▼
Other expenditure	4.11 (302,735)	(1,302,735)	(54,946)	(504,497)	798,238 ▲
Loss on asset disposals	4.12 (94,101)	(94,101)	0	(119,180)	(25,079) ▼
	(17,338,789)	(18,288,789)	(7,936,961)	(18,698,856)	(410,067)
Non-cash amounts excluded from operating activities	4.13 4,460,919	4,460,919	0	4,376,328	(84,591) ▼
Amount attributable to operating activities	3,945,475	3,995,475	5,839,406	3,224,793	(770,682)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Inflows from investing activities					
Capital grants, subsidies and contributions	4.14 2,340,737	2,340,737	938,326	2,990,737	650,000 ▲
Proceeds from disposal of assets	4.15 614,000	614,000	0	814,969	200,969 ▲
	2,954,737	2,954,737	938,326	3,805,706	850,969
Outflows from investing activities					
Purchase of land and buildings	4.16 (1,173,694)	(1,273,694)	(76,794)	(2,010,263)	(736,569) ▼
Purchase of plant and equipment	4.17 (1,335,353)	(1,385,353)	(165,384)	(1,811,272)	(425,919) ▼
Purchase and construction of infrastructure-roads	(1,777,231)	(1,777,231)	(854,164)	(1,777,231)	0
Purchase and construction of infrastructure-other	4.18 (2,445,233)	(2,445,233)	(721,501)	(3,179,723)	(734,490) ▼
	(6,731,511)	(6,881,511)	(1,817,843)	(8,778,489)	(1,896,978)
Amount attributable to investing activities	(3,776,774)	(3,926,774)	(879,517)	(4,972,783)	(1,046,009)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Cash inflows from financing activities					
Transfers from reserve accounts	4.19 0	0	11	591,653	591,653 ▲
	0	0	11	591,653	591,653
Cash outflows from financing activities					
Transfers to reserve accounts	4.20 (5,682,660)	(5,682,660)	(15,363)	(3,906,686)	1,775,974 ▲
	(5,682,660)	(5,682,660)	(15,363)	(3,906,686)	1,775,974
Amount attributable to financing activities	(5,682,660)	(5,682,660)	(15,352)	(3,315,033)	2,367,627
MOVEMENT IN SURPLUS OR DEFICIT					
Surplus or deficit at the start of the financial year	4.21 5,513,959	5,513,959	5,063,023	5,063,023	(450,936) ▼
Amount attributable to operating activities	3,945,475	3,995,475	5,839,406	3,224,793	(770,682)
Amount attributable to investing activities	(3,776,774)	(3,926,774)	(879,517)	(4,972,783)	(1,046,009)
Amount attributable to financing activities	(5,682,660)	(5,682,660)	(15,352)	(3,315,033)	2,367,627
Surplus or deficit after imposition of general rates	3(a),4.22 0	(100,000)	10,007,560	0	100,000 ▲

SHIRE OF LEONORA
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE BUDGET REVIEW REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

This budget review has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and accompanying regulations.

Local Government Act 1995 requirements

Section 6.4(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995* read with the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, prescribe that the budget review be prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and, to the extent that they are not inconsistent with the Act, the Australian Accounting Standards. The Australian Accounting Standards (as they apply to local governments and not-for-profit entities) and Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board were applied where no inconsistencies exist.

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* specify that vested land is a right-of-use asset to be measured at cost, and is considered a zero cost concessionary lease. All right-of-use assets under zero cost concessionary leases are measured at zero cost rather than at fair value, except for vested improvements on concessionary land leases such as roads, buildings or other infrastructure which continue to be reported at fair value, as opposed to the vested land which is measured at zero cost. The measurement of vested improvements at fair value is a departure from *AASB 16 Leases* which would have required the Shire of Leonora to measure any vested improvements at zero cost.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, regulation 33A prescribes contents of the budget review.

Accounting policies which have been adopted in the preparation of this budget review have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise. Except for the statement of financial activity, the budget review has been prepared on the accrual basis and is based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and liabilities.

Year to Date Actual balances

Balances shown in this budget as Year to Date Actual are based on records at the time of preparation of the budget review and are subject to final adjustments.

