



Agenda

Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, 17 March 2026

Date:	Tuesday 17 March 2026
Time:	1:00pm
Location:	Ashburton Hall, Ashburton Avenue, Paraburdoo
Distribution Date:	Thursday 12 March 2026



**Shire of Ashburton
Ordinary Council Meeting**

Please be informed an Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at 1:00pm on Tuesday 17 March 2026 at Ashburton Hall, Ashburton Avenue, Paraboradoo.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Woodward'.

Keith Woodward
Chief Executive Officer

Disclaimer

The Shire of Ashburton warns anyone who has an application lodged with Council must obtain, and should only rely on, written confirmation of the outcomes of the application following the Council meeting, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by Council in respect of the application. No responsibility whatsoever is implied, or accepted, by the Shire of Ashburton for any act, omission, statement, or intimation occurring during a Council meeting.

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1 Declaration Of Opening

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at [enter time](#).

1.1 Acknowledgement Of Country

As representatives of the Shire of Ashburton Council, we respectfully acknowledge the local Indigenous people, the traditional custodians of this land where we are meeting upon today and pay our respects to them and all their elders past and present.

2 Announcement Of Visitors

To be informed at the meeting.

3 Attendance

3.1 Present

Elected Members:	SP A Smith Cr A Sullivan Cr R de Pledge Cr K White Cr T Fox Cr L Rumble JP Cr K Day Cr B Noone Cr C Rogers	Shire President Paraburdoo Ward Ashburton-Tablelands Ward Onslow Ward Pannawonica Ward Paraburdoo Ward Tom Price Ward Tom Price Ward Tom Price Ward
Employees:	K Woodward C McGurk D Kennedy G Harris J Bray J Rouse M Malinowska	Chief Executive Officer Director Community Development Director Corporate Services Director Infrastructure Services Manager Governance Governance Officer Council Support Officer

Guests:	Enter names
Members of Public:	There were enter number members of the public in attendance at the commencement of the meeting.
Members of media:	There were enter number members of the media in attendance at the commencement of the meeting.

3.2 Apologies

To be informed at the meeting.

3.3 Approved Leave Of Absence

4 Question Time

4.1 Response To Previous Public Questions Taken On Notice

Nil

4.2 Public Question Time

To be informed at the meeting.

5 Declaration By Members

5.1 Due Consideration By Elected Members To The Agenda

Elected Members will be requested to note they have given due consideration to all matters contained in this agenda.

5.2 Declaration Of Interest

A member who has an Impartiality, Proximity or Financial interest in any matter to be discussed at this meeting must disclose the nature of the interest either in a written notice, given to the Chief Executive Officer, prior to the meeting, or at the meeting immediately before the matter is discussed.

A member who makes a disclosure in respect to an interest must not preside at the part of the meeting which deals with the matter, or participate in, or be present during any discussion or decision-making process relative to the matter, unless the disclosing member is permitted to do so under Section 5.68 or Section 5.69 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

The following declarations of interest are disclosed –

Nil

6 Announcements By The Presiding Member And Councillors Without Discussion

To be informed at the meeting.

7 Petitions / Deputations / Presentations

7.1 Petitions

Nil

7.2 Deputations

Nil

7.3 Presentations

Nil

8 Applications for Leave of Absence

Nil

9 En Bloc Council Resolutions

9.1 Agenda Items Adopted En Bloc

To be advised at the meeting

10 Confirmation Of Minutes

10.1 Confirmation of Council Minutes

10.1.1 Minutes Of The Ordinary Council Meeting Held On 17 February 2026

Officer Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 17 February 2026 (Item 10.1.1 Attachment 1) be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

10.1.2 Minutes Of The Special Council Meeting Held On 23 February 2026

Officer Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held 23 February 2026 (Item 10.1.2 Attachment 1) be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

10.2 Receipt of Committee and other Minutes

10.2.1 Minutes Of The Tom Price Sporting Working Group Meeting Held On 11 February 2026

Officer Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Tom Price Sporting Working Group Meeting held 11 February 2026 (Item 10.2.1 Attachment 1) be received.

11 Recommendations From Committee

Economic And Tourism Development Committee Meeting held on 17 March 2026

ETD.1 Ashburton Ranges Mountain Bike Trails Project

File Reference	ED285
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	S Allan, Manager Business & Economic Development
Authorising Officer	K Woodward, Chief Executive Officer
Previous Meeting Reference	Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2023 - Item AD.3 – 219/2023 Ordinary Council Meeting 16 September 2025 – Item ETD.1 – 170/2025 (recommendation 2.B)
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ashburton Ranges MBT Master Plan 2. Tom Price MBT Concept Plan 3. Paraburdoo MBT Concept Plan

Report Purpose

This report provides a consolidated overview of the Ashburton Ranges Mountain Bike Trails (ARMBT) project. It explains the nature of the project, separates planning activities, capital delivery, ongoing operations, and clearly identifies associated costs.

The report is intended to support the Economic and Tourism Development Committee (ETDC) recommendation to inform a Council decision regarding the future of the project, provide governance assurance, and inform long term budget planning.

The ETDC is requested to consider the details in this report as evidence to support the officer's recommendation to place the project on hold because the project is unsustainable.

Background

In 2022 the Shire endorsed the development of the Pilbara Trails network as a Priority Project. At its Ordinary Council meeting 13 June 2023, Council resolved to:

1. Endorse the concept as a key tourism project for the Shire of Ashburton;
2. Endorse the Ashburton Economic and Tourism Development Committee to be on the project working group; and
3. Authorised the Chief Executive Officer to commence detailed concept planning and development with an update report to be presented to the Committee for consideration at its November 2023 meeting.

At its Ordinary Council meeting held 12 December 2023, Council:

1. Adopted the Ashburton Ranges MTB Trails Master Plan as the key visioning and planning document for the development of Mountain Bike Trails in the Shire of Ashburton; and.
2. Authorised for Common Ground Trails to complete detailed site planning for both Local Scale network Priority 1 Tom Price – East of Town and Priority 2 Paraburdoo – West of Town around the water tank sites.

The endorsed ARMTB Trails Master Plan (*Refer to Attachment 1*) main vision identifies the below objectives:

1. Social sustainability – engaging the local community.
2. Economic sustainability – robust governance model, diverse revenue streams, funding for ongoing maintenance, improved community wellbeing, business growth.
3. Environmental sustainability – the right trail in the right location.

At its Ordinary Council meeting held 16 July 2024, Council adopted the Shire of Ashburton Economic Development Strategy 2024-2028 as key evidence and a tool to help inform and support future advocacy initiatives.

Pillar 2 of the strategy identifies the aim for the Shire of Ashburton to become a World-Class Tourist Destination with the below objectives:

- Development of unique attractions, experiences and events.
- Leisure destination of choice for fly in/fly out (FIFO) workers in the Pilbara.

The Tom Price and Paraburdoo Mountain Bike Trails Concept Plans have been completed by Common Ground Trails (*Refer to Attachments 2 and 3*).

The Shire’s financial commitment to date:

Common Ground Trails Consultants	\$175,609.00
Western Environmental (Environmental Survey)	\$52,811.00
Staff costs, (work time estimated - 40 work days x 8.5hrs) 340hrs	\$20,500.00
Transit Accommodation/Workshops (estimated)	\$5,000.00
TOTAL	\$253,920.00

Comments

The ARMBT project aims to establish two destination scale mountain bike networks at Tom Price and Paraburdoo. Together, these networks form a foundational component of the Shire’s long-term adventure and nature-based tourism offering as to grow experiential tourism visitation to the region, supports industry diversification and encourages development of new business opportunities.

Tom Price and Paraburdoo Concept Plans

With the completion of the ARMTB Trails Master Plan, Council approved the development of the Tom Price and Paraburdoo Mountain Bike Trail Network Concept Plans by consultants Common Ground Trails (*Refer to Attachments 2 and 3*).

Note: Delay in presenting these Concept Plans to the ETDC and Council was required to enable further engagement with external stakeholders and Traditional Owners to gauge a level of interest and seek support in principle of the concepts prior to presenting to the ETDC and Council.

Environmental surveys

Fauna, flora and vegetation environmental surveys were conducted by Western Environmental Pty Ltd (WEPL) as to inform the Tom Price and Paraburdoo Concept Plans.

Two survey areas (separated by 56km) were assessed. Both survey areas are within 1 km from either Paraburdoo or Tom Price. The Tom Price survey area was approximately 2000 hectares and the Paraburdoo survey area was approximately 550 hectares.

The scope of works included:

- A reconnaissance level flora and vegetation survey.
- Targeted surveys for Threatened and Priority flora.
- Targeted surveys for Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) and Priority Ecological Communities (PECs).
- A basic fauna survey and likelihood of occurrence for Threatened or Priority fauna.

Biological surveys were undertaken across twelve person days sampling flora, fauna and vegetation in May 2024. Refer to the Ecological values overview in each Concept Plan identifying

'The need for further targeted surveys to be conducted as part of the corridor assessment phase of the trail development process and that any potential species or habitat present identified during Corridor Evaluation should be avoided with trail realignments to minimise impact'.

Cultural values of the proposed Concept Plans

In the collation of information to effectively inform the Concept Plans, consultants Common Ground Trails visited both locations for trail corridor assessments. Engagement, where possible, was held with both Native Title holders of Tom Price and Paraburdoo the Eastern Guruma and Yinhawangka People's.

Tom Price Concept Plan:

'The project area contains several layers of cultural heritage. The Eastern Guruma are the native title claimants and Traditional Custodians of the project area. Several Lodged & Registered sites currently exist within the project area. Targeted on ground surveys may uncover additional sites of significance within the project area. Based on this concept plan, targeted surveys will be conducted as part of the Corridor Evaluation stage of the trail development process. Proposed trails will be realigned to avoid any sites of significance uncovered and minimise impact. There is potential in development of the trail network to work with Eastern Guruma to identify opportunities for celebration of culture through for example interpretation and tours'.

Paraburdoo Concept Plan:

'The Yinhawangka People are the native title claimants and traditional custodians of the project area. Two Registered sites currently exist within the project area – Ritual/Ceremonial; Creation/Dreaming Narrative site and an Engraving site, refer to MAP 3. Targeted on ground surveys may uncover additional sites of significance within the project area. Based on this concept plan, targeted surveys will be conducted as part of the Corridor Evaluation stage of the trail development process. Proposed trails will be realigned to avoid any sites of significance uncovered and minimise impact.

'There is opportunity in development of the trail network concept to connect trail users with Yinhawangka culture and identify sites found in corridor evaluation phase which can be a focus of interpretation facilities and programs which will assist in maintaining a sense of place and informing visitors about the values of the area'.

The project extends beyond trail construction. It delivers a managed recreational and tourism asset that supports local recreation, community wellbeing, visitation growth, and economic diversification while operating within the environmental, cultural and climatic constraints of the Pilbara.

The ARMBT project is structured across three interdependent stages:

1. **Planning and approvals** to confirm feasibility and manage risk.
2. **Capital works** to deliver the physical trail networks and supporting infrastructure.
3. **Ongoing operations and asset management** to maintain, manage, activate and preserve the asset over its life.

Stage 1

Planning, approvals and preconstruction activities are required before any ground disturbance occurs. These activities reduce delivery risk, ensure statutory and cultural compliance, and confirm that the asset can be operated sustainably.

Planning, approvals and preconstruction activities include development of:

- A business case and proposed operating model
- Cultural heritage engagement and approvals
- External stakeholder engagement and support for land use
- Additional environmental surveys and corridor assessments
- Detailed trail design; and
- Procurement preparation

These activities ensure the capital investment is defensible and that ongoing operational obligations are clearly understood before construction commences. Expected costs are estimated at \$350,000.00 ex GST.

Stage 2

Capital works delivery of the physical trail networks and supporting infrastructure. This is a one-off investment that creates the asset.

The capital scope includes trail construction across multiple grades, drainage and erosion controls, bridges and technical features, access points, and integration with town networks.

Also to be considered is the potential future recruitment of two staff to manage administration and maintenance which may require the purchase of two houses at an estimated cost of \$1.2 million per dwelling. This cost is not included in the current capital estimate and is subject to future Council consideration.

At the 9 February 2025 Strategic Briefing, Council were provided with estimated costs to deliver the project. A Capital Cost estimate of \$5.3 million ex GST was provided.

Stage 3

Once constructed, the trail networks become permanent public assets requiring active **ongoing operations and asset management**.

Ongoing activities include:

- Routine maintenance
- Safety and risk management
- Governance and compliance
- Community activation
- Marketing; and
- Long-term asset renewal

Should the project be endorsed, consideration that a seven percent annual maintenance allowance of the initial Capital cost of \$5.3 million ex GST (as recommended by consultants) would be required.

This annual transfer would be required to protect the asset and fund future renewal and marketing of the asset and is calculated at approximately \$371,700 per annum (ex GST).

Additionally costs for annual marketing and promotion, events festivals and skills clinics is estimated at \$200,000 est GST. Marketing and activation costs reflect the intent to position the trails as a signature tourism destination asset rather than a purely local/community facility.

The anticipated full future management burden for the Shire is outlined below for consideration:

- Strategic governance and corporate management
- Asset ownership and lifecycle management
- Operations and maintenance management
- Risk management and public safety
- Environmental management
- Cultural Heritage and Traditional Owner management
- Marketing, activation and tourism management
- Community engagement and local integration
- Data collection, monitoring, and reporting
- Workforce and resourcing management
- Financial management
- Emergency and extreme event management
- Governance and review

Cost Confidence and Risk

The Capital costs and baseline asset maintenance allowance are considered reasonable and defensible for a project of this scale.

The primary cost risks relate to staffing requirements, insurance and liability exposure, accommodation constraints and episodic damage arising from extreme weather events.

Economic Cost Benefit Assessment

From an economic perspective, the project should be assessed as a long-life public asset delivering direct, indirect and induced benefits over time.

