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SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL

**Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 14 April 2026**

Held in Council Chambers
5 Market Place, Hamilton at 5:30pm





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The Meeting opened at 5:30pm.

1 Membership

Councillors

Cr Dennis Heslin, Mayor
Cr Afton Barber
Cr Adam Campbell
Cr Helen Henry, Deputy Mayor
Cr Jayne Manning
Cr Katrina Rainsford

Officers

Mr Tony Doyle, Chief Executive Officer
Mr Darren Barber, Director People and Performance
Mr Rory Neeson, Director Wellbeing, Planning and Regulation
Ms Marg Scanlon, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability
Mrs Karly Herring, Governance Coordinator

2 Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

The Mayor, Cr Heslin will read the acknowledgement of country:

"Our meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Gunditjmara, Djap Wurrung, Jardwadjali and Buandig people.

I would like to pay my respects to their Elders, past and present and the Elders from other communities who may be here today."

Please note: All Council meetings will be audio recorded, and may be livestreamed to Council's social media platform, with the exception of matters identified as confidential items in the Agenda.

By participating in open Council meetings, individuals consent to the use and disclosure of the information they share at the meeting (including any personal and/or sensitive information).

Other than an official Council recording, no video or audio recording of proceedings of Council Meetings will be allowed without the permission of Council.



3 Prayer

Cr Campbell will lead the meeting in a prayer.

"Almighty God grant to this Council, wisdom, understanding and sincerity of purpose for the good governance of this Shire."

4 Apologies

Nil.

The Mayor, Dennis Heslin, congratulated retired Councillor, Albert Calvano and thanked him for his 18 years of service to the community as an elected member.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 March 2026 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Henry

SECONDED: Cr Manning

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 March 2026 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

CARRIED

6 Declaration of Interest

Nil.

7 Leave of Absence

There were no requests for a leave of absence on the agenda.



8 Questions on Notice

Questions from the public must be submitted prior to the commencement of Council Meetings.

All questions must be submitted through completion of the Public Question Time form and be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer at 111 Brown Street, Hamilton. All questions must be received by no later than 5pm on the Monday before the Council Meeting.

Questions must:

1. Not pre-empt debate on any matter listed on the agenda of the Council Meeting at which the question is asked.
2. Not refer to matters designated as confidential under the *Local Government Act 2020*.
3. Be clear and unambiguous and not contain argument on the subject.
4. Not be derogatory, defamatory or embarrassing to any Councillor, member of staff, ratepayer or member of the public, nor relate to a matter beyond the power of Council.

If the member of the public is in attendance at the Council Meeting the Mayor will read the question aloud and provide a response. If a question cannot be answered at the meeting, a written response will be prepared and forwarded to the person raising the question.

Residents do not need to attend the meeting for a question to be answered. If they do not attend the meeting a written response will be provided.

There was one Question on Notice listed on the agenda.

8.1 Jenny Rankin

Question:

Why have any or all asset reports on the Brown street Council buildings not been made public and when will they be?

Answer:

We have provided and made public, several times, the engineering reports into the condition of our Brown Street Gallery and Library report.

We have also, in this chamber, referred to and commented on those reports on multiple occasions.

I am not sure what the resident means by asset reports? We do have building condition reports that we use internally to plan and schedule asset maintenance and renewal programs over the medium term.



I suspect this is what the community member is asking about. I believe it is worth just explaining the difference between an engineering assessment of a building, and a condition report is.

The building condition reports are not deep dive reports that are intrusive and determine the structural integrity of a building. They are visual inspections only to inform maintenance programs, compared to say the engineering reports into a building which is highly specialised and undertaken to determine the buildings structural integrity and whether it is fit for purpose for a new and significant investment in the building.

One is a visual inspection that tells us when we need to schedule repairs and maintenance, the other provides a comprehensive building and site analysis that is intrusive, including excavating foundations, and accessing cavities to inspect frames, and assessing these to understand if an investment in the building is viable.

Engineering reports are highly specialised and expensive, which is why we don't do these on the 258 buildings Council owns, rather they are done on an as needs, particularly when a significant investment beyond maintenance is being considered on an older building.

A good example to illustrate this point is the detailed engineering assessment report into the existing gallery building which significant issues with the current structure, including:

- Serious limitations in repurposing buildings constructed in the 1960s–70s
- Structural concerns such as low load capacity and reduced durability
- Inability to effectively upgrade insulation, waterproofing, and thermal barriers
- Requirement to remove and replace steelwork
- Limited access to footings, restricting any increase in floor loads or addition of new levels
- Outdated and non-reusable services (electrical, mechanical, etc.)
- Poor access to essential service pathways beneath the building
- No fire rated walls

The third last dot point is a good illustration of the difference between the two reports. Our engineering assessment tells us the electrical and mechanical services are outdated and not reusable. Whereas our building condition report tells us it's in working order and currently does not require preventive maintenance.

We will contact the community member clarify what they require and if it is the building condition report, we would be happy to provide that.



9 Public Deputations

Requests to make a Public Deputation to Council must be submitted prior to the commencement of the Council Meeting.

Anyone wishing to make a deputation to Council must complete the Request to Make a Deputation form and forward it to the Chief Executive Officer at 111 Brown Street, Hamilton by no later than 5pm on the Monday before the Council Meeting.

Speaking time is limited to 3 minutes per person. Organisations may be represented at the deputation to Council by not more than 4 representatives. The names of the representatives to attend must be advised in writing to the Chief Executive Officer and 1 of the representatives to attend must be nominated as the principal spokesperson for the deputation.

Deputations wishing to make a written submission to the Council must provide a copy either electronically or hard copy of the submission to the Chief Executive Officer prior to the Council Meeting. One copy will be made available to the local media representative, if requested.

All members of the public addressing the Council must extend due courtesy and respect to the Council and the processes under which it operates. If a member of the public fails to do this the Chairperson can remove them from the Meeting. All members of the public must also comply with Council's Governance Rules in relation to meeting procedures and public participation at meetings.

There were no Public Deputations listed on the agenda.



Council Meeting - 14 April 2026 - Minutes

10 Petitions

There were no Petitions listed on the agenda.



11 Informal Meetings of Councillors

The Southern Grampians Shire Council Governance Rules require that records of Informal Meetings of Councillors that meet the following criteria:

If there is a meeting of Councillors that:

- a. took place for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors;
- b. is attended by at least one member of Council staff; and
- c. is not a Council meeting, Delegated Committee meeting or Community Asset Committee meeting;

be tabled at the next convenient Council meeting and recorded in the minutes of that Council meeting.

An Informal Meeting of Councillors record was kept for:

- Briefing Session – 10 March 2026
- Briefing Session – 24 March 2026
- Briefing Session – 31 March 2026
- Briefing Session – 7 April 2026

This agenda was prepared on 7 April 2026. Any Informal Meeting of Councillors between that date and the date of tonight's Meeting will appear in the agenda for the next Council Meeting.



Informal Meeting of Councillors

ASSEMBLY DETAILS	
Title:	Briefing Session - 10 March 2026
Date:	10 March 2026
Location:	MJ Hynes
Councillors in Attendance:	Cr Barber Cr Campbell Cr Henry Cr Manning
Council Staff in Attendance:	Tony Doyle, Chief Executive Officer Marg Scanlon, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability Rory Neeson, Director Wellbeing, Planning and Regulation Nick Templeton, Head of Finance Juan Donis, Manager Waste and Sustainability

The Informal Meeting commenced at 3:00pm.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED
1	Glass Kerbside Services Issues	Nil.
2	Council Meeting Items	Nil.

The Informal Meeting concluded at 5:00pm.



Informal Meeting of Councillors

ASSEMBLY DETAILS	
Title:	Briefing Session - 24 March 2026
Date:	24 March 2026
Location:	MJ Hynes
Councillors in Attendance:	Cr Barber Cr Campbell Cr Henry Cr Manning Cr Rainsford
Council Staff in Attendance:	Darren Barber, Director People and Performance Marg Scanlon, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability Rory Neeson, Director Wellbeing, Planning and Regulation Nick Templeton, Head of Finance Kevin Leddin, Procurement Lead Tahlia Homes, Manager People and Culture Naga Chaitanya, Project Manager Alison Quade, Manager Communication and Engagement Melanie Russell, Grants Officer Jane Coshutt, Senior Community Development Coordinator Juan Donis, Manager Waste and Sustainability

The Informal Meeting commenced at 1:30pm.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED
1	Annual Plan Reporting – Council Plan 2025-2029 – 1 July – 31 December 2025	Nil.
2	ARC Independent Member Re-appointment	Nil.
3	Procurement Policy	Nil.
4	Gender Equality Action Plan – Consultation	Nil.
5	Hamilton Town Entrance Sign – Report on Community Consultation Feedback	Nil.
6	Round Two Community Partnership Grants	Nil.
7	Waste and FOGO Disposal Contracts	Nil.

The Informal Meeting concluded at 5:00pm.



Informal Meeting of Councillors

ASSEMBLY DETAILS	
Title:	Briefing Session - 31 March 2026
Date:	31 March 2026
Location:	MJ Hynes
Councillors in Attendance:	Cr Barber Cr Campbell Cr Henry Cr Manning Cr Rainsford
Council Staff in Attendance:	Tony Doyle, Chief Executive Officer Darren Barber, Director People and Performance Marg Scanlon, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability Rory Neeson, Director Wellbeing, Planning and Regulation Nick Templeton, Head of Finance

The Informal Meeting commenced at 11:00am.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED
1	Budget Submissions and Business Case Prioritisation	Nil
2	Loans to Community Groups Policy Rescission	Nil.
3	Public Transparency Policy	Nil.

The Informal Meeting concluded at 5:00pm.



Informal Meeting of Councillors

ASSEMBLY DETAILS	
Title:	Briefing Session - 7 April 2026
Date:	7 April 2026
Location:	MJ Hynes
Councillors in Attendance:	Cr Barber Cr Campbell Cr Henry Cr Heslin Cr Manning Cr Rainsford
Council Staff in Attendance:	Tony Doyle, Chief Executive Officer Darren Barber, Director People and Performance Marg Scanlon, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability Rory Neeson, Director Wellbeing, Planning and Regulation Nick Templeton, Head of Finance Aaron Smith, Manager Assets

The Informal Meeting commenced at 12:00pm.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED
1	Councillors and CEO	Nil.
2	Operating and Capital Budget	Nil.

The Informal Meeting concluded at 5:00pm.



12 Management Reports

12.1 Council Plan - Annual Plan Quarterly Report - 1 July 2025 - 31 December 2025

Directorate: People and Performance
Report Approver: Darren Barber (Director People and Performance)
Report Author: Karly Herring, Governance Coordinator
Attachment(s): 1. Annual Plan Report - 1 July - 31 December 2025 [12.1.1 - 43 pages]

Executive Summary

The Annual Plan is developed each year to assist in the delivery of the Council Plan objectives and demonstrate to the community the key projects to be delivered each year of the Council Plan.

The Annual Plan Report for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025 has been prepared to provide information regarding the performance of the organisation against the Council Plan 2025-2029.

This report is the first update for the 2025-2029 Council Plan.

Discussion

The Annual Plan sets out specific actions and includes a detailed list of Council's activities and initiatives for the upcoming financial year. These initiatives are projects undertaken over and above normal service delivery and are intended to attain important outcomes for Council and the community.

Reports on the progress of the Annual Plan are reported to Council quarterly. This allows Council to receive timely, relevant and measurable information about how the organisation is performing. This in turn allows Council an opportunity to raise concerns about performance in a timely manner. The Annual Plan reporting also helps formulate the Annual Report and support the reporting against the Council Plan each year.

This is the first Annual Plan report for the new 2025-2029 Council Plan.

There are 71 actions in the Annual Plan for 2025-2026, of these 71 actions:

- 62 actions (87%) are on track - at least 90% of the target achieved;
- 7 actions (10%) require monitoring –between 70% and 90% of the target achieved; and
- 2 actions (3%) are off track – less than 70% of target achieved.

Details about the specific performance of the Annual Plan actions is detailed in the attached Action and Task Progress Report.

Financial and Resource Implications



There are no direct financial or resource implications associated with this reporting and where there are financial or resource implications relating to specific projects, these will be addressed through relevant business cases.

Council Plan, Community Vision, Strategies and Policies

Leadership and Governance - We will demonstrate strong leadership and sound financial management through transparent decision-making, clear communication and meaningful engagement that builds community trust.

- 5.1 Improve effective governance and public accountability
- 5.2 Communicate clearly about Council decisions, projects and services to increase awareness, confidence and trust in the community.
- 5.5 Advocate for community priorities

Legislation

Council is required to adopt a Council Plan in accordance with Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The Council Plan is supported by the development of an Annual Plan which details the actions that will be undertaken to achieve the strategic objectives in the Council Plan.

Gender Equality Act 2020

There are no direct *Gender Equality Act 2020* implications associated with this reporting and any strategies, policies or programs will have individual and tailored Gender Impact Assessments undertaken as they develop.

Risk Management

Reporting on the Annual Plan is presented to Council quarterly so Council can regularly monitor the performance of the organisation against the Council Plan.

Given the Council Plan for 2025-2029 was adopted by Council in October and is retrospective to 1 July, this report outlines the 1 July – 31 December 2025 period but quarterly reporting will be provided moving forward.

Climate Change, Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

No direct implications as part of the Annual Plan reporting, environment is a pillar within the Council Plan 2025-2029 and has standalone objectives and strategies.

Community Engagement, Communication and Consultation

The Annual Plan quarterly progress reports are publicly available for viewing on Council's website.

Youth Charter



There are no direct implications as part of the reporting itself and youth objectives and strategies are identified within the Council Plan 2025-2029 and Annual Plan actions.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

Karly Herring, Governance Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the Annual Plan report for 1 July 2025 – 31 December 2025.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Manning

SECONDED: Cr Barber

That Council receive the Annual Plan report for 1 July 2025 – 31 December 2025.

CARRIED



12.2 Adoption of Public Transparency Policy

Directorate: People and Performance
Report Approver: Darren Barber (Director People and Performance)
Report Author: Karly Herring, Governance Coordinator
Attachment(s): 1. Draft Public Transparency Policy [12.2.1 - 6 pages]

Executive Summary

Council must adopt and maintain a Public Transparency Policy under section 57 of the *Local Government Act 2020* ('the Act').

The Policy was last adopted by Council in August in 2020 and has been reviewed. Local Government Victoria are in the process of developing a model Public Transparency policy for Councils to adopt, but as an interim measure, Council has reviewed its own policy and it is attached for consideration.

The draft Policy was publicly exhibited on Council's website on the "engage with us" page and feedback encouraged via Council's social media page. It was placed on exhibition from 19 February – 2 March 2026 and no submissions or feedback was received during exhibition; the final policy is attached for adoption.

Discussion

The Public Transparency policy must give effect to the public transparency principles in the Act and describes what, and how, Council information is made publicly available.

Public Transparency must:

- a) Give effect to the public transparency principles
- b) Describe the ways in which Council information is to be made publicly available
- c) Specify which council information must be publicly available, including all policies, plans and reports required under this Act or any other Act
- d) Include any other matters prescribed by the regulations.

Changes include:

- Inclusion of the FOI email address
- Code of Conduct updated to Model Code of Conduct
- References to community engagement submissions amended to make it clear they will be de-identified
- Reference to section 223 under the *Local Government Act 1989* removed and updated with reference to community engagement policy under the *Local Government Act 2020*
- Confidentiality section updated to provide further information regarding Councillor Briefing sessions

Financial and Resource Implications

There are no financial or resource implications.



Council Plan, Community Vision, Strategies and Policies

Social and Community - We will promote a healthy community by ensuring people are safe, active and connected.

1.2 Facilitate and encourage opportunities for people to participate in community and civic life

Leadership and Governance - We will demonstrate strong leadership and sound financial management through transparent decision-making, clear communication and meaningful engagement that builds community trust.

5.1 Improve effective governance and public accountability

5.2 Communicate clearly about Council decisions, projects and services to increase awareness, confidence and trust in the community.

5.4 Provide the community a strong voice through meaningful and accessible engagement

5.8 Ensure the community are at the forefront of decision making

Legislation

A requirement to adopt and maintain a Public Transparency Policy under section 57 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Gender Equality Act 2020

There are no gender equality implications associated with the review of this policy.

Risk Management

The review of the Public Transparency Policy ensures that Council meets its legislative responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Climate Change, Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

There are no climate change, environmental and sustainability considerations associated with the review of this policy.

Community Engagement, Communication and Consultation

The Policy was publicly exhibited for a period of two weeks from 19 February – 2 March 2026, seeking submissions from the public.

No submissions or feedback was received during this time.

Youth Charter

There are no Youth Charter implications associated with the review of this policy.

Disclosure of Interests



All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

Karly Herring, Governance Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt the Public Transparency Policy; and
2. Rescind the previous version of the Public Transparency Policy.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Henry

SECONDED: Cr Campbell

That Council:

1. Adopt the Public Transparency Policy; and
2. Rescind the previous version of the Public Transparency Policy.

CARRIED



12.3 Procurement Policy

Directorate: People and Performance
Report Approver: Darren Barber, Director People and Performance
Report Author: Nick Templeton, Head of Finance
Attachment(s): 1. Procurement Policy Draft 2026 [12.3.1 - 21 pages]

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to present Councillors with Council's updated Procurement Policy (the Policy).

Under Section 108 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council must review its Procurement Policy at least once during a Council term (every 4 years). This revised policy is based on the MAV Best Practice Procurement Policy template, developed in collaboration with procurement professionals from across Victoria. The template is designed to be practical, flexible, provide consistency across the sector and is fully compliant with the Act and the 2024 Best Practice Guidelines.

The Policy continues to support probity, consistency, and strategic alignment across all procurement activities and aims to guide open and fair competition, value for money and support for local business.

Discussion

This Policy reflects a contemporary, sector-aligned approach to local government procurement; being strategic, practical and audit ready. Developed in collaboration with the MAV and a working group of metropolitan and regional Victorian councils, the policy provides a consistent and compliant framework which has been tailored to Council's operational needs following consultation across key departments including:

- Governance
- Works
- Project Management
- Recreational
- Business Systems
- Planning & Regulation
- Finance

It adopts a simplified structure that distinguishes between core policy principles and operational procedures. The policy also strengthens guidance on ethical and compliant use of panel contracts and collaborative arrangements reflecting their increasing role in efficient service delivery.

The Policy has been through a thorough consultation process and has also been reviewed by Council's Audit and Risk Committee.

A summary of changes to the Policy are set out in the "Table of Changes".



The Policy guides Council's procurement activities in a manner that promotes open and fair competition, focusses on value for money, and upholds the principles of transparency, probity, and accountability.

A continuing feature of the Policy is to support local business wherever possible and on a value for money basis. In securing goods and services Council will seek to obtain quotations from local suppliers if this is possible. In assessing quotations, the Policy states "Preference must be given to local business where a quotation for purchases <\$150,000 has been sought and price difference is within 10%." Above \$150,000 is an invitation to the open market via a tender process, which also provides for a local supplier benefit in assessment of tenders.

This reflects Council's acknowledgement of the important role local business plays in terms of employment and economic impact across the Shire.

The new Policy also facilitates the use of collaborative procurement across the local government sector (taking advantage of bulk buying) and a panel of suppliers (ideally local suppliers) especially for reactive and trade like procurements (plumbing, electrical etc).

The Policy also supports, wherever appropriate, the quadruple bottom line approach of :

- Economic – sustainable financial performance and economic value
- Environmental – impact on the environment
- Social – support for people and community
- Ethical – decisions and behaviours align with moral principles of integrity, transparency and responsible governance.

Table of Changes

Some of the main changes compared to the previous policy are the inclusion of panel arrangements for collaborative panel contracts along with internal panel of supply by Council. These panel arrangements will be in place for minor works including plumbing, electrical, tree maintenance, slashing, fire control and similar works.

Preferencing Local business where a quotation for purchases <\$150,000 has been sought and price difference is within 10% has been added to Appendix 1, previously included in Appendix 3.

Added to the exemptions from procurement process is decisions made under CEO delegation. This is for cases where 'value' for money can be justified through market research and there is measurable benefit to Council.

The full list of changes is as follows:

Current Policy		Proposed Policy	
1	Overview		
1.1	Applicability	1	Council Policy & Applicability
1.2	Objectives	2	Guiding Principles
1.3	Treatment of GST	1.1	Treatment of GST



2	Legislative and Policy Compliance & Control		
2.1	Ethics & Probity		
2.1.1	Requirement	2.1	Probity, Accountability and Transparency
2.1.2	Conduct of Councillors and Council Staff		
2.1.3	Conflict of Interest		
2.1.4	Fair and Honest Dealing		
2.1.5	Probity, Accountability and Transparency		
2.1.6	Gifts and Benefits		
2.1.7	Disclosure of Information		
2.1.8	Complaints and Suspicious Activities	5	Procurement Monitoring, Reporting and Non-Compliance
2.2	Governance		
2.2.1	Structure	-	Removed
2.2.2	Methods of Purchasing	3.2	Procurement Methods
2.2.3	Responsible Financial Management		
2.2.4	Procurement Thresholds and Competition	-	Removed
3	Procurement Principles		
3.1	Procurement Methodology	3.2	Procurement Methods
3.2	Exemptions from Tendering	3.5	Procurement Exemptions and Sole Sourcing
3.3	Contract Variations	-	Definitions
3.4	Sole or Select Sourcing	3.5 / 3.6	Procurement Exemptions and Sole Sourcing / Select Sourcing and Panel Arrangements
3.5	Public Tender Requirements	3.2	Procurement Methods
3.5.1	Tender Evaluation	3.4	Tender Evaluation
3.5.2	Evaluation Criteria		Removed – included in Contract Management Guidelines
3.5.3	Probity Advisor	3.4	Tender Evaluation
3.5.4	Shortlisting and Negotiations	3.4.1	Contract Negotiations and Best and Final Offer (BAFO) Process
3.5.5	Collaborative Procurement	3.3	Collaborative Procurement
3.6	Delegation of Authority	-	Appendix 2
3.7	Internal Controls	5	Procurement Monitoring, Reporting and Non-Compliance
3.8	Risk Management		
3.8.1	General	2.4	Risk Management
3.8.2	Endorsement		
3.9	Dispute Resolution	-	Removed – included in Contract Management Guidelines
3.10	Contract Management		
4	Demonstrated Sustained Value		
4.1	Achieving Value for Money		
4.1.1	Requirement	2.2 / 2.3	Strategic Procurement / Value for Money and Quadruple Bottom Line
4.1.2	Approach		
4.2	Sustainable Procurement		



4.2.1	Sustainable Procurement Definition	2.3.1	Quadruple Bottom Line (QBL) Principles
4.2.2	Applying Sustainable Procurement in Council		
5	Build and Maintain Supply Relationships		
5.1	Manage Suppliers	-	Removed – included in Contract Management Guidelines
5.2	Supply Market	2.3.1	Quadruple Bottom Line (QBL) Principles
5.2	Policy – Key Linkages and Governance		
5.2.1	Standards and Linkages	4	Relevant Legislation Policy and Other Documents
5.2.2	Policy Review Process		Review

New Item

Panel Arrangements – Section 3.6

Where Council has established an internal panel or is accessing a collaborative panel contract or approved purchasing scheme, the following provisions apply:

- Council may approve alternate procurement thresholds and sourcing methodologies specific to the panel.
- These must be documented at the time of panel formation (e.g. Panel Register), approval is sought by the appropriate Financial Delegate, and sourcing methodologies for the panel are documented.
- Once endorsed, these thresholds override the standard thresholds set out in Appendix 1 for all procurement conducted under the panel.
- All procurement activities must align with the panel's scope, terms of use, use approved templates and processes in accordance with Council's Procurement Guidelines.

A procurement exemption may be required only where the procurement exceeds the panel's approved scope or deviates from usage rules.

These panel arrangements will be in place for minor works including Plumbing, Electrical, Tree Maintenance, Slashing, Fire Control etc.

Appendix 1 – Procurement Methodology Thresholds
Threshold limits have not been adjusted, presented in a more streamlined table for Policy. Guidelines will be more extensive in term of internal processes for each threshold.
Preferencing Local business where a quotation for purchases <\$150,000 has been sought and price difference is within 10% has been added here from Appendix 3.

Appendix 2 – Contract Variations Financial Delegation
Variation delegation now removed, variations are to be taken into account of the whole procurement value and the appropriate financial delegate to approve. It is not a separate delegation.



Appendix 3 – Sustainable Procurement	
Removed	This is covered in section 2.3.1 - Quadruple Bottom Line (QBL) Principles. Local Government Preference now included in Appendix 1.

Appendix 4 – Exemptions from Procurement Process	
Exemptions from purchase order and relevant officer delegated to approve payment columns are an internal process which will now be included in the guidelines.	
Slight change to wording throughout the table to ensure clearer definition of the justification.	
Removed	Utilities – Multiple Providers. This is not exempt from market engagement.
Added	Decisions made under CEO delegation. This is for cases where 'value' for money can be justified through market research and there is measurable benefit to Council.

Appendix 5 – Compliance with Local Government Act 2020	
Removed	This is an internal risk measurement to ensure legislative requirements have been captured. This will now be an appendix to the Guidelines.

Appendix 6 – Collaborative Tendering Section 3.3	
Removed	This is an internal document outlining the framework for collaborative procurement. This will now be an appendix to the Guidelines.

Financial and Resource Implications

Whilst the Policy itself does not have any financial or resource implications, it is, in fact, the framework which assists in how financial resources will be used to procure goods and services by the organisation.

Procurement underpins Council's activities and is vital in securing approximately \$32m annually in goods and services for operational and capital projects spread across 5,500 procurement transactions.

It seeks to support good governance processes and practices, including open and transparent decision making, supported by evidence.

Council Plan, Community Vision, Strategies and Policies

Social and Community - We will promote a healthy community by ensuring people are safe, active and connected.

1.2 Facilitate and encourage opportunities for people to participate in community and civic life

Leadership and Governance - We will demonstrate strong leadership and sound financial management through transparent decision-making, clear communication and meaningful engagement that builds community trust.

5.1 Improve effective governance and public accountability

5.2 Communicate clearly about Council decisions, projects and services to increase awareness, confidence and trust in the community.



5.3 Ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making meets long-term financial sustainability

5.8 Ensure the community are at the forefront of decision making

Legislation

Section 108 and 109 of the *Local Government Act 2020* specifically relate to this Policy.

Gender Equality Act 2020

There are no direct implications to the *Gender Equality Act 2020* in preparing the Procurement Policy, however, Council casts a strong gender lens across all of its operations, programs and projects throughout the year and the budget allows for provisions that support gender equality initiatives.

Risk Management

The Policy seeks to mitigate risk by ensuring procurement activities are undertaken in an open, transparent and consistent manner. This version of Procurement Policy has considered the risk exposure to ensure those activities with higher risk or higher dollar values are subject to more rigorous processes than low risk, low value projects.

Climate Change, Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

The policy includes specific reference to sustainability and has included processes around the three pillars of sustainability:

- Economic
- Environmental
- Social

Community Engagement, Communication and Consultation

Internal stakeholders of Council were provided opportunities to engage and provide feedback throughout the review and development of the new Procurement Policy. No external community engagement, communication and or consultation was undertaken or required with regards to adopting this Policy.

Youth Charter

There are no direct Youth Charter implications as a result of this briefing however the Youth Charter applies to all procurements made by Council.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

Darren Barber, Director People and Performance



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Nick Templeton, Head of Finance
Kevin Leddin, Procurement Lead

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt the Procurement Policy dated April 2026; and
2. Note the Policy will come into effect on the date the operational guidelines are signed by the CEO.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Barber

SECONDED: Cr Manning

That Council:

1. Adopt the Procurement Policy dated April 2026; and
2. Note the Policy will come into effect on the date the operational guidelines are signed by the CEO.

CARRIED



12.4 Loan to Community Groups - Rescission of Policy

Directorate: People and Performance
Report Approver: Darren Barber, Director People & Performance
Report Author: Nick Templeton, Head of Finance
Attachment(s): 1. Council Policy - Loans to Community Groups [12.4.1 - 2 pages]

Executive Summary

Council's Loans to Community Groups Policy has been in place to provide guidance to Council and officers for situations where funds are requested by community groups to facilitate a project. The purpose of this policy is to provide an equitable and consistent basis for the provision of loans and/or bridging finance to community groups.

The Policy was last adopted by Council in 2014 and was initially created in 1996.

The Policy has not been utilised for a number of years and other alternate funding models have matured during this time. Upon reviewing and updating the policy it was determined that it is not a required policy and is therefore proposed for rescission.

Discussion

The key components of the policy include details of the purpose for the policy including that loans may be provided to community groups within the Shire to assist in the provision of new facilities, the extension or modification of existing facilities, the purchase of plant and equipment, or major maintenance considered by Council to be of a capital nature.

Eligibility for assistance under this policy is be limited to community groups providing facilities on Crown land, Council owned land or land vested in trustees for public purposes.

The policy states that:

1. All applications shall be supported by either:
 - (i) a detailed business plan which clearly demonstrates the financial viability of the project once completed to repay the loan within the agreed period, or
 - (ii) a detailed plan of the fund raising arrangements to repay the loan within the agreed period.
2. All loans shall bear interest at the Indicative borrowing rates based on the Reserve Bank of Australia Cash Rate at the date immediately prior to the signing of the agreement plus an additional one per cent per annum and shall be repayable over a fixed term by equal quarterly instalments of interest and principal.
3. The maximum period for the repayment of any loan shall be ten years.



4. All loans in excess of \$10,000 shall require personal guarantees to be given by one or more representatives of the community group to the full value of such loan or advance.
5. The maximum amount to be loaned to any community group or for any project shall be \$75,000.
6. The total amount of loans advanced to community groups shall not at any time exceed \$350,000 (excludes loan provided to Hamilton P & A Society in 2024).

The Policy has not been reviewed for some time and community groups have not accessed funds utilising the Loans to Community Groups Policy for many years. In 2024 the Hamilton P & A Society were granted a loan however the amount was outside of the scope of the policy.

The policy is no longer required as other funding sources are available including community grants and the recreation framework with caps matching funding applicable to these funding alternatives. The Loans to Community Groups Policy has the potential to provide cash flow and borrowing limit problems should it be widely used.

The circumstances required to deem it appropriate for Council to lend money to a community group would be extremely rare. The community grants funding has been extended with the amount now available increased in total and for specific funding requests. The process for community grants has guidance around what is available and is a more appropriate way for Council to support community group funding requests.

Should the policy be rescinded, community groups could apply to Council and be considered for loan funds if the project is deemed unsuitable for other funding available.

Financial and Resource Implications

The financial implications are minor and will be assessed at the time of receipt of an application based on the available cash to Council and the amount requested.

Council Plan, Community Vision, Strategies and Policies

Social and Community - We will promote a healthy community by ensuring people are safe, active and connected.

1.2 Facilitate and encourage opportunities for people to participate in community and civic life

Leadership and Governance - We will demonstrate strong leadership and sound financial management through transparent decision-making, clear communication and meaningful engagement that builds community trust.

5.1 Improve effective governance and public accountability

5.2 Communicate clearly about Council decisions, projects and services to increase awareness, confidence and trust in the community.

5.3 Ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making meets long-term financial sustainability



5.8 Ensure the community are at the forefront of decision making

Legislation

The Loans to Community Groups Policy is not governed by specific legislation.

Gender Equality Act 2020

There are no gender equality implications associated with the review of this policy.

Risk Management

Upon reviewing the Loans to Community Groups Policy 2019, it was determined that this policy is recommended for rescission. If the policy is to be retained the updated wording is designed to ensure the risks to Council are minimised by outlining requirements and limitations.

Climate Change, Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

There are no climate change, environmental and sustainability considerations associated with the review of this policy.

Community Engagement, Communication and Consultation

No direct consultation has been undertaken however the proposed rescinding of the policy is based on not receiving applications applicable to this policy for many years.

Youth Charter

There are no Youth Charter implications associated with the review of this policy.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

Nick Templeton, Head of Finance

RECOMMENDATION

That Council rescind the Loans to Community Groups Policy dated 2019.



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RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Henry

SECONDED: Cr Manning

That Council rescind the Loans to Community Groups Policy dated 2019.

CARRIED



12.5 Audit and Risk Committee Independent Member - Reappointment

Directorate: People and Performance
Report Approver: Darren Barber (Director People and Performance)
Report Author: Nadine Rhook, Executive Assistant to Director People and Performance
Attachment(s): Nil

Executive Summary

Council's Audit and Risk Committee is established in accordance with section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. Membership comprises three independent members and two Councillors.

The tenure of an independent member Mr Bill Millard term expired on 12 March 2026 after appointment by Council on 8 February 2023 for a period of three years.

In accordance with the Audit and Risk Committee Charter, the appointment of independent members must be by resolution of Council.

Discussion

The tenure for Mr Millard as a Committee independent member expired on 12 March 2026 and an independent member of the Committee must be appointed by Council resolution.

Below is an overview of the current membership:

Member	Tenures	Action
Mr Brian Densem - Chair	Independent Member – expiring on 12 March 2028 Chair - Expiring 12 March 2027	No action required.
<i>Mr Bill Millard</i>	<i>Expired 12 March 2026</i>	<i>Re-appoint as Independent member for a further 3 years.</i>
Ms Aisling Cunningham	Expiring 3 September 2026	No action required.

Mr Millard is a highly experienced local government professional with extensive regional and metropolitan industry knowledge gained through senior director and CEO roles. He has held CEO positions at Moyne Shire and Mansfield Shire, along with multiple interim CEO appointments across Victoria.

His executive experience includes Director roles in Planning, Development and Infrastructure, Director of City Growth at Warrnambool City Council, and Director of Strategic Development at Hobsons Bay City Council. Mr Millard holds an MBA specialising in Organisational Strategy



and Human Resources, is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and brings considerable board and governance experience.

He was first appointed on Council Audit and Risk Committee on 8 February 2023 and sat on such Committees as an external member.

The members of the Audit and Risk Committee agreed to reappoint Mr Millard as an Independent Member for a further three-year term via circular resolution early March 2026.

Financial and Resource Implications

Independent Committee Members are paid a meeting allowance which is included in Council's annual budget.

Council Plan, Community Vision, Strategies and Policies

Leadership and Governance - We will demonstrate strong leadership and sound financial management through transparent decision-making, clear communication and meaningful engagement that builds community trust.

- 5.1 Improve effective governance and public accountability
- 5.2 Communicate clearly about Council decisions, projects and services to increase awareness, confidence and trust in the community.
- 5.3 Ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making meets long-term financial sustainability

Legislation

Section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020* ("the Act") states that Council must establish an Audit and Risk Committee.

The appointment of independent members and the Committee Chair must be by resolution of Council.

Gender Equality Act 2020

There are no direct *Gender Equality Act 2020* implications associated with this reporting.

Risk Management

The primary objective of the Audit and Risk Committee is to assist Council in the effective conduct of its responsibilities for financial reporting, management of risk, maintaining a reliable system of internal controls and compliance and facilitating the organisation's governance development.

In achieving its primary objective, the Committee in turn ensures that Council achieves its social, economic and environmental objectives in a fair, transparent and open manner.



Climate Change, Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

There are no environmental or sustainability implications resulting from the recommendation in this report.

Community Engagement, Communication and Consultation

No community engagement, communication or consultation activities were required for this report.

Youth Charter

There are no Youth Charter implications as a result of this briefing.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

Darren Barber – Director People and Performance

RECOMMENDATION

That Council re-appoint Mr Bill Millard as an Independent member of the Audit and Risk Committee for a further term of three (3) years, concluding 12 March 2029.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Campbell
SECONDED: Cr Henry

That Council re-appoint Mr Bill Millard as an Independent member of the Audit and Risk Committee for a further term of three (3) years, concluding 12 March 2029.

CARRIED



12.6 Round Two Community Partnership Grants

Directorate: Chief Executive Office
Report Approver: Alison Quade (Manager Communication and Engagement), Tony Doyle (Chief Executive Officer)
Report Author: Melanie Russell, Grants Officer
 Alison Quade, Manager Communication and Engagement
Attachment(s): Nil

Executive Summary

This report provides Council with information regarding Community Partnership Grant applications (Tourism and Events, Sustainability, Community Strengthening, Community Infrastructure, Arts and Culture and Heritage categories) that have been recommended for funding.

Discussion

The Community Partnership Grants program was established to deliver Council grants that are responsive to the needs and opportunities of the community, inclusive and equitable to all, and facilitate the flexible delivery of key strategies identified within the Council Plan 2025 - 29 across the social, economic and environmental spectrum. This program consolidates Council's grant opportunities to enable better integration and coordination of grant administration and improved marketing.

Community Partnership Grants assistance is considered for organisations, groups, committees and individuals with proposals that directly benefit the Southern Grampians Shire region. Applications are assessed using pre-determined evaluation criteria, taking into consideration strategic objectives within the Council Plan, Health and Wellbeing Plan, other Council Strategies and Community Plans.

The current round includes 7 grants approved over \$3,000 totalling \$43,077.34 and 27 grants approved for \$3,000.00 and under, totalling \$65,555.64.

Below is the summary of the approved grant applications, which requested funds above \$3,000.

Category	Applicant	Project	Ask Amount	Funding Amount	Total Project Cost
Sustainability & Environment	Friends of Yatmerone Inc.	Creek to Classroom. Discovering Penshurst's Aquatic Fauna	\$3,929.00	\$3,929.00	\$12,973.00



Tourism and Events	Peaks and Trails	Peaks and Trails - New event	\$9,500.00	\$5,360.96	\$19,043.43
Community Strengthening	Rotary Club of Hamilton	Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships Primary Teacher Workshop	\$12,810.00	\$11,198.13	\$25,621.25
Arts and Culture	Maggie Hartley - musician	Studio Album with Women's Pop-Up Choir from The Southern Grampians Shire	\$8,500.00	\$3,650.00	\$17,000.00
Community Infrastructure	Peter Francis Points Arboretum	Renewal and revitalisation of the points arboretum	\$15,000.00	\$7,377.75	\$15,000.00
Community Infrastructure	Sterling Place - Dunkeld Community Centre	Essential works in the Henry Leech RSL Room	\$6,234.50	\$6,234.50	\$12,469.17
Heritage	Danny and Kate McDonald	'A Beacon Over Time' - Crathie Historic Restoration	\$13,171.00	\$5,327.00	\$26,342.00
Total			\$55,973.50	\$43,077.34	\$128,448.85

Below is the summary of grant applications approved, which requested funds of \$3,000 and under.

Category	Applicant	Project	Ask amount	Funding amount	Total Project Cost
Community Strengthening	Australian Breastfeeding Association Hamilton Group	Breastfeeding Education Class Resources	\$2,298.05	\$2,298.05	\$2,298.05
Community Strengthening	HIRL (Hamilton Institute Rural Learning)	Schoolies Market - HIRL market for schools and young people	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,247.00



Community Strengthening	Penshurst Ukulele Players	Purchase of sound equipment	\$2,895.00	\$2,895.00	\$2,895.00
Community Strengthening	Glenelg and Southern Grampians LLEN	Passport 2 Employment	\$2,872.80	\$1,472.80	\$2,872.80
Community Strengthening	Carers Victoria	Hamilton Roving Respite	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,550.00
Community Infrastructure	College Cricket Club	CCC Cylinder Mower / Scarifier	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,719.00
Community Infrastructure	Glenelg Pony Club	Coleraine Equestrian Centre Holding Yards Completion	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Community Infrastructure	Dunkeld Public Lands Committee	Fire Fighting Water Tank	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,753.85
Community Infrastructure	Pigeon Ponds Rec. Reserve	Playground Soft Fall	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$5,720.00
Community Infrastructure	Penshurst Progress Association	Portable Stage for Community Events	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,510.00
Community Infrastructure	Dunkeld Progress Association	Refresh and clean public toilets and roof	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Community Infrastructure	Dunkeld Museum Inc	Office equipment and furniture upgrade	\$2,230.00	\$2,230.00	\$2,230.00
Community Infrastructure	Penshurst Progress Association	Penshurst Swimming Pool Facilities	\$2,784.00	\$2,784.00	\$2,784.00
Community Infrastructure	Hamilton Running Club	Club Supplies and Defib Accessories	\$1,043.00	\$1,042.00	\$1,042.00
Community Infrastructure	Penshurst Men's Shed	Keeping it safe - tools purchase	\$691.98	\$691.98	\$691.98



Community Infrastructure	Penshurst Memorial Hall	Creative Reconstruction - entrance lighting upgrade	\$2,999.15	\$2,999.15	\$2,999.15
Community Infrastructure	Branxholme Public Hall Reserve	New Tables	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,920.00
Heritage	Coleraine Historical Society Inc	Printer	\$652.00	\$652.00	\$652.00
Heritage	Hamilton Pastoral Museum	Protect and Preserve Western District Wedding Dresses and Garments	\$2,432.16	\$2,432.16	\$2,432.16
Heritage	John Kane	Capital Works to heritage Blacksmith Shop Coleraine	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,000.00
Tourism and Events	Hamilton Running Club (Auspice)	Hamilton Mother's Day Classic 2026	\$2,270.40	\$2,270.40	\$2,270.40
Tourism and Events	The Vintage Drivers Club Inc.	The Spirit of the Twenties Blue Lake Border Dash 2026	\$391.50	\$391.50	\$391.50
Tourism and Events	Volcanoes Discovery Centre	Banners, A Frame purchase and installation	\$2,396.60	\$2,396.60	\$2,396.60
Tourism and Events	3 Peaks Festival	3 Peaks Festival 2026 event	\$4,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$16,525.00
Tourism and Events	Coleraine Art & Photography Show	Coleraine Art & Photography Show 2026	\$2,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$11,855.00
Tourism and Events	Hamilton Eisteddfod	Reimagining the Eisteddfod	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,600.00
Arts and Culture	Hamilton District Concert Band	Hamilton Community Music Spectacular	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,632.36



Total			\$67,456.44	\$65,555.64	\$100,987.85
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Budget summary

Category	Round One Spend:	Round Two Spend:
Arts and Culture	\$6,658.40	\$6,650.00
Tourism and Events	\$37,804.00	\$19,419.00
Infrastructure	\$96,448.67	\$44,359.38
Community Strengthening	\$6,733.00	\$22,864.00
Sustainability	\$2,000.00	\$3,929.00
Heritage	-	\$11,411.00
TOTAL BUDGET:	\$149,645.00	\$108,633.00

Financial and Resource Implications

The collaborative approach across Council grant categories opens opportunities for Council to work with the community to broaden the scope of ideas identified within applications to position these projects and or events to leverage external funding.

Applications for \$3,000 or greater must demonstrate cash contributions and must provide evidence of cash held, or applicants must be able to demonstrate their financial capacity to complete the project.

The grant amount approved by Council cannot be increased post-funding approval. In the case of a funding shortfall, funding will not be made available by way of a Council loan.

Council Plan, Community Vision, Strategies and Policies

Social and Community - We will promote a healthy community by ensuring people are safe, active and connected.

- 1.1 Partner with community, agencies and other levels of government to ensure our community facilities and services are welcoming, safe, accessible and inclusive so people can live healthy, resilient lives
- 1.2 Facilitate and encourage opportunities for people to participate in community and civic life
- 1.3 Promote and create spaces and places that bring people together
- 1.4 Ensure youth led engagement drives events, activities and programs for young people
- 1.5 Promote safety and inclusion for whole of community including children, first nations, multicultural and gender diverse people

Business, Economy and Tourism - We will create a thriving and diverse local and regional economy that supports our businesses and strengthens our position as a desirable place to live, work, and visit.



2.3 Grow the visitor economy through enhanced promotion of Southern Grampians Shire as a tourist destination and increased investment in tourism infrastructure

2.4 Attract, support and deliver events that align with community values, drive visitation and economic activity

Community Infrastructure and Assets - We will deliver well-planned, high-quality infrastructure and spaces that connect people and respond to community needs.