Rounding off figures

All figures shown in this statement are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Matters of non-compliance with Basis of Preparation

1. Depreciation has not been raised during the current financial year.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

All funds through which the Shire of Leonora controls resources to carry on its functions have been included in the financial statements forming part of this financial report.

All monies held in the Trust Fund are excluded from the financial statements.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of a financial report in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that effect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses.

The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors believed to be reasonable under the circumstances; the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

As with all estimates, the use of different assumptions could lead to material changes in the amounts reported in the budget review.

The following are estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the current financial year:

- estimated fair value of certain financial assets
- impairment of financial assets
- estimation of fair values of land and buildings, infrastructure and investment property
- estimation of fair values of provisions

MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

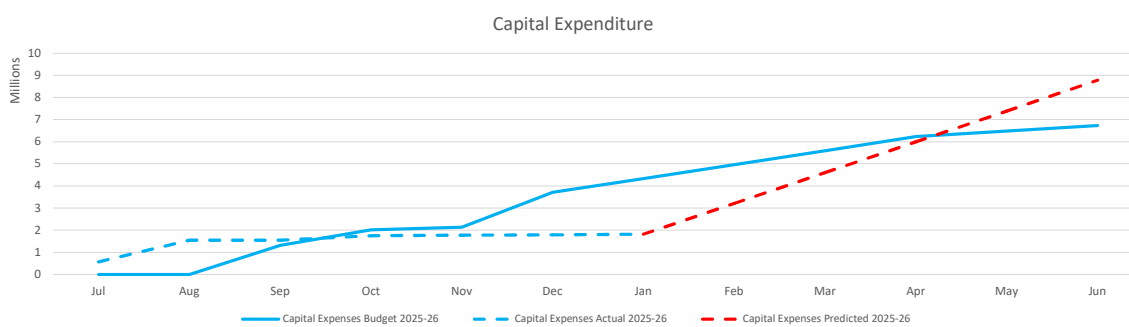
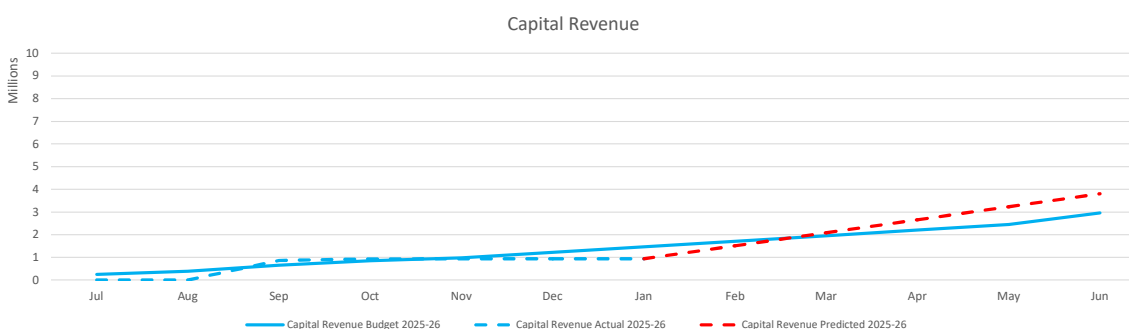
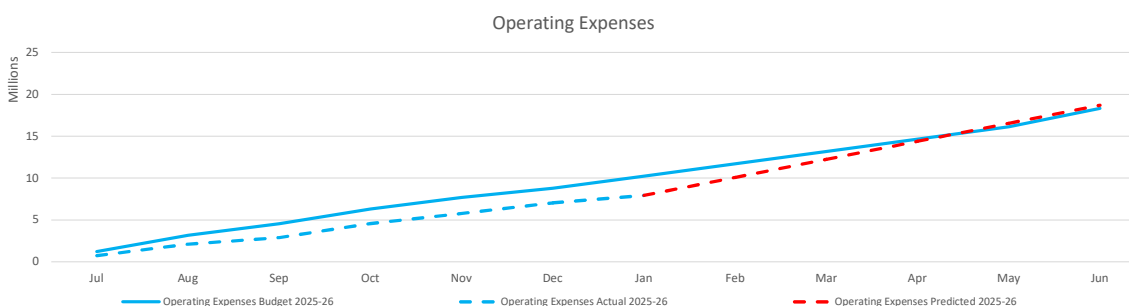
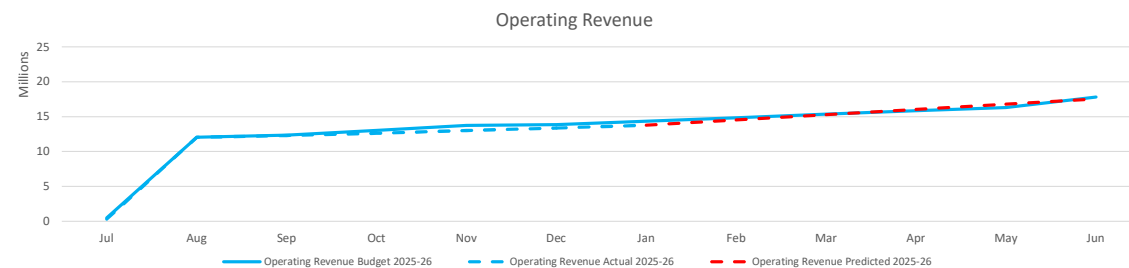
Material accounting policies utilised in the preparation of these statements are as described within the 2025-26 Annual Budget. Please refer to the adopted budget document for details of these policies.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026