Direct benefits arise through increased visitor numbers and expenditure. Mountain bike visitors typically generate higher yield than general drive-through tourism, although accommodation capacity in Tom Price and Paraburdoo is currently limited. Where accommodation is constrained, economic benefits will rely more heavily on high frequency local and regional use.

Indirect benefits include local employment, supply chain activity and improved utilisation of existing infrastructure. Induced benefits include improved liveability, community wellbeing, and workforce attraction and retention.

Economic Viability Threshold and Council Considerations

The project does not generate direct revenue for the Shire. Its economic justification rests on whether incremental local economic activity offsets the ongoing operating commitment.

Based on national cycling tourism benchmarks, the project is economically defensible if it achieves approximately 800 to 1,000 incremental overnight cycling trips per year across both towns, or alternatively approximately 30,000 individual rides per year if the network functions primarily as a local and regional recreation asset.

Council is asked to note that accommodation capacity materially constrains tourism yield and that early benefits may be weighted toward community and liveability outcomes rather than visitor expenditure.

Initial delivery should focus on asset protection, contracted maintenance and conservative marketing. Scaling of marketing, activation, staffing or housing should only occur once usage data and economic impact are demonstrated.

Consultation

- Common Ground Trails - consultants as to inform the master and concept plans.
- Western Environmental - consultants to conduct environmental surveys to inform the concept plans.
- Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) in relation to the 'Hero Trail' concept of the Master Plan within Karijini National Park.
- Pilbara Development Commission.
- Shire of Ashburton Executive Leadership Team (ELT).
- Tom Price Visitor Centre.
- Eastern Guruma Pty Ltd - support in principle not provided due to concerns over locations of cultural significance.
- Yinhawangka Aboriginal Corporation - support provided in principle with ongoing engagement and collaboration requested prior to any additional works commencing.

Rio Tinto - engagement with Rio Tinto prior to the completion of the concept plans was productive and supportive in the context of the project, however during a workshop held in Paraburdoo on 19 November 2025, post completion of the plans, it became evident that there would be potential issues with land tenure and utility locations that exist within both the Tom Price and Paraburdoo concept plans and therefore would require adjustment to address these concerns.

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	3. Prosperity - We will advocate and drive opportunities for the community to be economically desirable, resilient, and prosperous.
Strategic Outcome	3.4 Sustainable commerce and tourism opportunities
Strategy	4 Partner with the Pilbara Development Commission, key resource industry partners and State Government to target investment opportunities designed at stimulating more diversified business and economic development to benefit the community.

Council Policy

[Council Policies » Shire of Ashburton](#)

Community Engagement

- Ensure Shire stakeholders are well informed about issues, strategies and plans that may directly or indirectly affect them.
- Ensure Shire stakeholders have the opportunity to be involved in Council's decision making and policy development.
- Seek the views of all stakeholders, selecting engagement methods that are flexible, inclusive and appropriate to those being engaged.
- Provide members of the community with the opportunity to hear each other's opinions and to recommend appropriate solutions to community issues.

Recognition of Aboriginal Culture and History

An Acknowledgement of Country should be given at events including:

- Significant events where members of the public, representatives of governments and/or the media are present, Council meetings; and
- Forums, conferences, briefing sessions, and major workshops, where the public are present.

Tourism Promotion and Attraction

- Encourage a high standard of development, design and aesthetics in all forms of tourist development that is suitable to the elements and environment of the region for the ongoing use to the local community and visitors to the Shire.
- Consider the welfare of the whole community and examine the social, cultural, economic, and environmental impacts when supporting tourism development and/or diversification and any associated facilities, to ensure the ongoing sustainability and authentic sense of place.
- Promote beautification and landscaping of residential and commercial centres with a 'place activation' focus to make the Shire a vibrant, authentic, unique and attractive visitor destination.

- Where practicable, support the enhancement of natural features, assets and conservation areas of outstanding scenic beauty and recognise items of environmental, cultural and historical significance.
- Facilitate the development of scenic drive routes and trails, locations of interest, and review direction, information, promotional and interpretative signage needed in strategically important tourist areas.

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

If Committee and Council endorse the officer’s recommendation, there will be no current financial year implications.

If the ARMBT project is decided by Committee and Council to continue, expected costs for Stage 1 (Planning and Approvals) are estimated at \$350,000.00 ex GST.

Future Financial Year(s)

Should the ARMBT project be progressed, an initial Capital Works cost (Stage 2) estimated at \$5.3 million ex GST would be required in consideration of the Long Term Financial Plan.

A further financial commitment towards the completion of the Capital Works would require an annual transfer estimated at \$371,700.00 (ex GST) for ongoing operations and asset management (Stage 3).

Also, to support and protect the Capital cost of the asset, future consideration from Council would be required in the recruitment of two Shire employees with accommodation provision.

Legislative Implications

If Committee and Council endorse the officer’s recommendation, there will be no legislative implications.

If Committee and Council decide to continue with the ARMBT project, there will be Legislative implications to be considered in each of the 3 stages outlined in this report.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Financial impact	Capital costs and ongoing asset management and maintenance costs of the Ashburton MTB project is higher than anticipated. Additional time is required to assess the financial viability of the project.	Possible (3)	Moderate (3)	Moderate (5-9)	Additional time to investigate alternative operational or funding opportunities (Federal/State Grants) in conjunction with the Shire’s ability to provide funding to support the project in the Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP).

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be medium.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Committee Recommendation

That the Economic and Tourism Development Committee advise Council to place the Ashburton Mountain Bike Trails Concept Plans for Tom Price and Paraburdoo on hold because the project is unsustainable.

ETD.2 Onslow Chamber of Commerce and Industry request for support of 2027 Onslow Economic Outlook Forum

File Reference	ED24078
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	S Allan, Manager Business & Economic Development
Authorising Officer	K Woodward, Chief Executive Officer
Previous Meeting Reference	Nil
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	1. Future Onslow Economic Forum 2027 - OCCI Proposal

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Economic and Tourism Development Committee (ETDC) information of a proposed inaugural Onslow Economic Outlook Forum, to be coordinated by the Onslow Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI).

The ETDC is requested to provide a recommendation to Council regarding the request from OCCI for Shire in principal support and financial and in-kind support for the proposed March 2027 event.

Background

At its Ordinary Council meeting held 16 July 2024, Council:

Adopted the Shire of Ashburton Economic Development Strategy 2024-2028 as key evidence and a tool to help inform and support future advocacy initiatives with the Economic Development Vision for the Shire to become:

- A Global Resources Powerhouse
- A World-Class Tourist Destination
- A Thriving Community
- A Great Place to Have a Small Business

The Mission statement of the Strategy highlights that the Shire’s mission is to:

‘...leverage the continued growth of the resources sector to grow our communities, encourage prosperity, and enhance liveability across the Shire whilst supporting the diversification of our economy’

With clearly defined actions, including:

- Annual Priority Setting
- Advocacy
- Land use Planning
- Infrastructure Planning
- Company Engagement

- Development Leadership
- Investment Attraction
- Small Business Support
- Regional Promotion

The strategy also highlights the key to its success requires ongoing collaboration between local stakeholders, all tiers of government and private sector proponents, *'Our Partners in Progress'*.

Strategic links to the deliverables of the Shire's Corporate Business Plan 2023 – 2027.

Pillar 2: Place

'We will provide sustainable, purposeful, and valued built and natural environment opportunities for community'.

Outcome 2.6

Land use opportunities to benefit current and future communities.

Strategy 2.6.1

- *Plan for diverse land, housing, and development opportunities.*

Action 2.6.1.1

- *Work with relevant stakeholders to ensure diversity in land, housing and development opportunities.*

Pillar 3: Prosperity

'We will advocate and drive opportunities for the community to be economically desirable, resilient, and prosperous':

Outcome 3.1

Coordinated delivery of economic services and projects for the community

Strategy 3.1.1

- *Develop and maintain key economic services partnerships, both internally and externally, to support Council's vision.*

Action 3.1.1.1

- *Collaborate with key stakeholders.*

Outcome 3.4

Sustainable commerce and tourism opportunities:

Strategy 3.4.1

- *Support initiatives to add value to, and improve marketing of, local business.*

Action 3.4.1.2

- *Collaborate with the Onslow Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Pilbara Inland Chamber of Commerce and Industry.*

Strategy 3.4.4

- *Partner with the Pilbara Development Commission, key resource industry partners and State Government to target investment opportunities designed at stimulating more diversified business and economic development to benefit the community.*

Action 3.4.4.1

- *Develop strategic documents and project investment prospectuses.*

Comments

The Shire of Ashburton's Economic Development Strategy clearly outlines its commitment to supporting economic development outcomes for the region, including maximising our resource industries whilst expanding emerging sectors, creating liveable and vibrant communities, achieving economic prosperity, attracting investment for expansion, industry growth, and becoming a place of choice to live, visit and invest.

The Onslow Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) have approached the Shire to provide support in principle, financial and in-kind contributions as a partner for the proposed Onslow Economic Outlook Forum (the Forum) in March 2027 (*refer attachment 1 - Future Onslow Economic Forum 2027 - OCCI Proposal*). The main aim of the Forum is to:

'Bring together regional leaders, small and medium enterprises, government representatives and community stakeholders to discuss emerging opportunities, address local challenges and strengthen collaboration across sectors. This initiative will play a catalytic role in positioning Onslow as a strategic hub for investment, innovation and sustainable growth'.

The Forum program is anticipated to facilitate various elements including, keynote addresses from government and industry leaders; panel discussions on emerging trends and opportunities; workshops focusing on local challenges and solutions; networking sessions/events and exhibitor opportunities for local businesses and an Onslow Industry tour.

The proposed date for the Forum is mid to late March 2027, activating shoulder season visitation and providing further opportunity for local business to capitalise on additional visitation outside of peak visitation months.

OCCI are requesting \$20,000.00 ex GST as partnership support of the proposed activities of the Forum plus any in-kind contributions, such as cost of hire for use of Shire facilities and facilities.

Key Objectives of the Forum:

- Facilitate Strategic Dialogue.
- Promote Economic Diversification.
- Strengthen Regional Partnerships.
- Provide Actionable Insights.
- Champion Sustainability and Resilience.
- Empower Local Business.

Benefits to the Shire of Ashburton:

- Shape the Regional Economic Agenda.
- Strengthen Government and Industry Partnerships.
- Attract Investment and Diversify the Economy.
- Empower Local Businesses and Grow the Workforce.
- Boost Community Confidence and Economic Resilience.
- Promote Onslow as a Forward-Looking Regional Hub.

If support in principle is provided by the Shire, OCCI will then seek and secure financial and in-kind support from other regional stakeholders.

Consultation

Onslow Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI)

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	3. Prosperity - We will advocate and drive opportunities for the community to be economically desirable, resilient, and prosperous.
Strategic Outcome	3.4 Sustainable commerce and tourism opportunities
Strategy	4 Partner with the Pilbara Development Commission, key resource industry partners and State Government to target investment opportunities designed at stimulating more diversified business and economic development to benefit the community.

Council Policy

[Council Policies » Shire of Ashburton](#)

Community Engagement.

Ensure Shire stakeholders are well informed about issues, strategies and plans that may directly or indirectly affect them.

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

Nil

Future Financial Year(s)

If supported the \$20,000 requested to support the Onslow Economic Forum will be allocated to Economic Development Initiatives ED24078 in the 2026/27 budget.

Funds are expected to be available based on budget allocations from previous financial years. Budget allocation for Economic Development Initiatives (ED24078) 2025/26 was \$103,370.00.

Legislative Implications

Section 5.56 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* and section 3.1 of the *Local Government Act 1995* give legislative mandate to local governments to focus on economic development in their core agenda.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Reputation (social/community)	Council not seen as proactive nor supportive by not collaborating with the Chamber and other external stakeholders, in an event that potentially benefit economic development and growth for Onslow and the greater region.	Possible (3)	Moderate (3)	Low (1-4)	ETDC recommend to Council for financial and in-kind support to OCCI for the Onslow Economic Forum - 2027.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Committee Recommendation

That the Economic and Tourism Development Committee make a recommendation to Council

1. for in principle support for the proposed inaugural Onslow Economic Outlook Forum in March 2027.
2. Consider an allocation in the 2026/27 budget of \$20,000.00 (ex GST) from account code ED24078, to be a financial partner for the 2027 Onslow Economic Outlook Forum, plus additional in-kind contributions and support, where appropriate.

ETD.3 Australian Mining Cities Alliance Membership

File Reference	GR37
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	E Pirozek, Executive Assistant (CEO)
Authorising Officer	K Woodward, Chief Executive Officer
Previous Meeting Reference	Nil
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	Nil

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present to Council an opportunity to consider formally joining the Australian Mining Cities Alliance (AMCA) as a Class 2 Member for a one-year trial.

Background

The AMCA is a coalition of local governments representing major mining centres, including the Karratha, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Mount Isa, and Broken Hill, established to address shared challenges and to advocate for sustainable growth, policy reform, and economic diversification in Australia’s mining-dependent communities.

Established in 2017, the AMCA has grown to include several Councils whose urban development relies heavily on the mining or gas extraction industries. Current members include:

- City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder (WA) – Class 1 member
- Mount Isa City Council (QLD) – Class 1 member
- Broken Hill City Council (NSW) – Class 1 member
- Isaac Regional Council (QLD) – Class 1 member
- City of Karratha (WA) – Class 1 member
- Shire of East Pilbara (WA) – Class 2 member.

The AMCA aims to improve the economic, social, and environmental standards and sustainability of mining cities and regions across Australia. Key objectives include:

- **Advocacy:** Advocating to state, territory, and federal governments for improved policies relating to mining cities, including issues like affordable housing, infrastructure investment, and reliable services (health, childcare, air transport).
- **Economic Diversification:** Promoting policies that enable members to create sustainable futures through economic diversification beyond reliance on one or two commodities or mining operations.
- **Knowledge Sharing:** Providing a platform for members to share experiences, strategies, and expertise in managing the impacts of the mining sector, including volatile commodity prices and the effects of Fly-In Fly-Out (FIFO) employment practices.