3.3 Sustainably maintain and develop community infrastructure and assets, including our built heritage, ensuring they are fit for purpose and respond to community needs

Environment - We will protect and enhance our natural landscapes and advance a clean, green, and sustainable future in Southern Grampians Shire.

4.1 Manage, enhance and protect our natural environment, landscapes, green and open spaces, respecting cultural heritage

Legislation

The Community Partnership Grants Program Policy was adopted on 11 June 2025.

The Community Partnership Grants program assists Council to deliver on key outcomes of the Council Plan 2025 - 2029.

Each Grant category requests that applicants ensure that their project or idea demonstrates a link to the Council Plan, Health and Wellbeing Plan or other endorsed Strategic Plans of Council.

Gender Equality Act 2020

Applicants are required to align to Council's Fair Access Policy which helps enable effective and efficient integration of the requirements of the Gender Equality Act 2020, the Local Government Act 2020 and the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 and other legislative frameworks into the grants program.

Risk Management

There is a predetermined eligibility and assessment criteria with a set weighting, to identify and assess the risk exposure within each application. The assessment criteria ensure that projects and events have adequate control measures in place to ensure their successful and safe delivery.

Each grant applicant must also demonstrate that they comply with any legal or statutory regulations relevant to the project which they are seeking Community Partnership Grants funding. This includes (where relevant) appropriate insurances, food handling permits, liquor licences etc.

Climate Change, Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

No Environmental and Sustainability Considerations identified.



Community Engagement, Communication and Consultation

Various Council staff engage with the community in relation to the Community Partnership Grants program at a range of meetings and workshops (including Councillor Engagement, Progress Association, club and user groups and event organiser meetings, etc). Staff also engage with applicants on a 1:1 basis and in group workshops, to provide support through the Community Partnership Grants process.

Youth Charter

The Community Partnership Grants Program considers how projects will engage, empower and include young people of the Southern Grampians Shire, in line with the Charter's guiding principles:

Guiding Principle 1 – Collaboration

- Innovation and creativity - Youth input inspires fresh ideas and approaches.

Guiding Principle 2 – Listen

- Understand needs - Ensures programs and services align with youth priorities.
- Respond- Confirm our understanding and engage. Youth perspectives bring creativity and new ideas.

Guiding Principle 3 – Empower

- Support future leaders – Prepares the next generation to shape the region.

Guiding Principle 4 – Advocate

- Promote fairness – Supports equal opportunities and access.

Guiding Principle 5 – Respect

- Strengthen relationships – Respect fosters participation in programs and decision making.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

Alison Quade, Manager Communications and Engagement
Melanie Russell, Grants Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes \$65,555.64 of Community Partnership Grants of \$3,000 and under will be approved under delegation.



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2. Notes \$43,077.34 of Community Partnership Grants over \$3,000 will be approved under delegation.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Henry
SECONDED: Cr Barber

That Council:

1. Notes \$65,555.64 of Community Partnership Grants of \$3,000 and under will be approved under delegation.
2. Notes \$43,077.34 of Community Partnership Grants over \$3,000 will be approved under delegation.

CARRIED



12.3 Coleraine quarry rezoning- Decision to Adopt- Section 96A Proposal Amendment C64sgra/Planning Permit TP-30-2025

Directorate:	Wellbeing, Planning and Regulation
Report Approver:	Anita Collingwood (Planning Coordinator), Daryl Adamson (Manager Strategy and Regulation), Rory Neeson (Director Wellbeing, Planning and Regulation)
Report Author:	Scott Elliott (Principal Strategic Planner)
Attachment(s):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Southern Grampians C64sgra zn Map 17 Exhibition 2. Southern Grampians C64sgra 001d-dpoMap17 Exhibition 3. Southern Grampians Planning Scheme Amendment C64sgra Planning Permit Application TP-30-2025 Explanatory Report 4. Southern Grampians Planning Scheme Amendment C64sgra Planning Permit Application TP-30-2025 Instruction Sheet 5. TP-30-2025_Draft Permit exhibition 6. Southern Grampians C64sgra Planning Assessment Report 7. Original DEECA response Planning Scheme Amendment C 64sgra - Quarry Rezoning 8. Amended DEECA response Planning Scheme Amendment C 64sgra - Quarry Rezoning

Executive Summary

This report seeks Council adoption of Amendment C64sgra to the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme.

The amendment proposes to rezone approximately 5.6 hectares of land in Coleraine from the Low Density Residential Zone – Schedule 1 (LDRZ1) to the Farming Zone (FZ) and remove the Development Plan Overlay – Schedule 3 (DPO3) from the subject land. The changes are intended to facilitate the expansion of the existing Coleraine Quarry onto adjoining land to the south. There are no changes proposed to ordinance of the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme.

A concurrent planning permit application (TP-30-2025) seeks approval to use and develop the rezoned land for extractive industry purposes, consistent with an Endorsed Work Plan Variation approved by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) under the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990*.

Background to the Amendment

Amendment C64sgra and permit application TP-30-2025 is a combined planning permit application and planning scheme amendment under section 96A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

The land subject to the amendment is-

- 26 Templeton Street, Coleraine (Lot 2 on Plan of Subdivision 818710H)
- Pitcher Street, Coleraine (Lot 1 on Title Plan 862809)

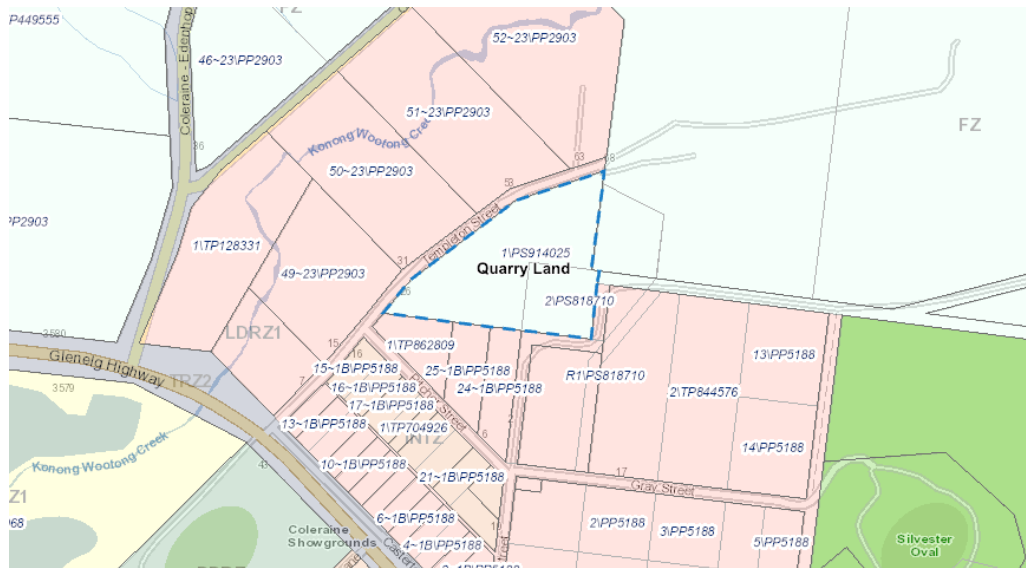


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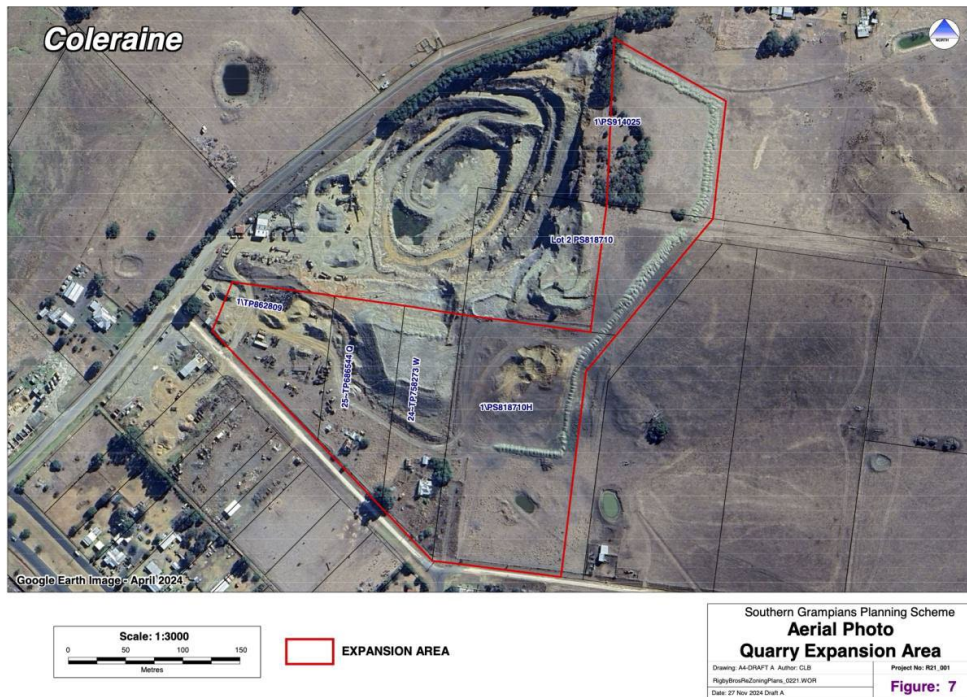
- 12 Pitcher Street, Coleraine (Crown Allotment 25, Section 1B, Township of Coleraine)
- Cameron Street, Coleraine (Crown Allotment 24, Section 1B, Township of Coleraine)
- 17 Gray Street, Coleraine (Lot 1 on Plan of Subdivision 818710)

Specifically, the Amendment will rezone the land from Low Density Residential Zone – Schedule 1 (LDRZ1) to the Farming Zone (FZ).

The maps below show the existing zoning of the subject land and an aerial photo.



Existing Zone- Low Density Residential Zone and Farming Zone



Aerial photo of subject land

The rezoning of the LDRZ land to FZ will allow the expansion of the quarry to occur as such a use is prohibited in the LDRZ. The planning permit application proposes to allow, subject to conditions, the Use and development of land for extractive industry.

Discussion

At the Ordinary Council meeting on 11 June 2025, Council resolved to -

1. Seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning under Section 8A of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to prepare and exhibit a combined planning scheme amendment and planning permit application under Section 96A of the Act to facilitate the expansion of the existing Coleraine Quarry at 26 Templeton Street, Coleraine.
2. Authorise the Director, Wellbeing Planning and Regulation to make any necessary changes to the amendment documentation to comply with conditions of authorisation. And –
3. Upon receiving authorisation, prepare and exhibit the amendment and combined permit application in accordance with section 96C of the Act.

A request for Authorisation to prepare the Amendment was submitted to the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP), which was authorised on 18 November 2025 subject to minor administrative corrections.



Copies of all the relevant documents on the Amendment and planning permit can be found at Attachments 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this report.

The amendment was publicly exhibited from 12 February to 12 March 2026.

One (1) submission was received from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) requesting further information from the proponent requiring wildlife surveys be undertaken. After discussions occurring between DEECA and the proponent, DEECA advises they now have no objection to the proposal.

Next Steps

Officers recommend the Council adopt Amendment C64sgra and resolve to submit the Amendment to the Minister for Planning for final approval.

Financial and Resource Implications

The costs associated with the adoption of the Amendment can be met within the 2025-2026 Planning Budget and all statutory fees are paid by the proponent.

Council Plan, Community Vision, Strategies and Policies

Social and Community - We will promote a healthy community by ensuring people are safe, active and connected.

1.1 Partner with community, agencies and other levels of government to ensure our community facilities and services are welcoming, safe, accessible and inclusive so people can live healthy, resilient lives

Business, Economy and Tourism - We will create a thriving and diverse local and regional economy that supports our businesses and strengthens our position as a desirable place to live, work, and visit.

2.1 Build business confidence, encourage private investment and decrease vacancy rates by investing in public assets

Community Infrastructure and Assets - We will deliver well-planned, high-quality infrastructure and spaces that connect people and respond to community needs.

3.4 Ensure appropriate and connected residential, business and industrial development which encourages liveability

Legislation

The amendment is consistent with the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme, Victorian Planning Provisions and the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Gender Equality Act 2020

There are no direct implications to the *Gender Equality Act 2020* in adopting the Amendment.



Risk Management

Risk is managed through implementing the provisions of the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme and the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Climate Change, Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

Any adverse environmental effects that could result from the Amendment would be addressed through the relevant conditions of planning permit TP-30-2025 and the requirements of Work Authority approved by DEECA.

Community Engagement, Communication and Consultation

Amendment C64sgra was exhibited according to the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* requirements.

A letter was sent to relevant Ministers, public authorities and owners and occupiers of land that may be affected by the Amendment, to inform them of the Amendment.

Notices were also placed in the local newspaper and Government Gazette.

No objecting submissions were received.

Youth Charter

There are no direct implications to the Youth Charter in adopting the Amendment.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

- Rory Neeson (Director Wellbeing, Planning and Regulation)
- Daryl Adamson (Manager Strategy and Regulation)
- Anita Collingwood (Planning Coordinator)
- Scott Elliott (Principal Strategic Planner)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. Adopt Amendment C64sgra to the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme, in the form outlined in Attachments 1, 2, 3 and 4 of this report.



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2. Submit the adopted Amendment C64sgra together with the prescribed information to the Minister for Planning requesting approval.
3. Recommend to the Minister for Planning that Planning Permit TP-30-2025 be approved in the form outlined in Attachment 5 of this report.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Manning

SECONDED: Cr Barber

That Council

1. **Adopt Amendment C64sgra to the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme, in the form outlined in Attachments 1, 2, 3 and 4 of this report.**
2. **Submit the adopted Amendment C64sgra together with the prescribed information to the Minister for Planning requesting approval.**
3. **Recommend to the Minister for Planning that Planning Permit TP-30-2025 be approved in the form outlined in Attachment 5 of this report.**

CARRIED



12.8 Hamilton Town Gateway Entrance Sign - Outcomes of Community Consultation and Adoption of Design

Directorate:	Infrastructure and Sustainability
Report Approver:	Marg Scanlon (Director Infrastructure and Sustainability)
Report Author:	Marg Scanlon, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability
Attachment(s):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Southern Grampians Signage and Wayfinding Design Guide _ Final 30102025 [12.8.1 - 35 pages] 2. Hamilton Gateway Entrance Signs Modified Options [12.8.2 - 1 page] 3. Hamilton Town Entrance Gateway Signs - Community Consultation Summary [12.8.3 - 6 pages]

Executive Summary

In 2022 Council developed a Place Vision which identified the things that make Hamilton and the Southern Grampians special and what the community values most, and this Vision distils these down into a simple vision that can be used to guide and tie together future projects. This Vision underpins the design development for the three major projects.

In 2024/2025 Council developed the Signage and Wayfinding Guide as a reference for the replacement and/or establishment of new township gateway entrance signage.

Following recent public exhibition of the proposed replacement Hamilton Town Entrance Signs, 81 submissions were received with 36 submitters supporting the proposal, 26 not supporting the proposal and the remaining 19 providing various comments in response to the proposed design.

The purpose of this report is to present Council with the amended design and location details together with the findings received through the recent consultation phase on the proposed design for the Hamilton Town Entrance Signage.

Discussion

Council undertook the development of the Southern Grampians Signage and Wayfinding Guide (Refer to Attachment 1) which defines the previously identified Place Based Vision which identifies three key themes, being:

- Strengthening Heritage and Character
- Local and Creative
- Bringing the Community Together

In response to these themes the proposed Hamilton Gateway Signs reference and celebrate the heritage features and details that are familiar to the local area in a modern and tasteful manner rather than in an imitation heritage style. Our First Nations are incorporated which help to tell the indigenous story of the local area and the identity and sense of place by incorporating simple and robust materials and design that reflects the local rural agricultural history and character. Furthermore, the design includes landscape elements that reflect the



local natural landscapes and agricultural history of the area and celebrate the local and creative community.

Consultation was undertaken in December 2025 - January 2026 resulting in 368 online visits to the project engagement webpage, with a total of 81 submissions comprising 36 submitters supporting the proposal, 26 not supporting the proposal and the remaining 19 not committing either to support the design or not. The summary spreadsheet of the submissions is attached to this report. From the submissions received the key themes were;

Theme	Comments	Design Changes
Approve/support the proposed design	12 submissions received indicating their support for the proposed design.	No design change
Lacks Hamilton/Southern Grampians identity	20 submissions requested representation of the wool, sheep and agricultural heritage of Southern Grampians.	Considered but no design change recommended.
Text Font and Size	33 submissions referenced the font, size and text. This feedback	Font and size altered.
Design	23 submissions provided alternative designs or modifications to the design	Considered but no design change recommended.
Materials	5 submissions, 4 of which like the materials, 1 submission raised maintenance issues.	Considered but no design change recommended.
Locations	3 submissions, 2 supported the proposed sites.	Considered but no location changes recommended.
Cost	7 submissions, 6 of which indicated it was a waste of funds and one questioned if it could be replicated in outer towns.	Considered but no changes.

Based on the comments received, one alteration has been made to the design, specifically the font style consistent with Council's Corporate Style Guide. Consideration was given to incorporating sheep and wool, the silhouette of the Grampians and the Council's logo to the design however these are considered to distract from the design intent and subsequently are not recommended. One alternative design option (Attachment 2) representing wool will be included as a provisional item through the construction procurement process.

Noting these signs are replacing existing signs located on arterial roads, Council engaged with the Department of Transport and Planning and has secured approval for the proposed new locations which are consistent with the Road Management Guidelines. The new five locations for the replacement signs are shown in Attachment and include;

- A200 359 – 365 Henty Highway, Hamilton north of intersection Glenelg Highway (toward Cavendish)



- B160 Henty Highway, Hamilton west of intersection with Glenelg Highway (toward Coleraine)
- B160 172-186 Ballarat Road (Glenelg Highway) east of Hamilton Road just short of the existing 60 kph sign
- B140 8341 Hamilton Road running off Glenelg Hwy (Ballarat Road) outside of the 100 kph zone
- A200 27-45 Portland Road (Henty Highway) near directional sign

As a result of this DTP approval, the existing signs located on the Henty Highway, Ballarat Road, and Glenelg Highway will be removed with these sites reinstated and the salvageable bluestone returned to the Hamilton Depot for reuse.

Procurement for the proposed town signage project will involve the sourcing and engagement of suppliers and contractors for the fabrication, supply, and installation of key signage elements.

The works include the construction of a concrete plinth with sandstone cladding, the fabrication and installation of corten steel panels incorporating profile-cut lettering on one feature panel, and the installation of steel frames to support the corten panels. Additional materials required include raw and cut sandstone and solar lighting units to provide illumination for the sign.

Subject to project approval, procurement of materials and fabrication requires approximately four to six weeks, followed by on-site construction and installation works, including plinth construction, sandstone cladding, panel installation, and solar lighting installation, which are expected to be completed within an additional 5 - 6 weeks, subject to contractor availability and site conditions.

Financial and Resource Implications

The 2024/2025 capital allocation for this project was \$181,648 and currently \$162,954 remains for the construction of the five Gateway Entrance signs with \$18,694 expended on design, engagement and project management.

Council Plan, Community Vision, Strategies and Policies

This proposal is primarily consistent with two pillars within the Council Plan 2025-2029, specifically Business, Economy and Tourism and Leadership and Governance.

The Signage and Wayfinding Design Guide is a reference which has been developed based on various Council strategies which identifies Southern Grampians heritage, environment and culture and how these can be represented through signage and wayfinding across the Shire.

Legislation

Local Government Act 2020
Road Management Act 2004



Gender Equality Act 2020

A Gender Impact Assessment has not been undertaken for this project.

Risk Management

The existing Hamilton Gateway Signage does not meet the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) requirements, specifically in relation to their location within an arterial road reserve. The amended design and locations are consistent with the Victorian Road Management Guidelines and have been approved by the DTP. No risks have been identified on the proposed amended design and the locations.

Climate Change, Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

The design presented is based on the Signage and Wayfinding Design Guidelines which aim to include the use of local materials and local trades for the fabrication and installation.

Community Engagement, Communication and Consultation

This report provides the findings from the recent community consultation undertaken in relation to the Hamilton Gateway Entrance Signs design.

Youth Charter

This recent community consultation enabled youth to have input to the design development through the online engagement. No data has been collected to ascertain how many youth participated.

Disclosure of Interests

Naga Chaitanya, Project Manager
Marg Scanlon, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the submissions received in response to the draft design provided for community consultation; and
2. Endorse the Hamilton Entrance Gateway Sign design and proceed with the implementation of the capital works.



RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Manning

SECONDED: Cr Barber

That Council:

- 1. Acknowledges the submissions received in response to the draft design provided for community consultation; and**
- 2. Endorse the Hamilton Entrance Gateway Sign design and proceed with the implementation of the capital works.**

CARRIED



12.9 Waste Management Report - Kerbside Glass Service

Directorate: Infrastructure and Sustainability
Report Approver: Marg Scanlon (Director Infrastructure and Sustainability)
Report Author: Juan Donis, Manager Waste and Sustainability
Attachment(s): Nil

Executive Summary

The State Government is planning to standardise waste collection across the state through the Circular Economy Act 2021. Council has complied with all the requirements of the act so far including the introduction of kerbside FOGO collection due to the clear benefits to the community (over 2,000 tonnes of material diverted from landfill). However, the legislation also mandates the introduction of a purple lid glass bin (fourth bin) from 1 July 2027.

A glass roll out across the Shire will cost ratepayers approximately \$1,000,000 during the first year and additional \$150,000 every year after to maintain the service. The additional costs will be a significant impose to the community for a service that might not have direct benefits to the community. Since the introduction of the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) the volume of glass in Council recycling stream has reduced significantly. In addition, the absence of the service standards for glass collection services does not provide a sense of confidence to Council to implement a mandatory service of this nature and expense.

This report provides options for the glass service implementation, based on the available information released by the regulator, together with the unknown details particularly in relation to penalties enforced on Council's not meeting the mandated date. For the introduction of glass only bins, a user pay model has been applied, that is, a one-off increase will be added to the 2026/2027 waste service rates.

Based on 6,157 rateables properties across the Shire requiring the compulsory kerbside glass collection service, the additional fee is approximately \$137.29 per property. The projected waste service rate for next financial year only, will be approximately \$572 per property which will cover the costs for the glass only waste bins purchase and roll out, community education and information campaign, infrastructure upgrades to support glass collection and separation, and on-going kerbside lifting services.

Discussion

During 2025/2026 several new initiatives have been implemented across the Shire in relation to waste management. These initiatives were mainly focused on increasing the level of service to the community; however, some of these came at a financial cost to Council. The following provides an overview of these initiatives including the resource impact to Council and the response from the community.

- **Free Waste Disposal Days.**
 - **Farmer Drought Support**



Between July and September 2025 Council offered free waste and recycling drop-off across all sites for farmers impacted by the Green Drought. During this period, Council received the following volumes across the Shire's Transfer Stations.

	Waste	Recycling	Total
Clients	233	142	375
Volume (240L)	380	194	574
Cost to Council (\$)	\$9,310	\$2,483	\$11,793

This initiative was well received by our farming community, with the cost to Council of approximately \$11,000.

o **Free Green Waste Disposal – Fire preparation**

Council offered four weeks of free green waste disposal to the community to assist with fire season preparation. No commercial volumes were accepted. This program was used by 479 customers bringing approximately 629.5 cubic meters of material which equals \$15,422.75 of revenue not received by Council.

o **Free Green Waste Vouchers – Rates Notice**

Free green waste disposal vouchers were offered to all rateables properties across the Shire. As of 3 February 2026, 313 transactions were registered of which 95% of them were in Hamilton, for a total volume of 320 cubic meters of green waste. This is the equivalent to \$7,845 cost to Council.

o **Free Green Waste Outer Township Mulching**

In autumn, a trial will be conducted in outer towns offering residents the opportunity to leave green waste at nominated locations for mulching. This mulch will be offered back to the community and/or used in community parks and reserves.

• **Out of Kerbside Zone Vouchers**

To offer an equivalent kerbside service across all residents within the Shire, the Out of Zone Program offers residents without kerbside services to bring their waste to any of Council's transfer stations at the same price of any resident with kerbside service. Fifteen properties subscribed to this program.

• **Cardboard Separation**

Introduced at the Hamilton Transfer Station, residents can separate cardboard from the general recycling collection paying a significantly lower price. The cardboard is then collected by a local contractor for processing. If the contractor has no capacity, the material is transported to Warrnambool, where it is accepted at no cost to Council.



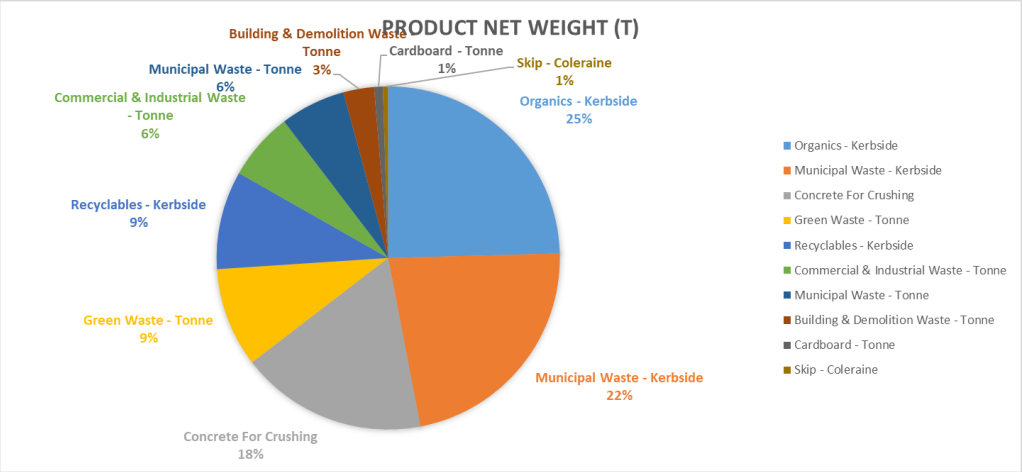
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Since its inception in December 2024, 924 transactions have been registered for cardboard totaling \$8,484.05 income for Council.

Officers propose continuation of these programs in 2026/20227 due to the uptake of recycling by the community which otherwise would be waste material. The financial impact to Council is relatively low, and it is evident that the community support waste separation initiatives. It should be noted that mid-2026/2027 green waste received will contribute to the organics processing at the Hamilton Transfer Station decreasing the costs to Council.

• Waste Material – Product type and weight

Graph 1 below shows the top 10 products received and processed at the Hamilton Transfer Station. It is important to note that all the material from the outer transfer stations is transported to Hamilton for processing.



• Separated Glass

As part of the kerbside reform program, all Councils in Victoria must provide the four-bin kerbside service comprising general waste, organics, recyclables and glass by 1 July 2027. How this service will operate remains unknown as the State Government is yet to release the kerbside service standards. Early indications suggest that the service will be a mandatory kerbside collection of glass, or it could be rolled out as a combination of kerbside and central drop-off points.

Known criteria for the central drop-off points include the need for these to be accessible and/or near public transport routes. The final details on the requirements for centralised drop-off locations are still not available.

Over 30 Victorian Councils are advocating against or seeking to delay the State Government's mandatory rollout of a fourth purple-lid bin for glass recycling, due to the costs of implementing the service and the success of the Container Deposit Scheme. Many Councils are advocating to the state government to extend the CDS to include glass and increase the CDS collection locations and capacity.



Currently Southern Grampians and Glenelg Shires are the only Councils that remain without the separated glass service. Corangamite, Moyne and Colac Otway Councils currently collect kerbside glass every four weeks, and Warrnambool collects kerside glass fortnightly.

Rolling out the kerbside glass services requires more than just providing bins to residents. Specifically, concrete hardstands will be required at the Hamilton Transfer Station to unload and stockpile the glass material before transporting off-site for processing. This is in addition to kerbside bin lift and bulk haulage services depending on the final use of the material.

Officers are currently exploring various options and scenarios for further consideration based on the current information available. The scenarios will be divided on access to the service, glass lifting services, and baulk haulage for reuse or disposal.

Based on a Shire wide roll out of a glass kerside collection, it is estimated Council would collect between 200 to 300 tonnes of glass per year, which equates to approximately \$40,000 for processing and \$15,000 on bulk haulage to Warrnambool.

Identified options include;

- **Access to the service** – this relates to the number of properties that will receive the glass kerbside service.
 - Full mandatory rollout: supply and deliver approximately 6,500 bins across the Shire for the mandatory 4 bin kerbside service. This is expected to cost \$435,000 or
 - Hybrid model: service only provided to main townships including the allocation of centralised drop off areas at each of the transfer stations to service those residents located outside the kerbside serviced areas.
- **Glass lifting services** – this refers to glass collection from each property as part of the kerbside service.
 - Collection every four weeks: the majority of Victorian Councils are currently providing or proposing to provide the glass collection every four weeks. Based on the current contract terms, this is estimated to cost an additional \$105,625 per year, in addition to the existing kerbside service costs.
 - On demand collection: this option might only work for the hybrid access to service model, with each township having a designated day/date per month for glass collection. Council would provide the service after the resident registers that the service is needed. In addition, all transfer stations will accept glass at no cost to residents.
- **Baulk Haulage for Reuse or Disposal**



- o This will be the final step in the process with material to either be used locally for road and footpath base material or transported for external processing (likely to be Warrnambool or Melbourne).

Further details are currently being determined and the costs for implementing the service are expected to vary, however the minimal infrastructure required will include:

- Approximately 6,500 (80L or 120L) wheelie bins, if the service is rolled out Shire wide
- Concrete hardstand at the Hamilton Transfer Station for glass disposal which is estimated to cost \$86,000
- Skips at all Council transfer stations for community glass drop-off, which is estimated to cost \$7,000.

To achieve the mandated date of glass kerside collection of 1 July 2027, the procurement of the glass kerside bins should start as soon as possible however, there is no budget allocated within the 2025/2026 budget for this activity.

The following options are presented for Council's consideration:

Option 1: No decision and/or action is taken by Council on this matter until the kerbside standards are released with details on the future glass service operational model and community consultation is completed. It is unknown if penalties, if any, would apply should Council elect this course of action. If Council elects to support this option, it is proposed that Council notifies the regulator immediately of its position and that the Shire will not have a glass kerbside service available before 1 July 2027. This is the Officers recommended option.

Option 2: Allocate \$845,325 within the 2026/2027 budget for the full kerbside glass collection roll out, including the required infrastructure at the Hamilton Transfer Station to manage the glass collection effectively. If Council elects to support this option, Officers will commence community consultation with the limited information available to achieve a partial roll out of the service by 1 July 2027.

In terms of funding there are two options for Councils consideration:

- Create a waste reserve: Council to allocate surplus funds from the 2025/2026 budget from the waste operations and/or waste service charges to support the funding of the glass collection services and required infrastructure, or
- Create an additional fee within the waste service charge to cover bin purchase and the infrastructure upgrades required. This charge would be determined by either a compulsory Shire wide roll out or partial kerbside service, together with centralised drop-off locations.



The table below summarises the cost estimate per resident based on a full glass roll out with a collection frequency of every 4 weeks.

Frequency	Item	Option A	Option B
Once off investment	Purchase new bins (140L)	\$ 273,000	\$ 273,000
Once off investment	Installation and roll - out	\$ 162,500	\$ 162,500
Once off investment	Potential shed hire for storage	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Once off investment	Collateral and stickers for recycling bin lids (option A)	\$ 100,000	N/A
Once off investment	Replace existing lids (option B)	N/A	\$ 230,000
Once off investment	Mail out campaign x 2	\$ 32,500	\$ 32,500
Once off investment	Hardstand for receival	\$ 86,000	\$ 86,000
Ongoing	Lifting - Every four weeks	\$ 105,625	\$ 105,625
Ongoing	Gate Fees (including contamination allowance)	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
Ongoing	Bulk haulage (assuming Warrnambool)	\$ 13,800	\$ 13,800
Two years	Kerbside reform officer - project manager (potentially part-time (3 days a week) for a maximum two-year term)	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000
Total		\$ 898,425	\$ 1,028,425
Savings in glass diverted from recycling bins		\$ 39,375	\$ 39,375
Savings in glass no transported to Melbourne		\$ 13,725	\$ 13,725
Revised Total		\$ 845,325	\$ 975,325
Cost per resident (based on 6157 current kerbside ratepayer)		\$ 137.29	\$ 142.17

The main costs of rolling out the kerbside glass service is the initial establishment including the purchase of new bins and the concrete hardstand at the Hamilton Transfer Station for glass receival prior to bulk haulage to Warrnambool.

Potential scenarios for Councils consideration include:

- Collection every 8 weeks resulting in an additional \$127.87 year per ratepayer in year 1.



- Kerbside glass service roll out across two financial years – extended timeframes for the service delivery could be achieved through diverting some of Councils existing resources, however, this would not meet the 1 July 2027 mandated date.
- Centralised locations – purchase 8 custom made skips for glass drop off to be located at townships to be determined through community engagement. The skips would be serviced by the Hamilton Transfer Station with material returned to Hamilton for sorting and decontamination.

The following table provides indicative costs for these respective options however this cannot be implemented until the kerbside standards are released.

Frequency	Item	Cost (\$)
Once off investment	Purchase new custom-made skips	240,000
Once off investment	Collateral and stickers for recycling bin lids (option A)	50,000
Once off investment	Mail out campaign x 2	16,000
Once off investment	Hardstand for receival	120,000
Ongoing	Lifting - Every four weeks	-
Ongoing	Gate Fees (including contamination allowance)	30,000
Ongoing	Bulk haulage (assuming Warnambool)	13,800
Two years	Waste decontamination assistant	65,000
Total		534,800
Savings in glass diverted from recycling bins		39,375
Savings in glass no transported to Melbourne		13,725
Revised Total		481,700

Centralised locations are the least costly option for Council with far less an intrusive service for residents, however, the ongoing site management and illegal dumping in those sites will represent a major risk to the viability of this option to Council.

- **Service model options - 4-bin system**

The following options are provided for Council consideration.

- o Council could make the glass roll out service compulsory for every single rate payer with existing kerbside service and split the implementation costs across a broader range of properties which will make a relatively small increase; however, this option will not be popular as it requires all residents, regardless of current or future kerbside service provisions, to share the financial burden.
- o Provide mandatory glass bin service to a small catchment within the more densely populated areas which will follow a user pays principle. The main



challenge with this approach is that the cost will be higher for residents living in those areas without an option to opt out of the service, which may be perceived as unfair or creating a postcode penalty.

- o Council could reduce the waste collection frequency (from weekly to fortnightly) and/or cease the weekly FOGO collection during spring to offset the costs to Council to introduce a Shire wide glass collection service. This option would require upgrading the existing waste bins to 160L bins at cost. This option is not deemed feasible due to the high upfront costs, limited savings, and the significantly reduced level of service to the community.
- o Council delays its decision and takes no action until the service standards are released by the State Government and where possible try to implement a level of service that balances the future requirements introduced by Recycling Victoria while meeting community expectations. Council would need to allocate funding in the 2026/2027 budget for the potential glass roll out, sourced through an additional charge to the waste service rates.

Implementing a four bins system will cost Council approximately \$1,000,000 for the first year and around \$150,000 every year after managing the glass material.

The options provided in this report have been developed based on the information provided by the State Government and current industry knowledge.

Officers recommend to Council that no decision and/or action is taken with this matter until the kerbside service standards are released to the public and community consultation is undertaken to determine the most viable model for Council to apply in accordance with the service standards. If supported by Council, Officers would notify the State Government of Council's position.

Council Plan, Community Vision, Strategies and Policies

Protect Our Natural Environment

- 4.3 Sustainable waste management services
 - 4.3.1 Engage and educate the community to decrease waste to landfill.
 - 4.3.2 Manage waste efficiently to limit costs, reduce waste and grow circular economy.
 - 4.3.3 Investigate, support and advocate for opportunities in renewable energy sources and re-use of waste streams.
 - 4.3.4 Partner with key agencies to provide an effective regional response to innovative waste management.

Legislation

Council is obligated under the *Environment Protection Act 2017* to safely operate transfer stations and to reduce the risk of harm to the environment and users of the facilities.

Gender Equality Act 2020



There are no *Gender Equality Act 2020* implications specifically in relation to this report.

Risk Management

Early December 2025, the state government announced that Sustainability Victoria will cease as at 1 June 2026 with some functions transitioning across the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change. Simultaneously, Recycling Victoria is merging with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). Recently EPA has focused on smaller transfer station sites with a recent inspection conducted at the Coleraine Transfer Station where a fire risk assessment is now being undertaken. Impending changes in regulation will impact the level of service that these sites offer to the community and the type of material they will be able to accept.

Council is at risk of potential penalties if the glass service is not rolled out by 1 July 2027, however, exact details remain unknown. Estimated penalties are in the order of 1200 penalty units which equates to \$244,212 together with the reputational damage to Council with the regulator.

Climate Change, Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

Further research and trials need to be undertaken, however the option for local separation of waste glass and processing for the purposes of material reuse in road and footpath construction, could prove viable. This research will also inform the development of a business case which will be undertaken over the coming year.

Community Engagement, Communication and Consultation

Community engagement and communication plans will be developed around the introduction of glass services in particular the shape or form that Council seeks to apply based on the service standards once released.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

Juan Donis, Manager Waste and Sustainability
Nathan Wenn, Circular Economy Coordinator
Marg Scanlon, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Delay a decision and action for the full roll out of the kerbside service until the kerbside standards are released, acknowledging that Council will not meet the mandated date to provide a four-bin kerbside service by 1 July 2027.



2. Write to the State Government, advising that due to the delayed release of the service standards and the lead time required to introduce a dedicated glass service, Council is unable to comply with the 1 July 2027 deadline to introduce a waste glass kerside service.
3. Advocate to remove the legislated requirement for a mandatory glass service.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Rainsford

SECONDED: Cr Campbell

That Council:

1. Delay a decision and action for the full roll out of the kerbside service until the kerbside standards are released, acknowledging that Council will not meet the mandated date to provide a four-bin kerbside service by 1 July 2027.
2. Write to the State Government, advising that due to the delayed release of the service standards and the lead time required to introduce a dedicated glass service, Council is unable to comply with the 1 July 2027 deadline to introduce a waste glass kerbside service.
3. Advocate to remove the legislated requirement for a mandatory glass service.

CARRIED



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13 Notices of Motion

There no were Notices of Motion listed on the agenda.



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14 Urgent Business

There was no Urgent Business listed on the agenda.



15 Mayor, Councillors and Delegate Reports

Address from the Mayor and Councillors in relation to matters of civic leadership and community representation, including acknowledgement of community groups and individuals, information arising from internal Committees and delegates committees, advocacy on behalf of constituents and other topics of significance.

15.1 Cr Jayne Manning

Cr Manning provided a verbal report which can be viewed in the livestream of the Meeting on Council's Facebook page or website.

15.2 Cr Katrina Rainsford

RAIL FREIGHT ALLIANCE

AGM held 14 Feb Cr Michael Carr Glenelg Shire Council re elected as RFA Chair, Cr Rainsford Deputy Chair and Cr Graeme Milne Buloke Shire Council elected as Treasurer. RFA GM Reid Mather. Executive meeting held 7th April. RFA Policy Paper and Advocacy Report provided to members councils and councillors. Full reports available on the RFA web site. Work on the Maroona Portland Rail line, the first major works since changing the broad gauge to standard gauge in 1995 has commenced with the clearing of vegetation and ordering of concrete sleepers as part of the 150 Million Federal Government upgrade to enhance weight and speed capacity of the line and ensuring future use of this arterial link from central Victoria to the Port of Portland.

March 20 21 23 I attended the second Women On Farms Gathering to be held in Hamilton. The last one 20 years ago in 2006. Another well organised and attended event where visitors enjoyed our Hamilton Showgrounds, Botanic Gardens and Hamilton Gallery amongst guest speakers and activities. Congratulations to the event organisers.

March 27 I joined a group of community members including farmers , Landcare and Nature Glenelg Trust officers to find and walk the Wannon River catchment diversions within the Grampians. Our Wannon River is dying, With changed rainfall patterns and reduced annual rainfall over the last 30 years in this district without any change to the harvesting practices. Our Wannon Water flow is harvested from June to October inclusive from my understanding. With the best escarpment catchment being harvested where the water flow north to Lake Bellfield is maximised. This period of harvesting reduces the natural flushing of our Wannon River. Loss of natural habitat for wildlife, access to water resources for community recreation, stock and domestic use and our Nigretta and Wannon Water Falls. Our Glenelg Hopkins CMA last year raised the need for an environmental flow allocation be created through the formal water allocation process. I will again be attending the next GWM Water Stakeholder meeting as we formalise a working group to advocate for treating our Wannon River with the same respect and values as our Glenelg River which does have a management and environmental flow policy.



March 25 Rotary Domestic Violence Breakfast at the Speckled Frog

March 31 Byaduk Community BBQ community engagement which was well attended

1 April I attended HRLEX to discuss the SGSC Composting project with community members that attended and council officer.

A shout out to the Cavendish Red Gum Festival committee and community that are hosting their biannual event this weekend. Commencing with a Gala Art Show this Friday evening at our Cavendish Memorial Hall then the main event this Saturday. An Environmental Forum in the morning, music in the park, stalls and heaps of activities for children and jumping dogs.

15.3 Cr Adam Campbell

Cr Campbell provided a verbal report which can be viewed in the livestream of the Meeting on Council's Facebook page or website.

15.4 Cr Afton Barber

Cr Barber provided a verbal report which can be viewed in the livestream of the Meeting on Council's Facebook page or website.

15.5 Cr Helen Henry

Cr Henry provided a verbal report which can be viewed in the livestream of the Meeting on Council's Facebook page or website.

15.6 Mayor Dennis Heslin

Mayor Heslin provided a verbal report which can be viewed in the livestream of the Meeting on Council's Facebook page or website.



16 Confidential Reports

RECOMMENDATION

That the following items be considered in Closed Council as specified in section 66(2)(a) and referenced in section 3(1).

16.1 Waste and FOGO Disposal Contracts

Reason why it is confidential:

Section 66(2)(a) *Local Government Act 2020* – and referenced in section 3(1) – Confidential Information (a) council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

Explanation of why that ground or grounds has been applied:

This report is confidential as the information included in the report is commercial in confidence due to costings.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Heslin

SECONDED: Cr Henry

That the following item be considered in Closed Council as specified in section 66(2)(a) and referenced in section 3(1).