SHIRE OF LEONORA
 SUMMARY GRAPHS - BUDGET REVIEW
 FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

2. SUMMARY GRAPHS - BUDGET REVIEW



This information is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements and notes.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026

SHIRE OF LEONORA
NOTES TO THE BUDGET REVIEW REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 20263 NET CURRENT FUNDING POSITION
EXPLANATION OF DIFFERENCE IN NET CURRENT ASSETS AND SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)

	Audited Actual 30 June 2025	Adopted Budget 30 June 2026	Updated Budget Estimates 30 June 2026	Year to Date Actual 31 January 2026	Estimated Year at End Amount 30 June 2026
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
(a) Composition of estimated net current assets					
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	12,597,480	11,710,504	11,610,504	16,594,871	8,393,515
Trade and other receivables	1,319,635	545,513	545,513	2,198,658	967,513
Inventories	75,684	173,216	173,216	82,502	173,216
	13,992,799	12,429,233	12,329,233	18,876,031	9,534,244
Less: current liabilities					
Trade and other payables	(826,819)	(718,729)	(718,729)	(473,872)	(191,367)
Contract liabilities	(1,131,463)	0	0	(2,246,079)	0
Capital grant/contribution liability	(943,650)	0	0	(105,324)	0
Employee related provisions	(266,978)	(223,961)	(223,961)	(266,978)	(223,961)
	(3,168,910)	(942,690)	(942,690)	(3,092,253)	(415,328)
Net current assets	10,823,889	11,486,543	11,386,543	15,783,778	9,118,916
Less: Total adjustments to net current assets	(5,760,866)	(11,486,543)	(11,486,543)	(5,776,218)	(9,118,916)
Closing funding surplus / (deficit)	5,063,023	0	(100,000)	10,007,560	0

(b) Current assets and liabilities excluded from budgeted deficiency

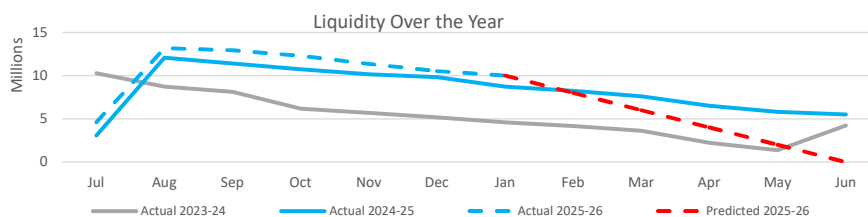
The following current assets and liabilities have been excluded from the net current assets used in the Statement of Financial Activity in accordance with *Financial Management Regulation 32* to agree to the surplus/(deficit) after imposition of general rates.