- **Transformation Planning:** Engaging with governments and industry on the planning and management of community transformations, particularly those impacted by decarbonisation efforts and the transition to a net-zero economy.

Key Functions and Goals:

- **Advocacy:** Lobbying federal, state, and territory governments for better policy settings and investment.
- **Collaboration:** Sharing best practices and solutions for common problems.
- **Sustainability:** Promoting economic diversification and creating long-term liveability in mining regions.
- **Policy Development:** Devising and promoting policies that support sustainable futures for mining cities.

Challenges Addressed:

- Volatile commodity prices.
- Concentrated local economies.
- Net wealth transfer out of mining regions.
- High costs for housing, insurance, and airfares.

Advocacy Activities and Achievements of the AMCA

The AMCA has continued to strengthen its national advocacy role by developing and promoting a suite of position papers and policy submissions addressing key issues affecting mining communities. These documents are utilised to influence policy direction and support structured dialogue with Federal Government representatives and available for public viewing on the AMCA's website.

The AMCA's past work has focused on the following priority themes:

- National data collection on mining workforce composition and population trends.
- Housing affordability challenges within mining communities.
- Taxation reform to support the long-term sustainability of regional communities.
- Impacts of FIFO/DIDO workforce practices and strategies to encourage residential workforces.
- Critical minerals policy and planning for economic transition.
- Establishment of a Regional Productivity Fund to support infrastructure and economic development.

The AMCA has also coordinated delegations to Canberra, facilitating meetings with senior Federal Members of Parliament and Ministers. These delegations aimed to advocate for AMCA's policy priorities, elevate the profile of mining cities, and ensure regional issues are represented within national political discussions.

A significant achievement in the past has been the AMCA's success in obtaining broad formal support for its policy positions at the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly. Motions aligned with the AMCA's priorities — including recognition of true population service needs (inclusive of FIFO/DIDO factors), reform of tax and funding arrangements for regional infrastructure, and housing affordability measures — received strong support from local governments across Australia. This national-level support reflects growing political traction and legitimacy for AMCA's advocacy agenda.

The AMCA has also played a central role in the “More Than Mining” campaign, a collaborative national advocacy initiative seeking targeted reforms, including amendments to the Fringe Benefits Tax, to improve housing affordability and strengthen the local workforce in mining communities.

While the AMCA’s outcomes are not characterised by singular legislative changes, the organisation has been effective in building institutional capacity, expanding its policy presence and strengthening national advocacy for mining cities. Its work has contributed to elevating mining community issues into federal policy debate and uniting regional stakeholders to pursue equitable funding arrangements, improved policy frameworks, and long-term planning solutions supporting the social and economic sustainability of mining regions.

Comments

Joining AMCA directly supports the Shire’s Strategic Community Plan (SCP) objective under the “Prosperity” pillar: to advocate and drive opportunities for the community to be economically desirable, resilient, and prosperous.

In considering membership, the Shire contacted the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the City of Karratha — who is a Class 1 Member of the Alliance. The advice provided was encouraging Council to consider a one-year trial membership, followed by a review of outcomes and learnings. Karratha’s CEO notes that while some mining-based local governments across Australia are experiencing growth and others contraction (eg. coal-sector communities), resulting in differing member needs, the Western Australian member cities collectively represent a significant influence within the AMCA.

It was further advised that advocacy efforts in Canberra are strengthened considerably when undertaken as a unified and high-profile group. In particular, the economic contribution of the Pilbara region to national Gross Domestic Product provides a compelling narrative that is difficult for decision-makers to disregard, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of collective advocacy initiatives. This is especially relevant given Ashburton’s significant contribution to Western Australia’s Gross State Product and its role as a major resource hub.

AMCA Membership Policy has two membership classes:

Member Class 1: Active Local Government Member

Member Class 2: Other Local Government Member

Eligibility Criteria

The eligibility for each class of membership is as follows:

Member Class 1: Active Local Government Member

- Mineral mining or gas extraction must be the predominant economic development activity within the local government district.
- Urban development (towns/cities) within the local government district must primarily rely on its support role for the minerals mining or gas extraction industries.
- Council will be able to demonstrate commitment to research, advocacy and initiatives supporting the minerals mining or gas extraction industries.

Member Class 2: Other Local Government Member

- Minerals mining or gas extraction must be a substantial economic development activity within the local government district.
- Urban development (towns/cities) within the local government district will be substantively founded and sustained by their support role for the minerals mining or gas extraction industries.
- Councils will be able to demonstrate a developing interest in research, advocacy and initiatives supporting the minerals mining or gas extraction industries.

Membership applications will be presented for consideration to the Board at the AMCA's next available meeting.

Acceptance of a membership application to join the AMCA is strictly at the sole discretion of the Board in accordance with its Constitution.

Membership Rights

All members will be entitled to participate in AMCA events, receive communications, including a monthly newsletter, and benefit from all AMCA research, advocacy, and program activities.

All members will have an equal right to vote at the General Meeting or Special Meetings of the Company in accordance with the Constitution.

Active Local Government Members (Member Class 1 only) will be entitled to nominate one representative to be one of up to seven Directors which form the Board of the AMCA (presumed to be the Shire President/Mayor or delegate of the local government).

Active Local Government Members (Member Class 1 only) will be entitled to nominate one representative to be member of the Operational Committee (presumed to be the CEO/General Manager of the local government).

Meeting Frequency

The AMCA Board and the AMCA Operations Committee currently convene on five occasions each calendar year, however, meeting dates are scheduled with flexibility and are typically confirmed at each Board meeting to accommodate operational requirements and member availability.

The AMCA Operations Committee ordinarily meets approximately one month prior to the next scheduled Board meeting to enable the timely consideration of matters requiring Board endorsement or strategic direction.

Meetings can be attended online via Microsoft Teams, and wherever practicable, meetings held in Canberra are aligned with member delegates planning to attend the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Annual General Congress to maximise efficiency and support broader sector engagement. Additional visits to Canberra may be arranged for AMCA delegates if emerging issues, advocacy priorities, or strategic opportunities necessitate further representation.

Consultation

Australian Mining Cities Alliance
City of Karratha

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	3. Prosperity - We will advocate and drive opportunities for the community to be economically desirable, resilient, and prosperous.
Strategic Outcome	3.1 Coordinated delivery of economic services and projects for the community
Strategy	3 Provide professional leadership and advice to assist Council.

Council Policy

[Council Policies » Shire of Ashburton](#)

Nil

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

Class 1 Membership

- Initial joining fee of \$10,000 (to be funded from the Economic Development budget).
- Annual membership fee \$20,000.

or

Class 2 Membership

- Initial joining fee of \$5,000 (to be funded from the Economic Development budget).
- Annual membership fee \$10,000.

In addition to the above there is the potential for associated meeting costs for travel, accommodation and meals for two Shire of Ashburton delegates estimated to be approximately \$20,000 per annum.

Both membership categories will receive a pro-rata discount to reflect that nine months of 2025/26 financial year that have already lapsed.

Future Financial Year(s)

Budget considerations will be required annually on an ongoing basis to ensure funds are available for annual membership fees as referred to above. Meeting attendance costs for travel, meals, and accommodation are estimated at approximately \$20,000 per annum and will need to be considered within future budgets also.

Legislative Implications

Nil

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Reputation (social/community)	Missed opportunities for regional advocacy and investment.	Possible (3)	Moderate (3)	Moderate (5-9)	Joining AMCA will strengthen regional advocacy efforts and ensure representation.
Financial impact	Unbudgeted expenditure for travel and participation.	Possible (3)	Minor (2)	Moderate (5-9)	Allocate funds and monitor via monthly reviews.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Committee Recommendation

That the Economic and Tourism Development Committee recommends that Council:

1. Approves a Category 2 Membership for the Shire of Ashburton in the Australian Mining Cities Alliance, on a one-year trial basis.
2. Approves for the Chief Executive Officer and Shire President to represent the Shire of Ashburton’s interests at Australian Mining Cities Alliance meetings and report back to Council at the end of the one-year trial on alliance activities and outcomes.
3. Notes that both the joining and membership fees will be paid from existing funds in the Economic Development budget.

12 Office of the Chief Executive Officer Reports

12.1 Mineral Resources Limited - Lot 300 Approved Transit Workforce Accommodation - Proposed Connection to Sewer through Shire Reserve Lot 383 on DP 205462 (Reserve 29117)

File Reference	BAC.0300
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Mineral Resources Limited
Author	K Woodward, Chief Executive Officer
Authorising Officer	
Previous Meeting Reference	Ordinary Council Meeting 14 December 2021 – Item 13.2 (203/2021) Ordinary Council Meeting 9 August 2022 – Item 13.2 (109/2022) Ordinary Council Meeting 14 February 2023 – Item 11.5 (014/2023) Ordinary Council Meeting 10 October 2023 – Item 12.4 (184/2023)
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	Nil

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to:

1. reaffirm Council's resolution of 10 October 2023 in respect of the proposed sewer connection servicing Lot 300 Back Beach Road, Onslow, through Shire managed Reserve 29117 (Lot 383 on Deposited Plan 205462); and
2. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and execute the necessary documentation, including any Deed of Agreement, easement, or access arrangement, subject to Ministerial approval where required, to facilitate delivery of the approved sewer connection and mitigate ongoing governance and legal risk to the Shire.

Background

Mineral Resources Limited (MinRes) holds a development approval for a Transient Workforce Accommodation facility on Lot 300 Back Beach Road, Onslow. The development approval was granted by the Regional Joint Development Assessment Panel (JDAP) and includes a condition requiring the development to be connected to the Water Corporation reticulated sewerage system prior to occupation. That approval is final and has not been varied to impose any limitation on the permanence, ownership, or future removal of sewer infrastructure.

Investigations undertaken by MinRes in consultation with the Water Corporation, identified the only feasible and compliant sewer alignment as being through Lot 383 on Deposited Plan 205462, being Crown Reserve 29117. Reserve 29117 is Crown land vested in the Shire of Ashburton for the purpose of "Tourist Information Bay", with the Shire holding care, control and management of the land. Statutory powers in respect of the reserve remain with the Minister for Lands.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 10 October 2023, Council considered a report seeking support for the proposed sewer connection through Reserve 29117 to enable compliance with the JDAP development approval. Council resolved as follows:

"That with respect to Mineral Resources Lot 300 Approved Transit Workforce Accommodation - Proposed Connection to Sewer through Shire Reserve Lot 383 on DP 205462 (Reserve 29117), Council,

- 1. Provides support, in principle to the proposed sewer connection as per Attachment 1.*
- 2. Requests the sewer line has an easement or alternative binding agreement to ensure indemnification to the Shire and the State from any future liability or damages.*
- 3. Authorises the CEO to execute any documentation required in connection to any required Deed of Agreement, easement, or access agreement on the subject land, subject to approval by the Minister for Lands."*

That resolution has not been rescinded, amended, or superseded and remains current.

Following Council's decision, the Administration progressed implementation of the resolution, including preparation of an Access Deed and engagement with MinRes and the Water Corporation. During this process, additional matters were raised for consideration at an administrative level, including matters relating to ownership of the sewer infrastructure and its status at the expiry of the lease over Lot 300.

These matters were not expressly addressed in Council's October 2023 resolution and are not required by the JDAP development approval or the West Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) subdivision approval. The Water Corporation has since advised that gravity sewer infrastructure connecting to its reticulated network must be constructed in accordance with its standards and transferred to and vested in the Water Corporation upon completion and acceptance.

As a result, differing interpretations have emerged regarding the appropriate implementation pathway for the sewer connection. This has delayed finalisation of documentation and progression of the approved works.

This report is presented to provide Council with a consolidated overview of the relevant statutory approvals, Council decisions, and implementation considerations, and to seek Council direction to confirm its intent and enable the matter to proceed in an orderly and consistent manner.

Comments

Council resolutions and statutory approvals provide the framework within which the Administration implements decisions. Once adopted, Council resolutions remain operative unless formally amended or rescinded by Council or displaced by statute.

In this matter, Council’s resolution of 10 October 2023 provides support for the proposed sewer connection through Reserve 29117 and authorises the Chief Executive Officer to finalise the necessary documentation, subject to appropriate legal protections. That resolution remains current. Separately, the JDAP development approval and the WAPC subdivision approval require connection to the Water Corporation reticulated sewerage system and do not impose any requirements relating to private ownership, permanence, or removal of sewer infrastructure.

During subsequent implementation, additional requirements were introduced through administrative negotiations that were not expressly contemplated by Council’s resolution or required by the relevant statutory approvals. This has resulted in a lack of alignment between Council’s adopted decision and the current implementation pathway.

The purpose of returning the matter to Council is to provide clarity, confirm Council’s intent, and ensure that implementation proceeds in a manner consistent with Council’s resolution, applicable statutory approvals, and established governance practices. Reaffirmation of Council’s position will provide certainty to all parties and enable the matter to progress in an orderly and lawful manner.

Consultation

Elected Members

Mineral Resources Limited

LK Advisory

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	2. Place - We will provide sustainable, purposeful, and valued built and natural environment opportunities for the community.
Strategic Outcome	2.6 Land use opportunities to benefit current and future communities
Strategy	2 Incorporate appropriate planning controls for land use planning and development.

Council Policy

Nil

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

MinRes has agreed, in writing, to pay for all costs associated with the creation of the sewer line through the subject land, including drafting the Access Deed, any easements, lodgement fees, surveys, and any other requirements. The Shire may derive a minor fee for access to the Shire’s Reserve, likely an annual fee of \$550 inclusive of GST under the Shire’s Fees and Charges for Crown Land Administration.

Future Financial Year(s)

The Shire will request agreement from MinRes that any future improvements are restored should there be any maintenance activity undertaken on the sewer line that causes damage (ie. reinstatement of landscaping). An annual fee of \$550 may also be charged for the use of the Reserve.