16.1 Waste and FOGO Disposal Contracts

CARRIED



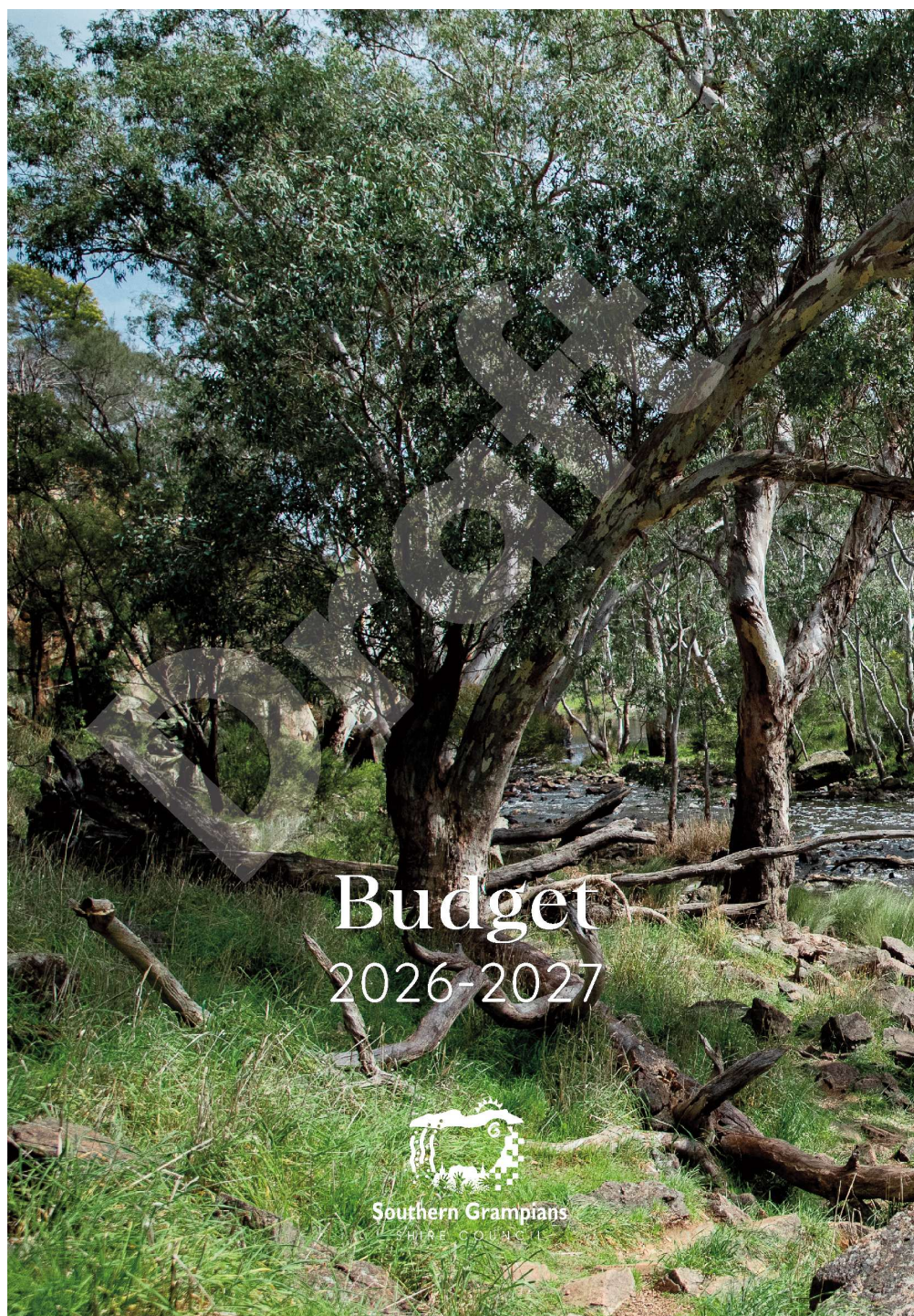
Council Meeting - 14 April 2026 - Minutes

17 Close of Meeting

This concludes the business of the meeting.

The Council Meeting closed at 7:11pm.

To be confirmed by Resolution at the next Council Meeting.



Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

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Disclaimer

The information contained in this document is for general guidance only. It is not professional advice and should not be used, relied upon or treated as a substitute for specific professional advice. Given the changing nature of laws, rules and regulations, and the inherent hazards of electronic communication, there may be delays, omissions or inaccuracies in information contained in this document.

The model budget, including financial statements, has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this document has been accurate and complies with relevant Victorian legislation, each Council remains responsible to ensure that the budget they prepare is compliant with all statutory requirements.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

Mayor and CEO's Introduction

Southern Grampians Shire Council is pleased to present the 2026–2027 Budget, which delivers on our Council Plan and aligns with our long-term community vision. This Budget and the accompanying Long-Term Financial Plan (2026–2036) have been developed through extensive community engagement and a strong financial framework.

Our focus remains on operational efficiency and cost reduction so we can continue investing in community infrastructure and services. This approach has supported three consecutive years of record capital program delivery, including upgrades to buildings, roads, playgrounds and sporting facilities.

For 2026–2027, Council proposes a 2.75% rate increase, consistent with the rate cap set by the Minister and lower than last year's 3%. However, the rate cap continues to sit below CPI, widening the gap between revenue and rising costs. This makes efficiency essential to maintaining services, delivering major intergenerational projects, and meeting core obligations such as road maintenance.

We have distributed key spending to support our road network with close to \$6 million allocated specifically for maintenance and ensuring our assets of roads, plus additional allocations for footpaths, playgrounds, sporting facilities, and more - are kept in good, operational condition.

A key change to this year's budget is removal of the 2% early-payment discount. Council has thought deeply about the impact of this decision in the current climate, however it is no longer sustainable under rate capping. Pensioner concessions remain unaffected.

Financial Performance Indicators

Council uses several financial performance indicators as part of its financial governance framework. These are set and defined by the Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO), and include:

- **Operating Surplus:**
Council is budgeting to post an operating surplus of \$5.7m. This is our net position after all revenue and expenses, including an allowance including a \$14.8m expense for the depreciation of assets.
- **Adjusted Underlying Result (AUR):**
The AUR measures Council's ability to generate surplus in the ordinary course of business, excluding non-recurrent capital grants, non-monetary asset contributions and other contributions. A positive result indicates a Council can fund its operating costs and asset renewal without relying on one-off revenue, ensuring long-term financial sustainability. In 2026/27, Council is expecting to produce an AUR of -\$4.1m, indicating how challenging the financial environment is and that further work is required to ensure financial sustainability.
- **Working Capital (WCR):**
WCR is our Current Assets over Current Liabilities, and shows short to medium term liquidity/solvency. Our budgeted outcome is 1.55, indicating that Council can meet its financial commitments.
- **Indebtedness:**
Our loans will peak at \$10.1m in 2026/27. This is within the VAGO acceptable range on key indebtedness ratios.
- **Cash Balance:**
Council is required to carry a level of cash to cover all of its restricted reserves and the 2026/27 budget is predicting a cash at year-end of \$13.2m. This will cover these reserves and provide adequate working capital to be able to operate the business and meet commitments as they fall due.

Roads and Capital Works

The cost of Council's roads program is heavily impacted by oil prices, through diesel and bitumen prices. Since the conflict in the Middle East commenced, the cost of bitumen has gone up 50%.

While Council has been able to increase its financial commitment to roads over the last five years, program delivery in 2026/27 will likely be impacted by what happens to these costs in the coming months. Depending on future price movements, some planned works may be carried forward to next financial year.

Major Road Rehabilitation/ Reconstruction Projects include:

- Vic Point Road, Karabeal
- East West Road, Mooralla
- Wills Street, Dunkeld
- Church Street, Coleraine

These projects are expected to cost \$2.0m. These will take place alongside 20 reseal projects, 10 final seals and four gravel road resheets at a total cost of \$2.8m. The resealing of the apron at Hamilton Airport, at a cost of \$400,000 is also planned.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

The \$17.245 Capital Works Program includes:

- Upgrades to HILAC Court 1 surface
- Maintenance on Lake Hamilton Spillway
- Playground renewals across the shire
- New books and resources for the Library
- Renewal of the aging outdoor pools
- Ongoing and expanded investment in infrastructure assets such as roads, bridges, culverts, drainage, and footpaths
- Continued upgrades to Council's plant machinery and equipment.

Additional funded initiatives will also include:

- Cavendish and Coleraine Structure Plan Implementation
- Mitchell Park Athletics Renewal
- Rainwater Harvesting Project (HILAC and Showgrounds)
- Renewal of Church on Brown Street
- Masterplan for Wannon Falls Scenic Reserve
- Upgrading of HPAC Auditorium Sound System

Council's Community Partnership Grants will see \$250,000 available to community organisations to support community-led projects, continuing six years of community investment, totalling \$1.753m.

The municipal waste charge will increase by \$42 per household to cover escalating contracted waste charges, primarily due to higher fuels costs. We continue to explore ways to reduce our costs for waste services and look forward to progressing the FOGO processing facility at the Hamilton Transfer Station.

As noted, this budget will enable us to advance three key projects that will provide long-term social and economic benefit to our community. The new Hamilton Gallery will create significant opportunities for tourism, arts, and cultural investment; our business and civic precinct will be re-invigorated through the Hamilton CBD Streetscape Revitalisation; and our new Library and Community Hub which will improve access to resources and educational pathways through new digital spaces, activation and social connection. Detailed designs for all three projects will be completed in 2026–2027, positioning Council strongly for external funding.

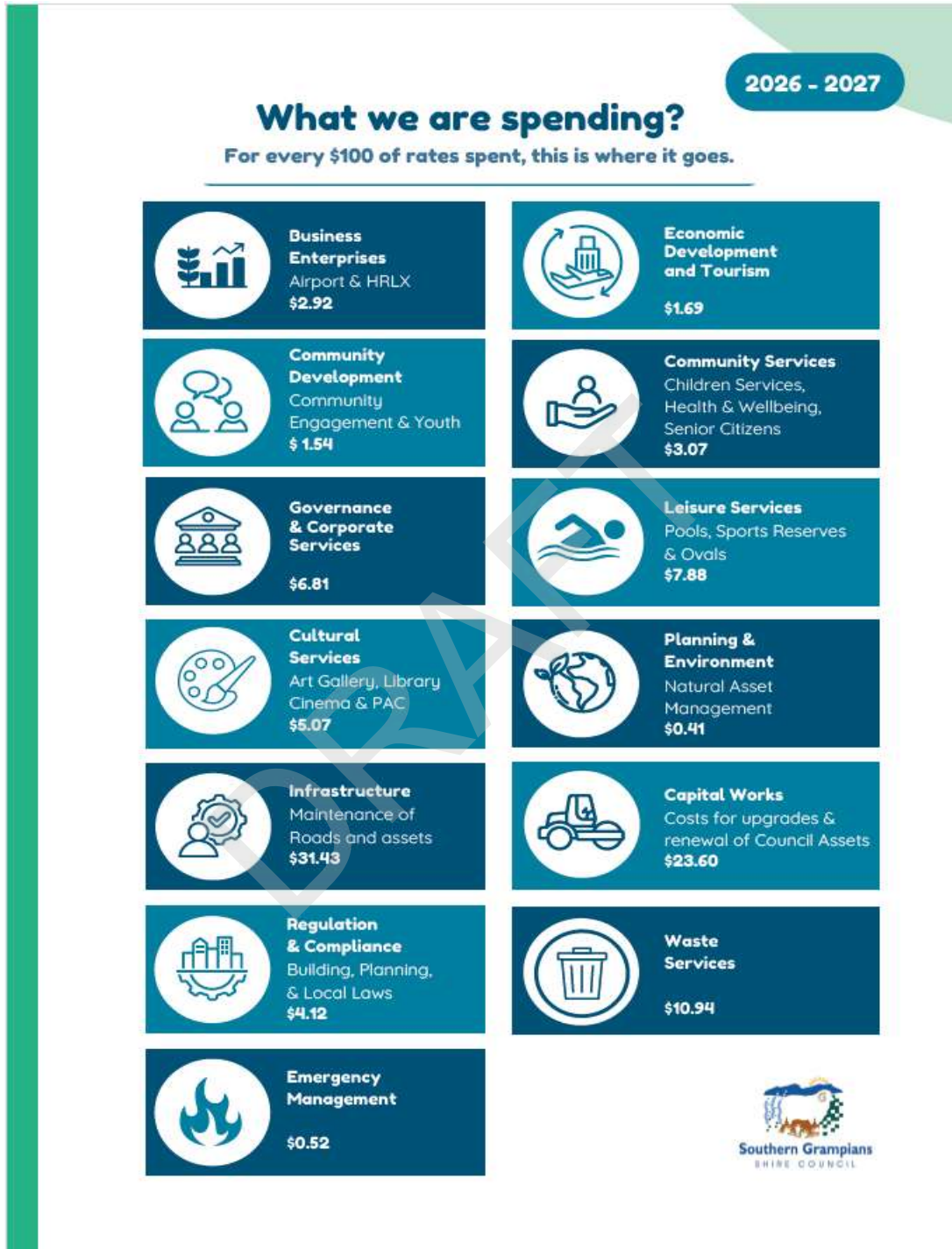
The LTFP projects improved financial outcomes, with underlying surplus results expected for most of the next decade, short-term debt that will be phased out over ten years, and strengthening liquidity in the latter years of the plan.

On behalf of my fellow Councillors and the Southern Grampians Shire Council team, I am proud to present the 2026-2027 Budget to the community. Budgeting for over 70 services that our community depends on is not always easy and is a responsibility we consider with care and informed consideration.

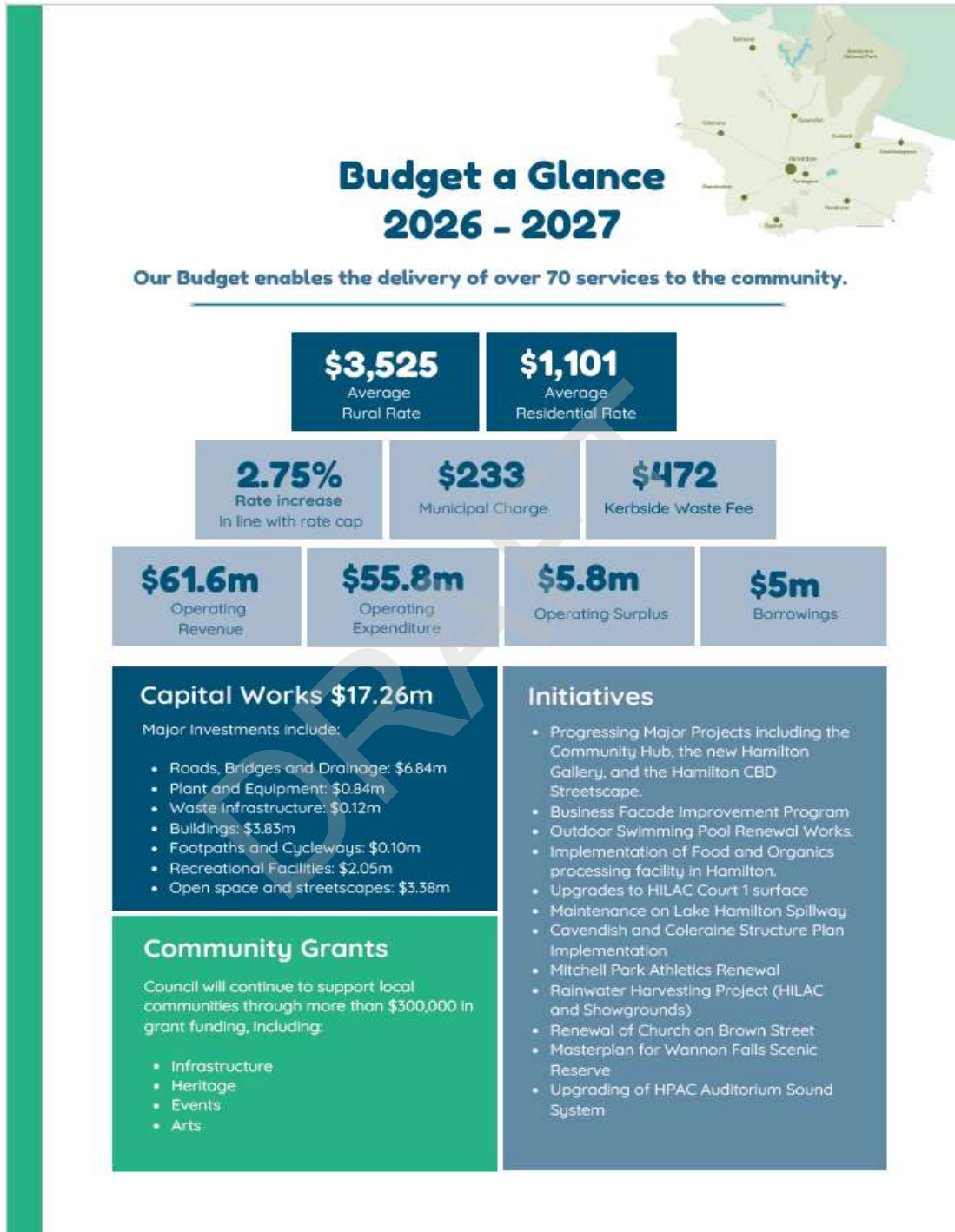
We remain committed to delivering essential services, supporting community wellbeing, and providing stability during uncertain times.

Cr Dennis Heslin
Mayor

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027



Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027



Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

Budget Influences

This section sets out the key budget influences arising from the internal and external environment within which the Council operates.

External Influences

In preparing the 2026-2027 Budget, a number of external influences have been taken into consideration because they are likely to impact significantly on the services delivered by Council in the budget period. These include:

- The need to renegotiate Enterprise Bargaining Agreements (EBA) every three years.
- The increased demand for Council services and the need to review all services to ensure they are responsive, appropriate and efficient.
- Irregular funding from Victoria Grants Commission. A static period of four years together with only modest increases prior to and after this period, has eroded the index base.
- Roads to Recovery funding from 2025–2029 - \$17.470m over the five years.
- Continuing escalation of utility costs essential for carrying out services (water, power, gas, communications and insurances).
- Fluctuating fuel prices and uncertainty around future supply.
- Continuing increases in the demand and associated costs to improve waste management service levels (Landfills, Transfer Stations and Refuse/Recycling collections) along with imposition of strict guidelines from government regarding management practices.
- The continuation of rate-capping by the State Government – set at 2.75% for 2026-2027.
- The increased costs across the organisation of meeting compliance standards set by other levels of government.

Internal Influences

As well as external influences, there are also a number of internal influences which are expected to have a significant impact on the preparation of the 2026-2027 Budget.

- Continuing escalation of costs in relation to the maintenance and renewal of Council's ageing infrastructure assets.
- The need for more detailed planning of major developments to ensure capital delivery.

In an effort to reduce the impact of these matters, Council continues on a service delivery realignment to ensure resources align with the services provided and complement the direction of the Council Plan.

A detailed examination of all revenues and expenses occurred during the preparation of this budget. Council will continue to look for savings and new revenue sources to achieve overall operational efficiencies.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

Budget Principles

Guidance is provided to all Council officers with budget responsibilities. These key budget principles upon which the officers were to prepare their budgets included:

- Existing fees and charges only to be increased to work towards achieving Council's Rating & Revenue Policy classifications.
- Grants to be based on confirmed funding levels.
- Continued focus on identifying revenue sources.
- Service levels to be maintained at 2025-2026 levels emphasising on innovation and efficiency, and using less resources.
- Contract labour to be minimised.
- New initiatives or employee proposals to be justified through a business case.
- Real savings in expenditure and increases in revenue identified in 2025-2026 to be preserved.
- Operating revenues and expenses arising from completed 2025-2026 capital projects to be included.

Cost escalations for the preparation of the 2026-2027 budget onwards include:

- Rate revenue to be projected at 2.75% which is the current year rate cap.
- Operating Grants increasing at 2%.
- Capital Grants only included where some level of surety arises and are linked directly to a specific capital project.
- Continuation of the Roads to Recovery program at committed levels.
- User Fees and Charges increasing in line with service reviews and Council's Rating & Revenue Policy at 3.5%.
- Statutory Fees and Charges only increasing where legislation is known.
- Employee costs increasing at or below 1%.
- Materials & consumables increasing at or below 1% (excluding impact of internal and one-off allocations).
- Other operating expenses increasing at or below 1% (excluding impact of internal and one-off allocations).

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

Budget Reports

This section includes the following reports and statements in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government Model Budget 2026-2027.

1 Linkage to the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

2 Services and Service Performance Indicators.

3 Financial statements.

4 Notes to the Financial Statements.

5 Financial Performance Indicators.

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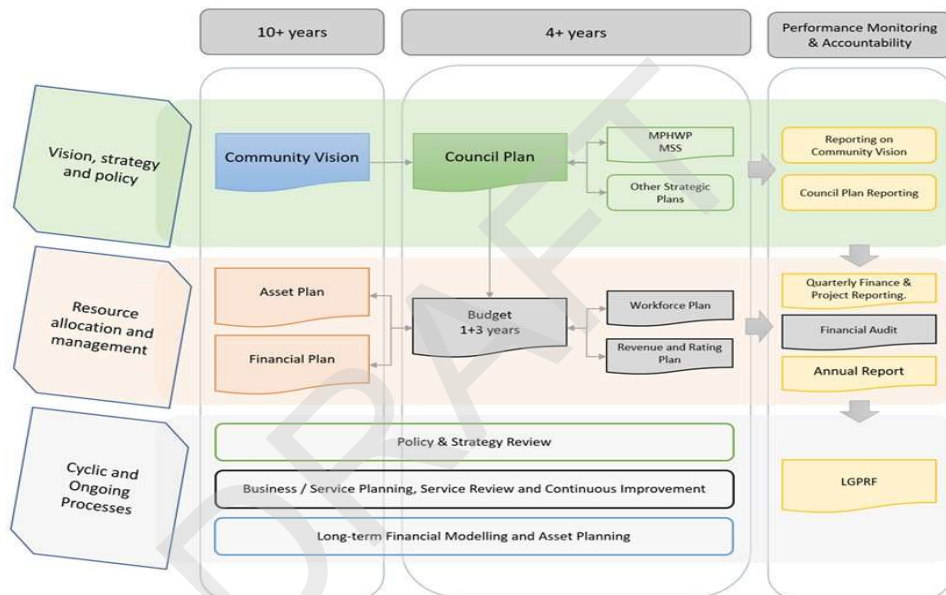
Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

1 Link to the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework

This section describes how the Budget links to the achievement of the Community Vision and Council Plan within an overall integrated strategic planning and reporting framework. This framework guides the Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Community Vision, Financial Plan and Asset Plan), medium term (Council Plan, Workforce Plan, and Revenue and Rating Plan) and short term (Budget) and then holding itself accountable (Annual Report).

1.1 Legislative Planning and Accountability Framework

The Budget is a rolling four-year plan that outlines the financial and non-financial resources that Council requires to achieve the strategic objectives described in the Council Plan. The diagram below depicts the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework that applies to local government in Victoria. At each stage of the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework there are opportunities for community and stakeholder input. This is important to ensure transparency and accountability to both residents and ratepayers.



Source: Department of Government Services

The timing of each component of the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework is critical to the successful achievement of the planned outcomes.

1.1. Key Planning Considerations

Service level planning

Although councils have a legal obligation to provide some services—such as animal management, local roads, food safety and statutory planning—most council services are not legally mandated, including some services closely associated with councils, such as libraries, building permits and sporting facilities. Further, over time, the needs and expectations of communities can change. Therefore councils need to have robust processes for service planning and review to ensure all services continue to provide value for money and are in line with community expectations. In doing so, councils should engage with communities to determine how to prioritise resources and balance service provision against other responsibilities such as asset maintenance and capital works.

Community consultation needs to be in line with a councils adopted Community Engagement Policy and Public Transparency Policy.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

1.2 Our Purpose

Our Vision

Southern Grampians is a growing, inclusive and connected community working together to foster an active, innovative and sustainable future.

In response to the Community Vision, our Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan and our engagement process, Council has developed the Five Pillars for the Council Plan 2025-2029. These set the direction for the next four years. Our vision for Southern Grampians Shire anchors and connects these pillars to deliver real outcomes for the community.

Our Values

- Raise the Bar
- Create Brilliance Together
- Dream Boldly, Change Bravely
- Integrity in Every Step

1.3 Strategic Objectives

Council delivers services and initiatives to approximately 70 service categories. Each service contributes to the achievement of the Strategic Objectives as set out in the Council Plan for the years 2025-2029.

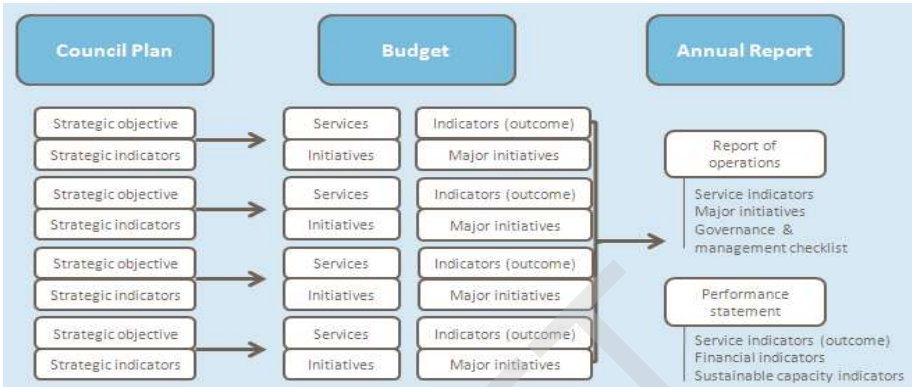
The following table lists the five Key Pillars and Strategic Objectives as described in the Council Plan.

1 Social and Community	1.1	Partner with community, agencies and other levels of government to ensure our community facilities and services are welcoming, safe, accessible and inclusive so people can live healthy, resilient lives.
	1.2	Facilitate and encourage opportunities for people to participate in community and civic life.
	1.3	Promote and create spaces and places that bring people together.
	1.4	Ensure youth led engagement drives events, activities and programs for young people.
	1.5	Promote safety and inclusion for whole of community including children, first nations, multicultural and gender diverse people.
	1.5	Encourage dialogue and increase awareness and action to address family violence.
2 Business, Economy and Tourism	2.1	Build business confidence, encourage private investment and decrease vacancy rates by investing in public assets.
	2.2	Support and promote local businesses, reducing barriers for success, development and growth.
	2.3	Grow the visitor economy through enhanced promotion of Southern Grampians Shire as a tourist destination and increased investment in tourism infrastructure.
	2.4	Attract, support and deliver events that align with community values, drive visitation and economic activity.
	2.5	Sustain and grow agricultural sector through diversification of farming practices and water usage.
	2.6	Partner with large employers and industry to encourage recruitment of skilled workforce and assist young people transitioning to employment.
3 Community Infrastructure and Assets	3.1	Ensure transport infrastructure, roads and paths enable safe, accessible and efficient movement across the region.
	3.2	Advocate for better investment from State and Federal Government in our community infrastructure and assets.
	3.3	Sustainably maintain and develop community infrastructure and assets, including our built heritage, ensuring they are fit for purpose and respond to community needs.
4 Environment	3.4	Ensure appropriate and connected residential, business and industrial development which encourages liveability.
	4.1	Manage, enhance and protect our natural environment, landscapes, green and open spaces, respecting cultural heritage.
	4.2	Enhance climate resilience through improved risk management, emissions reduction, knowledge sharing and climate adaptation.
	4.3	Advance local circular economy initiatives and support smart regional waste strategies that reduce waste and pollution by promoting recycling and re-use.
	4.4	Support communities to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies, including natural disasters.
5 Leadership and Governance	5.1	Improve effective governance and public accountability.
	5.2	Communicate clearly about Council decisions, projects and services to increase awareness, confidence and trust in the community.
	5.3	Ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making meets long-term financial sustainability.
	5.4	Provide the community a strong voice through meaningful and accessible engagement.
	5.5	Advocate for community priorities.
	5.6	Improve service delivery and efficiency through sustainable leadership.
	5.7	Improve organisational culture to enhance adaptability, wellbeing and diversity.
	5.8	Ensure the community are at the forefront of decision making.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

2 Services and Service Performance Indicators

This section provides a description of the services and initiatives to be funded in the Budget for the 2026/27 year and how these will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives outlined in the Council Plan. It also describes several initiatives and service performance outcome indicators for key areas of Council's operations. Council is required by legislation to identify major initiatives, initiatives and service performance outcome indicators in the Budget and report against them in their Annual Report to support transparency and accountability. The relationship between these accountability requirements in the Council Plan, the Budget and the Annual Report is shown below.



Source: Department of Government Services

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

2.1 Social and Community

We will promote a healthy community by ensuring people are safe, active and connected

To achieve this, we will:

- 1.1 Partner with community, agencies and other levels of government to ensure our community facilities and services are welcoming, safe, accessible and inclusive so people can live healthy, resilient lives.
- 1.2 Facilitate and encourage opportunities for people to participate in community and civic life.
- 1.3 Promote and create spaces and places that bring people together.
- 1.4 Ensure youth led engagement drives events, activities and programs for young people.
- 1.5 Promote safety and inclusion for whole of community including children, first nations, multicultural and gender diverse people.
- 1.6 Encourage dialogue and increase awareness and action to address family violence.

The services, initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2024/25 Actual \$'000	2025/26 Forecast \$'000	2026/27 Budget \$'000
Senior Citizen Programs and Support	This service offers opportunities for older residents to participate in community and social activities across the Shire.	Inc	2	-	-
		Exp	75	65	62
		Surplus / (deficit)	(73)	(65)	(62)
Community Services Management	This service provides management support to coordinate a whole of organisation approach to service delivery across community and leisure portfolio, particularly in relation to delivering the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan.	Inc	-	-	-
		Exp	339	530	520
		Surplus / (deficit)	(339)	(530)	(520)
Community Planning Engagement and Support	This service coordinates Council's approach to community planning and citizen engagement, including skill development and capacity building for Councillors and community.	Inc	15	10	10
		Exp	802	833	889
		Surplus / (deficit)	(787)	(823)	(879)
Children's Services	This service provides quality education and care services i.e. Family Day Care and promotes the early years sector.	Inc	674	685	647
		Exp	956	868	819
		Surplus / (deficit)	(282)	(183)	(172)
Recreation Development and Support	This service is responsible for the management and planning of recreational opportunities in conjunction with the community, using community development processes.	Inc	14	-	-
		Exp	401	268	307
		Surplus / (deficit)	(387)	(268)	(307)
Sports Reserves	This service directly manages or provides operational assistance for 16 recreational reserves across the Shire to support both active and passive participation in sports and recreation.	Inc	402	62	67
		Exp	1,709	1,215	1,221
		Surplus / (deficit)	(1,307)	(1,153)	(1,154)
Lake Hamilton	This service provides a safe, functional, accessible and useable space for leisure and recreational activities, on water and surrounding open space.	Inc	2	2	2
		Exp	616	628	463
		Surplus / (deficit)	(614)	(626)	(461)
Aquatic Facilities	This service provides a geographic spread of aquatic facilities that deliver recreation, health, wellbeing, education, social and tourism/economic opportunities to our communities.	Inc	-	21	18
		Exp	558	808	720
		Surplus / (deficit)	(558)	(787)	(702)
Hamilton Indoor Leisure & Aquatic Centre	This service provides accessible leisure and aquatic experiences that facilitates and promotes wellbeing outcomes.	Inc	1,514	1,583	1,758
		Exp	2,917	2,872	3,135
		Surplus / (deficit)	(1,403)	(1,289)	(1,377)

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Art Gallery	This service supports tourism promotion and community engagement with the arts and acts as custodian of one of the most valuable collections in regional Australia.	<i>Inc</i>	734	592	540
		<i>Exp</i>	1,299	1,405	1,288
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(565)	(813)	(748)
Performing Arts Centre	This service provides promotion and support of performing arts, encouraging both appreciation and participation. Also offers a conference and event venue for both the business and community sectors.	<i>Inc</i>	201	224	230
		<i>Exp</i>	778	943	982
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(577)	(719)	(752)
Library	This service aims to be an effective and dynamic library service inspiring and connecting our community by providing diverse, accessible and creative collections, programs, spaces and experiences.	<i>Inc</i>	229	212	213
		<i>Exp</i>	878	840	867
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(649)	(628)	(654)
Cinema	This service provides the community with a high-quality cinema experience.	<i>Inc</i>	310	302	338
		<i>Exp</i>	382	358	349
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(72)	(56)	(11)
Civic & Community Arts	This service aims to increase visibility and activity of arts and culture in the community through a range of community programs or projects.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	20	22	-
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(20)	(22)	0
Parks and Urban Spaces	This service provides and maintains appropriate parks and urban space areas across the Shire to support inclusive recreation activities for the whole community.	<i>Inc</i>	-	1	1
		<i>Exp</i>	616	628	832
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(616)	(627)	(831)
Local Laws Operations	This service implements and enforces the Community Local Law No.1 (2015), provides parking control, coordinates domestic animal management including the operation of a Council owned pound facility, and supports the provision of law and order in the community.	<i>Inc</i>	498	384	417
		<i>Exp</i>	667	645	667
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(169)	(261)	(250)
Maternal & Child Health	This service provides a primary health care service for the Shire's families with children from birth to school age.	<i>Inc</i>	491	448	488
		<i>Exp</i>	531	555	576
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(40)	(107)	(88)
Emergency Management	This service coordinates emergency management planning to enable Council to coordinate and respond to emergencies in cooperation with other agencies.	<i>Inc</i>	319	60	60
		<i>Exp</i>	593	247	244
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(274)	(187)	(184)
Botanic Gardens	This service maintains the historically significant Botanic Gardens in Hamilton (& Penshurst) and provides responsible management of flora, open spaces and built facilities on the grounds.	<i>Inc</i>	34	1	-
		<i>Exp</i>	433	536	572
		<i>Surplus / (deficit)</i>	(399)	(535)	(572)

Major Initiatives

- 1) Finalise detailed design and tender documentation on the three major Hamilton CBD projects Engage Architects to complete design development (including costings) for the New Hamilton Art Gallery and undertake community consultation.
- 2) Strengthen partnerships with First Nations including undertaking Yarning Circles on the three major Hamilton CBD projects.
- 3) Implement initiatives from the Adopt new Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.
- 4) Advocate for funding for the major Hamilton CBD projects.

Other Initiatives

- 5) Continue service reviews in context of other key strategic documents including the Long-Term Financial Plan and Parks and Gardens.
- 6) Implement actions from the Undertake youth survey.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Domain	Indicator	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Budget
Maternal & Child Health Services	Participation in the MCH service (Percentage of children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)	86.95%	82.50%	83.00%
	Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children (Percentage of Aboriginal children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)	90.91%	82.50%	84.00%
Library Services	Library membership (Percentage of the population that are registered library members)	21.86%	15.00%	17.00%
Aquatic Facilities	Utilisation of aquatic facilities. (Number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of population)	10.80%	10.00%	10.00%
Animal Management	Animal management prosecutions. (Percentage of animal management prosecutions which are successful)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

2.2 Business, Economy and Tourism

We will create a thriving and diverse local and regional economy that supports our businesses and strengthens our position as a desirable place to live, work, and visit.

To achieve this, we will:

- 2.1 Build business confidence, encourage private investment and decrease vacancy rates by investing in public assets.
- 2.2 Support and promote local businesses, reducing barriers for success, development and growth.
- 2.3 Grow the visitor economy through enhanced promotion of Southern Grampians Shire as a tourist destination and increased investment in tourism infrastructure.
- 2.4 Attract, support and deliver events that align with community values, drive visitation and economic activity.
- 2.5 Sustain and grow agricultural sector through diversification of farming practices and water usage.
- 2.6 Partner with large employers and industry to encourage recruitment of skilled workforce and assist young people transitioning to employment.

The services, initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2024/25 Actual \$'000	2025/26 Forecast \$'000	2026/27 Budget \$'000
Economic Development	This service seeks, in conjunction with key stakeholders, to promote an environment that is conducive to a sustainable and growing local economy.	<i>Inc</i>	2	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	414	369	409
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(412)	(369)	(409)
Airport	This service is responsible for the management and operation of the Hamilton Airport.	<i>Inc</i>	20	23	23
		<i>Exp</i>	408	411	395
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(388)	(388)	(372)
Livestock Exchange	This service is responsible for the management and operation of the Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange (HRLX).	<i>Inc</i>	2,484	2,373	2,400
		<i>Exp</i>	1,399	1,547	1,745
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	1,085	826	655
Tourism & Visitor Experience	This service aims to connect the visitor to the Greater Hamilton experience, encouraging them to stay longer and contribute more to the local economy.	<i>Inc</i>	172	18	23
		<i>Exp</i>	987	801	829
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(815)	(783)	(806)
Events Support	This services purpose is to increase visitation and visitor yield and increase quality visitor experiences through the support and marketing of events within the Shire.	<i>Inc</i>	2	3	3
		<i>Exp</i>	204	214	187
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(202)	(211)	(184)

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Caravan Parks	This service provides low-cost camping and caravan park accommodation facilities in Coleraine and Penshurst.	<i>Inc</i>	17	30	18
		<i>Exp</i>	47	31	33
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(30)	(1)	(15)
Land Development	This service provides management of Council owned land to promote economic and industrial development and may also secure industrial land for potential development.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	-	-	430
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	0	0	(430)

Major Initiatives

- 1) Continue the sales campaign for the Hamilton Industrial Park.
- 3) Support developer to progress development of Lakes Edge, Hamilton.
- 3) Complete new economic development strategy for the Shire.

Other Initiatives

- 4) Deliver the next round of the Business Facade Improvement Program.

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Budget
Livestock Exchange	Number of sheep sold through the Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange	1,204,000	1,000,000	1,100,000
Visitor Services	Number of visitors to the region (Visitor Information Centres)	39,000	42,000	45,000

2.3 Community Infrastructure and Assets

We will deliver well-planned, high quality infrastructure and spaces that connect people and respond to community needs

To achieve this, we will:

- 3.1 Ensure transport infrastructure, roads and paths enable safe, accessible and efficient movement across the region.
- 3.2 Advocate for better investment from State and Federal Government in our community infrastructure and assets.
- 3.3 Sustainably maintain and develop community infrastructure and assets, including our built heritage, ensuring they are fit for purpose and respond to community needs.
- 3.4 Ensure appropriate and connected residential, business and industrial development which encourages liveability.

The services, initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2024/25 Actual \$'000	2025/26 Forecast \$'000	2026/27 Budget \$'000
Community Buildings	This service supports the use of community buildings, including halls and showgrounds throughout the Shire by ensuring they are maintained adequately.	<i>Inc</i>	5	16	32
		<i>Exp</i>	535	383	392
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(530)	(367)	(360)
Strategic Planning	This service monitors the Council's Planning Scheme as well as preparing major policy documents shaping the future of the Shire. It prepares and processes amendments to the Council Planning Scheme and carries out research on urban development issues.	<i>Inc</i>	98	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	195	187	272
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(97)	(187)	(272)
Building Services	This service provides statutory building services including enforcement of the Building Act and Regulation to ensure community safety in the built environment.	<i>Inc</i>	62	72	82
		<i>Exp</i>	368	363	435
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(306)	(291)	(353)

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Bridges & Culverts	This service ensures the development and maintenance of the Shires bridges and culverts.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	976	1,026	973
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(976)	(1,026)	(973)
Footpaths and Cycle Ways	This service ensures the development and maintenance of the Shires footpaths and cycle ways.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	724	794	716
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(724)	(794)	(716)
Facilities Management and Property Services	This service ensures Council owned buildings are maintained to acceptable standards, are fit for purpose and compliant with building regulations.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	692	773	832
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(692)	(773)	(832)
Asset and Property Management	This service undertakes the oversight and management of Council assets.	<i>Inc</i>	42	59	59
		<i>Exp</i>	1,129	1,067	1,090
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(1,087)	(1,008)	(1,031)
Playground and Skate Parks	This service creates social spaces for younger people and their families to recreate and includes provision of age-appropriate play activities (including skate parks) and safe playground equipment across the Shire.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	243	255	210
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(243)	(255)	(210)
Project Management	This service undertakes design, tendering, contract management and supervision of various works within Council's capital works program.	<i>Inc</i>	18	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	840	852	751
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(822)	(852)	(751)
Statutory Planning	This service processes all planning applications, provides advice and makes decisions about development proposals which require a planning permit.	<i>Inc</i>	204	185	190
		<i>Exp</i>	514	579	625
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(310)	(394)	(435)
Plant Management & Operations	This service purchases and maintains Council vehicles, plant and equipment to meet functionality and safety needs and to maximise the performance and minimise operational cost of the fleet.	<i>Inc</i>	118	110	105
		<i>Exp</i>	- 500	29	27
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	618	81	78
Roads	This service aims to ensure responsible management of Council's road infrastructure and compliance with regulatory requirements.	<i>Inc</i>	38	5	5
		<i>Exp</i>	15,554	14,032	14,772
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(15,516)	(14,027)	(14,767)
Public Infrastructure	This service provides community and visitors with appropriate public infrastructure to meet community needs in relation to location, safety, hygiene, quality and environmental sustainability of public toilets.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	522	428	588
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(522)	(428)	(588)
Private Works	This service is provided on a case-by-case basis for private requests for minor works that may not be readily available to the community, for example sealing driveways.	<i>Inc</i>	37	-	40
		<i>Exp</i>	15	6	5
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	22	(6)	35
VicRoads Contract Management	This service ensures responsible contract management of Council's VicRoads contract.	<i>Inc</i>	-	14	14
		<i>Exp</i>	9	62	22
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(9)	(48)	(8)

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Major Initiatives

- 1) Complete outdoor swimming pool renewal works at sites across the Shire.
- 2) Develop and implement long term asset management plan for roads and footpaths.
- 3) Implement the new round of State funded Safer Local Roads and Streets program works.
- 4) Establish walking and cycling township loops including the connecting new footpath link in between the Cavendish Recreation Reserve and town.

Other Initiatives

- 5) Complete upgrades to Mitchell Park athletics facilities.
- 6) Complete upgrades to sound, lighting and ticketing at the Hamilton Performing Arts Centre.

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Budget
Statutory Planning	Planning applications decided within the relevant required time (percentage of regular and VicSmart planning application decisions made within the relevant required time)	41.60%	80.00%	80.00%
Roads	Sealed local roads below the intervention level (percentage of sealed local roads that are below the renewal intervention level set by Council and not requiring renewal)	92.88%	96.80%	96.80%

2.4 Environment

We will protect and enhance our natural landscapes and advance a clean, green, and sustainable future in Southern Grampians Shire

To achieve this, we will:

- 4.1 Manage, enhance and protect our natural environment, landscapes, green and open spaces, respecting cultural heritage.
- 4.2 Enhance climate resilience through improved risk management, emissions reduction, knowledge sharing and climate adaptation.
- 4.3 Advance local circular economy initiatives and support smart regional waste strategies that reduce waste and pollution by promoting recycling and re-use.
- 4.4 Support communities to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies, including natural disasters.

The services, initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2024/25 Actual \$'000	2025/26 Forecast \$'000	2026/27 Budget \$'000
Transfer Stations and Landfill Sites	This service manages the waste and recyclables collection process at the designated transfer stations within the Shire as well as any costs associated with landfill sites.	<i>Inc</i>	962	1,808	3,149
		<i>Exp</i>	1,488	2,154	3,857
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(526)	(346)	(708)
Waste & Recycling Collection	This service manages the waste and recyclables collection process within the Shire, including the collection of kerbside bins.	<i>Inc</i>	141	144	455
		<i>Exp</i>	2,769	3,484	3,472
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(2,628)	(3,340)	(3,017)
Natural Asset Management	This service develops environmental policy, coordinates and implements environmental projects and works with other services to improve Council's environmental performance.	<i>Inc</i>	85	85	95
		<i>Exp</i>	390	436	302
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(305)	(351)	(207)
Stormwater / Drainage	This service manages the maintenance and environmental issues associated with the stormwater/drainage networks throughout the Shire.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	879	776	775
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(879)	(776)	(775)

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Yatchaw Drainage Authority	This service is responsible for the management and maintenance of the Yatchaw Drainage Scheme.	<i>Inc</i>	4	4	4
		<i>Exp</i>	5	6	6
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(1)	(2)	(2)
Quarry	This service is responsible for the sustainability in the supply of materials for road management and the realisation of returns from an economic asset.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	8	-	-
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(8)	0	0
Environmental Sustainability	This service implements Council's Sustainability Strategy and acts as a catalyst for Council and community sustainability actions within the Shire.	<i>Inc</i>	85	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	710	577	673
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(625)	(577)	(673)
Fire Prevention	This service coordinates fire prevention planning and works in cooperation with other agencies.	<i>Inc</i>	42	5	5
		<i>Exp</i>	138	148	136
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(96)	(143)	(131)
Water	This service manages the Old Hamilton Reservoir and provides a source of non-potable water for irrigation purposes, maintaining sporting grounds and the amenity of the Hamilton Botanic Gardens.	<i>Inc</i>	-	5	5
		<i>Exp</i>	14	11	10
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(14)	(6)	(5)
Environmental Health	This service improves the health and wellbeing of the community and protects the Shire's environment.	<i>Inc</i>	136	141	131
		<i>Exp</i>	344	430	383
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(208)	(289)	(252)

Major Initiatives

- 1) Complete installation and commissioning of an Organics Processing unit at the Hamilton Transfer station.
- 2) Develop masterplans for the Wannon Falls Reserve.
- 3) Develop the Stormwater Management Plan for Hamilton.