	Audited Actual 30 June 2025	Adopted Budget 30 June 2026	Updated Budget Estimates 30 June 2026	Year to Date Actual 31 January 2026	Estimated Year at End Amount 30 June 2026
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Adjustments to net current assets					
Less: Reserve accounts	(6,027,844)	(11,710,504)	(11,710,504)	(6,043,196)	(9,342,877)
Add: Current liabilities not expected to be cleared at end of year					
Employee benefit provisions	266,978	223,961	223,961	266,978	223,961
Total adjustments to net current assets	(5,760,866)	(11,486,543)	(11,486,543)	(5,776,218)	(9,118,916)

(c) Non-cash amounts excluded from operating activities

The following non-cash revenue and expenditure has been excluded from operating activities within the Statement of Financial Activity in accordance with *Financial Management Regulation 32*.

	Audited Actual 30 June 2025	Adopted Budget 30 June 2026	Updated Budget Estimates 30 June 2026	Year to Date Actual 31 January 2026	Estimated Year at End Amount 30 June 2026
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Adjustments to operating activities					
Less: Profit on asset disposals	(32,461)	(101,961)	(101,961)	0	(211,631)
Less: Movement in liabilities associated with restricted cash	43,018	0	0	0	0
Less: Fair value adjustments to financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	2,663	0	0	0	0
Add: Loss on disposal of assets	69,278	94,101	94,101	0	119,180
Add: Depreciation on assets	4,470,729	4,468,779	4,468,779	0	4,468,779
Non-cash movements in non-current assets and liabilities:					
Employee benefit provisions	1,936	0	0	0	0
Other provisions	110,672	0	0	0	0
Non-cash amounts excluded from operating activities	4,665,835	4,460,919	4,460,919	0	4,376,328



SHIRE OF LEONORA
 NOTES TO THE REVIEW OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET
 FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

4 PREDICTED VARIANCES

	<u>Variance</u>	
	\$	
Revenue from operating activities		
4.1 Rates excluding general rates	22,000	▲
Interim mining tenement schedules.		
4.2 Grants, subsidies and contributions	(325,814)	▼
Reallocation of Safe House from capital to operating. Increase budget for the Financial Assistance Grants funding received to agree with the schedule. Reallocation of Genesis Minerals infrastructure upgrade funding from operating to capital. Decrease to the Childcare Sustainability DSS funding as will not be receiving until 26/27.		
4.3 Fees and charges	(6,880)	▼
Increase budgets for the rentals, standpipe water, building licence & town planning fees, avgas at the airport and catering at Hoover House. Decrease in budget for the bulk refuse disposal, Hoover House merchandise, rates instalment fees and the disposal of tyre waste.		
4.4 Interest revenue	(60,000)	▼
Interest earnings weren't as high as projected.		
4.5 Other revenue	(15,000)	▼
Budget for other reimbursements category reduced.		
4.6 Profit on asset disposals	109,670	▲
Disposal of plant as per the replacement program and other older surplus plant stock items.		
Expenditure from operating activities		
4.7 Employee costs	(161,768)	▼
Increase budget for FBT, allowances, employee consumables and clothing.		
4.8 Materials and contracts	(706,799)	▼
Decrease to the ICT budget, vehicle & plant repairs maintenance, council subscriptions, WHS, commercial refuse collection, publications, postage & freight, merchant fees, facilities maintenance, accommodation, Heritage buildings maintenance and consultants. Increase budget for the phone & interest facilities, IT operational, archival record keeping, Safer Leonora Plan, traffic signs, photocopier, nurse incentive program, community projects, pest & weed control, Hoover House catering, shire housing, roads maintenance, parks & gardens, cleaning facilities.		
4.9 Utility charges	(302,723)	▼
Increase budget for the standpipe, parks & gardens, housing and public facilities.		
4.10 Insurance	(11,936)	▼
New insurance policy for employee continuance. Reallocated some of the budget for motor vehicles into materials and contracts.		
4.11 Other expenditure	798,238	▲
Reduction in refunds expenditure budget. Small increase to the elected member sitting fees as per YTD actual. Reallocation of Genesis Minerals infrastructure upgrade funding from operating to capital.		
4.12 Loss on asset disposals	(25,079)	▼
Disposal of plant as per the replacement program and other older surplus plant stock items.		
4.13 Non-cash amounts excluded from operating activities	(84,591)	▼
Plant and equipment disposal of assets.		