Legislative Implications

Land Administration Act 1997

Section 46 provides power to the Minister of Lands to grant the care, control, and management of a reserve to a management body for the purpose of which that land is reserved for.

Section 144 provides power to the Minister of Lands to grant easements over Crown land:

- (a) with the consent of every management body of the relevant Crown land and of every person having any interest, right, title or power in respect of that land, for a specified purpose or any other purpose the Minister thinks fit; and
- (b) in that grant express that easement to be subject to specified conditions and the payment of specified consideration.

Local Government Act 1995

Section 3.54 outlines powers for the purpose of controlling and managing land vested in or placed under the control and management of a local government.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Reputation (social/community)	A decision to not support the proposal may be viewed as impeding or complicating the ability for the development to be achieved.	Possible (3)	Minor (2)	Moderate (5-9)	Adopt officer recommendation.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Reaffirms its resolution of 10 October 2023 in respect of the proposed sewer connection servicing Lot 300 Back Beach Road, Onslow, through Shire managed Reserve 29117 (Lot 383 on DP 205462);
2. Confirms that no requirement exists for the sewer infrastructure to be privately owned or removed at the expiry of any lease, unless imposed by a future Council decision or a relevant statutory authority;
3. Directs that negotiations and documentation be finalised strictly in accordance with Council's October 2023 resolution and applicable statutory approvals; and
4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute all documentation necessary to give effect to the sewer connection, including any Deed of Agreement, easement, or access arrangement, subject to Ministerial approval where required.

13 Corporate Services Reports

13.1 Monthly Schedule of Accounts Paid - February 2026

File Reference	FM03
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	T Dayman, Manager Finance
Authorising Officer	D Kennedy, Director Corporate Services
Previous Meeting Reference	Nil
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	1. Schedule of Accounts Paid - February 2026

Report Purpose

Shire officers are required to prepare a Schedule of Accounts Paid each month containing relevant information, as legislated.

The purpose of this report is to present the:

- Schedule of Creditor Accounts Paid for February 2026;
- Trust Fund Payments for February 2026; and
- Corporate Credit Card and Payment Card Reconciliations for February 2026.

Council is requested to confirm the Monthly Schedule of Accounts Paid, as presented in Attachment 1.

Background

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* require Shire officers, monthly and within a prescribed timeframe, to prepare a schedule of payments made from the Municipal Fund and the Trust Fund and present this to Council for confirmation.

A new regulation has been added to the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* to increase transparency and accountability in local government, through greater oversight of incidental spending. From 1 September 2023, local governments are required to disclose information about each transaction made on a credit cards, debit cards or other purchasing cards.

Comments

Shire officers have prepared the Monthly Schedule of Accounts Paid, in accordance with legislative requirements, and this is attached.

For the month under review the following summarised details are presented:

Description	Amount \$
<u>Municipal Fund</u>	
Electronic Funds Transfers	5,914,511.20
BPay/Credit Cards	399,147.16
Cheques	0
Payroll	1,149,208.59
Bank Fees and Charges	1,286.27
<u>Municipal Fund Total</u>	7,464,153.22
<u>Trust Fund</u>	
Electronic Funds Transfers	0.00
<u>Trust Fund Total</u>	0.00

Payment Cards

Credit Cards	70,253.34
Fuel Cards – Ampol	3,219.91
Fuel Cards – Viva / Shell	6,988.45
Fuel Cards – Wex Motorpass	0
Taxi Cards – Cabcharge	407.52
<u>Payment Cards Total</u>	80,869.22

The below table provides a summary of payment totals during 2025-2026.

Month	EFT Payment	Direct Debits	Credit Cards	Payroll	Bank Fees	Total Payment
	11,877,167	464,990	84,140	1,609,770	2,351	14,039,011
	13,059,809	153,819	84,816	1,059,073	2,337	14,359,856
	12,329,479	4,714	62,308	1,1125,90	2,709	13,524,800
	20,344,341	749,066	79,176	1,143,187	2,540	22,318,311
	13,085,271	387,119	67,783	1,202,171	3,002	14,745,346
	8,493,936	368,574	58,728	1,736,787	1,437	10,659,462
January 26	8,707,051	472,208	46,136	1,194,558	1,706	7,421,659
February 26	5,914,511	328,894	70,253	1,149,209	1,286	7,464,153
Total YTD	90,812,161	2,856,137	558,806	10,220,345	17,367	104,464,816
Total 25/26	83,319,933	3,931,059	579,458	13,971,918	30,854	101,833,224

Consultation

Executive Leadership Team

Finance Team

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	4. Performance - We will lead the organisation, and create the culture, to deliver demonstrated performance excellence to the community.
Strategic Outcome	4.2 Appropriate, sustainable, and transparent management of community funds
Strategy	4 Ensure financial transactions are accurate and timely.

Council Policy

Nil

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

Payments included on the Schedule of Accounts Paid have been undertaken in accordance with appropriate processes and the Annual Budget.

Future Financial Year(s)

Nil

Legislative Implications

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

Regulation 13 (Payments from municipal fund or trust fund by Chief Executive Officer, Chief Executive Officer's duties as to etc.)

Where the Chief Executive Officer has been delegated the exercise of power to make payments from the Municipal Fund or the Trust Fund, a list of accounts authorised for payment by the Chief Executive Officer is to be presented each month to Council.

Regulation 13A Payments by employees via purchasing cards

If a local government has authorised an employee to use a credit, debtor or other purchasing card, a list of payments made using the card must be prepared each month is to be presented to Council.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Property (plant, equipment, buildings)	Council does not accept the officer recommendation.	Unlikely (2)	Minor (2)	Low (1-4)	Provide Council with adequate information to make an informed decision.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council, in accordance with regulation 13 and 13A of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, confirms the Monthly Schedule of Accounts Paid for February 2026, inclusive of purchasing cards payments for February 2026, as included at Attachment 1.

13.2 Monthly Financial Statements - February 2026

File Reference	FM03
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	T Dayman, Manager Finance
Authorising Officer	D Kennedy, Director Corporate Services
Previous Meeting Reference	Nil
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	1. Financial Statements - February 2026

Report Purpose

Shire officers are required to prepare a Statement of Financial Activity each month containing relevant information, as legislated.

The purpose of this report is to present the Statement of Financial Activity for the month ended 28 February 2026.

Council is requested to accept the Statement of Financial Activity, as provided at Attachment 1.

Background

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* require Shire officers, monthly and within a prescribed timeframe, to prepare financial reports covering prescribed information and present these to Council.

Comments

Shire officers have prepared the Statement of Financial Activity, and supporting documentation, in accordance with legislative requirements (as attached).

Consultation

Executive Leadership Team
 Middle Management Group
 Finance Team

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	4. Performance - We will lead the organisation, and create the culture, to deliver demonstrated performance excellence to the community.
Strategic Outcome	4.2 Appropriate, sustainable, and transparent management of community funds
Strategy	4 Ensure financial transactions are accurate and timely.

Council Policy

Nil

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

Commentary on the current financial position is outlined within the body of the attached reports.

Future Financial Year(s)

Nil

Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 1995

Section 6.4 (Financial report)

Local governments are required to prepare and present financial reports, on an annual basis and at any other time, and in any other format, as prescribed.

Regulation 34 (Financial activity statement required each month (Act s.6.4))

Shire officers are to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the revenue and expenditure as set out in the annual budget. Each statement of financial activity is to be accompanied by information explaining the composition of net assets less committed and restricted assets, any material variances and any other supporting information considered relevant.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Compliance	Material misstatement or significant error in the financial statements.	Unlikely (2)	Moderate (3)	Moderate (5-9)	Review of financial position information to be undertaken regularly and by multiple Shire officers.
Compliance	Council does not accept the officer recommendation.	Unlikely (2)	Minor (2)	Low (1-4)	Provide Council with sufficient information for decision making.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council, in accordance with regulation 34 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, accepts the Statement of Financial Activity, and associated documentation for February 2026, as included at Attachment 1.

13.3 Gross Rental Valuation (GRV) Rating of Transient Workforce Accommodation Facilities

File Reference	RV01
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	D Kennedy, Director Corporate Services
Authorising Officer	K Woodward, Chief Executive Officer
Previous Meeting Reference	Ordinary Council Meeting 16 April 2024 - Item 13.3 – 020/2024
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Technical Land Description - Kens Bore Resort Camp 2. Technical Land Description - Flying Fish Village 3. Technical Land Description - Paulsens East Iron Ore

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to complete the statutory process for the rating of several new Transient Workforce Accommodation (TWA) facilities in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (DLGIRS).

Council is requested to approve the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) making an application to the Minister for Local Government (the Minister) to change the basis of rating on the properties listed in the body of this report.

Background

An extensive review of temporary workforce accommodation facilities was undertaken in early 2024. Since that time, processes have been established to ensure that new facilities are appropriately rated 12 months after construction in accordance with the current Department of Local Government policy.

Whilst there are some broader issues playing out with respect to the rateability of entire miscellaneous licence land parcels (Mt Magnet issue), the Shire has been in direct discussions with Senior Policy Advisors from within the Minister for Local Governments Office, WALGA and the Shire's legal advisors. These discussions have affirmed the ongoing rateability of temporary workforce accommodation facilities on a Gross Rental basis and based on land use.

The Ministers Senior Policy advisors have acknowledged the need for clarity within the legislative amendments currently before parliament. As currently worded it could lead to a loophole being exploited whereby a ratepayer could argue an occupied temporary workforce accommodation facility would be non-rateable due to being located exclusively on a specific tenement type rather than land usage. This would fundamentally go against the basis of the Western Australian rating system.

This report seeks to commence the process of gazetting a further 3 temporary workforce accommodation facilities.

A comprehensive review of temporary workforce accommodation facilities was conducted in early 2024. Since then, procedures have been implemented to ensure that new facilities are assessed for rates 12 months after their construction, in accordance with the current Department of Local Government policy. Rateability refers to whether a property is liable to pay local government rates, which are essential for funding community services and infrastructure.

There are ongoing broader issues concerning the rateability of entire miscellaneous licence land parcels. A miscellaneous licence land parcel is a type of land tenure, often associated with mining or resource activities, that allows for specific uses such as access roads, pipelines, or camps, rather than general land occupation. In the case of the Mt Magnet issue, such land parcels have raised questions about how rates should be applied. The Shire has engaged directly with Senior Policy Advisors from the Minister for Local Government's Office, the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA), and the Shire's legal advisors. These discussions have confirmed that temporary workforce accommodation facilities should continue to be rated on a Gross Rental basis. The Gross Rental basis is a method of valuing properties for rating purposes, based on the potential rental income that could be earned from the property, rather than its unimproved land value.

Senior Policy Advisors to the Minister have recognised the need for greater clarity in the legislative amendments currently before Parliament. As currently drafted, the legislation may inadvertently create a loophole whereby a ratepayer could claim that an occupied temporary workforce accommodation facility is not rateable simply because it is situated exclusively on a specific tenement type, such as a miscellaneous licence, rather than being assessed based on its actual land use. This loophole could undermine the intent of the Western Australian rating system, which is designed to ensure fairness and consistency.

If this legislative loophole is not addressed, certain temporary workforce accommodation facilities could potentially be exempt from local government rates. This would result in a loss of revenue for local governments, reducing their ability to provide essential services and infrastructure, and could create an uneven playing field among ratepayers. The Shire is actively advocating for amendments to the legislation that would ensure rateability is determined by land use rather than the underlying tenement type, thereby upholding equity and the financial sustainability of local government.

This report initiates the process of gazetting an additional three temporary workforce accommodation facilities, in line with the recommended statutory procedures, to ensure ongoing compliance and fairness in the rating of such properties.

Comments

Name	Indicative GRV	Comments
Ken's Bore – "Resort" (MRL) Fig 1.	\$6,500,000	Resort camp built by MRL. Past consultation with MRL acknowledged rateability, however since the Minister has submitted draft legislation relating to Miscellaneous Licences, MRL have lodged a SAT appeal relating to the rating of the adjoining construction camp. The resort camp is similarly located on both an Exploration Tenement and a Misc Licence.
Flying Fish Village (FMG) Fig 2	\$1,700,000	Substantial new camp. VGO has provided an indicative GRV but is seeking clarifications from FMG which may change the final rateable GRV. FMG have acknowledged rateability and have previously been through the gazettal process.
Paulsen's East Iron Ore Camp Fig 3.	\$700,000	Smaller camp that became rateable in November 2025 that has been acknowledged by owner during consultation with no objections.

Fig 1. Ken's Bore Resort Camp



Fig 2 Flying Fish Village



Fig 3 Paulsen’s East Iron Ore



Consultation

Consultation has occurred with the stakeholders who are operating transient workforce accommodation that is nearing or exceeded 12 months of occupation.

- Mineral Resources
- Fortescue
- Paulsen’s East Iron Ore.

MRL is contesting the rateability of Ken’s Bore on the basis that it is on a very small portion of Misc Licence L08/68. The Shire has confirmed to MRL that the camp is also on Exploration Tenement E08/1295 and that rateability is based on land use. MRL have also been advised that the Shire does not rate the entirety of Misc Licence L08/68 and does not intend to rate all Misc Licences on a GRV basis. MRL’s position is that without the Misc Licence they would not have been able to construct the facilities. The Shire maintains this is a matter between MRL and the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) and that rateability is based on land usage.

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	4. Performance - We will lead the organisation, and create the culture, to deliver demonstrated performance excellence to the community.
Strategic Outcome	4.2 Appropriate, sustainable, and transparent management of community funds
Strategy	4 Ensure financial transactions are accurate and timely.

Council Policy

[Council Policies » Shire of Ashburton](#)

Gross Rental Value Rating of Mining Tenements – Policy (Minister for Local Government 2015).

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

Additional rates revenue in the region of \$1 million will be received before 30 June 2026 subject to the Minister approving the individual applications.