Other Initiatives

- 4) Adopt a new Domestic Waste Water Management Plan.
- 5) Establish an integrated Sustainable Fleet Management Model and policy.
- 6) Upgrade of bridges at Old Hamilton Reservoir.
- 7) Review and implement Hamilton and Penshurst Botanic Gardens Masterplans.
- 8) Review the Tree Management Plan to define future tree planting program.

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Budget
Waste Management	Kerbside collection waste to landfill per serviced property (amount of waste collected from kerbside waste collection services that is sent to landfill per serviced property)	58.94%	61.00%	61.00%
Food Safety	Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications. (Percentage of critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications that are followed up by Council)	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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2.5 Leadership and Governance

We will demonstrate strong leadership and sound financial management through transparent decision-making, clear communication and meaningful engagement that builds community trust

To achieve this, we will:

- 5.1 Improve effective governance and public accountability.
- 5.2 Communicate clearly about Council decisions, projects and services to increase awareness, confidence and trust in the community.
- 5.3 Ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making meets long-term financial sustainability.
- 5.4 Provide the community a strong voice through meaningful and accessible engagement.
- 5.5 Advocate for community priorities.
- 5.6 Improve service delivery and efficiency through sustainable leadership.
- 5.7 Improve organisational culture to enhance adaptability, wellbeing and diversity.
- 5.8 Ensure the community are at the forefront of decision making.

The services, initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2024/25 Actual \$'000	2025/26 Forecast \$'000	2026/27 Budget \$'000
Executive and Councillor Support	This area of governance includes the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Leadership Team and associated support.	<i>Inc</i>	18	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	2,486	2,047	1,445
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(2,468)	(2,047)	(1,445)
Governance Administration	This service has the responsibility to provide the organisation with appropriate strategic advice on Governance and Property related matters, enabling the organisation to be responsive to the needs of the Council and the community.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	293	297	310
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(293)	(297)	(310)
Financial Services	This service has the responsibility to provide the organisation with appropriate strategic advice, reporting and internal control on finance related matters. Financial services also provide accounts payable, receivable and rating administration.	<i>Inc</i>	566	638	362
		<i>Exp</i>	1,373	1,546	1,685
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(807)	(908)	(1,323)
Organisational Development	This service has the responsibility to provide the organisation with appropriate advice and administration for all human resource requirements and workforce management including policy development. The Unit also provides a mechanism for continual review and improvement.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	957	852	909
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(957)	(852)	(909)
Risk Management	This service has the responsibility to provide the organisation with appropriate advice and management of risk and OHS in relation to legal and other community requirements.	<i>Inc</i>	83	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	512	434	455
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(429)	(434)	(455)
Procurement	This service has the responsibility to provide the organisation with appropriate advice, administration and policy on all procurement matters as specified in Section 186A of the Local Government Act 2020.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	395	419	396
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(395)	(419)	(396)
Communications	The Communications service assists the organisation to facilitate communication across both internal and external stakeholders and provide high quality information to the community.	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
		<i>Exp</i>	550	600	651
		<i>Surplus/ (deficit)</i>	(550)	(600)	(651)

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Customer Service	Customer Service is the first point of contact for all communications with Council. This unit aims to provide accurate and a high quality of service to all customers.	Inc	-	-	-
		Exp	341	278	290
		Surplus/ (deficit)	(341)	(278)	(290)
Business Systems	The Business Systems unit aims to maximise the organisation's capacity to utilise all of its many and diverse systems and is also responsible for the ongoing support of Councils IT requirements necessary to deliver effective services.	Inc	1	-	-
		Exp	2,124	2,202	2,350
		Surplus/ (deficit)	(2,123)	(2,202)	(2,350)
Corporate Buildings and Overheads	This service maintains buildings and grounds of corporate buildings, supports the whole organisation administration functions and coordinates centralised purchasing of corporate consumables. These expenses are offset by the recoup of internal charges to all services.	Inc	-	-	-
		Exp	985	899	916
		Surplus/ (deficit)	(985)	(899)	(916)
Depot Operations and Maintenance	This service coordinates the operation of Council's depots in Hamilton, Coleraine, Balmoral, Cavendish, Dunkeld and Peshurst to support works teams to deliver capital and maintenance programs.	Inc	26	27	28
		Exp	1,146	595	579
		Surplus/ (deficit)	(1,120)	(568)	(551)

Major Initiatives

- 1) Ongoing development of a new Council App.
- 2) Develop Asset Management Plans consistent with Council's Asset Management Framework.
- 3) Adoption of generative AI tools.
- 4) Develop and implement Council Advocacy Plan.
- 5) Ongoing Implementation of the Council Plan for 2026-2029.

Other Initiatives

- 6) Continue to promote Council's Gender Equity Plan and Responsibilities.
- 7) Produce advocacy material using results from the mobile blackspots project.

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	2024/25 Actual	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Budget
Community Engagement	Satisfaction with the opportunities offered by Council to be consulted on or engaged in Council decisions (community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council)	46.00%	47.00%	48.00%

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2.6 Reconciliation of Council Services with Budgeted Operating Result

	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Expenditure	Income / Revenue
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Support our Community	(4,092)	9,064	4,972
Grow Our Regional Economy	(518)	2,985	2,467
Plan for our Built Environment	(9,982)	10,477	495
Promote our Natural Environment	(5,120)	8,846	3,726
Provide Governance and Leadership	(7,861)	8,251	390
Total	(27,573)	39,623	12,050
Expenses added in:			
Depreciation	(15,799)		
Finance costs	(399)		
Others			
Surplus/(Deficit) before funding sources	(16,198)		
Funding sources added in:			
Rates and charges revenue	23,168		
Waste charge revenue	3,096		
Victoria Grants Commission	10,190		
Capital grants	9,809		
Gain on asset sale	3,300		
Total funding sources	49,563		
Operating surplus/(deficit) for the year	5,792		

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

3 Financial Statements

This section presents information in regard to the Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources. The budget information for the year 2026/27 has been supplemented with projections to 2029/30

This section includes the following financial statements prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

- 3.1 Comprehensive Income Statement
- 3.2 Balance Sheet
- 3.3 Statement of Changes in Equity
- 3.4 Statement of Cash Flows
- 3.5 Statement of Capital Works
- 3.6 Statement of Human Resources

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Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

3.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

		Forecast Actual 2025/26	Budget 2026/27	Projections 2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Income / Revenue						
Rates and charges	4.1.1	25,103	26,264	27,052	27,729	28,422
Statutory fees and fines	4.1.2	509	524	543	556	570
User fees	4.1.3	6,833	7,361	7,619	8,000	8,400
Grants - operating	4.1.4	6,588	11,452	11,681	11,914	12,153
Grants - capital	4.1.4	8,968	9,810	21,676	4,577	23,576
Contributions - monetary	4.1.5	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		1,340	3,300	350	350	350
Other income	4.1.6	1,458	2,902	2,992	3,125	3,265
Total income / revenue		50,799	61,613	71,913	66,251	86,736
Expenses						
Employee costs	4.1.7	20,965	20,692	20,899	21,108	21,530
Materials and services	4.1.8	11,257	12,853	13,045	13,241	13,506
Depreciation	4.1.9	14,845	15,799	15,851	16,116	16,414
Allowance for impairment losses		3	3	3	3	3
Borrowing costs		306	399	516	633	850
Waste Disposal Costs		2,875	2,888	2,931	2,975	3,035
Other expenses	4.1.10	2,970	3,187	3,235	3,283	3,348
Total expenses		53,221	55,821	56,480	57,359	58,686
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(2,422)	5,792	15,433	8,892	28,050
Other comprehensive income						
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods						
Total other comprehensive income		-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive result		(2,422)	5,792	15,433	8,892	28,050

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3.2 Balance Sheet

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

		Forecast Actual 2025/26	Budget 2026/27	Projections		
	NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	2027/28 \$'000	2028/29 \$'000	2029/30 \$'000
Assets						
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents		520	7,855	8,415	9,167	24,408
Trade and other receivables		4,768	4,364	4,012	3,691	3,737
Other financial assets		5,389	5,389	5,389	5,389	5,389
Inventories		486	534	541	549	559
Contract assets		72	72	72	72	72
Other assets		483	536	544	552	564
Total current assets	4.2.1	11,718	18,750	18,973	19,420	34,729
Non-current assets						
Trade and other receivables		21	22	22	23	23
Inventories		41	41	41	41	41
Property, infrastructure, plant & equipment		583,630	585,093	602,863	615,867	626,203
Right-of-use assets	4.2.4	62	62	62	62	62
Investment property		6,894	6,894	6,894	6,894	6,894
Other assets		172	211	218	229	240
Total non-current assets	4.2.1	590,820	592,323	610,100	623,116	633,463
Total assets		602,538	611,073	629,073	642,536	668,192
Liabilities						
Current liabilities						
Trade and other payables		4,928	5,370	5,645	5,926	6,248
Trust funds and deposits		402	402	402	402	402
Contract and other liabilities		82	88	91	96	100
Provisions		3,557	3,557	3,557	3,557	3,557
Interest-bearing liabilities	4.2.3	2,706	2,711	2,715	2,720	2,500
Lease liabilities	4.2.4	-	-	-	-	-
Total current liabilities	4.2.2	11,675	12,128	12,410	12,701	12,807
Non-current liabilities						
Provisions		2,195	2,195	2,194	2,195	2,195
Interest-bearing liabilities	4.2.3	5,145	7,435	9,720	14,000	11,500
Total non-current liabilities	4.2.2	7,340	9,630	11,914	16,195	13,695
Total liabilities		19,015	21,758	24,324	28,896	26,502
Net assets		583,523	589,315	604,749	613,640	641,690
Equity						
Accumulated surplus		126,572	132,364	147,798	156,689	184,739
Reserves		456,185	456,185	456,185	456,185	456,185
Other Reserves		766	766	766	766	766
Total equity		583,523	589,315	604,749	613,640	641,690

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

3.3 Statement of Changes in Equity

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

		Total	Accumulated Surplus	Revaluation Reserve	Other Reserves
	NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2026 Forecast Actual					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		585,945	128,994	456,185	766
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(2,422)	(2,422)	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year		583,523	126,572	456,185	766
2027 Budget					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		583,523	126,572	456,185	766
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		5,792	5,792	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year	4.3.2	589,315	132,364	456,185	766
2028					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		589,316	132,365	456,185	766
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		15,433	15,433	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year		604,749	147,798	456,185	766
2029					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		604,749	147,798	456,185	766
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		8,891	8,891	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year		613,640	156,689	456,185	766
2030					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		613,640	156,689	456,185	766
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		28,050	28,050	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year		641,690	184,739	456,185	766

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

3.4 Statement of Cash Flows

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

	Notes	Forecast Actual 2025/26 \$'000	Budget 2026/27 \$'000	Projections 2027/28 \$'000	2028/29 \$'000	2029/30 \$'000
		Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities						
Rates and charges		25,313	28,499	27,036	27,992	28,414
Statutory fees and fines		623	524	542	556	570
User fees		6,828	7,367	7,622	8,004	8,404
Grants - operating		6,432	11,443	11,694	11,887	12,180
Grants - capital		8,327	9,818	21,663	4,603	23,549
Contributions - monetary		-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Interest received		331	328	328	328	328
Other receipts		2,464	698	3,022	2,840	2,884
Employee costs		(21,147)	(20,700)	(20,892)	(21,101)	(21,516)
Materials and services		(10,975)	(12,499)	(12,793)	(12,981)	(13,219)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments		-	-	-	-	-
Other payments		(5,844)	(6,075)	(6,166)	(6,258)	(6,383)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	4.4.1	12,352	19,403	32,056	25,870	45,211
Cash flows from investing activities						
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(18,776)	(17,263)	(33,620)	(29,120)	(26,750)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		1,340	3,300	350	350	350
Proceeds from sale of investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities	4.4.2	(17,436)	(13,963)	(33,270)	(28,770)	(26,400)
Cash flows from financing activities						
Finance costs		(306)	(399)	(516)	(633)	(850)
Proceeds from borrowings		3,000	5,000	5,000	7,000	-
Repayment of borrowings		(1,910)	(2,706)	(2,711)	(2,715)	(2,720)
Interest paid - lease liability		-	-	-	-	-
Repayment of lease liabilities		(62)	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	4.4.3	722	1,895	1,773	3,652	(3,570)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash & cash equivalents		(4,362)	7,335	559	752	15,241
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		4,882	520	7,856	8,415	9,167
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		520	7,855	8,415	9,167	24,408

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

3.5 Statement of Capital Works

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

	Forecast Actual 2025/26	Budget 2026/27	Projections		
NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	2027/28 \$'000	2028/29 \$'000	2029/30 \$'000
Property					
Land	150	-	-	-	-
Total land	150	-	-	-	-
Buildings	3,097	3,828	16,550	18,250	15,550
Total buildings	3,097	3,828	16,550	18,250	15,550
Total property	3,247	3,828	16,550	18,250	15,550
Plant and equipment					
Plant, machinery and equipment	2,300	718	1,400	1,400	1,400
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	70	50	-	-	-
Computers and telecommunications	25	-	-	-	-
Library books	70	70	70	70	70
Other Plant & Equipment	15	-	-	-	-
Total plant and equipment	2,480	838	1,470	1,470	1,470
Infrastructure					
Roads	7,977	6,744	6,800	6,800	6,800
Bridges	594	-	300	300	300
Footpaths and cycleways	565	106	100	100	100
Drainage	130	100	200	200	200
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	933	2,047	1,200	1,000	1,200
Waste management	829	120	-	-	-
Parks, open space and streetscapes	1,608	3,380	6,000	-	-
Aerodromes	-	40	-	-	-
Off street car parks	-	-	-	-	130
Other infrastructure	413	60	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total infrastructure	13,049	12,597	15,600	9,400	9,730
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1 18,776	17,263	33,620	29,120	26,750
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	4,429	726	17,100	19,100	1,230
Asset renewal expenditure	13,392	12,899	16,520	10,020	10,520
Asset upgrade expenditure	955	3,638	-	-	15,000
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1 18,776	17,263	33,620	29,120	26,750
Funding sources represented by:					
Grants	8,968	9,810	21,676	4,576	23,576
Contributions	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Council cash	6,808	2,453	6,944	7,544	(6,826)
Borrowings	3,000	5,000	5,000	7,000	-
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1 18,776	17,263	33,620	29,120	26,750

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3.6 Statement of Human Resources

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	Actual				
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Staff expenditure					
Employee costs - operating	20,965	20,692	20,899	21,108	21,530
Employee costs - capital	1,857	2,169	2,191	2,213	2,257
Total staff expenditure	22,822	22,861	23,090	23,321	23,787
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
Staff numbers					
Employees	229.0	226.0	225.0	224.0	224.0
Total staff numbers	229.0	226.0	225.0	224.0	224.0

A summary of human resources expenditure categorised according to the organisational structure of Council is included below:

Department	Budget 2026/27 \$'000	Comprises			
		Permanent		Casual	Temporary
		Full Time \$'000	Part time \$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Social and Community	6,415	2,957	2,660	798	-
Business, Economy and Tourism	1,356	1,084	212	60	-
Community Infrastructure and Assets	6,275	6,042	233	-	-
Environment	1,602	1,132	470	-	-
Leadership and Governance	5,044	4,083	915	46	-
Total permanent staff expenditure	20,692	15,298	4,490	904	-
Capitalised labour costs	2,169	2,169	-	-	-
Total expenditure	22,861	22,682	5,875	950	-

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff in relation to the above expenditure is included below:

Department	Budget 2026/27	Comprises			
		Permanent		Casual	Temporary
		Full Time	Part time		
Social and Community	55	25	23	7	-
Business, Economy and Tourism	11	8	2	1	-
Community Infrastructure and Assets	94	90	4	-	-
Environment	20	8	12	-	-
Leadership and Governance	46	35	10	1	-
Total staff	226	166	51	9	-

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Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure

For the four years ending 30 June 2030

	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000	2028/29 \$'000	2029/30 \$'000
Social and Community				
Permanent - Full time	3,091	3,122	3,153	3,216
Women	1,926	1,945	1,965	2,004
Men	1,165	1,177	1,188	1,212
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part time	2,526	2,551	2,577	2,628
Women	2,195	2,217	2,239	2,284
Men	331	334	338	344
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total Social and Community	5,617	5,673	5,730	5,844
Business, Economy and Tourism				
Permanent - Full time	1,084	1,095	1,106	1,128
Women	518	523	528	539
Men	566	572	577	589
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part time	212	214	216	221
Women	37	37	38	38
Men	175	177	179	182
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total Business, Economy and Tourism	1,296	1,309	1,322	1,348
Community Infrastructure and Assets				
Permanent - Full time	6,042	6,102	6,163	6,287
Women	1,228	1,240	1,253	1,278
Men	4,814	4,862	4,911	5,009
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part time	233	235	238	242
Women	173	175	176	180
Men	60	61	61	62
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total Community Infrastructure and Assets	6,275	6,338	6,401	6,529
Environment				
Permanent - Full time	1,132	1,143	1,155	1,178
Women	385	389	393	401
Men	747	754	762	777
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part time	470	475	479	489
Women	88	89	90	92
Men	382	386	390	397
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total Environment	1,602	1,618	1,634	1,667
Leadership and Governance				
Permanent - Full time	4,083	4,124	4,165	4,248
Women	2,576	2,602	2,628	2,680
Men	1,507	1,522	1,537	1,568
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part time	915	924	933	952
Women	915	924	933	952
Men	0	0	0	0
Persons of self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total Leadership and Governance	4,998	5,048	5,098	5,200
Casuals, temporary and other expenditure	904	913	922	941
Capitalised labour costs	2,169.0	2,190.7	2,212.6	2,256.8
Total staff expenditure	22,861	23,090	23,321	23,787

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	2026/27 FTE	2027/28 FTE	2028/29 FTE	2029/30 FTE
Social and Community				
Permanent - Full time	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0
Women	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Men	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	23.5	23.5	23.5	23.5
Women	19.8	19.8	19.8	19.8
Men	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Social and Community	47.5	47.5	47.5	47.5
Business, Economy and Tourism				
Permanent - Full time	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Women	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Men	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Women	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Men	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Business, Economy and Tourism	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Community Infrastructure and Assets				
Permanent - Full time	73.0	73.1	73.1	73.1
Women	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Men	58.0	58.1	58.1	58.1
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Women	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Men	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Community Infrastructure and Assets	77.5	77.6	77.6	77.6
Environment				
Permanent - Full time	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Women	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Men	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0
Women	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Men	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Environment	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Leadership and Governance				
Permanent - Full time	35.0	35.0	35.0	35.0
Women	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Men	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Women	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Men	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Leadership and Governance	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0
Casuals and temporary staff	9.0	8.0	7.0	7.0
Capitalised labour	16.9	16.9	16.9	16.9
Total staff numbers	225.9	225.0	224.0	224.0

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4 Notes to the Financial Statements

This section presents detailed information on material components of the financial statements. Council needs to assess which components are material, considering the dollar amounts and nature of these components.

4.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

4.1.1 Rates and Charges

Rates and charges are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

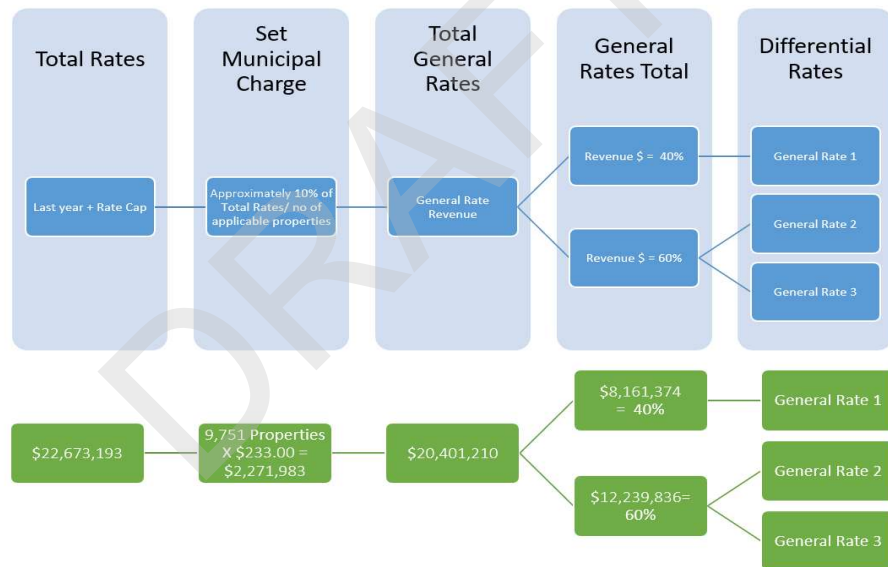
As per the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council is required to have a Revenue and Rating Plan which is a four year plan for how Council will generate income to deliver the Council Plan, program and services and capital works commitments over a four-year period.

In developing the Budget, rates and charges were identified as an important source of revenue. Planning for future rate increases has therefore been an important component of the financial planning process. The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) sets out the maximum amount councils may increase rates in a year. For 2026/27 the FGRS cap has been set at 2.75%. The cap applies to both general rates and municipal charges and is calculated on the basis of council's average rates and charges.

The level of required rates and charges has been considered in this context, with reference to Council's other sources of income and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for the community.

To achieve these objectives while maintaining service levels and a strong capital expenditure program, the average general rate and the municipal charge will increase by 2.75% in line with the rate cap.

The rate increase has been calculated using the following process:



This will raise total rates and charges for 2026/27 to \$22,673,193

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4.1.1 (a) The reconciliation of the total rates and charges to the Comprehensive Income Statement is as follows:

	2025/26 Forecast Actual \$'000	2026/27 Budget \$'000	Change \$'000	%
General rates*	19,793	20,401	608	3.07%
General Rates - Yatchaw	4	4	-	0.00%
Municipal charge*	2,203	2,272	69	3.13%
Other Supplementary rates and interest	(13)	157	170	-1307.69%
Waste Collection Charges (Compulsory)	2,771	3,055	284	10.25%
Waste Collection Charges (Voluntary)	139	162	23	16.55%
Revenue in lieu of rates	206	213	7	3.40%
Total rates and charges	25,103	26,264	1,161	4.62%

*These items are subject to the rate cap established under the FGRS

4.1.1 (b) The rate in the dollar to be levied as general rates under section 158 of the Act for each type or class of land compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2025/26 cents/\$CIV	2026/27 cents/\$CIV	Change
General rate 1 for rateable residential properties	0.003366	0.003283	-2.47%
General rate 1 for rateable rural properties	0.003366	0.003283	-2.47%
General rate 1 for rateable industrial properties	0.003366	0.003283	-2.47%
General rate 1 for rateable commercial properties	0.003366	0.003283	-2.47%
General rate 2 for rateable rural N/S properties	0.001889	0.002009	6.35%
General rate 3 for residential rural properties	0.001889	0.002009	6.35%
General rate 3 for rural properties	0.001889	0.002009	6.35%
General rate 3 for industrial rural properties	0.001889	0.002009	6.35%
General rate 3 for commercial rural properties	0.001889	0.002009	6.35%

4.1.1 (c) The estimated total amount to be raised by general rates in relation to each type or class of land, and the estimated total amount to be raised by general rates, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
Residential	7,923	8,215	292	3.69%
Rural	10,750	11,008	258	2.40%
Industrial	319	344	25	7.84%
Commercial	802	834	32	4.05%
Total amount to be raised by general rates	19,793	20,401	608	3.07%

Alternate view by rate code:

Type or class of land	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
General Rate 1	7,923	8,161	238	3.00%
General Rate 2	356	395	39	10.85%
General Rate 3	11,514	11,845	331	2.88%
Total amount to be raised by general rates	19,793	20,401	608	3.07%

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- 4.1.1 (d) The number of assessments in relation to each type or class of land, and the total number of assessments, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2025/26 Number	2026/27 Number	Change Number	%
Residential	7,430	7,461	31	0.42%
Rural	3,115	3,123	8	0.26%
Industrial	256	260	4	1.56%
Commercial	454	458	4	0.88%
Total number of assessments	11,255	11,302	47	0.42%

- 4.1.1 (e) The basis of valuation to be used is the Capital Improved Value (CIV)

- 4.1.1 (f) The estimated total value of each type or class of land, and the estimated total value of land, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
Residential	2,623,198	2,746,269	123,071	4.69%
Rural	5,660,629	5,453,907	(206,722)	-3.65%
Industrial	103,164	112,182	9,018	8.74%
Commercial	250,708	266,094	15,386	6.14%
Total value of land	8,637,699	8,578,452	(59,247)	-0.69%

- 4.1.1 (g) The municipal charge under Section 159 of the Act compared with the previous financial year

Type of Charge	Per Rateable Property 2025/26 \$	Per Rateable Property 2026/27 \$	Change \$	%
Municipal	227	233	6	2.64%

- 4.1.1 (h) The estimated total amount to be raised by municipal charges compared with the previous financial year

Type of Charge	2025/26 \$	2026/27 \$	Change \$	%
Municipal	2,202,808	2,271,983	69,175	3.14%

- 4.1.1 (i) The rate or unit amount to be levied for each type of service rate or charge under Section 162 of the Act compared with the previous financial year and detailed disclosure of the actual service/s rendered for the amount levied

Type of Charge	Per Rateable Property 2025/26 \$	Per Rateable Property 2026/27 \$	Change \$	%
Waste Charges Compulsory	430	472	42	9.77%
Waste Charges Elective	485	532	47	9.69%
Total	915	1,004	89	9.73%

- 4.1.1 (j) The estimated total amount to be raised by each type of service rate or charge, and the estimated total amount to be raised by service rates and charges, compared with the previous financial year

Type of Charge	2025/26 \$	2026/27 \$	Change \$	%
Waste Charges Compulsory	2,770,916	3,055,728	284,812	10.28%
Waste Charges Elective	138,744	161,765	23,021	16.59%
Total	2,909,660	3,217,493	307,833	10.58%

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4.1.1 (k) The estimated total amount to be raised by all rates and charges compared with the previous financial year

	2025/26	2026/27	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
General Rates	19,793	20,401	608	3.07%
Municipal Charges	2,203	2,272	69	3.14%
Waste Charges	2,910	3,217	307	10.56%
Total Rates and charges	24,906	25,890	984	3.95%

4.1.1 (l) Fair Go Rates System Compliance

Southern Grampians Shire Council is required to comply with the State Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS). The table below details the budget assumptions consistent with the requirements of the Fair Go Rates System.

	2025/26	2026/27
Total Rates (including Municipal Charges)	\$ 21,996,030	\$22,673,193
Number of rateable properties	11,255	11,302
Base Average Rate	\$1,898.75	\$1,954.33
Maximum Rate Increase (set by the State Government)	3.00%	2.75%
Capped Average Rate	\$1,955.71	\$2,008.07
Maximum General Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue	\$ 22,011,139	\$22,685,498
Budgeted General Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue	\$ 21,996,030	\$22,673,193
Budgeted number of rateable properties	11,255	11,302
Budgeted average rate	\$1,954.33	\$2,006.12
Budgeted rate increase	2.93%	2.69%

4.1.1 (m) Any significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges

There are no known significant changes which may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges. However, the total amount to be raised by rates and charges may be affected by:

- The making of supplementary valuations (2026/27: estimated \$70,000 and 2025/26: \$68,000)
- The variation of returned levels of value (e.g. valuation appeals)
- Changes of use of land such that rateable land becomes non-rateable land and vice versa
- Changes of use of land such that residential land becomes business land and vice versa.

4.1.1 (n) Differential rates

General Rate 1

A differential general rate of 0.003283 cents in the dollar on the capital improved value of all rateable land in the parishes of North Hamilton and South Hamilton, excluding all farm land which comprises part of a single farm enterprise with an area of 40 hectares or more.

General Rate 2

A differential general rate of 0.002009 cents in the dollar on the capital improved value of all rateable farm land in the parishes of North Hamilton and South Hamilton and which comprises part of a single farm enterprise with an area of 40 hectares or more.

General Rate 3

A differential general rate of 0.002009 cents in the dollar on the capital improved value of all other rateable land in the Shire.

Objective of Differential Rateing

Council believes each differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient delivery of Council functions. The purpose of levying differential general rates is to recognise the following inherent characteristics and historical circumstances:

- the different standard of municipal services provided to the residents and ratepayers in different areas of the Shire,
- the different range of municipal services available to the residents and ratepayers in different areas of the Shire, and
- differences in the accessibility to municipal services for the residents and ratepayers in different areas of the Shire.

4.1.1 (o) Special rates

Yatchaw Drainage Authority

A Special Rate of 0.0001510 cents in the dollar on the capital improved value of all rateable land in the Yatchaw Drainage Area.

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4.1.2 Statutory Fees and Fines

	Forecast Actual 2025/26	Budget 2026/27	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Building Services	72	82	10	13.89%
Environmental Health	44	38	-6	-13.64%
Fire Prevention	5	5	-	0.00%
Local Laws Operations	180	185	5	2.78%
Rates & Charges	18	19	1	5.56%
Roads & Streets	5	5	-	0.00%
Statutory Planning	185	190	5	2.70%
Total statutory fees and fines	509	524	15	2.95%

Statutory fees relate mainly to fees and fines levied in accordance with legislation and include such items as building permits, animal registrations and parking fines.

4.1.3 User Fees

	Forecast Actual 2025/26	Budget 2026/27	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Livestock Exchange	2,373	2,400	27	1.14%
Waste & Transfer Stations	1,048	1,304	256	24.43%
Hamilton Indoor Leisure & Aquatic Centre	1,583	1,758	175	11.05%
Community & Children's Services	679	642	-37	-5.45%
Cultural Services	373	368	-5	-1.34%
Regulatory & Compliance	240	269	29	12.08%
Other User Fees	577	620	43	7.45%
Total user fees	6,873	7,361	488	0

User charges relate to the recovery of service delivery costs through the charges of fees to users of Council services. These include use of leisure, entertainment and other community facilities and the provision of human services such as family day care.

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4.1.4 Grants

Grants are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

	Forecast Actual 2025/26 \$'000	Budget 2026/27 \$'000	Change \$'000 %	
Commonwealth funded grants	10,715	13,384	2,669	25%
State funded grants	4,842	7,877	3,035	63%
Total grants received	15,557	21,262	5,705	37%

Operating Grants include all monies received from State and Federal sources for the purposes of funding the delivery of Council services to ratepayers.

Capital Grants include all money received from State, Federal and Community sources for the purposes of funding the capital works program.

Operating Grants	Forecast Actual 2025/26 \$'000	Budget 2026/27 \$'000	Change \$'000 %	
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Financial Assistance Grants	4,995	10,190	5,195	104%
			-	
Recurrent - State Government				
Art Gallery (Arts Victoria – Operational Grant)	110	110	-	0%
Emergency Management	60	60	-	0%
Environmental Health	7	1	(6)	-86%
Library (DEWLP - Public Libraries Funding)	177	177	-	0%
Local Laws Operations (School Crossings)	55	55	-	0%
Maternal & Child Health (Operational Grant)	477	517	40	8%
Youth Services	60	60	-	0%
Total recurrent grants	5,941	11,170	5,229	88%
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Australia Day	10	10	-	100%
Non-recurrent - State Government				
Art Gallery Exhibitions	282	140	(142)	-50%
Primary Producer Support Administration	223	-	(223)	-100%
Library	7	7	-	0%
Pest and Weed Eradication	85	85	-	0%
Youth Services	40	40	-	0%
Total non-recurrent grants	647	282	(365)	-56%
Total operating grants	6,588	11,452	4,864	74%

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

Capital Grants	Forecast	Budget	Change		
	Actual	2026/27			
	2025/26				
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%	
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government					
Roads to Recovery	3,926	3,177	-	749	-19%
Recurrent - State Government					
Total recurrent grants	3,926	3,177	-	749	-19%
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government					
Local Roads and Infrastructure Program (LRCIP)	710	-		(710)	-100%
Melville Oval	843	-		(843)	-100%
Non-recurrent - State Government					
Hamilton Community and Cultural Precinct Designs	2,000	3,000		1,000	50%
Hamilton CBD Streetscape Stage 1 construction	-	2,500		2,500	100%
Storm event (2022)	489	-		(489)	-100%
Safer Roads and Streets Program	1,000	1,133		133	100%
Total non-recurrent grants	5,042	6,633		1,591	32%
Total capital grants	8,968	9,810		842	9%

Recurrent road funding is received for the Federally funded Roads to Recovery program that is a five year program. Other capital grants relate to continuation of the design of major capital projects and stage 1 construction for the Hamilton CBD Streetscape. The Safer Local Roads program will continue in the 2026/27 year.

4.1.5 Contributions

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2025/26		2026/27	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Monetary	-	-	-	-
Non-monetary	-	-	-	-
Total contributions	-	-	-	-

Contributions relate to money received from community groups or other bodies to assist in the funding of both capital and operating projects. No contributions are anticipated for 2026/27.

4.1.6 Other Income

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2025/26		2026/27	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Donations	70	120	50	71.43%
Interest	331	328	-	-0.91%
Reimbursements	142	103	-	-27.46%
Waste charges for internal services	800	2,186	1,386	173.25%
Other Operating Revenue	115	165	50	43.48%
Total other income	1,458	2,902	1,444	99.04%

Other revenue includes reimbursements and other minor sources of revenue for various services provided by Council along with waste charges allocated for internal waste disposal. Reimbursements are expenditure that is incurred by Council on behalf of another organisation and then recompensed after the event.

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4.1.7 Employee Costs

	Forecast Actual 2025/26	Budget 2026/27	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Wages and salaries	14,096	14,409.00	313	2.22%
Public Holidays, Sick, Annual & Long Service Leave	3,262	2,936	(326)	-9.99%
Superannuation	2,371	2,409	38	1.60%
Work Cover Premium & Expenses	710	460	(250)	-35.21%
Fringe Benefits Tax	63	112	49	77.78%
Other Employee Related Costs	463	366	(97)	-20.95%
Total employee costs	20,965	20,692	(273)	-1.30%

Employee costs include all labour related expenditure such as wages and salaries and on-costs such as allowances, leave entitlements, employer superannuation, rostered days off, etc.

Operational Employee costs are estimated to decrease by \$0.273 million to \$20.692 million compared to 2025/26 forecast Budget (\$20.965m). This amount varies from year to year due to the impact of a number of matters including additional works, resignations, redundancies, recruitment expenses, industrial relations advice and other associated on-costs as the workforce expands and contracts in line with service demands. For the variance between 2025/26 compared to 2026/27, the impacts include the additional one-off workcover costs of \$250k in 2025/26 along with a reduction in staff training budgets

Other factors impacting employee costs are:

- Annual increment under Council's Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA);
- Movement of staff through the banding system; and
- The balance of work carried out between operational projects and capital works.

Employees who work on capital works have their wages and associated on-costs charged to the asset category in the balance sheet of the projects.

4.1.8 Materials and Services

	Forecast Actual 2025/26	Budget 2026/27	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Contractors	2,665	2,958	293	10.99%
External Consultants & Professionals	404	399	(5)	-1.24%
Insurance	767	951	184	23.99%
Software licences and maintenance	1,142	1,243	101	8.84%
Utilities	1,326	1,221	(105)	-7.92%
General road maintenance materials	292	415	123	42.12%
Service Charges and consumables	4,661	5,666	1,005	21.56%
Total materials and services	11,257	12,853	1,596	14.18%

Materials and services include the purchases of consumables, payments to contractors for the provision of services, insurances and utility costs.

Whilst utility costs continue to escalate, Council has been implementing a number of energy efficient measures which will assist to minimise the increasing costs of utilities in some services areas.

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4.1.9 Depreciation

	Forecast Actual 2025/26 \$'000	Budget 2026/27 \$'000	Change \$'000 %	
Property, Furniture & Fittings	1,432	2,174	742	51.82%
Plant & Equipment	1,000	656	(344)	-34.40%
Infrastructure	12,413	12,969	556	4.48%
Total depreciation	14,845	15,799	954	6.43%

Depreciation is an accounting measure which attempts to allocate the value of an asset over its useful life for Council's property, plant and equipment including infrastructure assets such as roads and drains. Council has estimated the depreciation expense for the 2025/26 year and used this as the basis for the 2026/27 year. This amount is an estimate only as Council constantly re-values assets; however, these calculations will not be processed until the end of the 2025/26 financial year.

The increase relates to updating the value of assets from prior years which have increased in value.

4.1.10 Other Expenses

	Forecast Actual 2025/26 \$'000	Budget 2026/27 \$'000	Change \$'000 %	
Contributions & Community Grants	629	490	(139)	-22.10%
Elected Members	268	284	16	5.97%
Waste Disposal Costs	2,875	2,888	13	0.45%
Internal Waste charges	956	1,900	944	98.74%
Audit & Legal	112	123	11	9.82%
Other Expenses	1,005	390	(615)	-61.19%
Total other expenses	5,845	6,075	230	3.93%

Other items of expense relate to a range of unclassified items including contributions to community groups, advertising, and other miscellaneous expenditure items along with waste related costs, both contract and internal.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

4.2 Balance Sheet

4.2.1 Assets

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and investments such as cash held in the bank and in petty cash and the value of investments in deposits or other highly liquid investments with short term maturities of three months or less. These balances are projected to not change significantly during the year.

Trade and other receivables are monies owed to Council by ratepayers and others. Short-term debtors are not expected to change significantly in the budget. Long-term debtors (non-current) relating to loans to community organisations and principal and interest debtors for private streets, Kerb & Channel and Footpath Schemes will decrease in accordance with agreed repayment terms.

Other assets include items such as prepayments for expenses that Council has paid in advance of service delivery, inventories or stocks held for sale or consumption in Council's services and other revenues due to be received in the next 12 months.

Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment is the largest component of Council's worth and represents the value of all the land, buildings, roads, vehicles, equipment, etc. which has been built up by Council over many years. The \$1.409 million increase in this balance is attributable to the capital works program (\$17.263 million of additional asset value), less depreciation of assets (\$15.799 million), and sale of plant and equipment (\$0.500 million).

Non-current assets held for sale includes land around the Lakes Edge Development, quarry land and sale of vehicles to be replaced.

4.2.2 Liabilities

Trade and other payables are those to whom Council owes money as at 30 June. These liabilities are generally budgeted to remain consistent with 2025/26 levels.

Provisions include accrued long service leave, annual leave and rostered days off owing to employees. These employee entitlements are also expected to remain constant due to active management of entitlements despite factoring in an increase for Collective Agreement outcomes.

Interest-bearing loans are classified as a liability, details of which are shown in the note below.

4.2.3 Borrowings

The table below shows information on borrowings specifically required by the Regulations.

	Forecast Actual 2025/26	Budget 2026/27	Projections	
	\$	\$	2027/28 \$	2028/29 \$
Amount borrowed as at 30 June of the prior year	6,761	7,851	10,146	12,435
Amount proposed to be borrowed	3,000	5,000	5,000	7,000
Amount projected to be redeemed	(1,910)	(2,705)	(2,711)	(2,715)
Amount of borrowings as at 30 June	7,851	10,146	12,435	16,720
Amount (of opening balance) to be refinanced	-	-	-	-

Council is budgeting to repay loan principal of \$2.705 million over the year for existing loans.

Council is anticipating new borrowings in the 2026/27 year of \$5.000 million followed by subsequent borrowings to fund a number of large intergenerational projects.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

4.3 Statement of Changes in Equity

4.3.1 Reserves

Asset revaluation reserve which represents the difference between the previously recorded value of assets and their current valuations.

Subdividers Contributions are in lieu of provision of recreational land within a subdivision. These funds are used to develop strategically located parks and reserves for the benefit of residents in the general area, as provided in the Subdivision Act 1988 and Planning and Environment Act 1987.

The Parking Development Reserve is in lieu of provision of off-site parking as part of a development. These funds are used for the purchase and development of public access parking in the general area.

The Drainage Headworks Reserve is in lieu of meeting the cost to develop, upgrade and/or renew drainage infrastructure downstream of any subdivision development, a charge is levied on subdivision developers.

4.3.2 Equity

The \$5.792 million increase in equity is a direct result of the surplus for the year.

4.4 Statement of Cash Flows

4.4.1 Net cash flows provided by/used in operating activities

The net cash flows from operating activities does not equal the surplus (deficit) for the year as the expected revenues and expenses of the Council include non-cash items which have been excluded from the Cash Flow Statement.

4.4.2 Net cash flows provided by/used in investing activities

The payments for investing activities (\$17.263 million) represents the planned capital works expenditure – Note 4.5 explains how this investment is funded.

Proceeds from the sale of assets are estimated to be \$3.3 million, and includes plant, equipment, Lakes Edge land sales and other land sales.

4.4.3 Net cash flows provided by/used in financing activities

For 2026-2027 the total of principal repayments is projected to be \$2.706 million and finance charges are projected to be \$0.399 million. Council is budgeting to take up new loans totalling \$5.000 million in 2026-2027 to fund intergenerational assets.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

4.5 Capital Works Program

This section presents a listing of the capital works projects that will be undertaken for the 2026/27 year, classified by expenditure type and funding source.