SHIRE OF LEONORA
 NOTES TO THE REVIEW OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET
 FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

4 PREDICTED VARIANCES

	<u>Variance</u>	
	\$	
Inflows from investing activities		
4.14 Capital grants, subsidies and contributions	650,000	▲
Reallocation of Safe House from capital to operating. Reallocation of Genesis Minerals infrastructure upgrade funding from operating to capital.		
4.15 Proceeds from disposal of assets	200,969	▲
Disposal of plant as per the replacement program and other older surplus plant stock items.		
Outflows from investing activities		
4.16 Purchase of land and buildings	(736,569)	▼
Increase budget for the accommodation units, recreation centre painting, Doctor's swimming pool and 84 Tower Street land. Decrease to childcare centre toilets and CRC privacy cubicles as projects are complete. Reallocation of safe house expenditure budget from capital to operating. Decrease in budget for the Masonic Lodge refurbishment. Youth Centre building budget no longer required. Decrease and carry forward to 26/27 budget the 26 Queen Victoria carport & gutter, 40A & 40B Hoover kitchen & bathroom. Reallocation of Gwalia Trail from buildings category to other infrastructure.		
4.17 Purchase of plant and equipment	(425,919)	▼
Increase budget for the admin vehicle, ride-on mower, rubbish truck, street sweeper, watercart & trailer, excavator trailer, slasher. Decrease to budgets as purchases are finalised the building maintenance truck, cleaner van and youth centre equipment. Decrease to mini excavator budget as final quotes received. Remove budget for shire-wide phone system as looking at alternatives for 26/27 budget.		
4.18 Purchase and construction of infrastructure-other	(734,490)	▼
Increase budget for the CCTV security system, emergency washdown bay, pool heating, standpipe payment system, swimming pool retiling. Reallocation of Genesis Minerals infrastructure upgrade funding from operating to capital. Decrease to budget as projects are complete 40A & 40B Hoover fencing & gates, depot security gate. Decrease some budget and carry forward to 26/27 the airport upgrade.		
Cash inflows from financing activities		
4.19 Transfers from reserve accounts	591,653	▲
Building reserve, Waste Management reserve and Pool reserve.		
Cash outflows from financing activities		
4.20 Transfers to reserve accounts	1,775,974	▲
Interest earnings on investment accounts, transfer to the Aerodrome reserve, Bypass reserve and Eastern Precinct reserve.		
4.21 Surplus or deficit at the start of the financial year	(450,936)	▼
Actual opening surplus was lower that expected at budget time, due to final year end amendments		
4.22 Surplus or deficit after imposition of general rates	100,000	▲
Updated budget estimates deficit has been addressed through this budget review.		

Councillor AE Taylor declared an impartiality interest in item 10.3.(D) 2025/26 Community Grants Round - Additional Allocation.

Councillor PJ Craig declared an impartiality interest in item 10.3.(D) 2025/26 Community Grants Round - Additional Allocation.

Manager of Community Services, AW Baxter declared an impartiality interest in item 10.3.(D) 2025/26 Community Grants Round - Additional Allocation.

10.0 REPORTS

10.3 MANAGER OF BUSINESS SERVICES

10.3.(D) 2025/26 COMMUNITY GRANTS ROUND - ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION

SUBMISSION TO: Ordinary Council Meeting
Meeting Date: 17th March 2026

AGENDA REFERENCE: 10.3.(D) MAR 26

SUBJECT: 2025/26 Community Grants Round - Additional Allocation

LOCATION/ADDRESS: Leonora

NAME OF APPLICANT: N/A

FILE REFERENCE: Grants Leonora/Leinster 11.16

AUTHOR, DISCLOSURE OF ANY INTEREST AND DATE OF REPORT

NAME: Kiara Lord

OFFICER: Manager Business Services

INTEREST DISCLOSURE: Nil

DATE: 11th March 2026

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: 1. Leinster Golf Club Application 2025