Future Financial Year(s)

The Shire has a healthy pipeline of development projects that will assist the Shire’s long term financial sustainability.

Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 1995 (the Act)

Section 6.29 – Valuation and rates on mining and petroleum interests.

Basis of rating is to be the Unimproved Value of the land unless the following applies:

Capital improvements for the purpose of section 6.29(2) of the Act means:

- (a) Accommodation, recreation and administration facilities and associated buildings; and
- (b) Maintenance workshops existing within 100 metres of facilities listed above; provided that these facilities have been in place for at least 12 months.

Section 6.39(2) of the Act allows for amendments to the rate record, including to amend for the 5 years prior to the current financial year. This will allow the Shire to issue interim rate notices back to 1 July 2023 in some instances.

Department of Local Government Rating Policy: Valuation of Land – Mining under which an application is to be made for the spot rating of TWA’s and other structures located on Mining Tenements and other land outside the town boundaries.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Financial impact	Failure to identify rateable properties correctly therefore having a negative impact on revenue.	Possible (3)	Major (4)	High (10-16)	Process has been established to monitor DMIRS tenement register and Building applications on an ongoing basis to ensure gazettal process commences soon after a camp is established.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be medium.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That, with respect to the Gross Rental Valuation (GRV) Rating of Transient Workforce Accommodation Council:

1. Notes that Mineral Resources, Fortescue and Paulsen's East Iron Ore were consulted with regards to the proposed basis of rating to apply to temporary workforce accommodation facilities;
2. Approves the Chief Executive Officer making an application to the Minister for Local Government to apply the Gross Rental Valuation basis of rating to the area contained within the Technical Land Description for the Ken's Bore Resort – Mineral Resources (Attachment 1);
3. Approves the Chief Executive Officer making an application to the Minister for Local Government to apply the Gross Rental Valuation basis of rating to the area contained within the Technical Land Description for the Flying Fish Village – Fortescue (Attachment 2);
4. Approves the Chief Executive Officer making an application to the Minister for Local Government to apply the Gross Rental Valuation basis of rating to the area contained within the Technical Land Description for Paulsen's East Ore Iron Camp (Attachment 3);
5. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to take all necessary steps to commence rating the above properties upon notification that the Minister for Local Government has approved the application to change the basis of rating on the above properties to Gross Rental Valuation and that the gazettal process has been completed.

13.4 Draft Shire of Ashburton Public Health Plan 2026–2031 - Public Consultation

File Reference	2655090
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	C Walker, Coordinator Environmental Health Services
Authorising Officer	D Kennedy, Director Corporate Services
Previous Meeting Reference	Nil
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	1. Draft Public Health Plan 2026-2031

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the draft Shire of Ashburton Public Health Plan 2026–2031 (the Plan) to Council and to seek endorsement for the Plan to be released for further public comment/consultation.

Background

The Shire of Ashburton is developing its first Plan in alignment with:

- *Public Health Act 2016*
- WA State Public Health Plan
- Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022–2032

Under the *Public Health Act 2016*, local governments are required to prepare and adopt a Local Public Health Plan by 4 June 2026. The Plan outlines local public health priorities, population health profiles, and strategies to support community health and wellbeing over the next five years.

Comments

Community and stakeholder engagement was undertaken to inform the draft Plan, and a summary of these engagement outcomes is included within the document.

The draft Plan, provided as Attachment 1, is now complete and ready for a public comment/consultation period before being finalised and presented back to Council for consideration and adoption.

Releasing the draft Plan for the public comment period will support transparency and provide an opportunity for community members and stakeholders to provide a final review and comment on the proposed priorities and actions in the draft Plan.

A 14-day public consultation period is proposed, after which a final version of the Plan will be presented to Council for consideration and adoption.

Consultation

A broad consultation process was undertaken between July and September 2025 to inform the development of the draft Plan. This included:

- Online Community Survey – 174 responses
- Online Staff Survey – 28 responses
- Elected Member Survey – 5 responses
- Presentations at What's On Tom Price (7 August) and What's On Onslow (28 August)
- Online stakeholder workshop – 11 September, 13 attendees
- Promotion through Inside Ashburton (July & August editions), social media, community noticeboards and local facilities
- Emails to 179 stakeholders inviting participation
- One-on-one stakeholder meetings – 2 conducted.

These engagement activities helped shape the priorities and actions included in the draft Plan.

Following development of the draft actions, internal departments with responsibility for implementation were consulted on 20 November 2025, via email to ensure actions were practical with available resources. These departments included:

- Communities
- Media
- Facilities & Infrastructure
- Health
- Regulatory Services
- Emergency Management.

The Executive Leadership Team reviewed the full draft Plan on 10 February 2026.

Further consultation required

Subject to Council endorsement, the draft Public Health Plan will be released for 14 days of public consultation, with the following methods proposed:

- Public notice on the Shire website
- Social media promotion
- Direct email distribution to stakeholder lists
- Contact details provided for email and/or phone feedback to Environmental Health.

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	3. Prosperity - We will advocate and drive opportunities for the community to be economically desirable, resilient, and prosperous.
Strategic Outcome	3.3 Clean, safe, and accessible communities
Strategy	1 Develop and maintain the Public Health Plan.

Council Policy

[Council Policies » Shire of Ashburton](#)

Nil

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

All consultation activities have been delivered within existing budget allocations. Development of the draft Plan will continue within the approved project budget.

Future Financial Year(s)

Nil

Legislative Implications

The *Public Health Act 2016 (WA)* requires local governments to prepare a Local Public Health Plan consistent with the State Public Health Plan by 4 June 2026. The draft Public Health Plan has been developed in accordance with these requirements.

Once adopted, the Plan must be made publicly available, consistent with statutory obligations.

There are no additional legislative implications associated with releasing the draft Plan for public consultation.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Reputation (social/community)	Community expectations may not be met if consultation is not undertaken.	Unlikely (2)	Minor (2)	Low (1-4)	Conduct public consultation to ensure transparency and collaborative planning.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorses the draft Shire of Ashburton Public Health Plan 2026–2031 for the purpose of public consultation; and
2. Approves the commencement of a 14-day public consultation period prior to the final Plan being presented to Council for adoption.

13.5 Date Amendment - September 2026 Ordinary Council and Community Grants Committee Meetings - Pannawonica

File Reference	GV04
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	R Marlborough, Senior Governance Officer
Authorising Officer	D Kennedy, Director Corporate Services
Previous Meeting Reference	Ordinary Council Meeting 19 November 2025 – Item 13.1 – (212/2025)
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	Nil

Report Purpose

Council is requested to consider a change to the date of the Ordinary Council and the Community Grants Committee Meetings that were scheduled to be held at the Barry Lang Centre in Pannawonica on 15 September 2026 to avoid conflict with the 2026 Local Government Conference and the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Annual General Meeting which are being held in Perth, between 16 and 18 September 2026.

Background

The 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting and Standing Committee Meeting dates, times and locations were endorsed by Council on 18 November 2026. The approved meeting dates and times were subsequently published on the Shire's website to support the legislative requirements and promote public awareness.

Comments

WALGA recently advised that their Annual General Meeting would be held on Wednesday 16 September 2026 at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre in conjunction with the 2026 Local Government Conference.

To ensure voting delegates endorsed by Council can participate in person at the AGM, and attendance by other elected members at the 2026 Local Government Convention to support professional development and networking opportunities, it would be beneficial to change the meeting dates of the September 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting and the Community Grants Committee Meeting at the Barry Lange Centre in Pannawonica from Tuesday 15 September to Tuesday 22 September 2026. Availability of the meeting room and accommodation for the proposed change in dates has been confirmed with the provider.

Resolving to amend the September 2026 Ordinary Council and Community Grants Committee meeting dates will ensure that suitable and achievable travel arrangements can be made for the elected members and the CEO attending these two important events.

Consultation

Shire President

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	4. Performance - We will lead the organisation, and create the culture, to deliver demonstrated performance excellence to the community.
Strategic Outcome	4.6 Visionary community leadership with sound, diligent and accountable governance
Strategy	2 Provide, and lead in the development of, meaningful policies and processes to ensure sound and compliant delivery of services to the community.

Council Policy

Nil

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

Nil

Future Financial Year(s)

Nil

Legislative Implications

Regulation 12(3) of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* prescribes that any change to the annual meeting details must be published on the local government’s official website as soon as practicable after the change is made.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Reputation (social/community)	Lack of knowledge of the planned meeting date changes.	Unlikely (2)	Minor (2)	Low (1-4)	Ensuring adequate public notice is provided for the change of dates, if the officer recommendation is supported

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council endorses a change to the date of the September 2026 Community Grants Committee and Ordinary Council Meetings to 22 September 2026, with meetings commencing at 8:30am and 1:00pm respectively, at the Barry Lang Centre, Deepdale Drive, Pannawonica.

13.6 Amendments - Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates - Behaviour Complaint Management

File Reference	GV20
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	R Marlborough, Senior Governance Officer
Authorising Officer	D Kennedy, Director Corporate Services
Previous Meeting Reference	Ordinary Council Meeting 20 April 2021 – Item 12.4 – 54/2021 Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2023 – Item 13.6 – 232/2023 Ordinary Council Meeting 9 December 2025 – Item 13.3 – 244/2025
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	1. Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present a review of the Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates (Code) to Council for consideration following recent legislative amendments and to provide information about new formal processes that need to be considered to effectively manage behavioural complaints under Division 3 of the Code.

Council is requested to:

1. endorse the reviewed and updated Code as provided and detailed at Attachment 1 to support the legislative requirements; and
2. support the framework outlined for the management of alleged behavioural complaints about elected members, committee members or candidates.

Background

In 2021, a legislative requirement to adopt a Code was first introduced. Council first adopted its Code at its April 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting (Council Decision 54/202). The last review presented to Council was in December 2025 (Council Decision 244/2025).

The Code adopted is based on the legislative requirements prescribed in the *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021* (Regulations).

On 1 January 2026, amendments to the Regulations came into effect that require the current Code to be formally amended to ensure statutory compliance and consideration is required to ensure a framework is determined to manage complaints regarding behavioural breaches under the Code.

Comments

In support of the legislative requirements, new and amended clauses have been included (using track changes) in the Code for Council’s consideration, as detailed in Attachment 1.

A summary of the amendments to Division 3 and 4 of the Code are detailed below.

Clause Number and Title	New provisions and comments
Clause 11 - Complaint about alleged breach	<p>Sets out the requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for a valid complaint, the form of a complaint and the timeframe for submitting. • for authorising on or more persons to receive and withdraw complaints. • to deal with a complaint under clauses 12-15, unless referred to the Inspector. • for the local government to deal with a complaint under clauses 12-15, if referred to the local government by the Inspector <p>Dot points 3 and 4 are new provisions.</p>
Clause 12 – Dealing with a complaint	<p>Note added to this clause: See also clause 14A in relation to the appointment of a monitor to assist the local government to deal with matters raised by a complaint.</p>
New Clause 14A – Appointment of a monitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowers the Inspector to appoint a monitor to assist the local government in dealing with matters raised by a complaint. • Allows the Inspector to direct the local government to defer further action on a complaint until the monitor reports back. • Requires the local government to comply with any such direction from the Inspector <p>This clause introduces independent oversight into complaint handling, where the Inspector considers it necessary.</p>

<p>New Clause 14B – Performance of local government's functions under clauses 12 and 13</p>	<p>This new clause confirms that functions under clauses 12 and 13 (dealing with and dismissing complaints) are ordinarily to be performed by the Council itself.</p> <p>The new provisions provide the ability for Council by absolute majority decision to delegate the functions of dealing with a complaint to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a committee of council members only, or • an independent external person, provided they are not a local government councillor or employee, and member or employee of a regional local government a local government employee or a WALGA/LG Professionals employee, or associated advocacy body member; <p>Where an independent person is provided the power to deal with a behavioural complaint under the Code, Council must be satisfied that they are suitably qualified, experienced, impartial, and have no close association with elected members or employees.</p> <p>These new provisions do not restrict an employee providing advice or assistance to the Council, a Committee or person empowered to deal with a complaint.</p>
<p>Clause 15 - Other provisions about complaints</p>	<p>The amendments to this clause reflect that the new provision is clauses 14A and 1 B only apply to complaints lodged before 1 January 2026.</p>
<p>Division 4 – Rules of Conduct</p>	<p>Notes added</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Part 8A Division 5 of the Act.

Managing Complaints and Options

Receive and withdraw complaints

The Chief Executive Officer is currently authorised by Council to receive complaints and withdraw complaints (if requested in writing by the complainant) pursuant to regulation 11(3) of the *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021*.

The Chief Executive Officer role is the appropriate person to retain this function, and it is suggested that no change is required.

Dealing with Complaints - Options

1. Council retain the responsibility to investigate complaints received, determine findings and impose corrective actions if a breach has been found.
2. Council chooses to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced independent person, on a case-by-case basis to investigate complaints and make recommendations to Council on whether a breach has occurred and suggest possible corrective actions.

3. Council by absolute majority, decide to form a Complaints Committee of elected members only pursuant to the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1995* for the purpose of investigating complaints received and making recommendations to Council, as to findings of the investigation and possible corrective actions, if a breach has been proven.
4. Council chooses to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced independent person, on a case-by-case basis, to investigate complaints, determine findings and impose corrective actions, if a breach has been found.

Actions that could be applied where a finding that a behaviour breach has occurred includes preparing and implementing a Behaviour Management Plan (BMP). A BMP may cover such matters as

- Engaging in mediation;
- Undertaking counselling;
- Undertaking training; or
- Other actions Council consider appropriate (in the context of behaviour corrective, not disciplinary or punitive actions).

If a BMP is adopted consultation with the person who is the subject of the complaint must occur before finalising a plan. If a plan includes mediation, counselling or training, compliance is mandatory. Failure to comply may have further consequences under the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Where the Local Government Inspector investigates and determines the finding of a breach more robust requirements can be applied, such as

- Mandatory governance or conduct training;
- Coaching or facilitated behaviour management;
- Ongoing monitoring of conduct; or
- Structured corrective actions over time.