4.5.1 Summary

	Forecast Actual 2025/26 \$'000	Budget 2026/27 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
Property	3,247	3,828	581	17.89%
Plant and equipment	2,480	838	(1,642)	-66.21%
Infrastructure	13,049	12,597	(452)	-3.46%
Total	18,776	17,263	(1,513)	-8.06%

	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property	3,828	594	675	2,559	-	3,000	-	(1,672)	2,500
Plant and equipment	838	-	770	68	-	-	-	838	-
Infrastructure	12,597	132	11,454	1,011	-	6,810	-	3,287	2,500
Total	17,263	726	12,899	3,638	-	9,810	-	2,453	5,000

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

4.5.2 Current Budget

Capital Works Area	Project Cost	Asset expenditure types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New	Renewal	Upgrade	Expansion	Grants	Contributions	Council cash	Borrowings
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
PROPERTY									
Buildings									
Buildings - RPPP S1 Funding	-	-	-	-	-	3,000	-	(3,000)	-
Buildings - Borrowings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,500)	2,500
HILAC - Front Door Replacement	13	-	13	-	-	-	-	13	-
HILAC - Annual Floor Resurfacing	25	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	-
HILAC - Court 1 Renewal	350	-	350	-	-	-	-	350	-
Showgrounds - Lions Club Roller Doors	17	-	17	-	-	-	-	17	-
PAC/Supper Room - Light Investigation & Replacement	170	-	170	-	-	-	-	170	-
Art Gallery - Design & Constructions	2,499	-	-	2,499	-	-	-	2,499	-
Digital Hub - Design & Contruction	560	560	-	-	-	-	-	560	-
Building Project Management	34	34	-	-	-	-	-	34	-
Melville Oval Facility - Additional Works	60	-	-	60	-	-	-	60	-
Youth Space	50	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-
Public Conveniences - Capital Renewals Works	50	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-
TOTAL PROPERTY	3,828	594	675	2,559	-	3,000	-	(1,672)	2,500
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT									
Plant, Machinery and Equipment									
Light Fleet - Passenger Vehicles	100	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	-
Heavy Plant - Replacement	600	-	600	-	-	-	-	600	-
HILAC Radio Upgrades	18	-	-	18	-	-	-	18	-
Fixtures, Fittings and Furniture									
Upgrade of Auditorium Sound System	50	-	-	50	-	-	-	50	-
Library Books									
Library - Book Purchases as per SLA	55	-	55	-	-	-	-	55	-
Library - Book Purchases Sir Irving Benson	15	-	15	-	-	-	-	15	-
TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	838	-	770	68	-	-	-	838	-

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

Capital Works Area	Project Cost	Asset expenditure types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New	Renewal	Upgrade	Expansion	Grants	Contributions	Council cash	Borrowings
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
INFRASTRUCTURE									
Roads									
Roads - RTR Funding	-	-	-	-	-	3,177	-	(3,177)	
Roads - Safer Local Roads and Street Funding	-	-	-	-	-	1,133	-	(1,133)	
Roads - Design Program	168	-	168	-	-	-	-	168	
Roads - Safety Improvement Program	765	-	-	765	-	-	-	765	
Reseal - Featherstonhaugh Road	66	-	66	-	-	-	-	66	
Reseal - Gallie Road	59	-	59	-	-	-	-	59	
Reseal - Gallie Road	59	-	59	-	-	-	-	59	
Reseal - Koolomurt Road	41	-	41	-	-	-	-	41	
Reseal - Yarrack Road	25	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	
Reseal - Yarrack Road	122	-	122	-	-	-	-	122	
Reseal - Back Bushy Creek Road	109	-	109	-	-	-	-	109	
Reseal - H Addinsalls Road	50	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	
Reseal - McIntyres Crossing Road	148	-	148	-	-	-	-	148	
Reseal - Mirranatwa School Road	61	-	61	-	-	-	-	61	
Reseal - Murndal-Branxholme Road	49	-	49	-	-	-	-	49	
Reseal - Branxholme-Byaduk Road	82	-	82	-	-	-	-	82	
Reseal - Branxholme-Byaduk Road	46	-	46	-	-	-	-	46	
Reseal - Careys Ranges Road	192	-	192	-	-	-	-	192	
Reseal - Chrome Road	70	-	70	-	-	-	-	70	
Reseal - Chrome Road	52	-	52	-	-	-	-	52	
Reseal - Bulart-Cavendish Road	52	-	52	-	-	-	-	52	
Reseal - Bulart-Cavendish Road	33	-	33	-	-	-	-	33	
Reseal - Byron Street	45	-	45	-	-	-	-	45	
Reseal - Thomas Court	13	-	13	-	-	-	-	13	
Final Seal - Eddy Street	23	-	23	-	-	-	-	23	
Final Seal - Gray Street	63	-	63	-	-	-	-	63	
Final Seal - Lodge Road	86	-	86	-	-	-	-	86	
Final Seal - Mill Road	15	-	15	-	-	-	-	15	
Final Seal - Mt Napier Road	94	-	94	-	-	-	-	94	
Final Seal - Sedgewick Street	38	-	38	-	-	-	-	38	
Final Seal - South Boundary Road	52	-	52	-	-	-	-	52	
Final Seal - Victoria Point Road	267	-	267	-	-	-	-	267	

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
<i>Final Seal - Nagorckas Road</i>	226	-	226	-	-	-	-	226	-
<i>Final Seal - East West Road</i>	228	-	228	-	-	-	-	228	-
<i>Resheet - Muntham Lane</i>	76	-	76	-	-	-	-	76	-
<i>Resheet - Old Ararat Road</i>	116	-	116	-	-	-	-	116	-
<i>Resheet - McCutcheons Rd</i>	167	-	167	-	-	-	-	167	-
<i>Resheet - Dunn Road</i>	26	-	26	-	-	-	-	26	-
<i>Shoulder Treatment - Skene Woolshed Rd</i>	48	-	48	-	-	-	-	48	-
<i>Shoulder Treatment - Woolsthorpe Road</i>	48	-	48	-	-	-	-	48	-
<i>Shoulder Treatment - Cavendish-Glenninning Road</i>	240	-	240	-	-	-	-	240	-
<i>Shoulder Treatment - Mt Baimbridge Road</i>	29	-	29	-	-	-	-	29	-
<i>Shoulder Treatment - Caramut-Glenthompson Road</i>	29	-	29	-	-	-	-	29	-
<i>Shoulder Treatment - Rocklands Road</i>	144	-	144	-	-	-	-	144	-
<i>Shoulder Treatment - Skene Homestead Road</i>	20	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	-
<i>Shoulder Treatment - Burnt Creek Road</i>	20	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	-
<i>Shoulder Treatment - Jensens Road</i>	20	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Hamilton-Chatsworth Road</i>	44	-	44	-	-	-	-	44	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Caramut-Glenthompson Road</i>	30	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Young Street</i>	11	-	11	-	-	-	-	11	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Balkins Road Verge Area</i>	14	-	14	-	-	-	-	14	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Ballarat Road</i>	9	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Tennyson Street</i>	11	-	11	-	-	-	-	11	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Springwood Road</i>	16	-	16	-	-	-	-	16	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Springwood Road</i>	32	-	32	-	-	-	-	32	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Loats Road</i>	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Boram Boram Lane</i>	23	-	23	-	-	-	-	23	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Louth Swamp Road</i>	30	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Morven Road</i>	53	-	53	-	-	-	-	53	-
<i>Heavy Patching - Strachans Road</i>	46	-	46	-	-	-	-	46	-
<i>Rehab - Vic Point Road</i>	937	-	937	-	-	-	-	937	-
<i>Rehab - East West Road</i>	859	-	859	-	-	-	-	859	-
<i>Rehab - Wills Street</i>	97	-	-	97	-	-	-	97	-
<i>Rehab - Church St</i>	115	-	-	115	-	-	-	115	-
<i>Linemarking - Various</i>	30	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Footpaths and Cycleways									
<i>Sterling Street</i>	17	17	-	-	-	-	-	17	-
<i>Tourist Information Centre Toilet Access Ramp</i>	9	-	-	9	-	-	-	9	-
<i>Church Street</i>	55	55	-	-	-	-	-	55	-
<i>Peck Street</i>	25	-	-	25	-	-	-	25	-
Drainage									
<i>Stormwater Drainage - Annual Renewal</i>	100	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	-
Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities									
<i>Mitchell Park Athletics Renewal</i>	47	-	47	-	-	-	-	47	-
<i>Playgrounds - Annual Renewal</i>	50	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-
<i>Swimming Pools - Annual Renewal</i>	1,900	-	1,900	-	-	-	-	1,900	-
<i>Sporting Facilities - Annual Renewal</i>	50	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-
Waste Management									
<i>Hamilton Transfer Station - Asphalt Renewal</i>	120	-	120	-	-	-	-	120	-
Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes									
<i>Parks, Open Spaces, Streetscapes - Borrowings</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,500)	2,500
<i>Parks, Open Spaces, Streetscapes - Funding</i>						2,500		(2,500)	
<i>Hamilton CBD Streetscape Design</i>	3,240	-	3,240	-	-	-	-	3,240	-
<i>Masterplan for Wannon Falls Scenic Reserve</i>	10	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	-
<i>Lonsdale Street Pop-Up Park</i>	30	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-
<i>Lake Hamilton Spillway</i>	100	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	-
Aerodromes									
<i>Hamilton Airport Apron</i>	40	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-
Other Infrastructure									
<i>IWM Rainwater Harvesting Project</i>	50	50	-	-	-	-	-	50	-
<i>Fencing North Edge of Cavendish Township Square</i>	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	10	-
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE	12,597	132	11,454	1,011	-	6,810	-	3,287	2,500
TOTAL NEW CAPITAL WORKS	17,263	726	12,899	3,638	-	9,810	-	2,453	5,000

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

Summary of Planned Capital Works Expenditure
For the years ending 30 June 2028, 2029 & 2030

2027/28	Asset Expenditure Types					Funding Sources				
	Total \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Total \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property										
Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Land improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Buildings	16,550	16,000	550	0	0	0	16,000	0	550	0
Heritage Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Building improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leasehold improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Buildings	16,550	16,000	550	0	0	0	16,000	0	550	0
Total Property	16,550	16,000	550	0	0	0	16,000	0	550	0
Plant and Equipment										
Heritage plant and equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,400	0	1,400	0	0	0	0	0	1,400	0
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers and telecommunications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Library books	70	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	70	0
Total Plant and Equipment	1,470	0	1,470	0	0	0	0	0	1,470	0
Infrastructure										
Roads	6,800	0	6,800	0	0	6,800	3,176	0	3,624	0
Bridges	300	0	300	0	0	300	0	0	300	0
Footpaths and cycleways	100	100	0	0	0	100	0	0	100	0
Drainage	200	0	200	0	0	200	0	0	200	0
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	1,200	0	1,200	0	0	1,200	0	0	1,200	0
Waste management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parks, open space and streetscapes	6,000	0	6,000	0	0	6,000	2,500	0	(1,500)	5,000
Aerodromes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Off street car parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other infrastructure	1,000	1,000	0	0	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0
Total Infrastructure	15,600	1,100	14,500	0	0	15,600	5,676	0	4,924	5,000
Total Capital Works Expenditure	33,620	17,100	16,520	0	0	33,620	21,676	0	6,944	5,000

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

2028/29	Asset Expenditure Types					Funding Sources				
	Total \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Total \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property										
Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Land improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Buildings	18,250	18,000	250	0	0	18,250	1,000	10,000	250	7,000
Heritage Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Building improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leasehold improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Buildings	18,250	18,000	250	0	0	18,250	1,000	10,000	250	7,000
Total Property	18,250	18,000	250	0	0	18,250	1,000	10,000	250	7,000
Plant and Equipment										
Heritage plant and equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,400	0	1,400	0	0	0	0	0	1,400	0
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers and telecommunications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Library books	70	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	70	0
Total Plant and Equipment	1,470	0	1,470	0	0	0	0	0	1,470	0
Infrastructure										
Roads	6,800	0	6,800	0	0	6,800	3,576	0	3,224	0
Bridges	300	0	300	0	0	300	0	0	300	0
Footpaths and cycleways	100	100	0	0	0	100	0	0	100	0
Drainage	200	0	200	0	0	200	0	0	200	0
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	1,000	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0
Waste management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parks, open space and streetscapes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aerodromes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Off street car parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other infrastructure	1,000	1,000	0	0	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0
Total Infrastructure	9,400	1,100	8,300	0	0	9,400	3,576	0	5,824	0
Total Capital Works Expenditure	29,120	19,100	10,020	0	0	29,120	4,576	10,000	7,544	7,000

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

2029/30	Asset Expenditure Types					Funding Sources				
	Total \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Total \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property										
Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Land improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Buildings	15,550	0	550	0	15,000	0	20,000	10,000	-14,450	0
Heritage Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Building improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leasehold improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Buildings	15,550	0	550	0	15,000	0	20,000	10,000	-14,450	0
Total Property	15,550	0	550	0	15,000	0	20,000	10,000	-14,450	0
Plant and Equipment										
Heritage plant and equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,400	0	1,400	0	0	0	0	0	1,400	0
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers and telecommunications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Library books	70	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	70	0
Total Plant and Equipment	1,470	0	1,470	0	0	0	0	0	1,470	0
Infrastructure										
Roads	6,800	0	6,800	0	0	6,800	3,576	0	3,224	0
Bridges	300	0	300	0	0	300	0	0	300	0
Footpaths and cycleways	100	100	0	0	0	100	0	0	100	0
Drainage	200	0	200	0	0	200	0	0	200	0
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	1,200	0	1,200	0	0	1,200	0	0	1,200	0
Waste management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parks, open space and streetscapes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aerodromes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Off street car parks	130	130	0	0	0	130	0	0	130	0
Other infrastructure	1,000	1,000	0	0	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0
Total Infrastructure	9,730	1,230	8,500	0	0	9,730	3,576	0	6,154	0
Total Capital Works Expenditure	26,750	1,230	10,520	0	15,000	26,750	23,576	10,000	-6,826	0

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

5 Targeted Performance Indicators

5.1 Targeted Performance Indicators (Council Selected)

The following table highlights Council's current and projected performance across eight targeted performance indicators selected by Council from the range of prescribed performance measures contained in the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's intentions and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

Results against these indicators and targets will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

Domain / Indicator		Measure	Notes	Actual 2024/25	Forecast 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target Projections			Trend
										+/-
Community										
Maternal & Child Health Services (Councils promote healthy outcomes for children and their families)		Participation in the MCH service (Percentage of children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)		87%	83%	83%	83%	83%	83%	
Community										
Library Services (library services and resources are free, accessible and well utilised)		Library membership (Percentage of the population that are registered library members)		22%	15%	17%	17%	17%	17%	
Community										
Aquatic Facilities (aquatic facilities are accessible and well utilised)		Utilisation of aquatic facilities. (Number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of population)		11%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	
Responsiveness										
Food Safety (Councils respond to food complaints and fulfil their duties in a timely manner)		Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications. (Percentage of critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications that are followed up by Council)		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Responsiveness										
Waste Management (waste is collected as planned)		Kerbside collection bins missed (number of kerbside collection bins missed per 10,000 scheduled kerbside collection bin lifts)		9.02	9.84	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	
Environment										
Animal Management (Councils promote responsible pet ownership in the municipal district)		Animals reclaimed (percentage of collected registrable animals under the Domestic Animals Act 1994 reclaimed)	1	21%	30%	30%	40%	40%	40%	

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Governance**Transparency**

(Councillors actively participate in the decision-making process and ensure that all decisions are made in an open and transparent manner)

Council resolutions made at meetings closed to the public (percentage of Council resolutions made at a meeting of Council, or at a meeting of delegated committee consisting only of Councillors, closed to the public under section 66(1) of the Act)

5.6%

5.0%

5.0%

5.0%

5.0%

5.0%

o

Responsiveness**Statutory Planning**

(Councils decide on planning applications and fulfil their legislative duties in a timely manner)

Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT (percentage of planning application decisions that were subject to review by VCAT and were not set aside)

2

0%

100%

100%

100%

100%

100%

o

Key to Target Trend:

+ increase in Council's overall targets

o maintaining Council's overall targets

- decrease in Council's overall targets

5.2 Targeted Performance Indicators (Mandatory)

The following tables highlight Council's current and projected performance across a selection of targeted service and financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's intentions and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

The targeted performance indicators below are the prescribed performance indicators contained in Schedule 4 of the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*. Results against these measures and targets will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

Targeted Service Performance Indicators - Mandatory

Domain / Indicator		Measure	Notes	Actual	Forecast	Target	Target Projections			Trend
				2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	+/-
Governance										
Community engagement (council decisions made and implemented with community input)	Satisfaction with the opportunities offered by Council to be consulted on or engaged in Council decisions Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council			46%	47%	48%	49%	50%	51%	
Environment										
Roads (sealed local roads are maintained and renewed to ensure a safe network)	Sealed local roads below the intervention level Number of kms of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kms of sealed local roads			93%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	

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Responsiveness**Statutory planning**

(Councils decide on planning applications and fulfill their legislative duties in a timely manner)

Planning applications decided within the relevant required time

Number of planning application decisions made within the relevant required time / Number of planning application decisions made

42%

55%

80%

80%

80%

80%

+

Environment**Waste management**

(waste is minimised and sustainability is promoted)

Kerbside collection waste to landfill per serviced property

Waste in tonnage collected from kerbside waste collection services sent to landfill / Number of serviced properties

33%

36%

39%

39%

39%

39%

+

Key to Target Trend:

+ increase in Council's overall targets

o maintaining Council's overall targets

- decrease in Council's overall targets

Targeted Financial Performance Indicators - Mandatory

Domain / Indicator	Measure	Notes	Actual	Forecast	Target	Target Projections			Trend
			2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	+/-
Financial management									
Liquidity (sufficient working capital and cash is available to cover expenses)	Current assets compared to current liabilities Current assets / current liabilities	3	155%	100%	155%	153%	153%	271%	
Financial forecasting									
Asset renewal and upgrade (renewal and upgrade of assets is planned and delivered)	Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation Asset renewal and upgrade expenses / Asset depreciation	4	131%	97%	99%	104%	62%	155%	
Financial management									
Rates concentration (revenue is generated from a range of sources)	Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue Rate revenue / adjusted underlying revenue	5	45%	52%	51%	51%	51%	50%	
Financial management									
Expenditure and revenue level (resources are used efficiently in the delivery of services)	Expenses per property assessment Total expenses / no. of property assessments		\$4,886	\$4,729	\$4,939	\$4,997	\$5,075	\$5,193	

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5.3 Financial Performance Indicators

The following table highlights Council's current and projected performance across a range of key financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's financial position and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

The financial performance indicators below are the prescribed financial performance indicators contained in Part 2 of Schedule 3 of the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*. Results against these indicators will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

Domain / Indicator	Measure	Notes	Actual 2024/25	Forecast 2025/26	Budget 2026/27	Projections 2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Trend +/-
Financial forecasting									
Indebtedness (level of long term liabilities is appropriate to the size and nature of a Council's activities)	Non-current liabilities compared to own-source revenue Non-current liabilities / own source revenue		22.53%	15.15%	18.63%	22.45%	29.50%	24.29%	-
Loans and borrowings (level of interest bearing loans and borrowings is appropriate to the size and nature of Council's activities)	Loans and borrowings compared to own-source revenue Interest bearing loans and borrowings / own-source revenue		12.84%	16.20%	19.63%	23.43%	30.46%	24.83%	-
	Loans and borrowings repayments compared to own-source revenue Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / own-source revenue		0.72%	4.57%	6.01%	6.08%	6.10%	6.33%	o
Population (population is a key driver of a Council's ability to fund the delivery of services to the community)	Expenses per head of population Total expenses / Population		\$3,550	\$3,221	\$3,378	\$3,418	\$3,471	\$3,551	o
	Infrastructure per head of population Value of infrastructure / Population		\$35,080	\$35,318	\$35,407	\$36,482	\$37,269	\$37,894	o
Revenue and grants (revenue is generated from a range of sources to fund the delivery of services to the community)	Own-source revenue per head of population Own source revenue / Population		\$3,188	\$2,932	\$3,127	\$3,211	\$3,322	\$3,412	o
	Recurrent grants per head of population Recurrent grants / Population		\$1,170	\$639	\$887	\$899	\$937	\$952	o
Financial management									
Operating position (an adjusted underlying surplus is generated in the ordinary course of business)	Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue	6	-4.41%	-18.17%	-8.01%	-6.44%	-4.48%	-4.08%	+
Rates effort (rating level is set based on the community's capacity to pay)	Rates compared to property value Rate revenue / CIV of rateable properties in the municipal district		0.28%	0.29%	0.31%	0.32%	0.32%	0.33%	+

Southern Grampians Shire Council Budget 2026-2027

Expenditure and revenue level (resources are used efficiently in the delivery of services)	Average rate per property assessment General rates and municipal charges / no. of property assessments	\$1,892	\$1,954	\$2,006	\$2,066	\$2,118	\$2,171	+
Rates collection (rates and charges are being responsibly collected)	Rates and charges debt Unpaid rates and charges / all rates and charges	1.30%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%	o

Key to Forecast Trend:

- + Forecasts improvement in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator
- o Forecasts that Council's financial performance/financial position indicator will be steady
- Forecasts deterioration in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

Notes to Indicators**5.1 1. Animals Reclaimed**

The target for future years increases substantially with the aim of achieving best outcomes for animal welfare.

5.1 2. Statutory Planning

0% in 24/25 represents Council having 1 planning application decision reviewed by VCAT in that year, which was overturned. Future targets return to Council application decisions being upheld in 100% of instances or not challenged.

5.2 3. Liquidity

This percentage indicates the proportion of current liabilities represented by current assets, and is a measure of Council's ability to manage its short-term financial obligations. Councils' liquidity is forecast to reduce to below 100% in 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 as a result of capital works delivery and timing of expenditure and funding. This measure improves significantly from 2026-2027 onwards.

4. Asset renewal

This percentage indicates the extent of Council's renewal of assets against its depreciation charge (an indication of the decline in value of its existing capital assets). A percentage greater than 100 indicates Council is maintaining its existing assets, while a percentage less than 100 means its assets are deteriorating faster than they are being renewed and future capital expenditure will be required to renew assets.

This indicator shows Council's high renewal expenditure in 2024-2025, then a reduction in 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 however remaining very close to 100% during these two years.

Generally over the longer term, Council has been achieving around 80% of its renewal target, however, some of the renewal gap is absorbed into asset upgrade and expansion works. Council is also reviewing its asset portfolio to reveal any assets that are not required to be renewed which are inflating the required renewal target and incurring depreciation charges.

5. Rates concentration

Reflects extent of reliance on rate revenues to fund all of Council's on-going services. Trend indicates Council is continuing to be reliant on rate revenue compared to all other revenue sources.

5.3 6. Adjusted underlying result

An indicator of the sustainable operating result required to enable Council to continue to provide core services and meet its objectives. Improvement in financial performance is required over the longer term as continued losses means reliance on Council's cash reserves or increased debt to maintain services.



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1. Foreword

Highlights:

- Operating surplus in eight of the 10 years of the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP).
- \$121m investment in renewal of community assets.
- Strong cost management over the 10 years.
- Strong cash balances across the 10 years
- Peak debt of \$17.0m is within the Victorian Auditor General's guidelines
- Borrowings will be repaid within the 10 years
- Three major and intergenerational projects being new Hamilton CBD Streetscape, a new Community Hub (Library, Digital Hub and Government Services) and a new Hamilton Gallery planned to be delivered over the 10 years.

Summary

Council's Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) is an important strategic document that supports our planning for revenue growth, cost management and project delivery. Council is committed to strong financial governance, and our LTFP is a "road map" that allows us to have strong stewardship over financial sustainability, and plan for our future with confidence.

This year's LTFP, which covers the period 2026 to 2036, shows another year of improved financial capacity and positive trends over the 10 years, as a result of Council's strong cost management and focus on operational efficiency.

Council has an exciting vision to deliver several major projects over the next ten years, while also increasing our investment in the renewal of community assets.

Asset renewal is an important part of managing Council's financial sustainability and ensuring its assets are fit for purpose. Council owns and manages a diverse range of assets including roads, footpaths, bridges, drainage, playgrounds, sports facilities, and buildings. Not addressing asset renewal to an appropriate level means Council will accumulate assets at end of life, and renewal then becomes unaffordable.

In its 2025-35 LTFP, Council is investing \$121m in asset renewal, a significant amount and above the industry benchmark. This investment in community infrastructure will deliver positive outcomes across all asset classes for our community.

In addition to an investment of \$1.1m each year in new infrastructure, the LTFP outlines a funding pathway for Council's three major projects – a redeveloped Hamilton CBD streetscape, new Community Hub and a new Hamilton Gallery - which is a mix of Council funds, loans and grant funding. Council has included a reliance on grants in its LTFP where it feels confident these can be achieved.

The design and funding of these projects has been carefully to ensure efficient planning and delivery, and Council are confident that all three will be transformative for many generations of our community.

An important premise for Council in its financial planning is to ensure any debt that is incurred can be repaid within a reasonable term, to ensure the organisation does not inherit generational debt. We are borrowing to fund important projects that will serve multiple generations of our community, but are ensuring we can repay that debt quickly, leaving future Councils the opportunity to do the same.

Our cost management within the organisation has had a significantly positive impact on our cash flow and given us this flexibility in our LTFP.

Southern Grampians Shire Council

Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2035

Council benchmarks financial performance using key ratios for liquidity, indebtedness, and operations, detailed on page 34 of our LTFP. These ratios are color-coded—green for strong performance, amber for areas needing attention, and red for future corrective action.

Our financial benchmarking is intentionally conservative, exceeding standard local government practices to uphold rigorous financial governance. A prime example is our Adjusted Underlying Result, which excludes one-off revenues but retains non-cash expenses like depreciation. While some years fall below benchmark expectations, strong cash reserves and positive cash flow trends ensure Council's ability to manage fluctuations effectively.

With plans, strategies, priorities, issues and risks all being dynamic influences in relation to any planning and development, the LTFP is reviewed and adjusted annually to reflect material changes, and to incorporate the outcomes of reviews.

DRAFT

2. Statutory & Regulatory Requirements

2.1 Local Government Act 2020

2.1.1 Strategic planning

Part 4 of the Local Government Act 2020 addresses planning and financial management and Division 1 covers strategic planning. The Financial Plan is one of the strategic plans subject to the Strategic planning principles. Section 89 of the Act sets out the Strategic planning principles as follows:

89 Strategic planning principles

- (1) A Council must undertake the preparation of its Council Plan and other strategic plans in accordance with the strategic planning principles.
- (2) The following are the strategic planning principles —
 - (a) an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting is to be adopted;
 - (b) strategic planning must address the Community Vision;
 - (c) strategic planning must take into account the resources needed for effective implementation;
 - (d) strategic planning must identify and address the risks to effective implementation;
 - (e) strategic planning must provide for ongoing monitoring of progress and regular reviews to identify and address changing circumstances.

The Local Government Act 2020 introduces a requirement for Victorian councils to develop, adopt and keep in force a Financial Plan covering at least the next 10 financial years. Many councils already prepare long-term financial plans for internal management purposes. The requirements under the new Act mean councils must develop a Financial Plan that is publicly accessible. The specific legislative requirements for a Financial Plan are set out in section 91 of the Act as follows:

91 Financial Plan

- (1) A Council must develop, adopt and keep in force a Financial Plan in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices.
- (2) The scope of a Financial Plan is a period of at least the next 10 financial years.
- (3) A Financial Plan must include the following in the manner and form prescribed by the regulations—
 - (a) statements describing the financial resources required to give effect to the Council Plan and other strategic plans of the Council;
 - (b) information about the decisions and assumptions that underpin the forecasts in the statements specified in paragraph (a);
 - (c) statements describing any other resource requirements that the Council considers appropriate to include in the Financial Plan;
 - (d) any other matters prescribed by the regulations.
- (4) A Council must develop or review the Financial Plan in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices and adopt the Financial Plan by 31 October in the year following a general election.
- (5) The Financial Plan adopted under subsection (4) has effect from 1 July in the year following a general election.

Section 91(1) and section 91(4) refer to deliberative engagement practices. The Act requires deliberative engagement practices to be incorporated into a council's community engagement policy.

2.1.2 Financial management principles

Part 4 Division 4 of the Local Government Act 2020 addresses financial management. Section 101 of the Act sets out the financial management principles as follows:

101 Financial management principles

- (1) *The following are the financial management principles—*
 - (a) *revenue, expenses, assets, liabilities, investments and financial transactions must be managed in accordance with a Council's financial policies and strategic plans;*
 - (b) *financial risks must be monitored and managed prudently having regard to economic circumstances;*
 - (c) *financial policies and strategic plans, including the Revenue and Rating Plan, must seek to provide stability and predictability in the financial impact on the municipal community;*
 - (d) *accounts and records that explain the financial operations and financial position of the Council must be kept.*
- (2) *For the purposes of the financial management principles, financial risk includes any risk relating to the following—*
 - (a) *the financial viability of the Council;*
 - (b) *the management of current and future liabilities of the Council;*
 - (c) *the beneficial enterprises of the Council.*

2.1.3 Service performance principles

The Local Government Act 2020 requires Victorian councils to plan and deliver services in accordance with the service performance principles. Part 5 of the Act addresses council operations. Section 106 of the Act sets out the service performance principles as follows:

106 Service performance principles

- (1) *A Council must plan and deliver services to the municipal community in accordance with the service performance principles.*
- (2) *The following are the service performance principles—*
 - (a) *services should be provided in an equitable manner and be responsive to the diverse needs of the municipal community;*
 - (b) *services should be accessible to the members of the municipal community for whom the services are intended;*
 - (c) *quality and costs standards for services set by the Council should provide good value to the municipal community;*
 - (d) *a Council should seek to continuously improve service delivery to the municipal community in response to performance monitoring;*
 - (e) *service delivery must include a fair and effective process for considering and responding to complaints about service provision.*

2.1.4 Community engagement and public transparency

The Local Government Act 2020 includes community engagement principles (section 56) and public transparency principles (section 58). The Act requires Victorian councils to adopt and maintain a public transparency policy (section 57) and to adopt and maintain a community engagement policy (section 55).

The Financial Plan is specifically referenced in section 55(2)(g) of the Act which requires (amongst other provisions) that a community engagement policy must:

(g) Include deliberative engagement practices which must include and address any matters prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this paragraph and be capable of being applied to the development of the Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan and Asset Plan.

2.2 Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020

The Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 (the regulations) came into operation on 24 October 2020. Part 2 of the regulations prescribe the information to be included in a Financial Plan as follows:

5 Statements describing financial resources

(1) For the purposes of section 91(3)(a) of the Act, the statements describing the financial resources must be in the form set out in the Local Government Model Financial Report.

(2) For the purposes of section 91(3)(d) of the Act, the prescribed matters include a statement of capital works for the financial years to which the statements describing the financial resources referred to in section 91(3)(a) of the Act relate.

6 Statements describing other resource requirements

For the purposes of section 91(3)(d) of the Act, the prescribed matters include the following—

(a) a statement of human resources;

(b) a summary of planned expenditure in relation to the human resources referred to in the statement of human resources, categorised according to the organisational structure of the Council and classified separately as—

(i) permanent full time who are—

(A) women; or

(B) men; or

(C) persons of self-described gender; or

(ii) permanent part time staff who are—

(A) women; or

(B) men; or

(C) persons of self-described gender;

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(c) a summary of the planned number of full time equivalent Council staff referred to in the statement of human resources, categorised according to the organisational structure of the Council and classified separately as—

(i) permanent full time staff who are—

(A) women; or

(B) men; or

(C) persons of self-described gender; or

(ii) permanent part time staff who are—

(A) women; or

(B) men; or

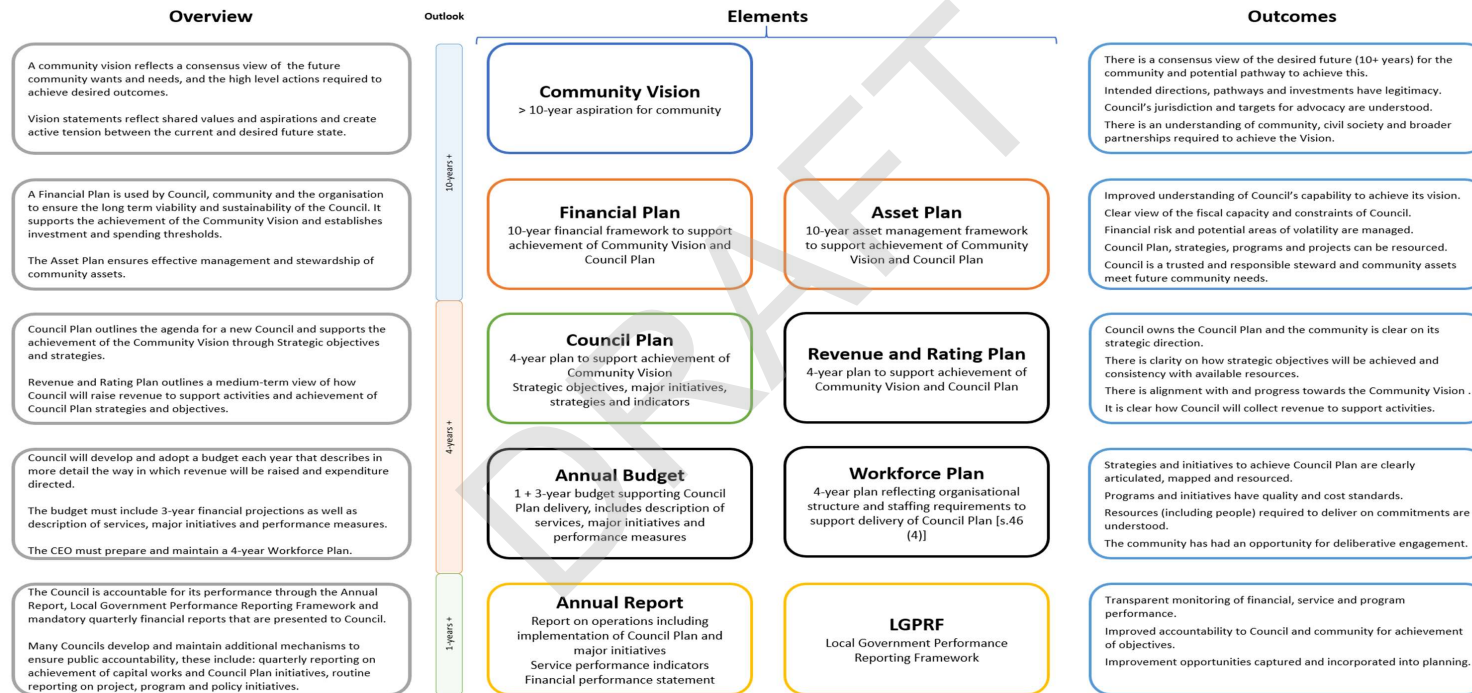
(C) persons of self-described gender.

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3. Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework

This section describes how the Financial Plan links to the achievement of the Community Vision and the Council Plan within the Integrated Strategic Planning & Reporting framework. This framework guides the Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Community Vision), medium term (Council Plan) and short term (Annual Budget) and then holding itself accountable (Annual Report).

The following diagram provides an overview of the core legislated elements of an integrated strategic planning and reporting framework and outcomes.

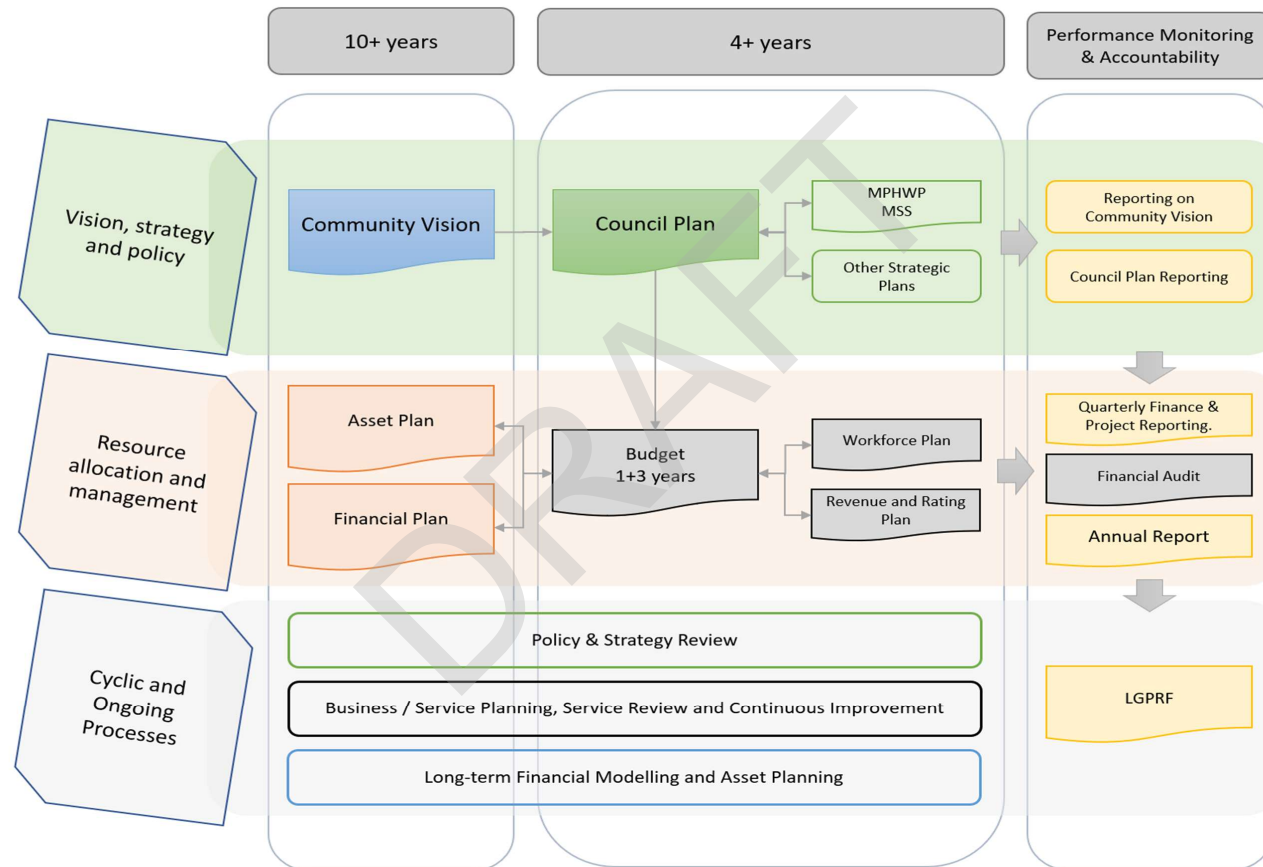


Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

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The following figure demonstrates how each element might inform or be informed by other parts of the integrated framework.



Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

4. Southern Grampians Strategic Planning & Reporting Framework

4.1 Overview & Principles

4.1.1 Strategic Planning Principles

The Financial Plan provides a 10 year financially sustainable projection regarding how the actions of the Council Plan may be funded to achieve the Community Vision. Two other models have been prepared at a high level only to provide Council with guidance about what "levers" are available to Council to develop different models, all of which have strengths and weaknesses. A "middle ground" or "Sustainable" approach has then been taken to develop a more detailed model (underpinned by the basic assumptions) to develop the detailed Financial Plan.

The Financial Plan is developed in the context of the following strategic planning principles:

- a) Council has an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting.
- b) Council financial plan addresses the Community Vision by funding the aspirations of the Council Plan. The Council Plan aspirations and actions are formulated in the context of the Community Vision.
- c) The Financial Plan statements articulate the 10-year financial resources necessary to implement the goals and aspirations of the Council Plan to achieve the Community Vision where possible taking into consideration the 2025-2029 Plan and 2041 Community Vision.
- d) Council's strategic planning principles identify and address the risks to effective implementation of the Financial Plan. The financial risks are included at section 4.1.2 below.
- e) The Financial Plan provides for the strategic planning principles of progress monitoring and reviews to identify and adapt to changing circumstances.

4.1.2 Financial Management Principles

The Financial Plan demonstrates the following financial management principles:

- 4.1.2.1 Revenue, expenses, assets, liabilities, investments and financial transactions are managed in accordance with Council's financial policies and strategic plans.
- 4.1.2.2 Management of the following financial risks:
 - a) the financial viability of the Council
 - b) the management of current and future liabilities of the Council.
 - c) the beneficial enterprises of Council (where appropriate).
- 4.1.2.3 Financial policies and strategic plans are designed to provide financial stability and predictability to the community.
- 4.1.2.4 Council maintains accounts and records that explain its financial operations and financial position

4.1.3 Engagement Principles

Council developed a Community Engagement Policy in February 2021 (revised in 2023) with the purpose to outline the principles and Council's commitment to engaging with Southern Grampians Shire's many communities and stakeholders in a way that is purposeful, representative, inclusive and easy to be involved in. The policy recognises the importance of designing community engagement methods to support maximum engagement and meet the specific outcomes of a particular initiative or project.

Principle 1: A community engagement process must have a clearly defined objective and scope

Principle 2: Participants in community engagement must have access to objective, relevant and timely information to inform their participation

Principle 3: Participants in community engagement must be representative of the persons and groups affected by the matter that is the subject of the community engagement

Principle 4: Participants in community engagement are entitled to reasonable support to enable meaningful and informed engagement

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Principle 5: Participants in community engagement are informed of the ways in which the community engagement process will influence Council decision-making

Council will implement robust and comprehensive community engagement practices to facilitate a dialogue that builds relationships and informs and improves decision-making. It will continually improve its capacity and performance in community engagement through ongoing training, resource development, and review and evaluation. Council will also work with communities to identify the most appropriate and effective engagement methods in order to continually improve relationships and understanding between all parties.

Council will undertake community engagement activities:

- ✓ When community input can enhance decision making or project outcomes
- ✓ To gain new information about community needs, aspirations and concerns
- ✓ When there will be a real or perceived change to existing services, programs or the use of public space and facilities
- ✓ When community members, business communities or other groups would have a particular interest in the outcome of a decision, project or development
- ✓ When council resolves to engage the community
- ✓ When legislation, policy or other agreement mandates Council will seek participant feedback to evaluate engagement processes and continue to adapt and improve our processes.

4.1.4 Service Performance Principles

Council services are designed to be purpose, targeted to community needs and value for money. The service performance principles are listed below:

- a) Services are provided in an equitable manner and are responsive to the diverse needs of the community. The Council Plan is designed to identify the key services and projects to be delivered to the community. The Financial Plan provides the mechanism to demonstrate how the service aspirations within the Council Plan may be funded.
- b) Services are accessible to the relevant users within the community.
- c) Council provides quality services that provide value for money to the community. The Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) is designed to communicate council's performance regarding the provision of quality and efficient services.
- d) Council is developing a performance monitoring framework to continuously improve its service delivery standards.
- e) Council is developing a service delivery framework that considers and responds to community feedback and complaints regards service provision.

4.1.5 Asset Plan Integration

Integration of the Asset Plan is a key principle of the Council's strategic financial planning principles. The purpose of this integration is designed to ensure that future funding is allocated in a manner that supports service delivery and the effective management of Council's assets into the future. In October 2025 Council adopted the Asset Plan. The purpose of Council's Asset Plan is to;

- Demonstrate the responsible management of assets (and services provided from assets),
- Comply with regulatory requirements, and
- Communicate the scale of investment in assets which are required to sustainably deliver affordable services for the community in the foreseeable future.

The Asset Plan identifies the operational and strategic practices which will ensure that Council manages assets across their life cycle in a financially sustainable manner. The Asset Plan is underpinned by asset management plans which continue to be developed for each asset class. The asset management plans, provide Council with a sound base to understand the risks associated with managing its assets for the community's benefit together with a long term program to address and resolve asset management. A key principle behind the development of Councils Asset Management Plan is sustainability, that is financial, environmental and social.

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The Asset Plan is designed to inform the 10-year Financial Plan by identifying the capital renewal gap and maintenance funding that is required over the life of each asset category. The level of funding will incorporate knowledge of asset condition, risk assessments as well as the impact of intervention and service levels for each asset class. The intervention levels can be adjusted and adopted across a range of scenarios in light of the longer term financial capacity which is reviewed annually.

4.2 Council Plan 2025-2029

The Council Plan is the key document that drives Council's strategic direction for the period from 2025 to 2029. It outlines where Council and the community will aspire to be by 2029 and how Council will achieve those outcomes.

Under the Local Government Act 2020, Council must prepare and adopt a Council Plan for a period of at least the next four financial years after a general election, in accordance with its deliberative engagement processes.

Progress and outcomes will be reported through the Southern Grampians Shire Council Annual Report and quarterly business reports. Our work is measured annually against the Performance Statement in the Annual Report and the community rates our performance through the annual Community Satisfaction Survey.

Council and the community have worked through a deliberative engagement process to develop the following Strategic Objectives for the Council Plan 2025–2029:



Pillars	Strategic Objectives
Social and Community	We will promote a healthy community by ensuring people are safe, active and connected
Business, Economy and Tourism	We will create a thriving and diverse local and regional economy that supports our businesses and strengthens our position as a desirable place to live, work, and visit.
Community Assets and Infrastructure	We will deliver well-planned, high-quality infrastructure and spaces that connect people and respond to community needs
Environment	We will protect and enhance our natural landscapes and advance a clean, green, and sustainable future in Southern Grampians Shire
Leadership and Governance	We will demonstrate strong leadership and sound financial management through transparent decision-making, clear communication and meaningful engagement that builds community trust.

4.3 Southern Grampians 2041 – Community Vision Framework

Southern Grampians 2041 - Community Vision Framework (SG2041) is a community vision, comprising a twenty-year strategic direction, together with suggested opportunities for advocacy and partnership with stakeholders.

The Community Vision sets our shared aspirations for Southern Grampians Shire's future, establishing the broad direction and values that will shape our community through to 2041. This vision was originally developed in 2021 and was reviewed as part of the Council Plan engagement process in 2025 to ensure it continues to reflect community priorities.

The assumptions built into SG2041 are:

1. Our limited funding requires us to collaborate with others to make our investments extend further.
2. We needed a longer-term work plan linked to a ten-year financial plan.
3. We must work smarter with decisions based on clearer understanding of how changes in technology, community needs and demographic shifts (ageing etc.) will affect our service and asset management delivery.

Strategic planning starts by recognising that we have a number of regionally significant assets and services, some of which are maintained by Council and others are not. These drive the liveability or 'attractiveness' of Southern Grampians. Investment and support of these assets protects our points of difference, the jobs they deliver, the services they offer are what make our Shire worth investing and living in.

The landscape itself, the volcanic grasslands and plains as well as Grampians National Park make our area both State and nationally significant.