BACKGROUND

The Shire of Leonora's Community Grants Round is an annual, open, competitive grants round providing a total pool of \$60,000.00 to community groups and organisations in Leonora and Leinster Applications were open from 1st September, 2025 to 30th September, 2025, and as a result, at the meeting of Council held October 21st, 2025 the following decision was made:

Moved: Cr AE Taylor

Seconded: Cr F Harris

That Council:

1. Approve the allocation of funding to the following sporting groups/organisations:

Applicant	Amount
------------------	---------------

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026

<i>Regional Early Education And Development Inc</i>	\$ 10,000.00
<i>Otitis Media Group (Inc.)</i>	\$ 10,000.00
<i>Leinster Sport Recreation Association</i>	\$ 10,000.00
<i>Leinster Primary School Parents And Citizens Association Inc</i>	\$ 10,000.00
<i>Leinster Community Playgroup</i>	\$ 10,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 50,000.00

2. Approve the re-allocation of remaining Community Grants Round funds to the CEO Support Grants, in the amount of \$10,000.00

When the grant round closed, there was a pending application that has since been finalised for the Leinster Golf Club (started 16 September 2025, submitted 13 November 2025) requesting \$10,000.00. As it had not been finalised within the grant opening period, the submission was not presented to Council for inclusion in the allocation for the 2025/26 Community grant funds.

While undertaking the Budget Review for 25/26 Officers identified that the funds that were re-allocated to the CEO Support Grant had not yet been expended, and an opportunity to provide Leinster Golf Club with the originally requested funding amount presented itself.

It is the intention of this report to request that Council approve the allocation of \$10,000 funding towards Leinster Golf Club as a late allocation of the 2025/26 Community Grant Funding round, noting that this should be viewed as a unique opportunity, and not one that will be repeated in future grant rounds.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Section 3.1 of the *Local Government Act 1995* states that “the general function of a Local Government is to provide for the good government of persons in its district”.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications resulting from the recommendation of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$50,000 was originally allocated out of the 2025/26 Budget for Community Grants, with \$10,000 being repurposed for the CEO Support Grant Fund. There will be no impact on the Budget to re-allocate the 10,000 back to the Community Grant fund for the purposes of this recommendation.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Leonora Council Plan 2025–2035 includes action 1.1.3.4 Maintain community grants allocation program.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approve the late allocation of funding for the Leinster Golf Club for \$10,000 from the original Community Grant Funding Round for 2025/26.

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Absolute Majority

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr TM Nardone

Seconded: Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos

That Council approve the late allocation of funding for the Leinster Golf Club for \$10,000 from the original Community Grant Funding Round for 2025/26.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (5 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor, Cr TM Nardone,
Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

Shire of Leonora - Community Grants Round

Before you begin

Use of Information

The Shire of Leonora (The Shire) may use the information, other than personal information, provided in this Application Form to assist it to:

- comply with the Australian Government requirements to publish the details of all grant recipients on the The Shire website and meet reporting requirements;
- inform negotiating and establishing an agreement as it pertains to risks and issues that need to be addressed in the Grant Agreement for that program; and/or
- inform future assessments for Applications.

All information including personal information provided in this Application may be shared with other Commonwealth and law enforcement agencies for the purpose of preventing and detecting fraud. This includes personal information of any third party provided in this Application. You can only apply if you agree to the use of the information you provide in this form for the purposes listed above.

Please confirm your consent for The Shire to use the information provided in your application.

I agree to the Shire of Leonora using the information I provide in this application for the purposes listed above. *

1. Program Information

Program Name

2025 Community Grants Round

Program Description


A competitive grants round supporting community and sporting organisations in the Shire of Leonora.
Applicants can seek up to \$10,000.