Forming a Complaints Committee with or without delegated authority is not considered a practical outcome to deal with complaints of this type, given that complaints are very infrequent. Choosing the option to appoint a qualifying person to conduct the whole investigation process, determine findings and impose corrective actions, if a breach has been found removes Council from the decision-making process.

It is recommended that Council ultimately retain its responsibility for decision making in the case of complaint matters. Using the services of a suitably qualified and experienced independent person would ensure an impartial investigation and recommendation process for Council to either dismiss a complaint, if unproven, or determine necessary corrective actions for a proven complaint.

Consultation

Information was provided to elected members at the Strategic Briefing held 9 February 2026.

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	4. Performance - We will lead the organisation, and create the culture, to deliver demonstrated performance excellence to the community.
Strategic Outcome	4.6 Visionary community leadership with sound, diligent and accountable governance
Strategy	1 Regulate and provide support to ensure Councillors and Shire officers deliver integrity and transparency in their behaviour, decision-making, and in compliance with codes of conduct.

Council Policy

Nil

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

Nil

Future Financial Year(s)

If Council supported the appointment of an independent person to assist with the investigation of complaints, costs would be applicable on a case-by-case basis. Funding is provided for Chief Executive Officer consultancies in the Annual Budget.

Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 1995 (the Act)

Section 5.103 – Model code of conduct for council members, committee members and candidates)

This section of the Act deals with the content of the Regulations for the model Code of Conduct for council members, committee members and candidates.

Section 5.105 - Dealing with complaint alleging behavioural breach

Subsection (4) prescribes that neither the complainant nor the respondent may —

- (a) preside at any part of a council or committee meeting relating to the complaint; or
- (b) participate in, or be present during, any discussion or decision-making procedure of a council or committee relating to the complaint

8A.12. Regulations about complaint alleging behavioural breach

If the Inspector decides that a breach complaint made to the Inspector or referred to the Inspector under section 5.105 alleges a behavioural breach, the Inspector must deal with the complaint in accordance with the regulations.

Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021 (Regulations)

Regulation 11(3) requires the local government to authorise 1 or more persons to receive complaints and withdrawal of complaints.

Regulation 14B(3) provides provisions regarding the performance of the local government functions to deal with a complaint by a committee or an independent person, subject to formal resolution.

Schedule 1 of the Regulations prescribe the specific statutory content of the Code.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Compliance	The Code not being statutorily compliant, fit for purposes or effective.	Unlikely (2)	Moderate (3)	Low (1-4)	Reviews ensure statutory compliance, improve organisational awareness and ensure a fit for purpose framework.
Reputation (social/community)	Negative community perception that complaints are not effectively and appropriately managed.	Unlikely (2)	Moderate (3)	Low (1-4)	Endorsing a semi-independent process to assist the Council supports impartiality and fairness.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Accepts the review of the Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates and endorses the amendments, as detailed and provided in Attachment1;
2. Reaffirms that the Chief Executive Officer is authorised to receive complaints and the withdrawal of complaints, pursuant to Regulation 11(3) of the *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021*; and
3. Supports, in principle, the appointment of an independent suitably qualified and experienced person to assist Council to deal with complaints on a case-by-case basis, as required.

13.7 Proposed Local Government Electoral Reform - Consultation

File Reference	LE27
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	R Marlborough, Senior Governance Officer
Authorising Officer	D Kennedy, Director Corporate Services
Previous Meeting Reference	Ordinary Council Meeting 15 October 2024 – Item 13.4 – 201/2024
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. InfoPage - Proposed Electoral Reforms 2. WALGA Discussion Paper - Electoral Reform

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present possible electoral reforms for consideration as outlined in statements by the Hon. Hannah Beazley MLA, Minister for Local Government.

Council is requested to consider and support the Shire of Ashburton’s position on the possible electoral reforms to the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA), as provided in the recommendation.

Background

In June 2025, the Hon. Hannah Beazley MLA, Minister for Local Government, first expressed support for a four-year local government election cycle (full spill, all-in/all-out) election cycle, citing concerns about voter fatigue and the rising costs of conducting biennial elections.

This same message was repeated by Minister Beazley during an address at the WALGA 2025 Local Government Convention, with compulsory voting also being mentioned.

Consequently, on 13 February 2026, WALGA circulated an Infopage and an Electoral Reform Discussion Paper to proactively progress consultation with the local government sector on the potential State Government proposed electoral reforms.

The Infopage and Discussion Paper released are both provided at Attachments 1 and 2 respectively.

Council last considered a review of WALGA Advocacy Positions on Local Government Elections at its Ordinary Meeting held on 15 October 2024. Council resolved, in part, the following position (Council Decision 201/2024):

“That with respect to Local Government Elections – Review of WALGA Advocacy Positions, Council supports the officer summary detailed in the body of the report, as follows:

1. *PARTICIPATION – Council support advocacy position (b);*
2. *TERMS OF OFFICE - Council support advocacy position (b);”*

These advocacy positions are summarised below:

- PARTICIPATION position (b) – Council supported compulsory voting at local government elections.

- TERMS OF OFFICE position (b) – Council supported four-year terms on an all in/all out basis.

Comments

Local governments have been requested to provide Council endorsed feedback by 4:00pm on Friday 27 March 2026 to inform WALGA's advocacy on local government electoral reforms expected to be proposed by the State Government, specifically:

- full spill elections (all-in/all-out election cycle) every four years, compared to the existing approach of spilling half of Council every two years; and
- compulsory voting at local government elections, instead of voluntary voting.

What is the Minister seeking and why?

As detailed, the Minister has indicated in statements that the above possible changes to local government election matters. The concerns expressed for changing the frequency and make up of elections were rising costs of conducting biennial local government elections and voter fatigue. The Minister has also flagged compulsory voting.

Existing Sector Elections Advocacy Views

In 2024, WALGA sought the sectors views on elections matters, with 92 local governments participating in a survey. The responses at that time indicated strong (98%) support for half spill elections, every two years.

WALGA advice indicated that while voluntary voting was supported by an overall majority of respondents (74%), compulsory voting was conversely supported by a majority (64%) of metropolitan respondents, and the majority (61%) of Class 1 and 2 respondents (ie. larger Councils).

WALGA has a long-standing advocacy position of supporting voluntary voting and the election of half the Council every two years.

Current State by State Comparison

Voting in local government elections is mandatory across all Australian states, except for Western Australia and South Australia, where participation remains voluntary.

Across Australia, every state and territory (except Western Australia) currently operate on a four-year election cycle, where all elected member positions are contested at the same time (all-in/all-out approach).

Advantages and Disadvantages of the Proposed Electoral Reforms

WALGA's Discussion Paper is provided at Attachment 2 and provides the following summarised insights.

Council stability in an all-in/all-out model

Analysis of data from the past two elections across Australia indicates that, on average, returning elected members constitute between 47% and 57% of the Council, following full spill elections.

There have been nine instances where the composition of Council after an ordinary election was entirely different (100%) from the previous term. Notably, four of these local governments conducted mid-term extraordinary elections.

Cost impact of a four-year cycle in an all-in/all-out model

A change to a four-year cycle may reduce costs by reducing election frequency.

However, the cost of each election may increase. The Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC) quote considers both the number of vacancies and the estimated participation rate. It is predicted that the cost per elector will double from \$5.17 to ~\$10.

For mandatory voting the Shire may incur additional costs in fines enforcement for voters who do not participate, as legislated.

Increased representation in compulsory voting

Advocates for compulsory voting argue that increased voter participation increases engagement, awareness and democratic legitimacy. Conversely, existing voter turnout rates are statistically representative of community sentiment with a 95% confidence level and at an approximate +/-3% margin of error.

Election Frequency Reform (Full Spill vs Half Spill)

Under the current Western Australian model elected members serve 4-year terms, with half elected every two years. In other Australian jurisdictions full spill elections are held every four years.

Issues that need to be considered included voter participation and fatigue, Council continuity and onboarding of new members, whole-of-council mandate and accountability, capacity to recruit candidates, administrative impacts and transitional issues, management of extraordinary vacancies, election data and costs

The data provided suggests that in full-spill states, typically 47–57% of elected members are re-elected from one term to the next.

From a cost perspective, fewer elections overall may reduce long-term cost, however, each full-spill election would cost more as WAEC costs are partly driven by the number of election vacancies. Net cost impacts are not known without further WAEC modelling.

In Western Australia and South Australia voting in local government elections is voluntary voting. All other jurisdictions have compulsory voting. In 2023, the Western Australian turnout for local government elections averaged 31%. The average turnout for past Shire of Ashburton elections was 37.83% in 2023 and 29.89% in 2025, based on vacancies that were to be filled.

The following table provides a summary of advantages and disadvantages of proposed electoral reforms.

2 Year Elections		4 Year Elections – Full Spill	
Advantages	Disadvantages	Advantages	Disadvantages
Issue – Knowledge Management			
A half spill election cycle supports knowledge retention of the Shire’s strategic direction, project delivery and support of the community.	Risk in changes to Council culture every two years. Changes every two years could impact progress of key community projects. Substantive training every two years to educate and inform elected members on legislative obligations and requirements.	Council may achieve a longer-term strategy that is less likely to be influenced by new elected members every second year. High turnover may not occur resulting in a loss of knowledge based on national statistics, which suggest that about 50% of sitting elected members are returned to office. The term of the Shire President will align with the same term as elected members. The position of Deputy Shire President will likely still continue for two year and the status quo will remain.	Staff knowledge of electoral processes may diminish due to the reduced frequency. Staff will be reliant on WAEC guidance.
Issue – Voluntary Voting			
Costs are minimised based on voter participation and number of vacant seats.	In the last two elections for the positions vacant approximately 33% of electors carried out their democratic right to vote. Voter fatigue due to election frequency. Election cycles, should avoid aligning with State Federal elections.	Potential cost savings if maintaining voluntary voting over a four-year cycle by reducing reliance on administering postal packs. Reduced Returning Officer and count staff costs every two-year period. No enforcement activity required to address non-voting.	Increased voter participation may increase engagement, awareness and democratic legitimacy.

It is proposed to reaffirm Council’s previous position (as resolved in October 2024) and provide this as a submission to WALGA.

Consultation

Feedback internally was sought to formulate a position for Council to consider the proposed electoral reforms.

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	4. Performance - We will lead the organisation, and create the culture, to deliver demonstrated performance excellence to the community.
Strategic Outcome	4.6 Visionary community leadership with sound, diligent and accountable governance
Strategy	2 Provide, and lead in the development of, meaningful policies and processes to ensure sound and compliant delivery of services to the community.

Council Policy

[Council Policies » Shire of Ashburton](#)

Nil

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

Nil

Future Financial Year(s)

Maintaining the status quo for electoral matters (elections every 2 years with 50% of positions vacant and voluntary voting) should not result in increased costs associated with the local government elections. If the reforms proposed are legislated, additional costs may be applicable for conducting future elections, however any actual cost increase is currently indeterminable. Further cost impacts may also result for enforcement matters if compulsory voting is introduced.

Legislative Implications

Any proposed electoral reforms approved by the State Government will require amendments to the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government (Election) Regulations 1997*.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Reputation (social/community)	The Shire of Ashburton does not provide a submission on the proposed reforms.	Unlikely (2)	Insignificant (1)	Low (1-4)	Endorse the officer recommendation.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Reaffirms its support for compulsory voting and full spill (all-in/all-out election cycle) every four years for local government elections.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to present this position to the Western Australian Local Government Association.

13.8 2025/2026 Annual Budget Review

File Reference	FM14
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	R McDermott, Chief Financial Officer
Authorising Officer	D Kennedy, Director Corporate Services
Previous Meeting Reference	Nil
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Statement of Budget Review 27 February 2026 2. Mid Year Review 2025-26 Budget Amendments

Report Purpose

Council is required to review its Annual Budget between 1 January and the last day of February each financial year.

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider and adopt the Mid-Year Review of the Annual Budget for the 2025/2026 financial year.

Background

Regulation 33A of the *Local Government Act (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* requires local governments to undertake a review of the annual budget no earlier than 31 December and no later than the last day of February in each financial year.

The review must be submitted to Council on or before 31 March each financial year.

Council should then determine (by absolute majority) whether to adopt the review, any parts of the review or any recommendations made in the review.

Additional requirements:

- The review must consider the local government’s position at the date of the review and evaluate outcomes for the end of 2025/2026 that are forecast in the budget.
- Provide the estimated end-of-year amount for the item adjacent to each item in the annual budget that states an amount.
- Provide an estimated end-of-year amount for any items that did not have an amount stated in the adopted annual budget.
- Provide a copy of the budget review and the budget review agenda item from the unconfirmed Council minutes to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries within 14 days of the Council meeting.

Workshops were held in late February 2026 with Responsible Officers incorporating the requirements outlined above.

The review was based on year-to-date revenue and expenditure and seeks to forecast known impacts on the annual budget for the remainder of the financial year in order to project the opening position for development of the 2026/2027 Annual Budget.

Comments

The 2025/2026 Annual Budget was adopted by Council on 19 August 2025 as a balanced budget (ie. all revenue sources were offset by an equal amount of expense).

A high-level review of the Annual Budget to 31 October 2025 was undertaken and presented to Council on 9 December 2025. Budget amendments resolved as part of this review are required to be incorporated in the Mid-Year Review.

The December 2025 budget review took into consideration the audited opening position of (\$20,527,384), being a positive increase of \$2,414,000 from the projected opening surplus position included in the adopted Annual Budget for 2025/2026.

Meetings with the Executive Leadership Team, Managers, and the Manager Finance were held with the overall aim of forecasting the end of year position relating to project carry forward requirements and associated service delivery.

Budget amendments identified during the review generally relate to 'additional purpose' expenditure and additional funding sources not included in the 2025/2026 Annual Budget. These amendments are fully offset by identified budget savings.