We need to manage all key assets, regardless of who owns them, but do so sensibly and with financial accountability, based on data confirming the value they deliver and what we can afford. Council cannot do this work alone and it must therefore reach out to organisations, as well as State and Federal Government agencies on the services and facilities the community needs, the quality of the infrastructure that connects us and how beyond being an agricultural powerhouse, the community is supported to achieve its needs.

Tourism will continue to be a key platform in the next twenty-years. Ongoing infrastructure investment in the tourism sector allied to a genuine need to better connect our Shire within the region (rail, road, air, digital) will be the drivers of the next decade and beyond.

SG2041 will be a living document, reviewed concurrently with the Council Plan (in preparation). In this way it will remain relevant and a proper reflection of the views of its community and their vision.











Whilst the entire document is relevant to the development and maintenance of Council's Long Term Financial Plan, key themes outlined in 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 below effectively summarise the challenges and the opportunities, in the context of financial planning for the future. These matters may not be always under the control of Council, but in a world increasingly where we must partner with others to deliver services and opportunities, it must be considered in the fabric of the Southern Grampians Financial Planning Framework.



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4.3.1 Key Challenges for Southern Grampians as identified in SG2041

	The population demographic: Respondents noted the ageing population and need for services to support them, the loss of younger people and the need to attract more youth and young families to the area, noting that services need to support an increased population too.
	The need for improved public transport and increased availability: The quality of linkages between local towns and regional centres was a recurrent theme. All forms of transport were discussed, including road, rail and air.
	More opportunities for employment, and diversity of employment: This was frequently discussed and included more job opportunities for young people, more opportunities for women including the over 50 years age bracket, and roles that are more skilled rather than offering predominantly traditional employment such as agriculture.
	The lack of educational opportunities for youth: Participants frequently noted the loss of students to larger centres for tertiary education, both university and other training, as well as the lack of suitable employment for their qualifications for them to return to the Shire. There were also several references to improving the local schools, and one reference to the need for day care.
	The need to invest and improve in local infrastructure: Investment in roads, power and building and asset maintenance is an ongoing expectation.
	The local economy (financial resources) and funding: Securing funding from all levels of government was noted as a challenge. This included securing funding for new projects.
	Attracting new and more diverse businesses and industries: Opportunities are identified in many industries including the renewables sector, timber sector, horticulture industry and allied health services.
	Housing supply, affordability and rising living costs: Rental shortages leading to challenges in securing housing for new residents including key workers is a noted concern.
	Climate change and environmental challenges: Climate change will require adaptation strategies, which may include climate appropriate crops renewed focus on water grids for reliable supply for a more diversified agricultural sector, and mitigation strategies including more efficient transport systems, focus on renewable energy and vegetation conservation.
	Local health services: Additional services required to support the needs of the community, including mental health and aged care support.

4.3.2 Key Opportunities for Southern Grampians as identified in SG2041

Natural environment and wildlife: Better management and maintenance of the natural environment habit and wildlife were identified as significant opportunities when attracting new residents and tourists.

Tourism: Strategic investment into tourism, especially eco and nature-based tourism are opportunities to be pursued.

Location: Hamilton is situated at the intersection of three key highways. The Henty Highway connects Hamilton and the Municipality with Horsham and Portland. The Hamilton Highway links to Ballarat and the Glenelg Highway is the most direct east-west route from Melbourne to Mount Gambier and the Limestone Coast.

Agriculture: The agriculture sector is, and will likely remain, the cornerstone of the Shire's economy. Opportunities to improve farming practices will consolidate this strength.

Residents: The talent and skills of the existing community and their sense of community was a recurring theme.

Education: Participants acknowledged the high quality schools in the area, providing early learning to Year 12 schooling, as well as the opportunity to provide tertiary education options locally. See also technical training (e.g. SW TAFE) and agricultural college (RIST) training opportunities. The independent education sector is also strong across the Shire.

Liveability: The Shire scores highly with respect to liveability in areas including climate, community volunteering, median house price, use of active transport (walking, cycling) and sport participation.

Parks, gardens, sport facilities: Including bike/hike trails and sporting opportunities.

Cultural arts and local events: Including the existing Hamilton Art Gallery, Hamilton Performing Arts Centre and cultural facilities and the opportunity to create a cultural scene as a tourist attractor.

Hospital facilities: Existing hospital services were noted as an asset; however, this was coupled with the growing need for additional health services to cater for the community more fully.



4.4 Asset Plan 2025-2035

Council has adopted an Asset Plan which has been developed in accordance with the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework.

The purpose of Council's Asset Plan is to;

- Demonstrate the responsible management of assets (and services provided from assets),
- Comply with regulatory requirements, and
- Communicate the scale of infrastructure investment required to sustainably deliver affordable services for the community in the foreseeable future.

The Asset Plan takes a long-term outlook (10+ years) across Council's assets with consideration to the strategic needs, conditions and financial capacity. It provides a view (both strategic and in financial terms) of how the Council proposes to manage the whole portfolio of assets that it owns and controls. The Plan includes a strategic framework outlining the resources required and activities to be commissioned to ensure assets under Council's stewardship are developed, renewed, or maintained to deliver the required service potential.

The Asset Plan and Financial Plan have a strong reciprocal relationship, and each transparently recognise their interdependencies.

The Asset Plan will be based on and clearly connected to the Financial Plan and underlying budgets and projections. Assumptions underpinning the Asset Plan should be transparent and linked to preparation of the Financial Plan, budgets, service standards, and major capital initiatives.

Specific asset management plans underpin the Asset Plan. As Council increases its maturity in asset management planning these asset management plans are being developed. Council has maintained a Road Asset Management Plan and is developing the Building Asset Management Plan. Council's total building assets are valued at \$48M and with the development of the Building Assets Management Plan Council and community will be better informed on the building renewal needs and capacity. The Long Term Financial Plan has taken this into account which will enable prioritisation of building compliance and needs.

As Council's asset management planning matures, Council will have a sound base of the risks and opportunities associated with managing its assets for the community's benefit which also defines assets which are beyond their useful life, redundant or no longer required. Similarly, the building asset management plan will inform Council of opportunities to meet compliance and determined needs.

Council has utilised existing data together with operational information to develop individual asset management plans specifically for roads, bridges, culvert, footpaths, buildings and swimming pool infrastructure to inform this version of the Financial Plan.

The full documents can be accessed here: <https://www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/v/1/council-documents/management-plans/asset-plan-plan-2025-2029.pdf>
https://www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/v/1/council-documents/community-plans/sgsc_council-plan-2025-final.pdf



4.5 Workforce Plan 2021-2025

The Chief Executive Officer has responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2020:

- Establish and maintain the organisational structure for Council
- Responsible for all staffing matters including appointing, directing, managing and dismissing members of Council staff

Under section 46, subsection (3)(a), a Chief Executive Officer must develop and maintain a Workforce Plan that:

- Describes the organisational structure of the Council; and
- Specifies the projected staffing requirements for a period of at least 4 years; and

Council revised its Workforce Plan in 2021 as part of the Local Government Act implementation. The plan is an internal and operational document, developed through extensive research and consultation with Executives, Councillors and staff. The 2026 – 2030 plan is currently under development as Council has completed and endorsed the key guiding documents for the Workforce Plan, being the Council Plan, and the Gender Equality Action Plan.



Council's workforce plan details the projected needs of Council across key areas including:

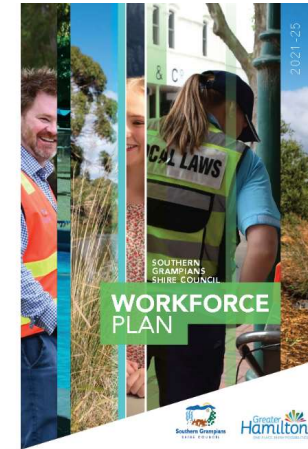
- ✓ Attraction, Recruitment and Retention
- ✓ Continuous Improvement
- ✓ Training, professional development and mentorship
- ✓ Building workforce capacity and capability through initiatives such as succession planning
- ✓ Embedding a culture of diversity and inclusion.

The overall objective of the Workforce Plan is to identify current and future workforce development trends and requirements to enable proactive strategies that allow Council to deliver on its Council Plan and quality services to the community.

Through this Workforce Plan, Council adopts a future-focused approach to the management of its people.

The challenges and pressures faced by local government as we transition to the workplace of the future will:

- Significantly impact how we communicate, collaborate and organise our workforce
- Require a major shift in management practices and skillsets
- Require significant workplace relations and HR policy reform;
- Require a different approach to attracting, retaining and engaging talent
- Require creative and innovative solutions to connectivity and flexibility
- Require capacity building of the core workforce and flexibility in accessing alternate resourcing options



4.6 Budget (4 Year Budget)

Council adopted its 4-year Budget for the 2025-2026 year in June 2025 and is currently developing its 2026-2027 in conjunction with this document. This budget has been framed utilising the following parameters and assumptions:

- ✓ **Council Plan** – funding, initiatives and indicators are aligned with the 2025-2029 plan. Section 4.2 of this document provides a summary of the Plan.
- ✓ **Community Vision 2041** – The reviewed Vision was adopted alongside the Council Plan in 2025. This document helps to frame future directions and therefore budgets, which underpin this Long Term Financial Plan. Section 4.3 of this document provides a summary of the Vision.
- ✓ **Asset Plan** – This document outlines the need for responsible management of assets and services provided from assets, compliance with regulatory requirements and communication of the scale of infrastructure investment required to sustainably deliver affordable services for the community in the foreseeable future. This Asset Plan was adopted in 2025 and spans the period from 2025 until 2035.
- ✓ **The Workforce Plan** – reviewed in 2021, with the 2026 – 2030 plan currently under development, it provides an organisational roadmap for the workforce. It details the challenges and actions required to meeting future requirements, enabling delivery of programs and services set out in the Council Plan. Section 4.5 of this document provides a summary of the Plan.



This Long Term Financial Plan has been built on the assumptions used for the development of the 2026-2027 four Year Budget and it is recognised that this requires continual review as Council's maturity of data gathering and interpretation increases. Whilst the plan has a 10 year outlook, Council's approach is to review annually to capture new information as it becomes available or is refined to provide a more accurate basis for decision making.

Council continues on its path of amending and identifying strategies, initiatives and indicators to provide new parameters (where necessary) to guide both the Long Term Financial Plan and subsequent 4 year budgets.

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The 2026-2027 Budget published the following 5 Pillars and relevant strategic objectives and Actions from the 2025-2029 Council Plan:

Pillar	Strategic Objectives	Actions
1. Support our Community	We will promote a healthy community by ensuring people are safe, active and connected	1.1 Partner with community, agencies and other levels of government to ensure our community facilities and services are welcoming, safe, accessible and inclusive so people can live healthy, resilient lives 1.2 Facilitate and encourage opportunities for people to participate in community and civic life 1.3 Promote and create spaces and places that bring people together 1.4 Ensure youth led engagement drives events, activities and programs for young people 1.5 Promote safety and inclusion for whole of community including children, first nations, multicultural and gender diverse people 1.6 Encourage dialogue and increase awareness and action to address family violence
2. Business Economy and Tourism	We will create a thriving and diverse local and regional economy that supports our businesses and strengthens our position as a desirable place to live, work, and visit	2.1 Build business confidence, encourage private investment and decrease vacancy rates by investing in public assets 2.2 Support and promote local businesses, reducing barriers for success, development and growth 2.3 Grow the visitor economy through enhanced promotion of Southern Grampians Shire as a tourist destination and increased investment in tourism infrastructure 2.4 Attract, support and deliver events that align with community values, drive visitation and economic activity 2.5 Sustain and grow agricultural sector through diversification of farming practices and water usage 2.6 Partner with large employers and industry to encourage recruitment of skilled workforce and assist young people transitioning to employment
3. Community Infrastructure and Assets	We will deliver well-planned, high-quality infrastructure and spaces that connect people and respond to community needs	3.1 Ensure transport infrastructure, roads and paths enable safe, accessible and efficient movement across the region 3.2 Advocate for better investment from State and Federal Government in our community infrastructure and assets 3.3 Sustainably maintain and develop community infrastructure and assets, including our built heritage, ensuring they are fit for purpose and respond to community needs 3.4 Ensure appropriate and connected residential, business and industrial development which encourages liveability
4. Environment	We will protect and enhance our natural landscapes and advance a clean, green, and sustainable future in Southern Grampians Shire	4.1 Manage, enhance and protect our natural environment, landscapes, green and open spaces, respecting cultural heritage 4.2 Enhance climate resilience through improved risk management, emissions reduction, knowledge sharing and climate adaptation 4.3 Advance local circular economy initiatives and support smart regional waste strategies that reduce waste and pollution by promoting recycling and re-use 4.4 Support communities to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies, including natural disasters

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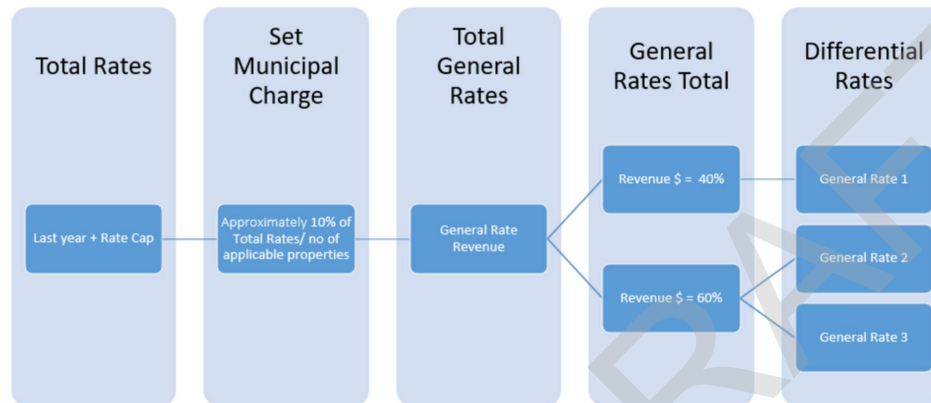
5. Leadership and Governance	We will demonstrate strong leadership and sound financial management through transparent decision-making, clear communication and meaningful engagement that builds community trust.	5.1 Improve effective governance and public accountability 5.2 Communicate clearly about Council decisions, projects and services to increase awareness, confidence and trust in the community. 5.3 Ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making meets long-term financial sustainability 5.4 Provide the community a strong voice through meaningful and accessible engagement 5.5 Advocate for community priorities 5.6 Improve service delivery and efficiency through sustainable leadership 5.7 Improve organisational culture to enhance adaptability, wellbeing and diversity 5.8 Ensure the community are at the forefront of decision-making
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For the 2026-2027 year, there are 31 Major and Minor initiatives identified through this review process to guide the delivery of Council services and are identified within the Budget.

4.7 Revenue and Rating Plan 2025-2026 to 2028-2029

4.7.1 Revenue Planning

The Local Government Act 2020 requires that each council prepare a Revenue and Rating Plan covering a minimum of four years following each Council election. This forms part of the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework outlined in the Local Government Better Practice Guide Revenue and Rating Strategy. The plan outlines the revenue-raising framework that the Council intends to operate within.



4.7.2 Rate Revenue

Rate Revenue makes up approximately 42% of Council's recurrent revenue (excluding capital grants). Until the 2021-2022, Council had a rating model which (generally speaking) saw properties outside the parishes of North and South Hamilton having a differential rate at 80% of the properties within those parishes.

The change in rating policy in 2021-2022 meant that the properties (generally speaking) within the parishes of North and South Hamilton would contribute 40% of the total rate revenue required by Council and those properties (generally speaking) outside the parishes of North and South Hamilton would contribute 60% of the total rate revenue required by Council.

4.7.3 Operating Grants

Operating grants are the next highest source of funding making up approximately 20% of recurrent revenue. These grants are set by other levels of government and Council has no real input into these amounts. Generally speaking the rate at which operating grants increase is around 2%.

4.7.4 Other Revenue

Items of other revenue (which makes up the remaining approximately 38% of recurrent revenue) include Statutory & User Fees. Capital Grants and asset sales are highly variable and budgeted around specific projects and confirmed actions.

4.7.5 Loan Funds

Council has maintained a conservative loan portfolio to the current point in time, however with low interest rates and an ambitious capital works program, Council will need to leverage more funding to assist with funding long term inter-generational assets. Council has prepared a borrowing program for the next 10 years, however this will be reviewed each year in line with this plan as estimated values and assumptions are updated.

5. Financial Plan – Sustainable Model - Discussion

5.1 Level of Service Discussion

5.1.1 General Assumptions

Council provides in excess of 60 services to the community and they all come at a varying cost to Council. Balancing which service and at what cost is extremely difficult and different people, groups of people, organisations, etc all have individual viewpoints on what this mix should be.

Once the mix of services is agreed, the decision about the mode, quantity and quality of the service has to be decided and costed. Funding and contributions to costs have to be examined as well as assets required to deliver the service.

The ever-changing environment we live in also impacts on preferences, functionality and accessibility of these services – never more so that in the past few years where every service offered by Council has had some form of change to the way it is delivered and communicated to the community.

Decisions about each service impacts on the culmination of budget allocations over both short and long term. Some services evolve and grow over time whilst others diminish or are only required in the short term to fill a gap not provided by another level of government.

Council must ensure that all services provided are in alignment with their long term plans and hence the development of Vision 2041, the Council Plan and Health and Wellbeing plan. Whilst these plans might not mention specific services in them, the services themselves need to be able to link to these plans and support or grow these long term visions, otherwise the question needs to be: why is the service being provided if not to support the common vision?

5.1.2 Specific Assumptions

Both this LTFP and the 2026-2027 Budget have assumed a set level of service and determined budgets in accordance with these levels of service. Assets are utilised in assisting with achieving the service outcomes and modelling of asset renewal has been based on these existing levels of service.

As Council matures along the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework journey, these levels of service, alignment to the Vision with supporting budgets and asset plans will also become more informative and insightful, guiding robust decisions backed by evidence.

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Council is also aware that whilst some services may show cash surpluses, when overlaid with the true cost of corporate overheads and the assets required to deliver the service, these cash surpluses are actually operational deficits.

Whilst each year during budget development, each service is reviewed at a high level, there are number of "triggers" that lead to more in depth service reviews. Triggers include factors such as legislative change, external funding changes, ability to deliver the service (absence of workforce skill/availability), and asset deterioration/obsolescence, to name a few. These are critical points to question whether Council is actually best placed to deliver this service to the community. Would exiting the service stimulate the local economy in a different way and eliminate Council expenditure?

Council is committed to reviewing all services as opportunities arise.

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5.2 Capital Works & Funding

5.2.1 Asset Renewal, Upgrade & Expansion

Council has long been working on the underlying assumption and planning that to maintain all of its existing assets in a safe and reliable state and renewing their condition at or prior to their agreed intervention levels, would require approximately \$15m per annum. This amount excludes any improvements to the asset or expenditure on new assets.

Bearing in mind, that many assets are renewed to a “better” condition than their original state (eg roads are widened, timber bridges become steel and concrete, iron roofs become colour bond) and that if Council were to maintain this 100% renewal formulae, no other works could be afforded.

Instead Council has compromised and maintained “pure renewal” targeted at 80% with the remaining 20% being either captured in major funding opportunities or assets that will be renewed at a lower level than originally commissioned.

Unfortunately, external funding is almost always **only** available for new, upgraded or expanded assets. This creates difficulty for Council in two financial areas:

1. There is a funding gap between what Council would have allocated for the renewal of the asset and the cost of the upgrade work less any grant funding,
2. A new/expanded asset might offer some financial saving initially, but later in its life cycle, may cost more to maintain and more to renew – generally without any external funding assistance.

This gap between what Council **should** be spending on renewing their assets and what they are **actually** spending on renewing their assets is called the renewal gap.

5.2.2 Major Multi Year Projects & New Assets

Council has already committed to a number of large multi-year projects which are currently under planning and/or construction, for example the Redevelopment of Melville Oval.

Council has also carried out substantial investigative work with the community to develop strategic plans to guide what assets the community uses and values as part of their lifestyle. These plans are then translated in to work plans and incorporated into future budgets. Major capital projects included throughout the period of the Long Term Financial Plan include construction works for the Art Gallery, Community Hub, CBD revitalisation and pool renewal works.

The key to this work is prioritising these projects across the longer term and ensuring that the best possible funding scenario is developed to minimise the impact on Council's bottom line. All projects need to be thoroughly supported by an evidence based business case that demonstrates both the costs and benefits to the community.

In a perfect world, an underlying assumption of all business cases would be that the investment in the asset would be outweighed by not only the imminent establishment expenditure but also the ongoing cost of maintaining the asset and ultimate renewal or removal at the end of its life. In Council's world, this would mean that very rarely would any asset be constructed. Instead Council must overlay what the “intangible” benefit will be to the community and make prudent financial decisions based on balance affordability with community desire.

5.2.3 Asset Maintenance

Council has a responsibility to maintain its assets. The level of maintenance is determined by a range of factors such as age, condition and use. As Council's asset management matures with increased validated data, clarity on roles and responsibilities particularly for shared assets and the associated priorities, Council's maintenance programs are better planned and delivered.

5.3 Summary of Financial Assumptions

The following table details the assumptions used in the preparation of this version of the LTFP. It should be noted that these are a snapshot as at a particular point in time and that these assumptions will be amended as more articulate data is available.

Lever	Current Model
Revenue	
Rate & Charges Increase	2026-2027 - 2.75%, 3.0% and then 2.5% there after
Statutory Fees & Charges	2026-2027 – 3.5%, 3.5% and then 2.5% for the remainder of the Plan
User Fees	2026-2027 – 3.5%, 3.5% and then 5% for the remainder of the Plan
Grants – Operating	2.0% approximate level of increase from other levels of government
Grants – Capital	Roads To Recovery is a recurring grant, Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Program is a non recurrent grant and other have been modelled as anticipated and tied to the 10 Year Capital Plan
Contributions – Monetary	As per committed projects
Contributions – non-monetary	Not Modelled
Other Income	2026-2027 – 3.5%, 3.5% and then 5% for the remainder of the Plan
Expenses	
Employee Costs	2026-2027 – 1% and 1% until 2028-2029 followed by 2% there after
Materials & Services	2026-2027 – 1.5% and 1.5% until 2028-2029 followed by 2% there after
Depreciation & Amortisation	As per asset portfolio
Other Expenses	2026-2027 – 1.5% and 1.5% until 2028-2029 followed by 2% there after
Capital Works	
Average Annual Asset Renewal – Infrastructure	80% renewal with an assumption that the remaining 20% is incorporated in specific upgrade or expansion projects
Average Annual Asset Renewal – Buildings	This fluctuates for the next 10 years as major building projects are implemented and will be further revised as more accurate modelling and decision around asset management are made.

6. Summary

Council have reviewed all the preceding documents, their status, assumptions and outputs to develop its LTFP as part of the 2026-2027 budget process.

The following pages represent a set of financial statements for the coming 10 years based on the current financial assumptions – Section 5.3.

The first four years of these statements and the details of the underlying assumptions are clearly set out in the 2026-2027 Budget.

Now that the framework is almost complete, Council will analyse the outputs and if needed set new parameters to guide financial sustainability (Section 5.3) and then reprioritise and re-work plans to fit into these new longer-term parameters.

This evolutionary cycle has been challenging; however, it has served the purpose of highlighting gaps in assumptions and plans and paves a way forward to refine each of the individual plans to improve alignment and consistency throughout the whole suite of documents available to the community.

Southern Grampians Shire Council

Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2035

7. Financial Plan – Statements & Graphs

7.1 Model Financial Statements

7.1.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

Southern Grampians Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2036
INCOME STATEMENT - GENERAL FUND

	Actuals 2024/25 \$	Current Year 2025/26 \$	2026/27 \$	2027/28 \$	2028/29 \$	2029/30 \$	Projected Years					
							2030/31 \$	2031/32 \$	2032/33 \$	2033/34 \$	2034/35 \$	2035/36 \$
Income / Revenue												
Rates & Charges	24,553,000	25,103,141	26,264,271	27,052,199	27,728,504	28,421,717	29,132,260	29,860,566	30,607,080	31,372,257	32,156,564	32,960,478
Statutory Fees & Fines	679,000	509,140	524,200	542,547	556,111	570,013	584,264	598,870	613,842	629,188	644,918	661,041
User Fees	6,529,000	6,832,695	7,361,122	7,618,761	7,999,699	8,399,684	8,819,669	9,260,652	9,723,685	10,209,869	10,720,362	11,256,380
Grants - Operating	16,495,000	6,588,077	11,451,746	11,680,781	11,914,396	12,152,684	12,395,738	12,643,653	12,896,526	13,154,456	13,417,545	13,685,896
Grants - Capital	8,290,000	8,968,148	9,809,418	21,676,418	4,576,418	23,576,418	3,576,418	3,576,418	6,076,418	6,076,418	3,576,418	3,576,418
Contributions - Monetary	74,000	-	-	-	10,000,000	10,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contributions - Non-Monetary	85,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Gain on Disposal of Assets	122,000	1,340,000	3,300,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000
Other Income	1,839,000	1,457,395	2,901,948	2,992,049	3,125,269	3,265,150	3,412,025	3,566,243	3,728,173	3,898,199	4,076,727	4,264,181
Total Income/ Revenue	58,666,000	50,798,596	61,612,705	71,912,755	66,250,397	86,735,666	58,270,373	59,856,403	63,995,724	65,690,388	64,942,534	66,754,394
Expenses												
Employee Costs	21,325,000	20,964,549	20,691,783	20,898,701	21,107,688	21,529,842	21,960,438	22,399,647	22,847,640	23,304,593	23,770,685	24,246,098
Materials & Services	11,757,000	11,256,770	12,852,419	13,045,205	13,240,883	13,505,701	13,775,815	14,051,331	14,332,358	14,619,005	14,911,385	15,209,613
Bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses	5,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Depreciation	15,359,000	14,846,002	15,799,100	15,850,372	16,115,559	16,413,895	16,668,358	16,966,694	17,230,223	17,230,224	17,230,224	17,230,224
Borrowing Costs	90,000	399,224	516,366	633,379	849,779	700,000	575,000	850,000	850,000	830,000	705,000	415,000
Other Expenses	6,465,000	5,844,697	6,074,681	6,165,801	6,258,288	6,383,454	6,511,123	6,641,346	6,774,173	6,909,656	7,047,849	7,188,806
Total Expenses	55,001,000	53,220,618	55,820,207	56,479,444	57,358,797	58,685,670	59,618,734	60,637,017	62,037,394	62,896,477	63,668,142	64,292,741
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	3,665,000	(2,422,022)	5,792,498	15,433,311	8,891,600	28,049,997	(1,348,361)	(780,615)	1,958,330	2,793,911	1,274,392	2,461,654
Other Comprehensive Income												
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods												
Net Asset Revaluation Increment/(Decrement)	77,518,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Other Comprehensive Income	77,518,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Result	81,183,000	(2,422,022)	5,792,498	15,433,311	8,891,600	28,049,997	(1,348,361)	(780,615)	1,958,330	2,793,911	1,274,392	2,461,654

Southern Grampians Shire Council

Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2035

7.1.2 Balance Sheet

Southern Grampians Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2036
BALANCE SHEET - GENERAL FUND

	Actuals 2024/25	Current Year 2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Projected Years					
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36
							\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
ASSETS												
Current Assets												
Cash & Cash Equivalents	4,882,000	520,254	7,855,411	8,414,977	9,166,769	24,408,181	8,935,044	3,377,576	4,664,323	4,793,669	6,609,702	6,560,916
Trade & Other Receivables	5,914,000	4,767,328	4,364,078	4,011,756	3,691,392	3,737,325	3,313,472	3,450,125	3,622,213	3,772,618	3,901,684	4,067,222
Other Financial Assets	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000
Inventories	447,000	486,325	533,865	541,258	548,762	558,917	569,276	579,841	590,618	601,610	612,822	624,259
Contract assets	72,000	72,000	72,000	72,000	72,000	72,000	72,000	72,000	72,000	72,000	72,000	72,000
Other Assets	615,000	483,050	535,438	543,630	552,067	563,359	574,890	586,665	598,689	610,969	623,510	636,317
Total Current Assets	17,319,000	11,717,957	18,749,793	18,972,621	19,419,989	34,728,782	18,853,682	13,455,207	14,936,844	15,239,866	17,208,718	17,349,714
Non-Current Assets												
Trade & Other Receivables	9,000	20,743	21,702	22,353	22,912	23,485	24,072	24,674	25,291	25,923	26,571	27,235
Inventories	-	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000
Property, Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment	579,700,000	583,629,521	585,093,074	602,862,702	615,867,144	626,203,249	638,554,891	649,008,197	648,797,975	648,487,751	641,677,528	635,367,304
Right of use assets	62,000	62,000	62,000	62,000	62,000	62,000	62,000	62,000	62,000	62,000	62,000	62,000
Investment Property	6,894,000	6,894,000	6,894,000	6,894,000	6,894,000	6,894,000	6,894,000	6,894,000	6,894,000	6,894,000	6,894,000	6,894,000
Other Assets	709,000	172,396	211,346	218,518	228,857	239,707	251,092	263,039	275,577	288,734	302,542	317,032
Total Non-Current Assets	587,374,000	590,819,659	592,323,121	610,100,573	623,115,913	633,483,440	645,827,055	656,292,911	656,095,843	655,799,409	649,003,641	642,708,572
TOTAL ASSETS	604,693,000	602,537,616	611,072,915	629,073,194	642,535,902	668,192,222	664,680,737	669,748,118	671,032,686	671,039,274	666,212,359	660,058,286
LIABILITIES												
Current Liabilities												
Bank Overdraft	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trade & Other Payables	4,887,000	4,927,531	5,370,159	5,644,602	5,926,287	6,247,580	6,579,443	6,922,175	6,642,886	6,349,760	6,042,359	5,720,235
Trust Funds & Deposits	402,000	402,000	402,000	402,000	402,000	402,000	402,000	402,000	402,000	402,000	402,000	402,000
Contract and other liabilities	883,000	81,556	87,863	90,938	95,485	100,259	105,272	110,536	116,063	121,866	127,959	134,357
Provisions	3,671,000	3,557,320	3,557,320	3,557,320	3,557,320	3,557,320	3,557,320	3,557,320	3,557,320	3,557,320	3,557,320	3,557,320
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	1,266,000	2,706,134	2,710,549	2,715,124	2,719,744	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	5,800,000	8,300,000	-
Lease Liabilities	41,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Current Liabilities	11,150,000	11,674,541	12,127,891	12,409,984	12,700,836	12,807,159	13,144,035	13,492,031	13,218,269	16,230,946	18,429,638	9,813,912
Non-Current Liabilities												
Provisions	2,081,000	2,194,680	2,194,680	2,194,680	2,194,680	2,194,680	2,194,680	2,194,680	2,194,680	2,194,680	2,194,680	2,194,680
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	5,496,000	5,145,417	7,434,868	9,719,744	14,000,000	11,500,000	9,000,000	14,500,000	14,100,000	8,300,000	-	-
Lease Liabilities	21,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Non-Current Liabilities	7,598,000	7,340,097	9,629,548	11,914,424	16,194,680	13,694,680	11,194,680	16,694,680	16,294,680	10,494,680	2,194,680	2,194,680
TOTAL LIABILITIES	18,748,000	19,014,638	21,757,439	24,324,408	28,895,516	26,501,839	24,338,715	30,186,711	29,512,949	26,725,626	20,624,318	12,008,592
Net Assets	585,945,000	583,522,978	589,315,476	604,748,786	613,640,386	641,690,383	640,342,021	639,561,407	641,519,737	644,313,648	645,588,040	648,049,694
EQUITY												
Accumulated Surplus	128,994,000	126,571,978	132,364,476	147,797,786	156,689,386	184,739,383	183,391,021	182,610,407	184,568,737	187,362,648	188,637,040	191,098,694
Reserves - Asset Revaluation	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000
Other Reserves	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000
Total Equity	585,945,000	583,522,978	589,315,476	604,748,786	613,640,386	641,690,383	640,342,021	639,561,407	641,519,737	644,313,648	645,588,040	648,049,694

Southern Grampians Shire Council

Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2035

7.1.3 Statement of Changes in Equity

Southern Grampians Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2036
EQUITY STATEMENT - GENERAL FUND

	Actuals 2024/25 \$	Current Year 2025/26 \$	2026/27 \$	2027/28 \$	2028/29 \$	2029/30 \$	Projected Years		2030/31 \$	2031/32 \$	2032/33 \$	2033/34 \$	2034/35 \$	2035/36 \$
Total Equity														
Opening Balance	504,762,000	585,945,000	583,522,978	589,315,476	604,748,786	613,640,386	641,690,383	640,342,021	639,561,407	641,519,737	644,313,648	645,588,040		
Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	3,665,000	(2,422,022)	5,792,498	15,433,311	8,891,600	28,049,997	(1,348,361)	(780,615)	1,958,330	2,793,911	1,274,392	2,461,654		
Other Comprehensive Income - Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	77,518,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Comprehensive Income	77,518,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	81,183,000	(2,422,022)	5,792,498	15,433,311	8,891,600	28,049,997	(1,348,361)	(780,615)	1,958,330	2,793,911	1,274,392	2,461,654		
Equity - Balance at end of the reporting period	585,945,000	583,522,978	589,315,476	604,748,786	613,640,386	641,690,383	640,342,021	639,561,407	641,519,737	644,313,648	645,588,040	648,049,694		
Accumulated Surplus														
Opening Balance	125,498,000	128,994,000	126,571,978	132,364,476	147,797,786	156,689,386	184,739,383	183,391,021	182,610,407	184,568,737	187,362,648	188,637,040		
Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	3,665,000	(2,422,022)	5,792,498	15,433,311	8,891,600	28,049,997	(1,348,361)	(780,615)	1,958,330	2,793,911	1,274,392	2,461,654		
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	3,665,000	(2,422,022)	5,792,498	15,433,311	8,891,600	28,049,997	(1,348,361)	(780,615)	1,958,330	2,793,911	1,274,392	2,461,654		
Transfers to Other Reserves	(169,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from Other Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accumulated Surplus - Balance at end of the reporting period	128,994,000	126,571,978	132,364,476	147,797,786	156,689,386	184,739,383	183,391,021	182,610,407	184,568,737	187,362,648	188,637,040	191,098,694		
Revaluation Reserve														
Opening Balance	378,667,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000		
Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Comprehensive Income - Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	77,518,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Comprehensive Income	77,518,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	77,518,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation Reserve - Balance at end of the reporting period	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000	456,185,000		
Other Reserves														
Opening Balance	597,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000		
Total Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers to Accumulated Surplus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from Accumulated Surplus	169,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Reserves - Balance at end of the reporting period	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000	766,000		

Southern Grampians Shire Council

Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2035

7.1.4 Statement of Cash Flows

Southern Grampians Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2036
CASH FLOW STATEMENT - GENERAL FUND

	Actuals 2024/25	Current Year 2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Projected Years					
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36
							\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities												
Rates & Charges	23,962,000	25,313,053	28,499,372	27,035,790	27,991,704	28,414,212	29,124,567	29,852,681	30,598,998	31,363,973	32,148,073	32,951,774
Statutory Fees & Fines	660,000	623,140	524,200	542,547	556,111	570,013	584,264	598,870	613,842	629,188	644,918	661,041
User Fees	6,554,000	6,828,251	7,367,429	7,621,836	8,004,246	8,404,459	8,824,681	9,265,916	9,729,211	10,215,672	10,726,455	11,262,778
Grants - Operating	16,651,000	6,432,077	11,443,457	11,694,349	11,887,590	12,180,214	12,364,350	12,643,406	12,903,710	13,154,147	13,409,948	13,685,661
Grants - Capital	8,613,000	8,327,148	9,817,707	21,662,850	4,603,225	23,548,889	3,607,806	3,576,664	6,069,234	6,076,727	3,584,015	3,576,654
Contributions - Monetary	74,000	-	-	-	10,000,000	10,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Received	522,000	330,895	327,648	327,648	327,648	327,648	327,648	327,648	327,648	327,648	327,648	327,648
Other Receipts	1,899,000	2,464,226	697,981	3,022,022	2,840,473	2,884,217	3,500,494	3,093,800	3,219,863	3,411,115	3,610,496	3,760,964
Employee Costs	(21,659,000)	(21,147,322)	(20,700,412)	(20,892,155)	(21,101,076)	(21,516,486)	(21,946,816)	(22,385,753)	(22,833,468)	(23,290,137)	(23,755,940)	(24,231,058)
Materials & Services	(13,052,000)	(10,974,945)	(12,499,532)	(12,792,606)	(12,981,337)	(13,218,776)	(13,479,007)	(13,744,356)	(14,048,118)	(14,949,333)	(15,256,732)	(15,570,442)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments	(12,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trust Funds & Deposits Repaid	(50,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Payments	(6,601,000)	(5,844,697)	(6,074,681)	(6,165,801)	(6,258,288)	(6,383,454)	(6,511,123)	(6,641,346)	(6,774,173)	(6,909,656)	(7,047,849)	(7,188,806)
Net Cash provided (or used in) Operating Activities	17,561,000	12,351,826	19,403,169	32,056,480	25,870,295	45,210,934	16,396,863	16,587,532	19,206,748	20,029,345	18,391,033	19,236,213
Cash Flows from Investing Activities												
Payments for Property, Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment	(23,179,000)	(18,775,523)	(17,262,653)	(33,620,000)	(29,120,001)	(26,750,000)	(29,020,000)	(27,420,000)	(17,020,001)	(16,920,000)	(10,420,000)	(10,920,000)
Proceeds from Sale of Property, Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment	273,000	1,340,000	3,300,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000
Proceeds from Sale of Investments	3,287,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cash provided (or used in) Investing Activities	(19,619,000)	(17,435,523)	(13,962,653)	(33,270,000)	(28,770,001)	(26,400,000)	(28,670,000)	(27,070,000)	(16,670,001)	(16,570,000)	(10,070,000)	(10,570,000)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities												
Finance Costs	(90,000)	(305,600)	(399,224)	(516,366)	(633,379)	(849,779)	(700,000)	(575,000)	(850,000)	(830,000)	(705,000)	(415,000)
Proceeds from Borrowings	5,800,000	3,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	7,000,000	-	-	8,000,000	2,100,000	-	-	-
Repayments of Borrowings	(289,000)	(1,910,449)	(2,706,134)	(2,710,549)	(2,715,124)	(2,719,744)	(2,500,000)	(2,500,000)	(2,500,000)	(2,500,000)	(5,800,000)	(8,300,000)
Repayment of Lease Liabilities	-	(62,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cash Flow provided (used in) Financing Activities	5,421,000	721,951	1,894,642	1,773,086	3,651,497	(3,569,523)	(3,200,000)	4,925,000	(1,250,000)	(3,330,000)	(6,505,000)	(8,715,000)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents	3,363,000	(4,361,746)	7,335,158	559,566	751,792	15,241,412	(15,473,137)	(5,557,468)	1,286,747	129,345	1,816,033	(48,787)
plus: Cash & Cash Equivalents - beginning of year	1,519,000	4,882,000	520,254	7,855,411	8,414,977	9,166,769	24,408,181	8,935,044	3,377,576	4,664,323	4,793,669	6,609,702
Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year	4,882,000	520,254	7,855,411	8,414,977	9,166,769	24,408,181	8,935,044	3,377,576	4,664,323	4,793,669	6,609,702	6,560,916
Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year	4,882,000	520,254	7,855,411	8,414,977	9,166,769	24,408,181	8,935,044	3,377,576	4,664,323	4,793,669	6,609,702	6,560,916
Investments - end of the year	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000	5,389,000
Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments - end of the year	10,271,000	5,909,254	13,244,411	13,803,977	14,555,769	29,797,181	14,324,044	8,766,576	10,053,323	10,182,669	11,998,702	11,949,916
Representing:												
- Cash Restrictions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Unrestricted	10,271,000	5,909,254	13,244,411	13,803,977	14,555,769	29,797,181	14,324,044	8,766,576	10,053,323	10,182,669	11,998,702	11,949,916
	10,271,000	5,909,254	13,244,411	13,803,977	14,555,769	29,797,181	14,324,044	8,766,576	10,053,323	10,182,669	11,998,702	11,949,916

Southern Grampians Shire Council

Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2035

7.1.5 Statement of Capital Works

Southern Grampians Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2036
STATEMENT OF CAPITAL WORKS - GENERAL FUND

	Actuals 2024/25	Current Year 2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Projected Years		2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
EXCLUDING CONTRIBUTED ASSETS														
Property														
Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land Improvements	299,000	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Land	271,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Land (excluding WIP)	570,000	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Buildings														
Buildings	7,488,000	2,093,586	3,093,440	16,000,000	18,000,001	15,000,000	18,000,000	15,900,000	1	-	-	-	-	-
Heritage Buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Building Improvements	-	1,003,031	735,000	550,000	250,000	550,000	250,000	550,000	250,000	550,000	250,000	250,000	550,000	550,000
Leasehold Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Buildings (excluding WIP)	7,488,000	3,096,617	3,828,440	16,550,000	18,250,001	15,550,000	18,250,000	16,450,000	250,001	550,000	250,000	250,000	550,000	550,000
Total Property (excluding WIP)	8,058,000	3,246,617	3,828,440	16,550,000	18,250,001	15,550,000	18,250,000	16,450,000	250,001	550,000	250,000	250,000	550,000	550,000
Work in Progress - Buildings														
Work in Progress - Buildings	506,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Work in Progress - Buildings	506,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Property (including WIP)	8,564,000	3,246,617	3,828,440	16,550,000	18,250,001	15,550,000	18,250,000	16,450,000	250,001	550,000	250,000	250,000	550,000	550,000
Plant & Equipment														
Heritage Plant & Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plant, Machinery & Equipment	1,481,000	2,300,284	717,625	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
Fixtures, Fittings & Furniture	209,000	69,358	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Computers & Telecommunications	60,000	25,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Library Books	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
Other Plant & Equipment	7,000	15,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Plant & Equipment (excluding WIP)	1,827,000	2,479,622	837,625	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000
Work in Progress - Plant & Equipment														
Work in Progress - Plant & Equipment	8,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Work in Progress - Plant & Equipment	8,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Plant & Equipment (including WIP)	1,835,000	2,479,622	837,625	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000	1,470,000
Infrastructure														
Roads	5,495,000	7,976,365	6,743,846	6,800,000	6,800,000	6,800,000	6,800,000	6,800,000	6,800,000	6,800,000	6,800,000	6,800,000	6,800,000	6,800,000
Bridges	252,000	594,134	-	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Footpaths & Cycleways	541,000	565,268	106,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Drainage	463,000	130,000	100,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities	998,000	933,327	2,047,000	1,200,000	1,000,000	1,200,000	950,000	1,150,000	950,000	550,000	350,000	350,000	550,000	550,000
Waste Management	52,000	828,688	120,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks, Open Space & Streetscapes	2,913,000	1,608,399	3,379,742	6,000,000	-	-	-	-	6,000,000	6,000,000	-	-	-	-
Aerodromes	-	40,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Off Street Car Parks	419,000	-	-	-	-	130,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Infrastructure	418,000	413,103	60,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Total Infrastructure (excluding WIP)	11,521,000	13,049,284	12,596,588	15,600,000	9,400,000	9,730,000	9,300,000	9,500,000	15,300,000	14,900,000	8,700,000	8,900,000	8,900,000	8,900,000
Work in Progress - Infrastructure														
Work in Progress - Infrastructure	1,260,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Work in Progress - Infrastructure	1,260,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Infrastructure (including WIP)	12,781,000	13,049,284	12,596,588	15,600,000	9,400,000	9,730,000	9,300,000	9,500,000	15,300,000	14,900,000	8,700,000	8,900,000	8,900,000	8,900,000
Total Capital Works Expenditure	23,180,000	18,775,523	17,262,653	33,620,000	29,120,001	26,750,000	29,020,000	27,420,000	17,020,001	16,920,000	10,420,000	10,920,000	10,920,000	10,920,000
Represented by:														
New Asset Expenditure	3,073,000	4,428,739	726,024	17,100,000	19,100,000	1,230,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000
Asset Renewal Expenditure	13,364,000	13,391,623	12,898,588	16,520,000	10,020,000	10,520,000	9,970,000	10,470,000	15,970,000	15,870,000	9,370,000	9,870,000	9,870,000	9,870,000
Asset Expansion Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Asset Upgrade Expenditure	6,743,000	955,161	3,638,041	-	1	15,000,000	18,000,000	15,900,000	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total Capital Works Expenditure	23,180,000	18,775,523	17,262,653	33,620,000	29,120,001	26,750,000	29,020,000	27,420,000	17,020,001	16,920,000	10,420,000	10,920,000	10,920,000	10,920,000