Funding Body Contact Email


admin@leonora.wa.gov.au

2. Key information about the application

Applications Open Date & Time

2025-09-01 12:00 PM 

Applications Close Date & Time

2025-09-30 04:30 PM 

Maximum Recipient Allocation Amount (AUD) excl GST

Payment Type

Lump Sum

3. Applicant information

Organisation Name

LEINSTER GOLF CLUB Inc

Organisation Address

Organisation Contact Email

leinstergolfclub@outlook.com

Organisation Phone Number

08 9037 6044

Is your Organisation/Group not for profit? *

Yes
 No

Where is your Organisation/Group based? *

Leonora
 Leinster
 Other

Is your Organisation/Group incorporated? *

Yes
 No

Have you previously received a Community Grant? *

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

4. Tell us about your project

How much funding are you seeking? *

10000

Provide details of the event or program for which you are seeking funding support. *

We are looking for support in purchasing new furniture for our non for profit community golf club. Existing furniture is 15 years old and was donated to the club after years of use.

Please provide an overview of the project or program you intend to use the grant funding for, and how it will provide benefit to the community. If you have supporting documentation, you can provide this in the Supporting Documents section.

When will the project/program commence? *

01-12-2025



When will the project/program be completed? *

05-12-2025



Is there any additional information you feel is important in determining your application?

Due to the closure of our local mine, community numbers have dwindled causing our golf club to lose a lot of our membership base. This will put some financial strain on the club meaning required items like furniture may not be upgraded. This is the only community club in town which in the current climate provides a valuable space encouraging community participation and involvement. The Leinster Golf Club incorporates weekly golf, ladies golf and kids golf competitions while also providing a club house available for community members to utilize for functions, birthdays or team building events. There is no other community venue in Leinster providing similar opportunities for the community.

5. Declaration

I declare that:

- The information contained in this form is true and correct.
- I have read, understood and agree to the information provided in this Application being used for the purposes detailed in the Use of information.
- If and where any personal details of a third party are included, the third party has been made aware of, and given their permission for those details to appear in this Application and for their personal information to be used and disclosed as detailed in the Use of Information.
- I give consent to the Shire of Leonora to make public the details of this Application and the funding received (if required), should this Application be successful.
- I consent to receive correspondence, legal notices, grant agreements and any subsequent letters of variations to the agreement electronically. I understand and agree that my electronic correspondences constitute a valid and legally binding method for interacting under the grant agreement and the Electronic Transactions Act 1999 (Cth).

I understand and agree to the declaration above. *

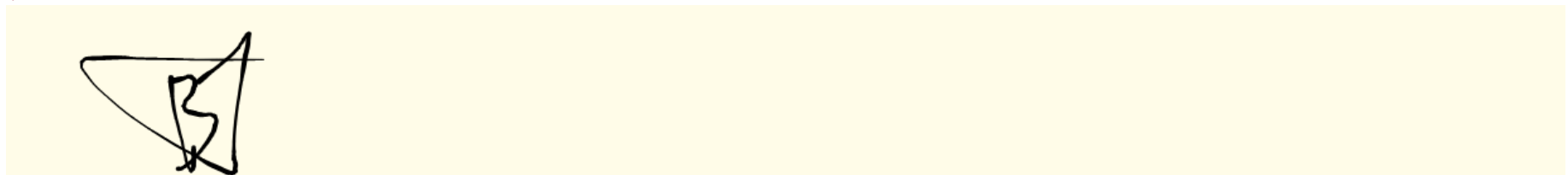
6. Signature

This Declaration must be signed by an authorised representative of the Applicant (or, if this Application is a joint/consortium Application, an authorised representative of the lead organisation). The authorised representative should be a person who is legally empowered to enter into contracts and commitments on behalf of the Applicant.

Full Name of Authorised Person *

Brendon James Stewart

Signature *



Sign above

I consent to the use of my digital signature for the purposes of this application. *

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

17 MARCH 2026

10.0 REPORTS

10.4 MANAGER OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Nil

10.0 REPORTS

10.5 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER REPORTS

Nil

10.0 REPORTS

10.6 ELECTED MEMBERS REPORTS

Nil

11.0 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

12.0 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

13.0 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE MEETING

13.1 ELECTED MEMBERS

Nil

13.0 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE MEETING

13.2 OFFICERS

Nil

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

14.0 MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC

14.1 MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr AE Taylor

Seconded: Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 5.23(4) of the Local Government Act 1995:

(A) DEED OF SETTLEMENT – CALIMO

(B) TENDER RFT03/2026 – ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER

(C) TENDER RFT04/2026 – RANGER SERVICE

(D) PROPOSED PURCHASE OF THE LEONORA VILLAS

CARRIED (5 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor, Cr TM Nardone,
Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

At 11:12am Deputy Shire President, Cr. RA Norrie closed the meeting to the public, and the meeting moved behind closed door, with Deputy Shire President, Cr RA Norrie as Chair.