The Statement of Budget Review (Attachment 1) provides an overview of the net proposed forecast for each item in the Statement of Financial Activity contained within the 2025/2026 Annual Budget.

The review was completed on the 27 February 2026 and provides a forecast of surplus funds that will form the commencement of the 2026/2027 Annual Budget, inclusive of carry forward projects and contract liabilities.

Proposed Forecasts to 30 June 2026

Rates Revenue

The Shire is expecting additional interim rate revenue from three additional Transient Workforce Accommodation properties before the end of the financial year, subject to Ministerial approval. Rates revenue is forecast at \$74,080,971 exceeding the current amended budget by \$192,630.

Grants, Subsidies and Contributions (Operating)

Disaster recovery funding of \$3.6 million is now not expected to be recognised until 2026/2027. This is primarily due to contractor availability and relates to repairs for flood damage to the Shire road network in 2021 and 2022.

The \$1.6 million Inspire funding for the Pannawonica decking and playground project is also now not expected to be recognised until 2026/27.

Fees and Charges

Total revenue from fees and charges is forecast to be broadly in line with the Annual Budget with an increase of \$1,821,535 to 30 June 2026. The major changes forecast includes Waste revenue streams +\$1,891,535, Building License Fees (\$150,000), Town Planning Fees (+\$50,000) and Airport Leases (-\$30,000).

Interest Revenue

Reduced return on term deposits is forecast of (\$400,000) due to reduced interest rates for the first half of the financial year. There has been an increase in interest rates in recent months that will be considered during the drafting of the 2026/2027 Annual Budget.

Employment costs

The current budgeted employment costs (Salary, Wages, Allowances, Superannuation and Training, etc), total of \$27,363,854 is based on the organisational structure and takes into consideration trends in vacancy rates.

Shire officers have conservatively estimated, and included in the review, an increase in employment costs of (\$594,000) to \$27,957,854 which reflects the employment of the STRIVE Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) project team which was included in the annual budget as Materials and Contract. Anticipated outcomes from Industrial Agreement negotiations, staff vacancies, as well as minor changes to the organisational structure and/or arrangements, are adequately covered by the remaining budget allocations.

Materials and Contract

A reduction of \$7,078,955 in Materials and Contracts expenditure is forecast to 30 June 2026. The major changes include;

- \$4,663,955 Utilities upgrade for proposed new Tom Price Administration and Library complex
- \$1,600,000 Pannawonica Decking and Adventure Playground Project
- \$ 594,000 Software Operations - STRIVE ERP project costs transferred to Employee costs
- \$ 556,000 Software Operations – reduced funding requirement for STRIVE ERP project (annual budget included \$2m full year project allocation)

Insurance

No change to insurance expense is forecast.

Proposed Budget Amendments

The review process identified several items recommended for a budget amendment which are shown in the Mid-Year Review Budget Amendments (Attachment 2).

The impact of the proposed amendments is a surplus position of \$15,241.

Reserve Accounts

Forecast reserve adjustments to 30 June 2026 are outlined as follows:

- -\$11,975,500 Transfer to – Infrastructure Reserve (Carry forward projects 26/27)
- -\$ 1,891,535 Transfer to – Regional Waste Reserve (increased revenue)
- - \$350,000 Transfer to – Airport Reserve (Carry forward project 26/27)
- -\$ 1,500,000 Transfer from – Infrastructure Reserve (Carry forward projects 25/26)
- -\$ 1,100,000 Transfer to – Housing Reserve (Carry forward projects 26/27)
- -\$ 2,400,000 Transfer from – Future Project Reserve.(Carry forward projects 26/27)

Should Council achieve additional savings above forecast that result in an increased surplus at 30 June 2026, the above transfers from reserves will be reviewed with the aim to strengthen the Shire's reserve funds for future capital funding requirements.

The Annual Budget review confirms that the Council remains in a strong financial position and is able to deliver a surplus position at 30 June 2026.

Consultation

Executive Leadership Team

Middle Management Group

Finance Team

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	4. Performance - We will lead the organisation, and create the culture, to deliver demonstrated performance excellence to the community.
Strategic Outcome	4.2 Appropriate, sustainable, and transparent management of community funds
Strategy	1 Provide cost-effective financial management and value for money.

Council Policy

Nil

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

The Budget Review forecasts an operating surplus of \$271,763 and there is nothing adverse to suggest that an operating surplus will not be delivered at 30 June 2026, and provide Council some ability to consider additional reserve transfers.

Future Financial Year(s)

The mid-year budget review forecasts that a number of capital projects, and associated reserve funding, will carry forward into the 2026/2027 financial year.

Legislative Implications

Regulation 33A of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* prescribes as follows:

- 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

- 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.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Interruption to service	Potential reduction in the quality of assets provided and services delivered if the budget amendments are not adopted.	Possible (3)	Moderate (3)	Moderate (5-9)	Provide Council with sufficient information for sound decision making and provide adequate resources for the continued service delivery.
Reputation (social/community)	Negative public perception if works are not completed due to funding issues.	Unlikely (2)	Minor (2)	Low (1-4)	Provide Council with sufficient information for sound decision making and provide adequate resources for the continued service delivery.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be medium.

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Adopts the 2025/26 Mid-Year Budget Review as detailed in Attachment 1.
2. Adopts amendments to the 2025/26 adopted Annual Budget as detailed in Attachment 2.

14 Infrastructure Services Reports

14.1 Request To Affix Council Seal to Ngurrawaana Settlement Layout Plan

File Reference	LP10.8.0
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	R Wallin, Coordinator Planning and Lands
Authorising Officer	G Harris, Director Infrastructure Services
Previous Meeting Reference	Ordinary Council Meeting 9 December 2025 - Item 12.4 – 241/2025
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	1. Ngurrawaana Community Layout Plan

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is requested to authorise the Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer to affix the Common Seal of the Shire of Ashburton to the Ngurrawaana Layout Plan No 1. once this plan includes recommendations associated with the Bushfire Management Plan.

Background

Council at its Ordinary Council Meeting on 9 December 2025 resolved:

“That Council endorse the Ngurrawaana Community Settlement Layout Plan, as detailed in Attachment 1, subject to including the recommendations of the Bushfire Management Plan and the location of the firefighting water tank and emergency refuge location.”

A copy of the endorsed Ngurrawaana Community Settlement Layout Plan is provided in Attachment 1.

Comments

The Ngurrawaana Community Settlement Layout Plan consists of the following parts:

- Part A – Community Profile. This section provides background context.
- Part B – Plan for Ngurrawaana. This section provides details on the proposed zones and design principles as well as the Ngurrawaana Layout Plan No.1 (page 34).
- Appendix. This includes endorsement pages and amendment pages.

Page 41 of Attachment 1 contains the Shire’s endorsement page, and the endorsement relates specifically to the Ngurrawaana Layout Plan 1 (see page 34 of Attachment 1).

Council’s previous resolution included a requirement to include recommendations of the Bushfire Management Plan. This related to items associated with identifying a location of the firefighting water tank and emergency refuge locations. Discussion with officers at Department of Planning Lands and Heritage (DPLH) has indicated that these items can be

included in the background/design principles and do not need to be shown on the Ngurrawaana Layout Plan No.1 which is intended to be a higher order plan.

To formalise endorsement of Ngurrawaana Layout Plan No.1, it will be necessary for the CEO and Shire President to sign and affix of the Common Seal on the Shire endorsement page (page 41 of Attachment 1).

The request is to address an administrative matter to formalise the endorsement of the Ngurrawaana Layout Plan No.1, reflecting Council’s previous decision (241/2025).

Discussion with DPLH has confirmed that the only page that requires signing and affixing of the Common Seal is page 41 of Attachment 1 (Shire endorsement page). This endorsement page relates specifically to Page 34 of Attachment 1 – Ngurrawaana Layout Plan No.1.

Consultation

Nil

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	4. Performance - We will lead the organisation, and create the culture, to deliver demonstrated performance excellence to the community.
Strategic Outcome	4.1 Coordinated delivery of organisational leadership and performance excellence for the benefit of the community
Strategy	3 Provide professional leadership and advice to assist Council.

Council Policy

Council Policy – Execution of Documents and Affixing the Common Seal

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

Nil

Future Financial Year(s)

Nil

Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 1995

Part 9, Division 3 S9.49A provides details on execution of documents, including affixing of Council Seal.

Section 9.49.A(2) states:

“The common seal of a local government is not to be affixed to any document except as authorised by the local government.”

Planning and Development Act 2005

Part 3, provides the Western Australian Planning Commission with the ability to prepare State Planning Polices.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Compliance	Failure to comply with administrative processes.	Almost Certain (5)	Insignificant (1)	Moderate (5-9)	Accept the officer recommendation.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council authorises the Shire President and Chief Executive Officer to jointly execute and affix the Common Seal of the Shire of Ashburton to the Ngurrawaana Layout Plan No.1 as provided in Appendix 1 (on page 41 of Attachment 1).

15 Community Development Reports

15.1 Draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027

File Reference	CS01
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	T Taylor, Manager Communities
Authorising Officer	C McGurk, Director Community Development
Previous Meeting Reference	Ordinary Council Meeting 10 December 2014 - Item 12.1 - 11889 Ordinary Council Meeting 23 April 2018 - Item 13.1 353/2018 Ordinary Council Meeting 4 April 2023 – Item 14.2 – 054/2023
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	1. Draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027 (Youth Strategy) to Council (Attachment 1).

Council is requested to support the draft Youth Strategy and authorise its release for public comment.

Background

The previous Youth Strategy 2023-2025 provided a framework for the coordinated planning and delivery of youth programs, services and advocacy across the Shire. Over the life of the strategy, the Shire has worked in partnership with young people, community organisations, schools, service providers and other stakeholders to improve access to activities, strengthen wellbeing support and promote pathways for learning, employment and leadership. Outcomes were reported quarterly to Council.

In preparation for the next planning period, the draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027 has been developed to build on this work and respond to emerging needs, changing service environments and feedback received through ongoing engagement with young people and stakeholders. The draft strategy aligns with the Shire's broader strategic framework including the Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032, Corporate Business Plan 2023-2027, and the My Pilbara Home suite of strategies, which emphasise community connection, inclusion and place-based planning.

Comments

The draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027 has been developed by the Shire of Ashburton for the purpose of public comment.

In developing the previous Youth Strategy 2023-2025, the Shire engaged external consultants to undertake formal community consultation and prepare draft strategy documents. While this approach delivered valuable outcomes, it has also been recognised that the Shire now has strong internal capability, established relationships and consistent engagement mechanisms with young people and key stakeholders across all towns.

The Shire's Communities team works closely with young people on an ongoing basis, partners with schools and service providers, and has regular engagement with community organisations. Through this work, the Shire consistently gathers feedback on emerging issues, service gaps, program effectiveness and aspirations for young people within the Shire.

This regular embedded engagement has provided strong evidence-based information to inform the development of the draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027.

The draft strategy articulates the Shire's commitment to listening to and engaging with young people, creating inclusive opportunities for participation, supporting wellbeing and safety, enabling leadership and skill development, and working in partnership with young people, schools, community groups and service providers. It positions the Shire primarily as a facilitator, connector and advocate, supporting community-led initiatives and strengthening existing networks rather than duplicating services where others are best placed to lead.

Engagement with young people through previous strategy work and ongoing consultation has reinforced many of the themes identified in the last Youth Strategy. Young people continue to value connection, inclusion and opportunities to participate meaningfully in their communities.

What has changed is the strength and consistency of feedback around the types of opportunities young people want access to and how they want to engage.

Key learnings include:

- **A strong desire for diverse local pathways** – young people are increasingly seeking education, training, creative and employment opportunities outside of the resource sector that allow them to build a future while remaining in their towns
- **The importance of age-specific opportunities** – young people want activities, programs and spaces designed specifically for their age group, rather than being grouped with younger children or adults
- **Connection with peers matters** – opportunities to socialise, collaborate and build friendships with others of a similar age are a high priority
- **Place-based delivery remains critical** – young people value activities that reflect the identity, size and character of their town
- **Consistency and visibility** – regular, well-communicated opportunities help build trust, participation and a sense of belonging over time

These learnings have informed the actions and direction of the draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027, ensuring it responds to both long-standing needs and emerging priorities for young people across the Shire of Ashburton and aligns with the My Pilbara Home suite of strategies under the themes of:

- **Capacity Building** - We will build the capacity of young people, staff and the broader community to support meaningful youth development and leadership.
- **Participation** - We will enable young people to actively participate in community life through inclusive, accessible and age-appropriate opportunities.

- **Recruitment and Recognition** - We will support young people to see a future for themselves in the Shire through clear pathways, meaningful employment exposure and recognition of their contributions.
- **Coordination and Collaboration** - We will strengthen coordination and collaboration to improve youth outcomes and reduce duplication across services.

Releasing the draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027 for public comment will ensure the broader community, including young people, families, service providers and other stakeholders, have the opportunity to review the draft and provide feedback prior to finalisation. This approach balances the benefits of continuous engagement with a transparent and inclusive public consultation process, while ensuring the strategy remains relevant, place-based and responsive to local needs.

Feedback received during the public comment period (23 March 2026 to 6 April 2026), will be reviewed and considered, with any recommended amendments to be presented to Council in a subsequent report alongside the final Youth Strategy for adoption.

Additionally, the timeframe of the Draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027 aligns with the expiry of the My Pilbara Home suite of strategies. This enables a coordinated approach to future community consultation across all My Pilbara Home community development strategies.

Consultation

Director Community Development

Manager Communities

Coordinator Communities East

Coordinator Communities East

Reviewing relevant feedback through consistent communication with young people and relevant stakeholders

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	1. People - We will support opportunities for the community to be safe, socially active, and connected.
Strategic Outcome	1.2 Communities connected with opportunities
Strategy	2 Drive community engagement to provide input to enhance opportunities aligned with community needs.