Southern Grampians Shire Council

Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2035

7.1.6 Statement of Human Resources

Southern Grampians Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2036
STATEMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES - GENERAL FUND

	Actuals 2024/25	Current Year 2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Projected Years					
							2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36
Staff expenditure	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Staff expenditure												
Employee costs - operating	21,325,158	20,964,549	20,691,783	20,898,701	21,107,688	21,529,842	21,960,438	22,399,647	22,847,640	23,304,593	23,770,685	24,246,098
Employee costs - capital	2,625,435	1,857,215	2,169,345	2,191,038	2,212,949	2,257,208	2,302,352	2,348,399	2,395,367	2,443,274	2,492,140	2,541,983
Total staff expenditure	23,950,593	22,821,764	22,861,128	23,089,739	23,320,637	23,787,049	24,262,790	24,748,046	25,243,007	25,747,867	26,262,825	26,788,081
Staff numbers	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
Staff numbers												
Employees	232	229	226	225	224	224	224	224	224	224	224	224
Total staff numbers	232	229	226	225	224	224	224	224	224	224	224	224

A summary of human resources expenditure categorised according to the organisational structure of Council is included below:

Department	2026/27	2026/27			
	Total	Permanent Full Time	Part Time	Casual	Temporary
Social and Community	6,415,040	2,957,020	2,659,520	798,500	-
Business, Economy and Tourism	1,355,905	1,084,440	211,343	60,122	-
Community Infrastructure and Assets	6,274,749	6,042,097	232,652	-	-
Environment	1,602,201	1,132,277	469,924	-	-
Leadership and Governance	5,043,888	4,083,147	915,085	45,656	-
Total permanent staff expenditure	20,691,783	15,298,981	4,488,524	904,278	-
Other employee related expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Capitalised labour costs	2,169,345	2,169,345	-	-	-
Total staff expenditure	22,861,128	17,468,326	4,488,524	904,278	-

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff in relation to the above expenditure is included below:

Department	Total	2026/27			
	FTE	Permanent Full Time	Part Time	Casual	Temporary
Social and Community	55	25	23	7	-
Business, Economy and Tourism	11	8	2	1	-
Community Infrastructure and Assets	94	90	4	-	-
Environment	20	8	12	-	-
Leadership and Governance	46	35	10	1	-
Total staff	226	166	51	9	-

Southern Grampians Shire Council

Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2035

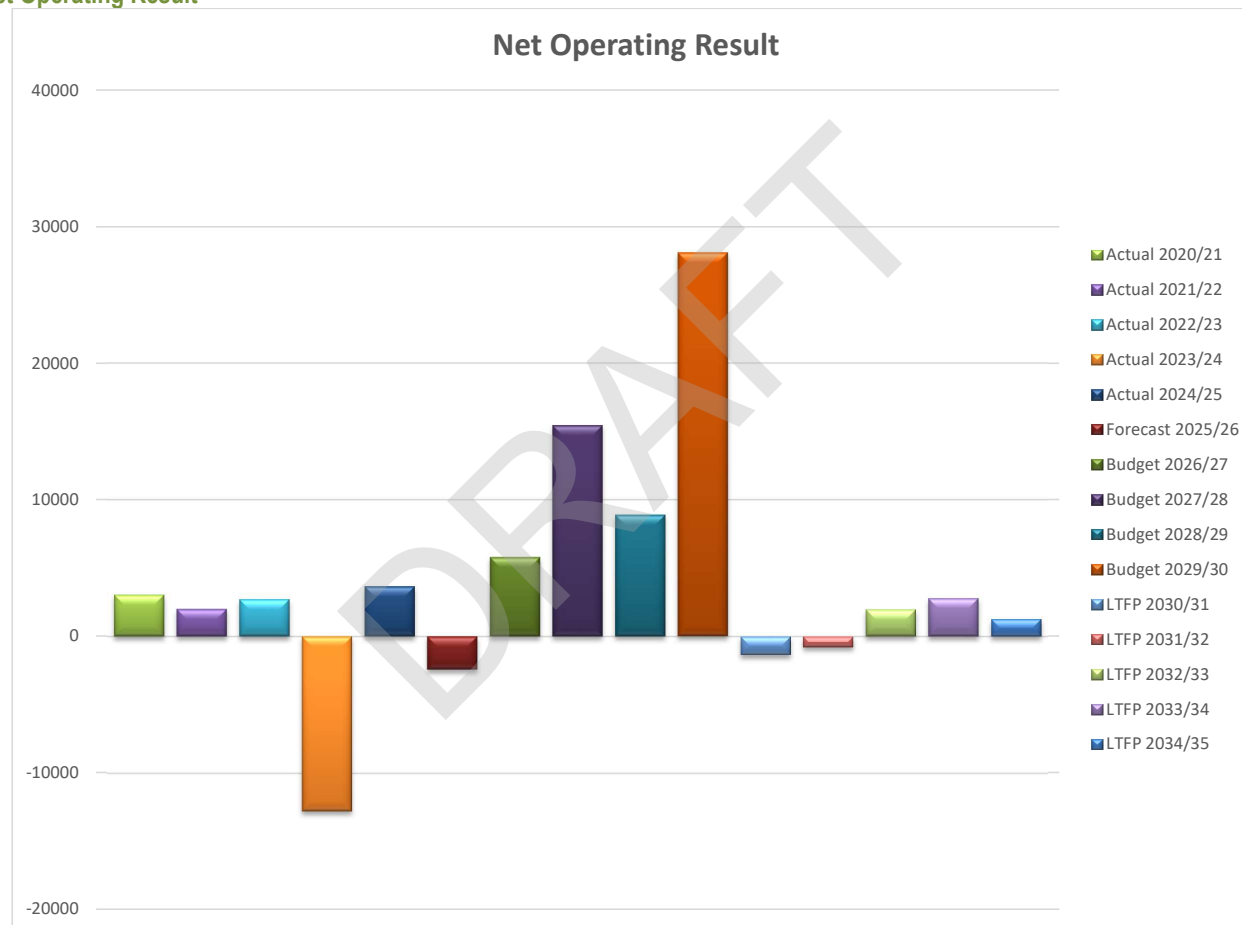
7.1.7 Financial Indicators (Ratios)

Southern Grampians Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2036
KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS - GENERAL FUND

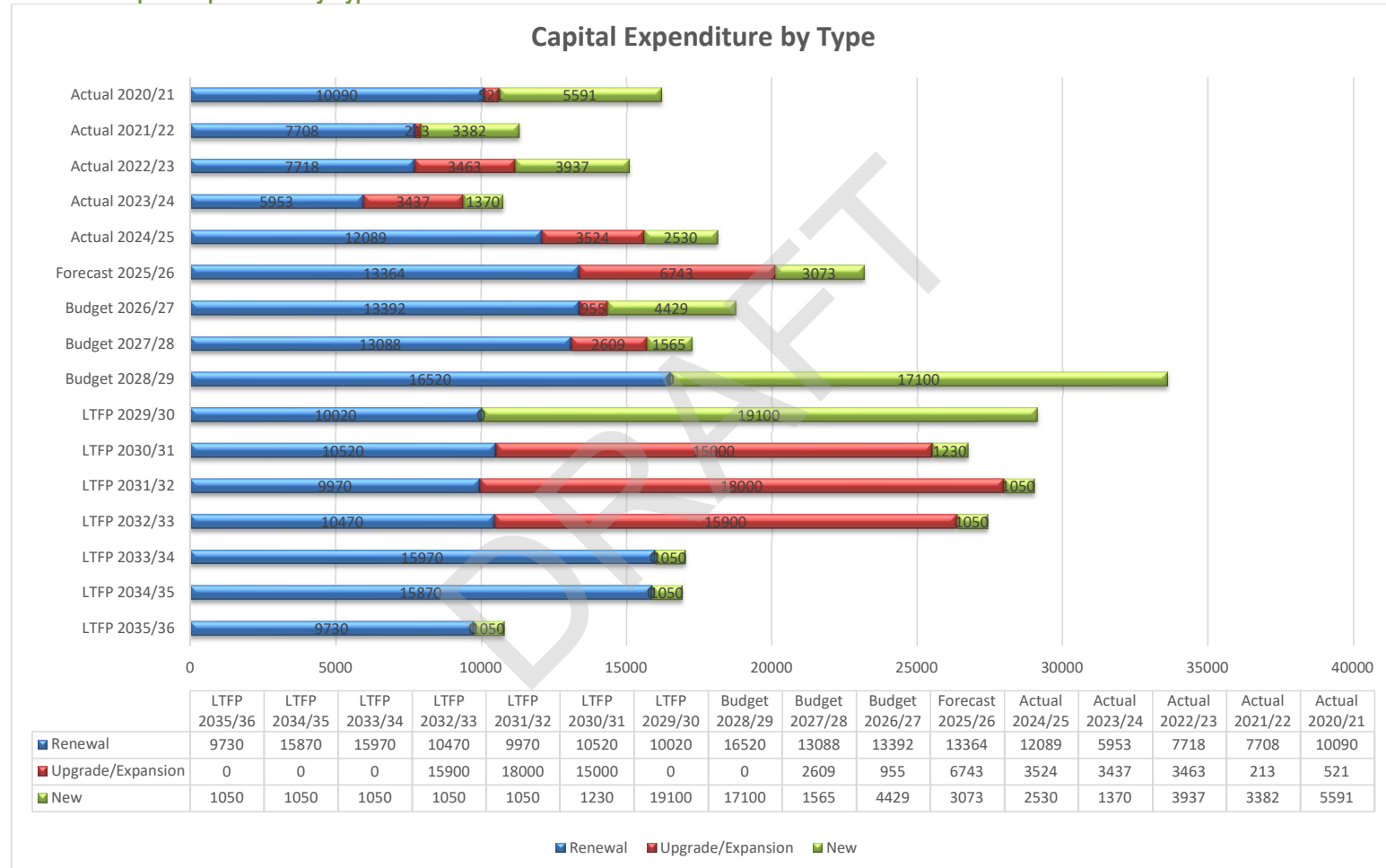
		Current Year 2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Projected Years					
							2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36
			<div><div></div> Within green benchmark (green min and/or green max)</div> <div><div></div> Within amber benchmark (amber min and/or amber max)</div> <div><div></div> Not within benchmark (amber min and/or amber max)</div>	<div><div></div> Within green benchmark</div> <div><div></div> above green maximum and below amber maximum</div> <div><div></div> below green minimum and above amber minimum</div> <div><div></div> above amber maximum</div> <div><div></div> below amber minimum</div>								
Council's Target Benchmarks												
Financial Performance Indicators												
Adjusted Underlying Result	Snapshot	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
	Actual Ratio	-16.31%	-1.53%	11.33%	-2.76%	13.51%	-2.31%	-1.30%	1.35%	2.61%	1.96%	3.69%
Working Capital	Snapshot	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
	Actual Ratio	100.37%	154.60%	152.88%	152.90%	271.17%	143.44%	99.73%	113.00%	93.89%	93.38%	176.79%
Unrestricted Cash (including financial assets and less external cash reserves only)	Snapshot	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
	Actual Ratio	50.62%	109.21%	111.23%	114.60%	232.66%	108.98%	64.98%	76.06%	62.74%	65.11%	121.77%
Loans and Borrowings (compared to Rates)	Snapshot	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
	Actual Ratio	31.28%	38.63%	45.97%	60.30%	49.26%	39.48%	56.93%	54.24%	44.94%	25.81%	0.00%
Loans and Borrowings Repayments (compared to Rates)	Snapshot	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
	Actual Ratio	8.83%	11.82%	11.93%	12.08%	12.56%	10.96%	10.30%	10.95%	10.61%	20.23%	26.44%
Indebtedness	Snapshot	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
	Actual Ratio	20.83%	23.86%	30.90%	32.55%	26.85%	26.47%	38.26%	36.19%	22.59%	4.58%	4.43%
Asset Renewal	Snapshot	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
	Actual Ratio	96.64%	104.67%	104.22%	62.18%	155.48%	167.80%	155.42%	92.69%	92.11%	54.38%	57.28%
Rates Concentration	Snapshot	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
	Actual Ratio	0.55	0.48	0.42	0.50	0.42	0.50	0.50	0.49	0.49	0.50	0.49
Rates Effort	Snapshot	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
	Actual Ratio	0.29%	0.30%	0.31%	0.32%	0.33%	0.34%	0.34%	0.35%	0.36%	0.37%	0.38%
Expenditure Level	Snapshot	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
	Actual Ratio	5484.97	5734.56	5802.29	5892.62	6028.94	6124.79	6229.40	6373.27	6461.52	6540.80	6604.97
Revenue Level	Snapshot	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
	Actual Ratio	2,251	2,331	2,401	2,461	2,522	2,585	2,650	2,716	2,784	2,853	2,925

7.2 Graphs

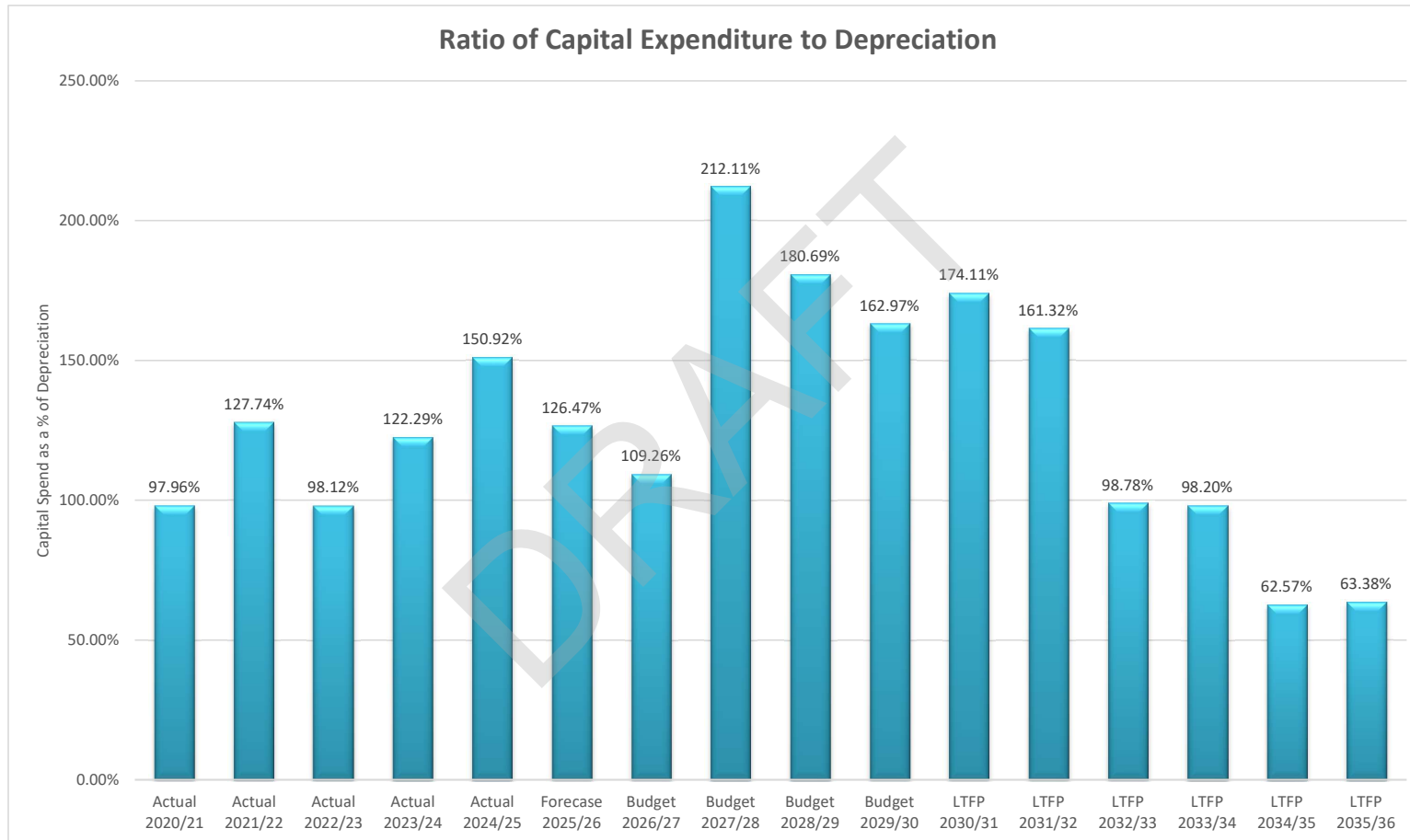
7.2.1 Net Operating Result



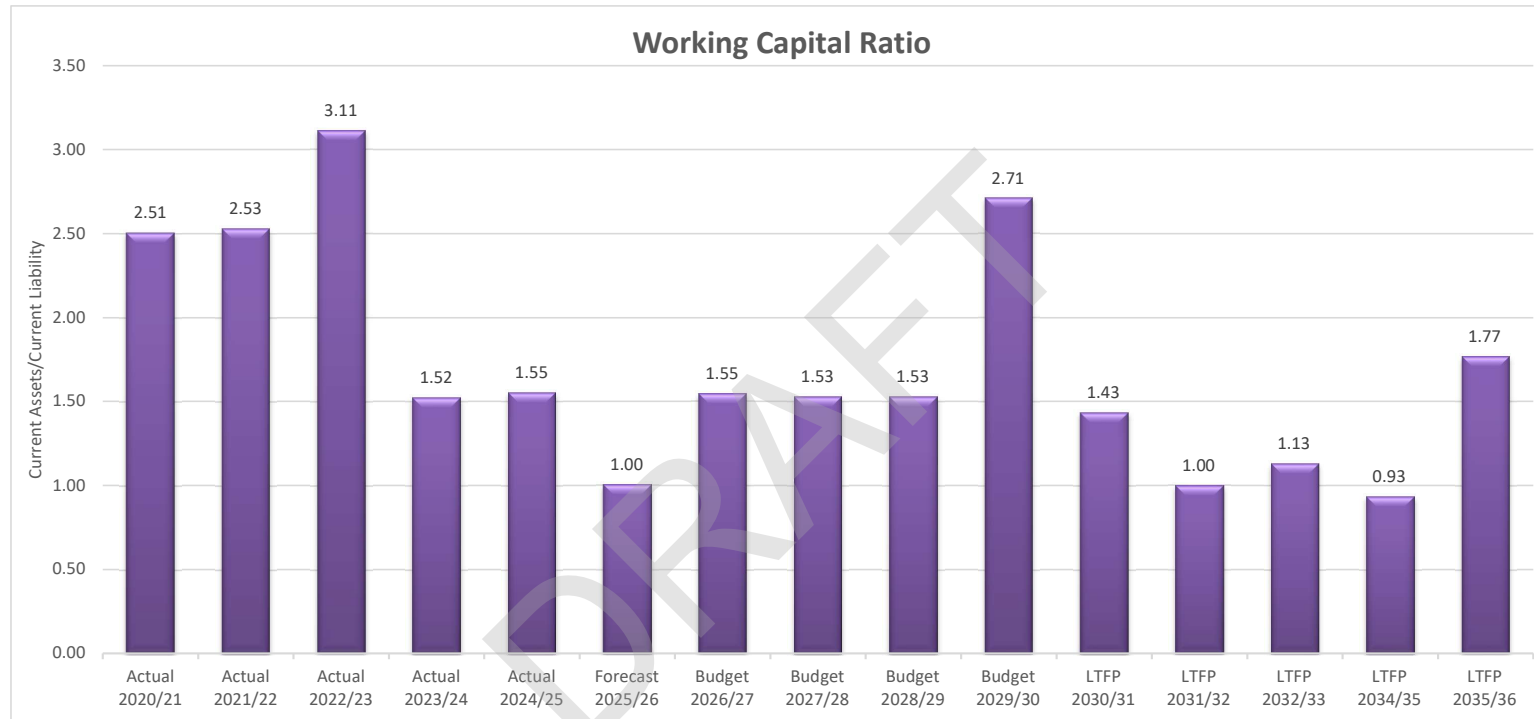
7.2.2 Capital Expenditure by Type



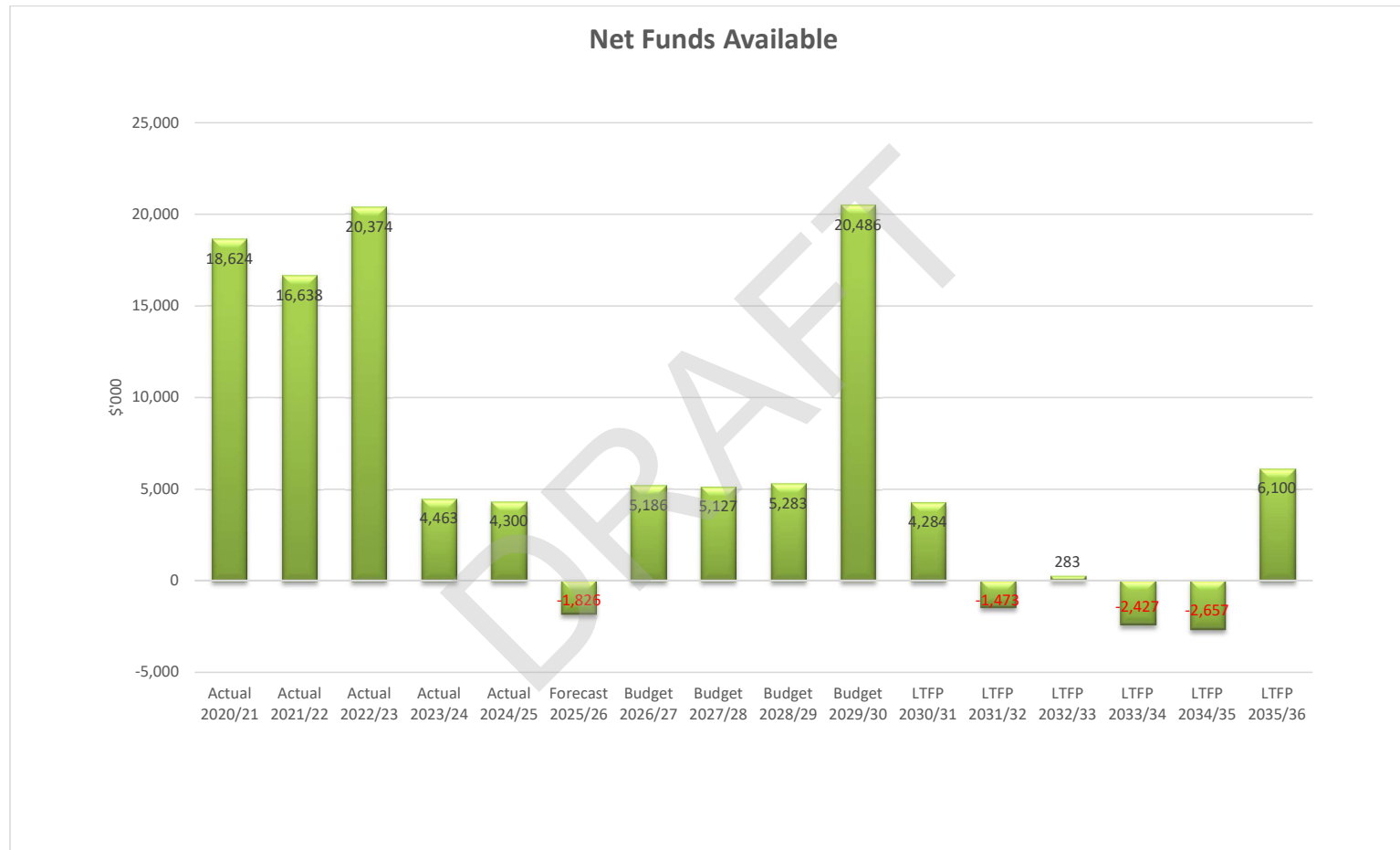
7.2.3 Capital Expenditure compared to Depreciation Expense



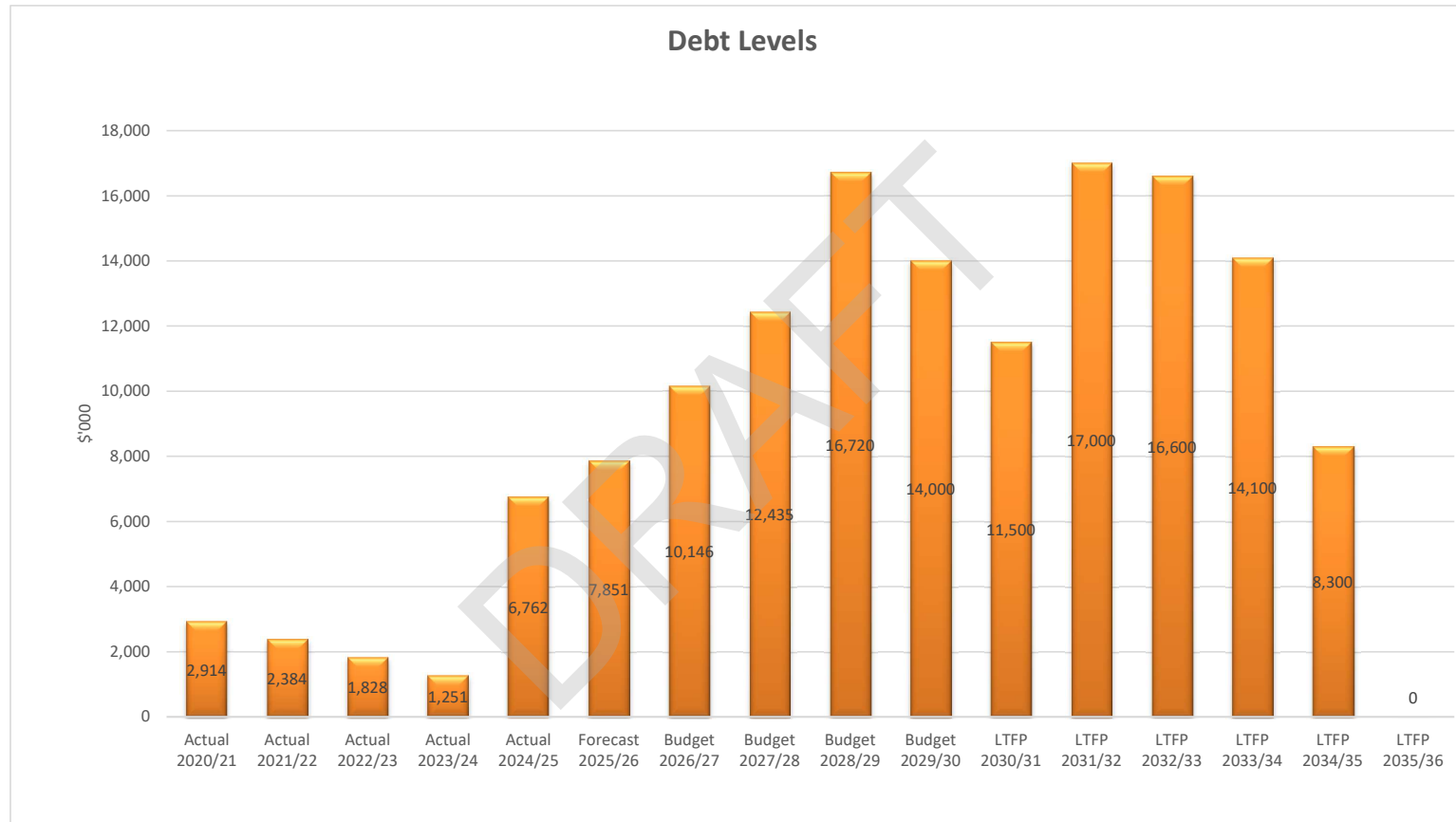
7.2.4 Working Capital Ratio



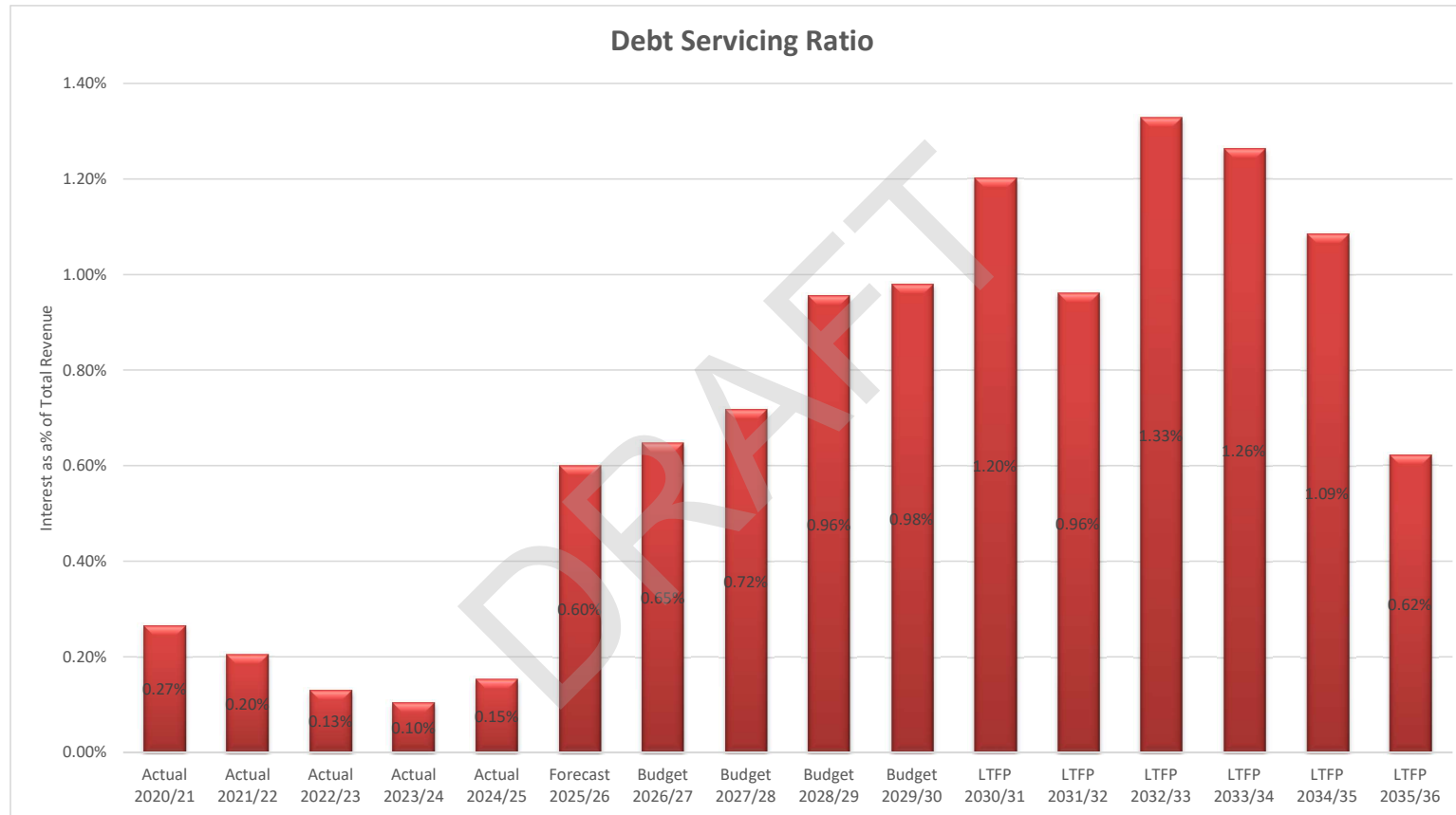
7.2.5 Net Funds Available



7.2.6 Debt Levels



7.2.7 Debt Servicing



DRAFT

Fees & Charges

Southern Grampians Shire Council

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Notification of Values of Fee and Penalty Units

Victorian Government departments and agencies charge fees for services and regulatory purposes, including licensing and registering certain activities, and fine for improper conduct and to discourage unlawful behaviour. Fees and fines are officially set and revised by legislation relevant to their application.

Under section 6 of the Monetary Units Act 2004, the values of fee and penalty units for the financial year commencing 01 July 2025 are as follows:

- a) the value of the fee unit is \$16.81
- b) the value of the penalty unit is \$203.51

These are subject to change by the relevant government department and are as shown in the Victoria Government Gazette. For further explanation on fees and fines, the following fact sheet is available via the link below:

<https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/financial-management-government/indexation-fees-and-penalties>

The statutory fees listing in this document are not a complete listing and reference should also be made to the relevant department's webpages to confirm the statutory fee for the applicable financial year. The following link is provided for reference:

<https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/financial-management-government/indexation-fees-and-penalties>

Explanation Table

Classifications

Pricing Basis

F	Full Cost Pricing - Refers to the recovery of all direct and indirect costs involved in providing a service	Refers to the recovery of all direct and indirect costs involved in providing a service
M	Market Pricing - Refers to situations where Council provides services in competition with others in a competitive marketplace (and where Council must comply with National Competition Policy requirements)	Refers to situations where Council provides services in competition with others in a competitive marketplace (and where Council must comply with National Competition Policy requirements)
P	Partial Cost Pricing - Refers to the situation where less than the full cost of providing a service is recovered. It implies the existence of subsidization from rate revenue or from revenue from other services	Refers to the situation where less than the full cost of providing a service is recovered. It implies the existence of subsidization from rate revenue or from revenue from other services
R	Regulatory - Refers to the situation where the price or fee for a service is set by legislation and Council cannot charge outside this framework	Refers to the situation where the price or fee for a service is set by legislation and Council cannot charge outside this framework
Z	Zero Cost Pricing - Where no price is charged for the provision of the service	Where no price is charged for the provision of the service

Pricing Principle

A	Broad Community Service - Service provides a broad community benefit and it is impractical to levy a charge	Service provides a broad community benefit and it is impractical to levy a charge
B	Cost Benefit - Service is a minor part of the overall operation of the Council, or the potential for revenue collection is so minor as to be outweighed by the costs of collection	Service is a minor part of the overall operation of the Council, or the potential for revenue collection is so minor as to be outweighed by the costs of collection
C	Shared Benefit - Benefits from provision of the service accrue to the community as whole as well as individual users	Benefits from provision of the service accrue to the community as whole as well as individual users
D	Stimulus - A stimulus to the demand for the service is required. In the short term only part of the cost of the service is to be recovered	A stimulus to the demand for the service is required. In the short term only part of the cost of the service is to be recovered
E	Evasion - Charging prices to recover full cost may result in widespread evasion	Charging prices to recover full cost may result in widespread evasion
F	Equity - The service is targeted to low-income users	The service is targeted to low-income users
G	User Benefit - Service benefits particular users, making a contribution to their individual income, welfare or profits, without any broader benefits to the community.	Service benefits particular users, making a contribution to their individual income, welfare or profits, without any broader benefits to the community.
H	Regulatory - Fee Fixed by Legislation	Fee Fixed by Legislation
I	Market - Service provided is in competition with that provided by others and there is pressure to set a price which will attract adequate usage of the service	Service provided is in competition with that provided by others and there is pressure to set a price which will attract adequate usage of the service

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Southern Grampians Shire Council

Corporate and Governance

Governance - Local Law No 1 2021

Failing to Comply with a Direction of the Chair	Per Infringement	10 Penalty Units	N	R	H
Fraudulently Signing a Petition or Joint Letter	Per Infringement	20 Penalty Units	N	R	H
Using the Common Seal without Authority	Per Infringement	20 Penalty Units	N	R	H
Using a Replica of the Common Seal without Authority	Per Infringement	20 Penalty Units	N	R	H

Freedom of Information (Access Charges) Regulations 2014

Application Fee	Per Application	\$32.70	\$32.70	N	R	H
Photocopying – A4 Page	Per Page	\$0.20	\$0.20	N	R	H
Search Fee	Per Hour	1.5 Fee Units		N	R	H

Corporate Services

Debt Recovery Costs non Magistrates Court	Per Item	At Cost - Maximum Charge of \$350 per Item		N	F	G
		Last year fee At Cost - Maximum Charge of \$300 per Item				
Dishonour Cheque Fee	Per Dishonour	At Cost		N	F	G
Interest on Rates & Charges – Excludes Special Schemes	Per Annum	Penalty Interest Rate 10%		N	R	H
Interest on Other Debts	Per Annum	Penalty Interest Rate 10%		N	R	H
Land Information Certificates	Per Certificate	\$30.60	\$30.60	N	R	H
Non FOI Searches	Per Hour	\$110.00	\$150.00	N	F	G
Release of Property & Financial Information	Per Hour	\$110.00	\$150.00	N	F	G

Local Laws

Fees and Permits

Asset Protection Permit	Per permit	\$271.00	\$280.50	N	F	G
Excess Animal Permit	Per Permit	\$182.00	\$188.50	N	F	G
Fire Prevention – Block Clearance Administration Fee	Per Incidence	\$224.00	\$300.00	N	R	H
General Infringements Administration Fee	Per Infringement	\$121.00	\$125.50	N	F	G
General Permit	Per Permit	\$132.00	\$137.00	N	F	G
Local Law Permit Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$63.00	\$65.50	N	F	G
Occupation of Metered Parking Bays for Commercial Purposes (per day)	Per Day	\$63.00	\$65.50	Y	F	G
Occupation of Metered Parking Bays for Commercial Purposes (week)	Per Week	\$182.00	\$188.50	Y	F	G
Occupation of Metered Parking Bays for Charitable Purposes	No Charge		No Charge	Y	F	G
Parking Fees at meters	Per Hour	\$1.20	\$1.50	Y	F	G

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Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Fees and Permits [continued]

Small Animal Trap – Deposit	Per Trap	\$59.00	\$61.50	N	F	G
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Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022

Digital Event Signage - Tier 1	4 Week Period	\$500.00	\$400.00	N	M	I
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No less than five displays per hour for a 4 week period. Prior placement up to two months out for coming soon. Additional 2 weeks). (excludes Meetings, Events outside of Hamilton, Corporate Council Events and Sporting Fixtures. *Consideration will be given for regional, state and national events).

Digital Event Signage - Tier 2	2 Week Period	\$250.00	\$220.00	N	M	I
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No less than one per hour for a two week period. (excludes Meeting, Events outside of Hamilton, Corporate Council Events and Sporting Fixtures. *consideration will be given for regional, state and national sporting events).

Digital Event Signage - Tier 3	1 Week Period	\$100.00	\$100.00	N	M	I
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No guarantee of frequency. Subject to availability / additional bookings. (excludes Meetings, Events outside of Hamilton, Corporate Council Events and Sporting Fixtures. *Consdieration will be given for regional, state and national sporting events).

Advertising sign placed on roads/footpaths	Per Permit	\$121.00	\$125.50	N	F	G
Advertising sign placed on roads/footpaths – Multiple permits for the same business premises	Per Permit	\$182.00	\$188.50	N	F	G
Bulk rubbish container on roads - per week	Per Week / Container	\$63.00	\$65.50	N	F	G
Busking	Per Permit	\$19.00	\$20.00	N	F	G
Collections on roads	Per Permit	\$121.00	\$125.50	N	F	G
Display of goods for sale	Per Permit	\$121.00	\$125.50	N	F	G
Display of goods for sale – Multiple permits for the same business premises: maximum per annum	Per Permit	\$182.00	\$188.50	N	F	G
Droving or Grazing of Livestock	Per Permit	\$266.00	\$275.50	N	F	G
Itinerant Trading permit – per year	Per Year	\$1,200.00	\$1,245.00	N	F	G
Itinerant Trading permit – per month	Per Month	\$146.00	\$151.50	N	F	G
Occupation of the Road for works in order to: occupy or fence off part of a road, erect a hoarding or overhead protection awning, use a mobile crane or travel tower for any building work, make a hole or excavate or reinstate a hole or excavation or any other works on any part of the road or road reserve	Per Worksite	As determined by Road Management Regulations (refer to Road Management fees)		N	F	G
Outdoor eating facilities on roads – 1st table	Per Table	\$121.00	\$125.50	N	F	G
Outdoor eating facilities on roads – subsequent tables	Per Table	\$43.00	\$45.00	N	F	G
Parklet Permit - per year	Per Permit	\$1,200.00	\$1,245.00	N	F	G
Street parties, street festivals and processions less than 100 people	Per Event	\$63.00	\$65.50	N	F	G
Street parties, street festivals and processions greater than 100 people	Per Event	\$121.00	\$125.50	N	F	G
Vehicle Crossings Construction	Per Permit	As determined by Road Management Regulations (refer to Road Management fees)		N	F	G

Other Infringements/Fees - Community Local Law No. 1 (2022)

Refer to <https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/financial-management-government/indexation-fees-and-penalties>

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Parking Infringements - Road Safety (General) Regulations 2019

Refer to <https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/financial-management-government/indexation-fees-and-penalties>

Fees & Costs for Enforcement of Infringement Penalties (Magistrates' Court (Fees) Regulations 2022)

Refer to <https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/financial-management-government/indexation-fees-and-penalties>

Domestic Animals - Pound Fees

Keeping/Sustenance While Impounded

Dogs / Cats – For the first day	Per Day	\$150.00	\$150.00	N	F	I
Dogs / Cats – For each subsequent day	Per Day	\$55.00	\$57.00	N	F	I

Animal Surrender

Surrender at animal pound - Dog / Cat	Per Animal	\$73.00	\$76.00	Y	F	I
Euthanasia / Disposal	Per Animal	Actual costs incurred		Y	F	I

Livestock - Pound Fees

Impoundment

For the impounding of livestock from any Crown, public or private land per animal.