At 11:29am Shire President, Cr PJ Craig returned to the chambers.

At 11:30am Deputy Shire President, Cr. RA Norrie vacated the Chair. Shire President, Cr PJ Craig resumed the Chair.

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr RA Norrie

Seconded: Cr TM Nardone

That Council comes out from behind closed doors and the meeting reopens to the public.

CARRIED (6 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr PJ Craig, Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor, Cr TM Nardone,
Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

At 11:36am Shire President, Cr. PJ Craig reopened the meeting to the public and the meeting came out from behind closed doors

14.0 MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC**14.2 PUBLIC READING OF RESOLUTIONS THAT MAY BE MADE PUBLIC****14.1 (A) DEED OF SETTLEMENT – CALIMO****COUNCIL DECISION****Moved: Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos****Seconded: Cr CA Cotterill**

That council authorises the President and Chief Executive Officer to affix the Common Seal of the Shire of Leonora to the Deed of Settlement between the Shire of Leonora and Calimo Pty Ltd in relation to the Leonora Aging in Place facility and the Leonora Aquatic Centre contracts.

CARRIED (5 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor, Cr TM Nardone,
Cr CA Cotterill And Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

14.1 (B) TENDER RFT03/2026 – ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER**COUNCIL DECISION****Moved: Cr AE Taylor****Seconded: Cr TM Nardone**

That Council;

- (1) accepts the tender provided by Terry Sargent and Associates for the initial period of three(3) years, with an option to extend twice for 12 months, to a maximum period of five (5) years, for an annual cost of \$133,608.00 per year (excluding GST); and
- (2) accepts the following additional charges (excluding GST) will be incurred if the services, as directed by authorised officers, are required:
 - a. \$212.00/hour for additional work on or off-site outside of the routine visit, including urgent work
 - b. \$3,078.00/trip for any additional travel to and from Leonora outside the contracted 12 per year
 - c. \$1.28/Km for use of a personal vehicle to attend to duties outside of the Shire Office where a Shire Vehicle is not available.

CARRIED (5 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor, Cr TM Nardone,
Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

14.1(C) TENDER RFT04/2026 – RANGER SERVICE

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr AE Taylor

Seconded: Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos

That Council;

- (1) accepts the tender provided by Trepheene Pty Ltd T/A Canine Control for the initial period of three (3) years, with an option to extend twice for 12 months, to a maximum period of five (5) years, for an annual cost of \$89,100.00per year;
- (2) accepts the condition to supply 150L of fuel per trip, the value of which will be based on the cost of fuel acquisition at the time of the visit, but currently noted as \$248.70; and
- (3) accepts the following additional charges will be incurred if the services, as directed by authorised officers, are required:
 - a. \$4,950.00/visit for any Additional or Urgent Visits as requested
 - b. \$100.00/hour for any requirement to appear at court or tribunal

CARRIED (5 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor, Cr TM Nardone,
Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

14.1(D) PROPOSED PURCHASE OF THE LEONORA VILLAS

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr AE Taylor

Secunder: Cr RA Norrie

That Council Authorise the CEO to negotiate for consideration the purchase of Lot 701 Tower Street Leonora.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (6 VOTES TO 0)

*For; Cr PJ Craig, Cr RA Norrie, Cr AE Taylor,
Cr TM Nardone, Cr CA Cotterill and Cr NF Sprigg dos Santos*

15.0 STATE COUNCIL AGENDA

Nil

16.0 NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 21st April 2026

17.0 CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairperson, Cr PJ Craig declared the meeting closed at 11:39am.