Council Policy

[Council Policies » Shire of Ashburton](#)

Nil

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

Nil

Future Financial Year(s)

Nil

Legislative Implications

Nil

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Reputation (social/community)		Possible (3)	Moderate (3)	Low (1-4)	Endorsing the draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027 for public comment enables transparent and inclusive community engagement prior to final adoption.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Support the draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027 as detailed at Attachment 1 for the purpose of public consultation; and
2. Authorise the release of the draft Youth Strategy 2026-2027 for public consultation from 23 March 2026 to 6 April 2026, following which feedback will be reviewed and incorporated into a final version for Council’s further consideration.

15.2 2026 Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival Sponsorship

File Reference	GS01
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	T Taylor, Manager Communities
Authorising Officer	C McGurk, Director Community Development
Previous Meeting Reference	Ordinary Council Meeting 19 August 2025 - Item 6.6 – 145/2025
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nameless Festival Committee Corespondence 2. Nameless Festival AGM Mintues

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council to reconsider of the proposed sponsorship for the 2026 Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival, following the Nameless Festival Committee not meeting the conditions of the 19 August 2025 Council Recommendation.

Council is requested to the support the 2026 Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival with a total sponsorship package of \$150,000, with \$75,000 from the Inspire Community Partnership and \$75,000 from Shire funds.

Background

At its August 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council endorsed the sponsorship for the 2026 Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival with the condition that the Nameless Festival Committee held a successful Annual General Meeting (AGM) by 31 December 2025.

Council Decision 001/2025

Moved Cr R de Pledge

Seconded Cr B Healy

That the Community Grants Committee recommends that Council endorse a sponsorship of the 2026 Nameless Jarndunmunha Festival for the amount of \$150,000 from General Ledger C3634, subject to this funding being approved in the 2025/2026 Annual Budget and the following conditions being complied with:

1. *The allocated sponsorship funding is not to be disbursed until the Chief Executive Officer is satisfied that the Nameless Festival Committee:*
 - (a) *has held a successful Annual General Meeting by 31 December 2025, in accordance with the requirements outlined in their Constitution to ensure they have a committee to deliver the 2026 Nameless Jarndunmunha Festival;*
 - (b) *has provided the Shire with a detailed 2026 Nameless Jarndunmunha Festival sponsorship package*

For: K White, R de Pledge, M Lynch, B Healy and R Kapor

Against: Nil

Carried 5/0

The Nameless Festival Committee held an AGM on 7 December 2025, however when Shire officers received the minutes for this meeting on 9 December 2025, it was identified that the Nameless Festival Committee did not have quorum in attendance to deem the AGM compliant as per their Constitution.

Between 9 December 2025 and 18 December 2025, Shire officers and the Nameless Festival Committee had numerous communications via email and phone to advise of this and determine what next steps the Committee needed to take (Attachment 1).

On 19 December 2025, a briefing note was prepared and sent to Elected Members providing an update on the status of the Nameless Festival Committee and the 2026 Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival.

Comments

While the Nameless Festival Committee did not meet the timeframe required in the August 2025 recommendation, they held a successful AGM on 29 January 2026 (Attachment 2) and are moving forward with the planning and delivery of the 2026 Festival.

The Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival has historically been an integral part of the Tom Price community since 1969. The festival was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19, with a welcome return in 2022. Unfortunately, the festival was unable to take place in 2023 and 2024 due to no committee being formed. In 2025 the Shire, together with Rio Tinto, through the Inspire Community Partnership, delivered the Inspire Festival in place of the Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival to deliver a festival to the community of Tom Price, thus allowing further time for the Nameless Festival Committee to form and take back the delivery of the festival.

It is important to acknowledge that the event has faced challenges in recent years due to the inability to form a functioning committee. Additional to these challenges, the current committee is now faced with a short time frame to plan and deliver the event in August 2026.

Council is requested to support the original sponsorship proposal of \$150,000 for the 2026 Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival understanding that funds will not be distributed to the Nameless Festival Committee until the following documentation has been received:

- Insurance documentation
- 2026 Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival Sponsorship Package

While supportive of the current Committee's efforts, any sponsorship and release of funds should be carefully considered by Council with appropriate safeguards and conditions to ensure accountability and delivery as outlined in the financial section of this report.

Consultation

Nameless Festival Committee
Manager Communities
Director Community Development
Director Corporate Services

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	2. Place - We will provide sustainable, purposeful, and valued built and natural environment opportunities for the community.
Strategic Outcome	2.1 Coordinated delivery of natural and built environment services and projects for the community
Strategy	1 Develop and maintain key natural and built environment services partnerships, both internally and externally, to support Council’s vision.

Council Policy

[Council Policies » Shire of Ashburton](#)

Community Donations, Grants and Funding

Financial Implications

Current Financial Year

If approved, the 2026 Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival will be a total sponsorship package of \$150,000, with \$75,000 contributed from the Inspire Community Partnership and \$75,000 contributed from Shire funds utilising General Ledger C3634.

Provided the required documentation is provided by the Nameless Festival Committee, the sponsorship will be paid in two (2) milestone payments of \$75,000 as listed below:

Milestone One (1)

\$75,000 to be paid on receiving the required documentation

Milestone Two (2)

\$75,000 to paid on receiving copies of invoices paid to the total of \$75,000 from the Milestone One (1) payment.

Future Financial Year(s)

The Nameless Festival Committee have been advised of the Shire of Ashburton’s Council Policy - Community Donations, Grants and Funding which outlines our process to provide funding to Signature Events. Future funding will be considered under this Policy.

Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 1995

Section 6.7 – Municipal fund

Money held in the municipal fund may be applied towards the performance of functions and the exercise of the powers conferred on the local government by the *Local Government Act 1995* or any other written law.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Reputation (social/community)	Failing to support such a major event in Tom Price could cause reputational damage to the Shire	Possible (3)	Minor (2)	Moderate (5-9)	To provide sponsorship support to the event that also supports Council strategy and policy.

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorses a sponsorship of the 2026 Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival for the amount of \$150,000 from General Ledger C3634, subject to the following conditions being complied with:
 - (a) Insurance documentation and the 2026 Jarndunmunha (Nameless) Festival Sponsorship Package has been provided by the Nameless Festival Committee,
 - (b) The Chief Executive Officer (or Delegated Officer) is satisfied the Sponsorship Agreement clearly outlines all conditions of sponsorship, including milestone payments, and
 - (c) The Chief Executive Officer (or Delegated Officer) and two members of the Nameless Festival Committee have signed and returned the Sponsorship Agreement.

15.3 Proposed Licence for a portion of Lot 201, Onslow Airport to MinRes Air Facilities Pty Ltd - Check in Counter, Boarding Counter and Equipment, Dispatch Office and Common Use Area

File Reference	ONS.0016
Applicant or Proponent(s)	Not Applicable
Author	P Jayasinghe, Lease and Accommodation Officer
Authorising Officer	C McGurk, Director Community Development
Previous Meeting Reference	Nil
Disclosure(s) of interest	Author – Nil
	Authorising Officer – Nil
Attachments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan of Proposed Licensed Area 2. Draft Commercial Licence Agreement

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to enter into a new Commercial Licence Agreement for the shared use of specific designated terminal areas within Lot 201 on Deposited Plan 422498, located at Onslow Airport, as detailed in Attachment 1.

Council is requested to support the proposed Commercial Licence Agreement with MinRes Air Facilities Pty Ltd (MinRes Air) as provided at Attachment 2 for the provision of IT and communication services, and to facilitate MinRes air travel and transportation operations at the Onslow Airport.

The licence agreement proposed will formalise access to terminal facilities and supporting infrastructure required for MinRes Air's ongoing operational activities.

Background

MinRes Air, a wholly owned subsidiary of Mineral Resources Limited, is engaged by various airline operators to undertake ground handling services at the Onslow airport. MinRes Air is progressively expanding its operational capability to include check-in services and proposes to install dedicated check-in equipment and associated IT infrastructure within the terminal.

As with all airline operators, specific check-in systems and IT platforms are required to align with operational and workforce travel models. Mineral Resources Ltd requires online check-in functionality as part of its standard workforce travel framework. Installing dedicated equipment ensures this capability can be delivered both for MinRes Air's services to third-party carriers and, in the future, for its own aircraft operations once runway upgrade works are complete.

Council, as the airport operator ("Licensor"), manages terminal facilities to support commercial aviation services and operational requirements. The proposed Licensee, MinRes Air, currently holds a separate Lease Agreement with Council for other airport facilities.

Given MinRes Air's expanded operational footprint and continued use of terminal facilities, it is appropriate to formalise a direct Licence Agreement to reflect their current activities, future intent, and associated responsibilities within the ground handling, check-in and communications areas.

This includes access to check-in counters, boarding gate facilities, dispatch office space, and communications room rack space, while ensuring clear delineation of responsibilities and appropriate management of Council-owned assets.

Comments

The Shire’s Leasing team, in collaboration with the Onslow Airport Manager, have worked to obtain a market valuation dated 9 July 2025 from Property Valuation & Advisory Services (WA) Pty Ltd for specified leasable spaces at the airport to ensure the proposed licence agreement reflects fair and current market rates.

To secure a new licence agreement with MinRes Air on portion of Lot 201 McAullay Road, Onslow, the requirements of section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995* apply.

The following terms are proposed in the licence:

Licensed Area	That part of the Land outlined on the plan. (Refer to Attachment 1)
Term	Two years commencing from the date of execution by all parties
Further Term	Two further terms of two years
Permitted Hours of Use	All hours as required to fulfill the obligations of the Ground Handler Agreement between all airline operators.
Licence Fee	Licence Fee: Thirty-Five Thousand Two Hundred dollars (\$35,200) per annum exclusive of GST Manner of Payment: \$2,933.33 + GST payable monthly in advance from the commencement of the Term
Licence Fee Review Date	(a) CPI Review Dates: At the commencement of each further term (b) Market Review Dates: Not applicable (c) Fixed Review Dates: Not applicable (d) Fixed Rate: Not Applicable
Permitted Use	Shared operation airport facilities
Security Deposit	Nil
Bank Guarantee Amount	Nil
Guarantor	Not applicable

Consultation

Manager Airport Services – Shire of Ashburton

Valuation Consultant – Property Valuation & Advisory (WA)

Manager Aerodromes – MinRes Air Facilities Pty Ltd

Director – Community Development

Manager Facilities

Leasing and Accommodation Officers

Strategic Community Plan

Shire of Ashburton Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032

Strategic Objective	3. Prosperity - We will advocate and drive opportunities for the community to be economically desirable, resilient, and prosperous.
Strategic Outcome	3.2 Aviation transport opportunities for the community
Strategy	2 Focus on, and deliver, safe and enhanced services and facilities.

Council Policy

[Council Policies » Shire of Ashburton](#)

NIL

Financial ImplicationsCurrent Financial Year

The Shire will derive a pro rata income of \$35,200 + GST per year for the premises to be used by way of the licence proposed.

Future Financial Year(s)

The Shire will continue to derive an income of \$35,200, plus GST for the licensed premises, noting that the total term is six years, including options. The annual licence fee payable is subject to CPI review for each further option period, if enacted.

Legislative Implications*Local Government Act 1995 Section 3.58*

Section 3.58 sets out three means of disposing of property; under subsection (2)(a) by auction, or (b) buy public tender, and under subsection (3) by the process referred to as 'private treaty', which is the process of this proposed licence. As required, should Council consent to disposing of the property via licence, local public notice of the proposal is required.

Aviation Transport Security Act 2004

An Airside Access Application must be completed in accordance with the Aerodrome's Transport Security Plan (TSP) to meet the Shire's obligations of an airport operator.

Civil Aviation Safety Regulations (CASR)

In accordance with the Onslow Aerodrome Manual and Part 139 of the *Civil Aviation Safety Regulations (CASR)*, airport tenants are responsible for controlling airside access through their licenced areas.

As Onslow airport is a security-controlled aerodrome, Aviation Security Identification Cards (ASICs) are to be worn and clearly displayed when airside, and high-visibility vests are also required. An aerodrome induction will also need to be undertaken.

Risk Management

Risk has been assessed against the Shire of Ashburton Risk Management Framework.

Theme	Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Risk Treatment
Financial impact	Not gaining any monetary value as they are currently in an early access agreement.	Unlikely (2)	Moderate (3)	Moderate (5-9)	Adopt officer's recommendation

Based on the inherent risk rating and risk treatments, the residual risk to the Shire is considered to be low.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approves, subject to compliance with section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, entering into a Licence Agreement with MinRes Air Facilities Pty Ltd for shared use of terminal facilities including check-in counters, dispatch office, and communications room space at Lot 201 on Deposited Plan 422498, located at Onslow Airport, as detailed in Attachment 1 for a period of 2 years, with two further option periods of 2 years, with the annual licence fee payable, commencing \$35,200 plus GST.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to advertise the details of the proposed Licence Agreement at Lot 201 McAullay Road, Onslow with MinRes Air Facilities Pty Ltd, by way of local public notice for a period of not less than two weeks.
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to consider and determine any submissions received in response to point 2 and negotiate and execute the Licence Agreement as provided at Attachment 2 and any associated documents for a portion of Lot 201 McAullay Road, Onslow (Onslow Airport) between the Shire of Ashburton and MinRes Air Facilities Pty Ltd; and
4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute future deeds of renewal with MinRes Air Facilities Pty Ltd for the further terms available under the Licence, subject to MinRes Air Facilities Pty Ltd complying with the licence requirements.

16 Councillor Agenda Items / Notices of Motion

Nil

17 New Business Of An Urgent Nature Introduced By Council Decision

18 Confidential Matters

Nil

19 Next Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at 1:00pm on Tuesday 21 April 2026 at Clem Thompson Sports Pavilion, Stadium Road, Tom Price.

20 Closure Of Meeting

There being no further business, the Presiding Member closed the meeting at [enter time](#).