Sheep or Goat	Per Animal	\$62.00	\$64.50	N	P	B
Bull, Horse or Stallion	Per Animal	\$151.00	\$156.50	N	P	B
All Other Livestock	Per Animal	\$80.00	\$83.00	N	P	B
Other Domesticated Animal	Per Animal	\$36.50	\$38.00	N	P	B
For the walking or transporting of impounded livestock to a pound	At Cost	Actual costs incurred		N	F	I

Sustenance While Impounded

Sheep or Goat	Per Animal Per Day	\$25.00	\$26.00	N	F	I
Other Livestock	Per Animal Per Day	\$37.00	\$38.50	N	F	I
Other Domesticated Animal	Per Day	\$20.00	\$21.00	N	F	I

Other Livestock Impoundment Fees

Walking/Transporting Impounded Livestock to Pound	At Cost		At Cost	N	P	B
Notification to Owner of Impounded Livestock	Per Notification	\$121.00	\$125.50	N	F	B
Notification to Public of Intention to Sell Impounded Livestock	At Cost		At Cost	N	P	B
Euthanasia/Disposal of Impounded Livestock	At Cost		At Cost	N	F	B
For the giving of written notice to the owner of impounded livestock	Per Notice	\$121.00	\$125.50	N	F	I
Euthanasia/Disposal	At Cost	Actual costs incurred		N	F	I

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Dog and Cat Registration (Domestic Animals Act 1994)

The 2025/26 Registration year is from 11 April 2025 to 10 April 2026

The 2026/27 Registration year is from 11 April 2026 to 10 April 2027

Dog – Maximum Fee	Per Reg	\$162.00	\$172.00	N	R	H
Dog – Maximum Fee – Concession	Per Reg	\$88.00	\$96.00	N	R	H
Dog – Reduced Fee (1)	Per Reg	\$70.00	\$77.00	N	R	H
Dog – Reduced Fee (1) – Concession	Per Reg	\$42.00	\$48.00	N	R	H
Dog – Declared Dog	Per Reg	\$288.00	\$303.00	N	R	H
Dog – Restricted Breed Dog	Per Reg	\$288.00	\$303.00	N	R	H
Cat – Maximum Fee	Per Reg	\$100.00	\$108.00	N	R	H
Cat – Maximum Fee – Concession	Per Reg	\$54.00	\$60.00	N	R	H
Cat – Reduced Fee (1)	Per Reg	\$39.00	\$45.00	N	R	H
Cat – Reduced Fee (1) – Concession	Per Reg	\$24.00	\$29.00	N	R	H
Cat – Reduced Fee (1) – Concession Requirements				N	R	H
Cat – Reduced Fee (1) – Any cat to which the following descriptions apply - De-sexed cats, Cats over 10 years old, Cats kept for breeding by the proprietor of a domestic animal business conducted on registered premises, Cats registered with the Feline Control Council, the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy Australian and Victoria Incorporated, the Democratic Cat Council Incorporated or any successor in law of any one of those associations or a breed approved by Council, Any reduced fee pensioner.						
Dog – Reduced Fee (1) – Concession Requirements				N	R	H
Dog Reduced Fee (1) – Any dog to which the following descriptions apply - De-sexed dogs, Dogs over 10 years, Dogs kept for working stock, Dogs kept for breeding by the proprietor of a domestic animal business conducted on registered premises, Dogs that have undergone obedience training which complies with the regulations, Dogs registered with the Victorian Canine Association or any successor in law of that Association or any organisation approved by Council, Council approved trained assistance animals, Any reduced fee pensioner.						
Registration of Domestic Animal Business	Per Reg	\$294.00	\$305.00	N	R	H
Microchipping - Dogs/Cats	Per animal	\$0.00	\$44.00	Y	F	I

Dog and Cat Infringements (Domestic Animals Act 1994)

Refer to <https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/financial-management-government/indexation-fees-and-penalties>

Infringements (Environment Protection Act 1970)

Refer to <https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/financial-management-government/indexation-fees-and-penalties>

Community Services

Occasional Care

Cancellation Fee - Permanent Bookings	Per booking / day			N	P	E
50% discount for permanent bookings if notification received within 5 days of bookings.						
Absence Fee	Per Child, Per Booked Hour	\$14.20	\$14.80	N	M	I
Applicable if notice given less than 48 hours prior to absence.						
Absence Fee - Members	Per Child, Per Booked Hour	\$12.60	\$13.20	N	M	I
Applicable if notice given less than 48 hours prior to absence.						
Care	Per Child, Per Hour	\$14.20	\$14.80	N	M	I

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Occasional Care [continued]

Care – Members Rate	Per Child, Per Hour	\$12.60	\$13.20	N	M	I
No Notification Fee	Per Booked Hour	\$21.00	\$22.00	N	P	E

This additional fee is applicable on top of Absence Fee when no notice provided of non-attendance. Child care subsidy cannot be applied to this fee.

Family Day Care

Administration Charge – Educators	Per Fortnight	\$57.50	\$60.00	Y	P	E
Administration Charge – Families	Per Child/Per Hour (3rd + Child Excluded Per Family)	\$1.85	\$1.95	N	F	G

Cultural Services

Art Gallery

Guided Tours – For 45 Participants

Tour Only

Monday to Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm (Business Hours) – Not for Profit & Local	Free		Free	Y	Z	G
Monday to Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm (Business Hours) – Non Local	Per Person	\$15.00	\$15.60	Y	F	G
Weekend and Outside Business Hours	Per Group	\$180.00	\$186.50	Y	F	G

Tour & Refreshments

Monday to Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm (Business Hours) – Not for Profit & Local	Per Person	\$15.00	\$15.60	Y	F	G
Monday to Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm (Business Hours) – Non Local	Per Person	\$30.00	\$31.50	Y	F	G
Weekend and Outside Business Hours	Per Group	\$250.00	\$259.00	Y	F	G

Venue & Additional Hire Fees

Not for Profit - Functions Within Business Hours	Pending Programming		Free	Y	Z	G
Not for Profit - Functions Outside Business Hours	Per Hour	\$160.00	\$166.00	Y	F	G
Corporate / Institution Functions Within Business Hours	Per Hour	\$160.00	\$166.00	Y	F	G
Corporate / Institution Functions Outside Business Hours	Per Hour	\$200.00	\$207.00	Y	F	G
Cleaning Fee	Per Hour	\$220.00	\$250.00	Y	F	G
Piano Hire - Not For Profit	Free		Free	Y	Z	G
Piano Hire - Commercial	Per hour	\$50.00	\$52.00	Y	F	G

Programs

School Program - ALL	Free		Free	Y	Z	G
Public Program	Per Person		Dependent on public program	Y	F	G

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Major Exhibition

Adult	Per Person	Prices range from \$8.00 to \$40.00 depending on event	Y	M	I
Concession	Per Person	Prices range from \$5.00 to \$35.00 depending on event	Y	M	I
Children (under 18's)	Per Person	Prices range from Free to \$25.00 depending on event	Y	Z	B
Member	Per Ticket	Prices range from \$5.00 to \$35.00 depending on event	Y	F	G
Family Ticket (2ad + 2ch)	Per Family Pass	Prices range from \$15.00 to \$80.00 depending on event	Y	F	G

Cinema

General Admission

Adult	Per Ticket	\$18.00	\$20.00	Y	P	E
Concession	Per Ticket	\$16.00	\$16.20	Y	P	E
Student	Per Ticket	\$16.00	\$16.20	Y	P	E
Child - 12 & Under	Per Ticket	\$13.00	\$13.50	Y	P	E
Thrifty Thursday	Per Ticket	\$13.00	\$13.50	Y	P	E

Fund Raisers

Minimum charge per fundraiser is fixed venue fee + 30 tickets.

Fixed Venue Fee	Per Event	\$220.00	\$250.00	Y	P	E
Admission	Per Ticket	\$14.00	\$14.00	Y	P	E

Group Bookings

Conference/Meetings Only

Fixed Venue Hire Fee - 4 hours	4 Hour Block	\$330.00	\$340.00	Y	M	I
Fixed Venue Hire Fee - 6 hours	6 Hour Block	\$480.00	\$495.00	Y	M	I
Fixed Venue Hire Fee - Full Day (8 hours)	8 Hour Block	\$600.00	\$618.00	Y	M	I
Fixed Venue Hire Fee - Per hour after 8 hours	Per Hour	\$165.00	\$170.00	Y	M	I

Specialist Groups

Conditions apply

Film Group Full Price 12 Month Membership	Per 12 Month	\$140.00	\$150.00	Y	P	E
Film Group Concession 12 Month Membership	Per 12 Month	\$115.00	\$125.00	Y	P	E
Film Group Full Price 6 Month Membership	Per 6 Months	\$75.00	\$85.00	Y	P	E
Film Group Concession 6 Month Membership	Per 6 Month	\$70.00	\$80.00	Y	P	E
Film Group Full Price 3 Month Membership	Per 3 Month	\$50.00	\$60.00	Y	P	E
Film Group Concession 3 Month Membership	Per 3 Month	\$42.00	\$52.00	Y	P	E
Film Group Full Price Single Ticket	Per ticket	\$20.00	\$25.00	Y	P	E
Film Group Concession Single Ticket	Per ticket	\$18.20	\$23.50	Y	P	E
Library School Holiday Program	Per Ticket	\$7.00	\$7.00	Y	P	E
Outside School Hours Care	Per Ticket	\$10.00	\$10.00	N	P	E
Winda Mara Children's Program	Per Ticket	\$9.00	\$10.00	Y	P	E

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Other

Cinema Advertising - Per 30 seconds	Per 30 seconds	\$40.00	\$42.00	Y	P	I
Cinema Duty Officer - Minimum 3 Hours	3 hours	\$175.00	\$180.50	Y	P	E
Technical Support – (Minimum 3 Hours)	Per 3 hour block	\$175.00	\$180.50	Y	P	E
Technical Support – Additional Hours as Required	Per Hour	\$65.00	\$67.00	Y	P	E
Technical Support - Additional Hours as Required after 8 hours	Per Hour after 8 hours	\$125.00	\$129.00	Y	P	E

Library Services

Book Club – Library Facilitated	Per Person	\$19.00	\$20.00	Y	F	G
Book Sales	Per Item	Variable – Donation		Y	M	I
Events	Per Event	Variable – Free to \$120.00		Y	M	I
Exam Supervision - per session	Per Session	\$200.00	\$207.00	Y	F	I
Inter Library Loans	Per Loan	\$3.70	\$4.00	Y	F	G
Inter Library Loans – Universities	Per Loan	\$21.00	\$22.00	Y	F	G
Library Bag Sales	Per Item	\$4.00	\$4.20	Y	M	I
Lost or Damaged Items	Per Item	Replacement cost + processing fee (generated from LMS)		N	F	G
Processing Fee	Per Event	\$7.50	\$7.80	Y	F	G
Purchase of PC headset	Per Set	\$6.00	\$6.20	Y	F	I
Replacement Card	Per Card	\$2.50	\$2.60	N	F	G
Training Courses	Per Event	Variable – Free to \$200.00		Y	M	I

Other

Simplex A4 (Black & White)	Per Page	\$0.30	\$0.30	Y	M	I
Duplex A4 (Black & White)	Per Page	\$0.60	\$0.60	Y	M	I
Simplex A4 (Colour)	Per Page	\$1.00	\$1.00	Y	M	I
Duplex A4 (Colour)	Per Page	\$2.00	\$2.00	Y	M	I
Simplex A3 (Black & White)	Per Page	\$0.60	\$0.60	Y	M	I
Duplex A3 (Black & White)	Per Page	\$1.20	\$1.20	Y	M	I
Simplex A3 (Colour)	Per Page	\$2.00	\$2.00	Y	M	I
Duplex A3 (Colour)	Per Page	\$4.00	\$4.00	Y	M	I

Laminating

Credit Card Pouch	Per Item	\$1.00	\$1.05	Y	M	I
A4 Pouch	Per Item	\$1.50	\$1.55	Y	M	I
A3 Pouch	Per Item	\$3.00	\$3.10	Y	M	I

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Performing Arts Centre

Function Room (including kitchen)

Function Room available between 8.30am - 12am

Includes one duty officer for duration of set up & event.

A 10% discount is available for consecutive full day space hire (Auditorium, Function Room and Ted Kenna VC Room price only).

Hire charges include: setting out of chairs, tables and trestles, use of kitchen and equipment (microwave and dishwasher included) and use of Entrance Foyer. Crockery and cutlery are provided.

Items not included are: table linen and flowers, although we can often advise on where to find such items.

Ted Kenna VC Room (Meeting Space Only)

Includes technical equipment, whiteboard & pens, set up & pack down.

A 10% discount is available for consecutive full day space hire (Auditorium, Function Room and Ted Kenna VC Room price only).

Break Out Areas

Breakout Area hire when used in conjunction with either Function Room or Ted Kenna VC Room.

Main Auditorium

Includes use of centre's sound & light equipment, dressing rooms & kitchen hire.

Includes one duty officer for the duration of set up & event.

A technician MUST be hired additional to the main Auditorium hire charge.

A 10% discount is available for consecutive full day space hire (Auditorium, Function Room and Ted Kenna VC Room price only).

Additional Hire Fees

Staffing

Applies to first 8 hours Monday – Saturday. Additional hours, Sunday and Public Holidays charged at double standard rate.

Operating Technician (Up to 8 hours) Public Holidays and Sundays		\$140.00	\$145.00	Y	F	G
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Equipment

Standard

Not for Profit

Sound Hire

Basic Sound Hire includes technician, 2 speakers, 2 fold back speakers, mixing desk and 2 microphones and 2 DI's

Lighting Hire

Basic Lighting Hire includes technician, 2 lighting trees, 2 lighting bars and lighting desk.

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Ticketing

Leisure and Recreation Services

Hamilton Indoor Leisure & Aquatic Centre

Memberships

Platinum

Platinum Membership = Free Gold membership for those aged 80 & over

Gold

Gold - Adult

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$48.00	\$49.00	Y	M	I
12 Months Upfront	Per Year	\$1,145.00	\$1,170.00	Y	M	I

Gold - Adult Concession

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$36.50	\$37.00	Y	M	I
12 Months Upfront	Per Year	\$879.00	\$888.00	Y	M	I

Gold - Family

Family consists of 2 x Adult & Children u16 (on family medicare card)

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$77.00	\$79.00	Y	M	I
12 Months Upfront	Per Year	\$1,855.00	\$1,895.00	Y	M	I

Gold - Corporate & Club - 25% off

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$35.50	\$36.50	Y	M	I
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Silver

Silver - Adult

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$40.00	\$41.00	Y	M	I
12 Months Upfront	Per Year	\$947.00	\$966.00	Y	M	I

Silver - Adult Concession

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$30.50	\$31.00	Y	M	I
12 Months Upfront	Per Year	\$718.00	\$726.00	Y	M	I

Silver - Adult Off Peak

Off peak pool time is 6.30am-9.30am weekdays. Gym is 1.30pm- 3.30pm 7 days a week

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$21.00	\$21.50	Y	M	I
12 Months Upfront	Per Year	\$500.00	\$511.00	Y	M	I

Silver - Corporate & Club - 25% off

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$29.50	\$30.50	Y	M	I
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Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Bronze

Bronze - Adult

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$35.50	\$36.50	Y	M	I
12 Months Upfront	Per Year	\$843.00	\$860.00	Y	M	I

Bronze - Adult Concession

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$26.00	\$26.50	Y	M	I
12 Months Upfront	Per Year	\$640.00	\$647.00	Y	M	I

Bronze - Child

Under 16 Only

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$21.00	\$21.50	Y	M	I
12 Months Upfront	Per Year	\$500.00	\$506.00	Y	M	I

Bronze - Family

Family consists of: 2 x Adult & Children u16 on family medicare card.

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$64.50	\$66.00	Y	M	I
12 Months Upfront	Per Year	\$1,555.00	\$1,590.00	Y	M	I

Bronze - Adult Off Peak

Off peak pool time is 6.30am-9.30am weekdays. Gym is 1.30pm- 3.30pm 7 days a week

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$17.00	\$17.40	Y	M	I
12 Months Upfront	Annually	\$411.00	\$420.00	Y	M	I

Bronze - Corporate & Club - 25% off

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$26.00	\$27.00	Y	M	I
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Other

Fit 55's

Direct Debit - Fortnightly	Per Fortnight	\$17.00	\$17.40	Y	M	I
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Casual Fees

Gym or Group Exercise

Adult	Per Day	\$19.00	\$20.00	Y	M	I
Adult Concession	Per Day	\$15.00	\$15.00	Y	M	I
School Group	Per Student	\$8.50	\$8.50	Y	M	I
Fit 55's	Per Person	\$9.50	\$10.00	Y	M	I
Training with Teens	Per Student Per Session	\$12.00	\$12.00	Y	M	I

10 Visit Pass for Gym or Group Fitness

Valid for 12 months.

Adult	Per Pass	\$169.00	\$172.50	Y	M	I
Adult Concession	Per Pass	\$131.00	\$132.50	Y	M	I

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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20 Visit Pass for Gym or Group Fitness

Valid for 12 months.

Adult	Per Pass	\$321.00	\$328.00	Y	M	I
Adult Concession	Per Pass	\$249.00	\$251.50	Y	M	I
Fit 55's	Per Pass	\$168.00	\$170.00	Y	M	I

Personal Training

One on One

45 minutes per session

Personal Training Direct Debit - 1 Session Per Week	Per Person	\$104.00	\$106.50	Y	F	G
Personal Training Direct Debit - 2 Sessions Per Week	Per Person	\$207.50	\$212.00	Y	F	G
Personal Training Direct Debit - 3 Sessions Per Week	Per Person	\$312.00	\$319.00	Y	F	G
Personal Training - People with disability (NDIS)	Per Person	\$52.00	\$53.50	Y	F	G

Small Group

Maximum 6 people per group.

Personal Training - Casual	Per session	\$21.50	\$22.00	Y	F	G
Personal Training Direct Debit - 1 Session Per Week	Per Fortnight Direct Debit	\$41.50	\$42.50	Y	F	G
Personal Training Direct Debit - 2 Sessions Per Week	Per Fortnight Direct Debit	\$84.00	\$86.00	Y	F	G
Personal Training Direct Debit - 3 Sessions Per Week	Per Fortnight Direct Debit	\$125.00	\$127.50	Y	F	G
Personal Training - 5 Session pass	Per pass	\$105.00	\$107.50	Y	F	G
Personal Training - 10 Session pass	Per pass	\$210.00	\$214.50	Y	F	G

Recreational Swim

Casual Fees

Adult	Per Day	\$8.00	\$8.20	Y	M	I
Adult Concession	Per Day	\$6.50	\$6.60	Y	M	I
Child	Per Day	\$5.50	\$5.60	Y	M	I
Group - 2 x Adults + 3 x U16	Per Day	\$25.00	\$25.50	Y	M	I
School Group	Per Student Per Session	\$3.70	\$3.80	Y	M	I
School Group – Carnival	Per Hour	\$168.00	\$174.00	Y	M	I
Includes exclusive use of HILAC Aquatic Area and 2 x Lifeguards						
School Swimming Admin Fee	Per Student	\$3.50	\$3.60	Y	M	I

10 Visit Swim Pass

Adult	Per Pass	\$72.00	\$73.50	Y	M	I
Adult Concession	Per Pass	\$57.00	\$58.00	Y	M	I
Child	Per Pass	\$47.00	\$47.50	Y	M	I
Family	Per Pass	\$205.00	\$207.50	Y	M	I

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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20 Visit Swim Pass

Adult	Per Pass	\$143.00	\$146.00	Y	M	I
Adult Concession	Per Pass	\$113.00	\$114.50	Y	M	I
Child	Per Pass	\$93.00	\$94.00	Y	M	I
Family	Per Pass	\$400.00	\$404.00	Y	M	I

Lane Hire

Booking Fee – General	Per Lane Per Hour	\$36.50	\$37.50	Y	M	I
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Aquatic Education

Swim Lesson – 1st Child/Participant	Per person Per 1/2 Hour Session	\$21.00	\$21.00	N	M	I
Payment for full term upfront (non-refundable) or Direct Debit fortnightly all year (26 payments).						
Swim Lesson – 2nd Child/Participant	Per Person Per 1/2 Hour Session	\$19.00	\$19.00	N	M	I
Payment for full term upfront (non-refundable) or Direct Debit fortnightly all year (26 payments).						
Swim Lesson – Private Instructor	Per Person Per 1/2 Hour Session	\$64.00	\$64.00	N	F	G
Payment for full term upfront (non-refundable) or Direct Debit fortnightly all year (26 payments).						
Swim Lesson – Squad	Per Child Per 3/4 Hour Session	\$33.00	\$33.00	N	M	G
Swim Program – Instructor (School Groups etc)	Per Hour Per Instructor	\$74.00	\$75.50	N	P	C

Court Hire

School Holiday - Single child / Concession - Week Pass	Per Week	\$5.00	\$5.00	Y	P	C
School Holiday - Single child / Concession - Fortnight Pass	Per Fortnight	\$20.00	\$10.00	Y	P	C

Squash / Table Tennis

Single	Per Person	\$6.50	\$6.80	Y	P	C
Single Concession	Per Person	\$5.50	\$5.70	Y	P	C
Group Hire	Per Court	\$15.00	\$15.60	Y	P	C
Group Hire – Includes Equipment Hire	Per Court	\$21.00	\$22.00	Y	P	C

Multi Purpose Courts

Adult	Per Person	\$6.50	\$6.80	Y	P	C
Adult Concession	Per Person	\$5.50	\$5.70	Y	P	C
Group Hire	Per Court	\$63.00	\$65.50	Y	P	C
School Group	Per Court	\$35.00	\$37.00	Y	P	C

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Room Hire

Room Hire

General Hire	2 Hour Block (Min)	\$55.00	\$57.00	Y	P	G
General Hire - 4 hours	4 Hour Block	\$121.00	\$125.50	Y	P	G
General Hire - 8 Hours	8 Hour Block	\$189.00	\$196.00	Y	P	G
School Group	2 Hour Block (Min)	\$40.00	\$41.50	Y	P	G
School Group	4 Hour Block	\$90.00	\$93.50	Y	P	G
School Group - 8 Hours	8 Hour Block	\$180.00	\$186.50	Y	P	G

Weekend with Tournament

Program Room	Per Weekend	\$121.00	\$125.50	Y	P	G
Creche	Per Weekend	\$121.00	\$125.50	Y	P	G

Group Bookings

Maximum 20 people per group.

Dry Exercise	Per Group Per Hour	\$87.00	\$90.00	Y	P	G
Wet Exercise	Per Group Per Hour	\$87.00	\$90.00	Y	P	G

User Group Fees

HILAC after-hours staff rate	Per hour	\$0.00	\$100.00	Y	F	G
Fee applied to HILAC bookings outside the following times: Monday - Thursday 6am - 10pm Friday 6am - 8pm Saturday 8am - 5pm Sunday 9am - 5pm						
Special Events		As quoted		Y	M	I
HOSC – Swimming Club	As per user agreement	As per user agreement		Y	P	C
As per user agreement						
Community & Recreation Club - Multi-purpose Court Hire (Full Court)	Per Court, Per Hour	\$44.00	\$45.50	Y	P	C
Community & Recreation Club - Squash Court Hire	Per Court, Per Hour	\$16.00	\$16.60	Y	P	C
Community & Recreation Club – Table Hire	Per Court, Per Hour	\$16.00	\$16.60	Y	P	C
Keen-Agers Table Tennis Program	Per Court, Per Hour	\$8.00	\$8.30	Y	P	C

Miscellaneous

Program Instructor/Leisure services Officer	Per Hour	\$74.00	\$76.50	Y	F	G
Includes instructors, lifeguards & administration. Entry fee is additional.						
Replacement Customer Fob	Per Fob	\$6.00	\$6.20	Y	F	G

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Outdoor Swimming Pools - 50 metre

Hire

Exclusive Use	Per hour	\$0.00	\$250.00	Y	F	G
Includes lifeguards x 2 and exclusive use of facility. (minimum 2 hour booking)						
Additional Lifeguard	Per Hour	\$74.00	\$75.50	Y	F	G
Per lifeguard per hour - minimum 2 hour booking						
Lane Hire or Restricted Area	Per Hour	\$36.50	\$37.50	Y	P	C
Per lane, per hour during operational hours in line with HILAC						

School, Community and not-for-profit groups

Carnival	Per Hour	\$215.00	\$219.50	Y	P	C
Includes Lifeguards x2 per hour						
Outside of Carnival	Per Hour	\$104.00	\$153.00	Y	P	C
Includes Lifeguard x2 and Lane Hire/Restricted Area (not exclusive use).						
Program Instruction	Per Hour	\$74.00	\$75.50	N	F	G
Swim & Survive or Group Exercise Program with appropriately qualified instructor. Minimum 1 hour booking.						

Other

HOSC – Swimming Club	As per user agreement	As Per user agreement		Y	P	C
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Outdoor Swimming Pools - 25 metre

Hire

Exclusive Use	Per hour	\$0.00	\$150.00	Y	F	G
Includes lifeguards x 1 and exclusive use of facility. (minimum 2 hour booking)						
Additional Lifeguard	Per Hour	\$74.00	\$77.00	Y	F	G
Per lifeguard per hour - minimum 2 hour booking						
Lane Hire or Restricted Area	Per Hour	\$36.50	\$37.50	Y	P	C
Per lane, per hour during operational hours.						

School, community and not-for-profit groups

Carnival	Per hour	\$0.00	\$130.00	Y	F	G
Includes Lifeguards x1 per hour						
Outside of Carnival	Per hour	\$0.00	\$100.00	Y	F	G
Includes Lifeguard x1 and Lane Hire/Restricted Area (not exclusive use).						
Program Instruction	Per hour	\$0.00	\$75.50	Y	F	G
Swim & Survive or Group Exercise Program with appropriately qualified instructor. Minimum 1 hour booking.						

Melville Oval

Canteen	Per Event	\$150.00	\$160.00	Y	M	C
Facility Cleaning Fee		\$250.00	\$260.00	Y	M	C
Function Room Hire	Per Event	\$600.00	\$900.00	Y	M	C

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Melville Oval [continued]

Function Room Hire - Commercial / Light use (no kitchen use)	Per hour	\$0.00	\$240.00	Y	M	G
Function Room Hire - Not For Profit - Meeting	Per Event	\$200.00	\$210.00	Y	M	C
Function Room Hire - Sporting Event	Per event	\$0.00	\$400.00	Y	M	C
Kiosk	Per Event	\$150.00	\$160.00	Y	M	C

Mitchell Park

Damage Deposit	Per Event	\$312.00	\$324.00	N	M	G
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Patterson Park

Room Hire – Regular Users (Rock n Rollers, Yoga, Judo, Bowls, Schools, Mulleraterong)	Per Session	\$24.00	\$25.00	Y	P	C
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Pedrina Park

AFL Pavilion	Per Day	\$220.00	\$230.00	Y	F	G
Damage Deposit - AFL Pavilion	Per Hire	\$250.00	\$324.00	N	F	G

Inclusive Sports Hub

Hire Fee	8 Hour Block	\$463.00	\$480.00	Y	P	C
Hire Fee - Sports Event	8 Hour Block	\$115.00	\$200.00	Y	P	C
Damage Deposit	Per Event	\$312.00	\$324.00	N	P	C

Lake Hamilton

Aquatic Centre Meeting Room Hire (Not for profit)	4 Hour Block	\$115.00	\$119.50	Y	P	C
Aquatic Centre Meeting Room Hire	Per Day	\$220.00	\$228.00	Y	P	C
Damage Deposit	Per Event	\$312.00	\$324.00	N	F	G

Hamilton Botanical Gardens

Additional gardening service - (Weekday)	Per Hour	\$78.00	\$81.00	Y	F	I
Additional gardening service - (Weekends)	Per Hour	\$125.00	\$129.50	Y	F	I
Vehicle Gate Opening and Closing Charge	Per Event	\$187.50	\$194.50	Y	M	I
Rotunda – Electricity Charge	Per Event	\$37.50	\$39.00	Y	F	C
Hire Fee	Per Event	\$204.00	\$211.50	Y	F	C

Penshurst Botanical Gardens

Hire Fee	Per Event	\$214.50	\$222.50	Y	F	C
Rotunda – Electricity Charge	Per Event	\$37.50	\$39.00	Y	F	C

Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer

Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Oval and Tennis/ Netball Courts) Daytime only	Per Day	\$312.00	\$323.00	Y	P	C
Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Oval) Daytime only	Per Day	\$260.00	\$269.50	Y	P	C
Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Tennis/Netball Courts) Daytime only	Per Day	\$260.00	\$269.50	Y	P	C

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Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer [continued]

Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/Netball Courts)	4 Hour Block	\$150.00	\$155.50	Y	P	C
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/Netball Courts) -NIGHT-TIME	4 Hour Block	\$323.00	\$335.00	Y	P	C
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval)	4 Hour Block	\$130.00	\$135.00	Y		
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and tennis/netball courts) - NIGHT-TIME	4 Hour Block	\$296.50	\$307.00	Y	P	C
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and tennis/netball courts)	4 Hour Block	\$130.00	\$135.00	Y	P	C
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval) -NIGHT-TIME	4 Hour Block	\$296.50	\$307.00	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/Netball Courts) – Per Hour	Per Hour	\$52.00	\$54.00	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/Netball Courts) – Per Hour - NIGHT-TIME	Per Hour	\$94.00	\$97.50	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Per Tennis/Netball Court) – Per Hour	Per Hour	\$42.00	\$43.50	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Per Tennis/Netball Court) – Per Hour -NIGHT-TIME	Per Hour	\$83.50	\$86.50	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Per Oval) – Per Hour	Per Hour	\$42.00	\$43.50	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Per Oval) – Per Hour - NIGHT-TIME	Per Hour	\$83.50	\$86.50	Y	P	C

Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track

Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Oval and Tennis/Netball Courts) Daytime only	8 Hour Block	\$78.00	\$81.00	Y	P	C
Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Oval) Daytime only	8 Hour Block	\$52.00	\$54.00	Y	P	C
Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Tennis/Netball Courts) Daytime only	8 Hour Block	\$52.00	\$54.00	Y	P	C
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval and Tennis/Netball Courts)	4 Hour Block	\$52.00	\$54.00	Y	P	C
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval and Tennis/Netball Courts) NIGHT-TIME	4 Hour Block	\$135.50	\$140.50	Y	P	C
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval)	4 Hour Block	\$31.50	\$33.00	Y	P	C
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval) - NIGHT-TIME	4 Hour Block	\$114.50	\$119.00	Y	P	C
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and tennis/netball courts)	4 Hour Block	\$31.50	\$33.00	Y	P	C
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and tennis/netball courts) -NIGHT-TIME	4 Hour Block	\$114.50	\$119.00	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/Netball Courts) – Per Hour	Per Hour	\$21.00	\$22.00	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/Netball Courts) – Per Hour - NIGHT-TIME	Per Hour	\$42.00	\$43.50	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Per Oval) – Per Hour	Per Hour	\$15.60	\$16.20	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Per Oval) – Per Hour -NIGHT-TIME	Per Hour	\$36.50	\$38.00	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Per Tennis/Netball Court) – Per Hour	Per Hour	\$15.60	\$16.20	Y	P	C
Facility Fee (Per Tennis/Netball Court) – Per Hour - NIGHT-TIME	Per Hour	\$36.50	\$38.00	Y	P	C

All Council reserves & facilities

New Linemarking	Per Request	\$403.00	\$418.00	Y	P	C
Non Return of Key	Per Key	\$100.00	\$100.00	Y	F	C
School Athletics Carnival	Per Request	\$104.00	\$160.00	Y	P	C
Touch Up Linemarking	Per Request	\$96.00	\$100.00	Y	P	C

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Building and Planning Services

Building Services

Please note:

Up to 30% building application fee is non-refundable, regardless of the assessment outcome.

Other Charges

Build over Easement Application		Prescribed Fee	N	R	H
Part 5 Report and Consent, Farm Building exemptions or any other building regulation determinations		Prescribed fee	N	R	H

Swimming Pools

Failure to register swimming pool or spa within relevant timeframe	Per Breach	Prescribed Fees	N	R	H
Pool or Spa - information search fee	Annual	Prescribed Fees	N	R	H
Pool or Spa Registration Fee	Annual	Prescribed Fees	N	R	H

Planning and Subdivision – Non Statutory

Written Planning Advice	Per request	\$0.00	\$60.00	Y	M	I
Written advice which sets out Planning Scheme requirements and other technical Planning advice to a customer provided by email or letter						
Extensions of Time – 1st request	Per Ext	\$204.00	\$211.50	Y	M	I
Extensions of Time – 2nd request	Per Ext	\$403.00	\$418.00	Y	M	I
Extensions of Time – 3rd request	Per Ext	\$581.00	\$602.00	Y	M	I
Secondary Consent	Per Permit	\$344.00	\$357.00	N	M	I
Satisfaction Matters	Per Permit	\$411.00	\$426.00	N	M	I
Approval of Plans to Satisfaction of Responsible Authority	Per Permit	\$839.00	\$869.00	N	M	I
Advertising Fees	Per Notice – On Site	\$87.50	\$91.00	N	M	I
Advertising Fees	Per Letter Adjoining owners	\$7.80	\$8.10	N	M	I
Copies of Permits & Plans	Per Permit	\$126.00	\$130.50	N	M	I
Letters of Request – Researched Information – Per Tenement Request	Per Tenement Request	\$177.00	\$183.50	Y	M	I
Council supplied title search – 1 Search (e.g. Search statement and plan)	Per Permit	\$39.00	\$40.50	N	M	I

Planning and Subdivision – Statutory

Applications for Permits and Applications to Amend Permits

Permit Application

Permit Application – Use Only

Class 1 - Change or allow a new use of the land	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
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Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Permit Application – Single Dwelling

To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of the land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than Class 7 or 8 permit, as relevant, to a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of the development is:

Class 2 - \$10,000 or less	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 3 - More than \$10,000 but not more than \$100,000	Fee Unit	42.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 4 - More than \$100,000 but not more than \$500,000	Fee Unit	87 fee units	N	R	H
Class 5 - More than \$500,000 but not more than \$1M	Fee Unit	94 fee units	N	R	H
Class 6 - More than \$1M but not more than \$2M	Fee Unit	101 fee units	N	R	H

Permit Application – VicSmart

Permit Application – VicSmart application if the estimated cost of the development is:

Class 7 - \$10,000 or less	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 8 - More than \$10,000	Fee Unit	29 fee units	N	R	H
Class 9 - VicSmart application to subdivide or consolidate land	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 10 - VicSmart application (other than class 7, 8 or 10)	Fee Unit	13.5 Fee Units	N	R	H

Permit Application – To develop land (other than a Class 2-8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of the development is:

Class 11 - Less than \$100,000	Fee Unit	77.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 12 - More than \$100,000 and not more than \$1M	Fee Unit	104.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 13 - More than \$1M and not more than \$5M	Fee Unit	230.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 14 - More than \$5M and not more than \$15M	Fee Unit	587.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 15 - More than \$15M and not more than \$50M	Fee Unit	1,732.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 16 - More than \$50M (to be charged at 50% until 13 Oct 2017)	Fee Unit	3,894 fee units	N	R	H

Permit Application – Subdivision of land

Class 17 - Subdivide an existing building (other than a class 9 permit)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 18 - Subdivide land into 2 lots (other than a class 9 or 16 permit)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 19 - Realignment of a common boundary between lots or to consolidate 2 or more lots (other than a class 9 permit)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 20 - To subdivide land other than class 9, 16, 17 or 18 (fee charged per 100 lots created)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 21 - a) To create, vary or remove a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988; or	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 21 - b) To create or move a right of way; or	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 21 - c) To create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 21 - d) To vary or remove a condition in the nature of an easement (other than a right of way) in a Crown grant.	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Permit Application – Subdivision of land [continued]

Class 22 - A permit not otherwise provided for in this Regulation	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
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Permit Amendment

Permit Amendment – Use Only

Amendment to a permit (other than a permit to develop land or to use and develop land or to undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot) to change the statement of what the permit allows or to change any or all of the conditions which apply to the permit

Class 1 - Change or allow a new use of the land	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 1 - Amendment to a permit (other than a permit to develop land or to use and develop land or to undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot) to change the statement of what the permit allows or to change any or all of the conditions which apply to the permit	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H

Permit Amendment – Single Dwelling

To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of the land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than Class 7 or 8 permit, as relevant, to a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of the development is:

Class 2 - \$10,000 or less	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 3 - More than \$10,000 but not more than \$100,000	Fee Unit	42.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 4 - More than \$100,000 but not more than \$500,000	Fee Unit	87 fee units	N	R	H
Class 5 - More than \$500,000 but not more than \$1M	Fee Unit	94 fee units	N	R	H
Class 6 - More than \$1M but not more than \$2M	Fee Unit	101 fee units	N	R	H

Permit Amendment – VicSmart

Permit Amendment – VicSmart application if the estimated cost of the development is:

Class 7 - \$10,000 or less	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 8 - More than \$10,000	Fee Unit	29 fee units	N	R	H
Class 9 - VicSmart application to subdivide or consolidate land	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 10 - VicSmart application (other than class 7, 8 or 10)	Fee Unit	13.5 Units	N	R	H

Permit Amendment – To develop land (other than a Class 2-8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of the development is:

Class 11 - Less than \$100,000	Fee Unit	77.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 12 - More than \$100,000 and not more than \$1M	Fee Unit	104.5 fee units	N	R	H
Class 13 - More than \$1M and not more than \$5M	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 14 - More than \$5M and not more than \$15M	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 15 - More than \$15M and not more than \$50M	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 16 - More than \$50M (to be charged at 50% until 13 Oct 2017)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Permit Amendment – Subdivision of land

Class 17 - Subdivide an existing building (other than a class 9 permit)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 18 - Subdivide land into 2 lots (other than a class 9 or 16 permit)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 19 - Realignment of a common boundary between lots or to consolidate 2 or more lots (other than a class 9 permit)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 20 - To subdivide land other than class 9, 16, 17 or 18 (fee charged per 100 lots created)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 21 - a) To create, vary or remove a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988; or	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 21 - b) To create or move a right of way; or	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 21 - c) To create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 21 - d) To vary or remove a condition in the nature of an easement (other than a right of way) in a Crown grant.	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Class 22 - A permit not otherwise provided for in this Regulation	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H

Permit Applications for more than One Class

An application for more than one class of permit set out in the above table:	Per Application	Sum of the highest of the fees which would have applied if separate applications were made and 50% of each of the other fees which would have applied if separate applications were made.	N	R	H
An application to amend a permit in more than one class set out in the above table:	Per Application	Sum of the highest of the fees which would have applied if separate applications were made and 50% of each of the other fees which would have applied if separate applications were made.	N	R	H

Amending an Application after Public Notice (advertising) has been given

1. Section 57A – Request to amend an application for permit after notice has been given; or	Per Application	40% of the application fee for that class of permit or amendment to permit; and Where the class of application is changing to a new class of higher application fee, the difference between the fee for the application to be amended and the fee for the new class.	N	R	H
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Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Amending an Application after Public Notice (advertising) has been given [continued]

2. Section 57A – Request to amend an application for an amendment to a permit after notice has been given:	Per Application	40% of the application fee for that class of permit or amendment to permit; and Where the class of application is changing to a new class of higher application fee, the difference between the fee for the application to be amended and the fee for the new class.	N	R	H
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Certification of Subdivision

Regulation

Reg. 6 - Certification of a plan of subdivision	11.8 fee units	\$195.50	\$202.50	N	R	H
Reg. 7 - Alteration of plan under Section 10(2) of the Act	7.5 Fee Units	\$124.00	\$128.50	N	R	H
Reg. 8 - Amendment of certified plan under Section 11(1) of the Act	9.5 Fee Units	\$157.50	\$163.50	N	R	H

Engineering

Reg. 9 - Checking of engineering plans	Per Plan	0.75% of the estimated cost of construction of the works proposed in the engineering plan (maximum fee)	N	R	H
Reg. 10 - Engineering plan prepared by Council	Per Plan	3.5% of the cost of works proposed in the engineering plan (maximum fee)	N	R	H
Reg. 11 - Supervision of works	Per Permit / Works	2.5% of the estimated cost of construction of the works (maximum fee)	N	R	H

Table 1: Fees for Amendment to Planning Scheme (Regulation 6)

Stage 1 For: a) considering a request to amend a planning scheme; and b) taking action required by Division 1 of Part 3 of the Act; and c) considering any submissions which do not seek a change to the amendment; and d) if applicable, abandoning the amendment	Fee Unit	206 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 2 For (i) up to and including 10 submissions which seek a change to an amendment and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel; or	Fee Unit	1,021 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 2 For (ii) 11 to (and including) 20 submissions which seek a change to an amendment and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel; or	Fee Unit	2,040 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 2 For (iii) Submissions that exceed 20 submissions which seek a change to an amendment, and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel; and	Fee Unit	2,727 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 3 For a) adopting the amendment or part of the amendment in accordance with section 29 of the Act; and b) submitting the amendment for approval by the Minister in accordance with section 31 of the Act; and c) giving the notice of the approval of the amendment required by section 36(2) of the Act.	Fee Unit	32.5 fee units	N	R	H

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Table 1: Fees for Amendment to Planning Scheme (Regulation 6) [continued]

Stage 4 For a) consideration by the Minister of a request to approve the amendment in accordance with section 35 of the Act; and b) giving notice of approval of the amendment in accordance with section 36(1) of the Act.	Fee Unit	32.5 fee units	N	R	H
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Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)

Stage 1 - Use only	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 2 - To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 7 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is \$10,000 or less	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 3 - To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$10,000 but not more than \$100,000	Fee Unit	42.5 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 4 - To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$100,000 but not more than \$500,000	Fee Unit	87 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 5 - To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$500,000 but not more than \$1,000,000	Fee Unit	94 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 6 - To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$1,000,000 but not more than \$2,000,000	Fee Unit	101 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 7 - VicSmart application if the estimated cost of development is \$10,000 or less	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 8 - VicSmart application if the estimated cost of development is more than \$10,000	Fee Unit	29 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 9 - VicSmart application to subdivide or consolidate land	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 10 - VicSmart Application (other than a class 7, 8 or 9 permit)		13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 11 - To develop land (other than a class 2, class 3, class 7 or class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is less than \$100,000	Fee Unit	77.5 fee units	N	R	H

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Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9) [continued]

Stage 12 - To develop land (other than a class 4, class 5, or class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$100,000 and not more than \$1,000,000	Fee Unit	104.5 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 13 - To develop land (other than a class 6 or class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$1,000,000 and not more than \$5,000,000	Fee Unit	230.5 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 14 - To develop land (other than a class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$5,000,000 and not more than \$15,000,000	Fee Unit	587.5 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 15 - To develop land (other than a class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$15,000,000 and not more than \$50,000,000	Fee Unit	1,732.5 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 16 - To develop land (other than a class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$50,000,000*	Fee Unit	3,894 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 17 - To subdivide an existing building (other than a class 9 permit)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 18 - To subdivide land into 2 lots (other than a class 9 or class 16 permit)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 19 - To effect a realignment of a common boundary between lots or consolidate 2 or more lots (other than a class 9 permit)	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 20 - Subdivide land (other than a class 9, class 16, class 17 or class 18 permit)	Fee Unit	89 fee units per 100 lots created	N	R	H
Stage 21 - To a) create, vary or remove a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988; or b) create or remove a right of way; or c) create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or d) vary or remove a condition in the nature of an easement (other than right of way) in a Crown grant.	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Stage 22 - A permit not otherwise provided for in the regulation	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H

Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)

Fee 1 - Amendment to a permit to change the use of land allowed by the permit or allow a new use of land	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 2 - Amendment to a permit (other than a permit to develop land for a single dwelling per lot or to use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot or to undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot) to change the statement of what the permit allows or to change any or all of the conditions which apply to the permit.	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 3 - Amendment to a class 2 permit	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 4 - Amendment to a class 3 permit	Fee Unit	42.5 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 5 - Amendment to a class 4 permit	Fee Unit	87 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 6 - Amendment to a class 5 or class 6 permit	Fee Unit	94 fee units	N	R	H

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Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11) [continued]

Fee 7 - Amendment to a class 7 permit	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 8 - Amendment to a class 8 permit	Fee Unit	29 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 9 - Amendment to a class 9 permit	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 10 - Amendment to a class 10 permit	Fee Unit	13.5 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 11 - Amendment to a class 12, 13, 14 or 15 permit	Fee Unit	77.5 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 12 - Amendment to a class 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit *if estimated cost of development is between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000	104.5 Fee Units	104.5 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 13 - Amendment to a class 16 permit	Fee Unit	230.5 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 14 - Amendment to a class 17 permit	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 15 - Amendment to a class 18 permit	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 16 - Amendment to a class 19 permit	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 17 - Amendment to a class 20 permit	Fee Unit	89 fee units per 100 lots created	N	R	H
Fee 18 - Amendment to a class 21 permit	Fee Unit	89 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 19 - Amendment to a class 22 permit	Fee Unit	89 Fee Units	N	R	H

Table 4: Other Fees

Fee 7 - For requesting the Minister to prepare an amendment to a planning scheme exempted from the requirements referred to in section 20(4) of the Act.	Fee Unit	270 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 8 - For requesting the Minister to prepare an amendment to a planning scheme exempted from certain requirements prescribed under section 20A of the Act.	Fee Unit	65 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 10 - For combined permit applications	Fee Unit	Sum of the highest of the fees which would have applied if separate applications were made and 50% of each of the other fees which would have applied if separate applications were made	N	R	H
Fee 12 - Amend an application for a permit or an application to amend a permit	Fee Unit	a) Under section 57A(3)(a) of the Act the fee to amend an application for a permit after notice is given is 40% of the application fee for that class of permit set out in the Table at regulation 9	N	R	H
Fee 13 - For a combined application to amend permit	Fee Unit	The sum of the highest of the fees which would have applied if separate applications were made and 50% of each of the other fees which would have applied if separate applications were made Under section 96A(4)(a) of the Act:	N	R	H

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Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Table 4: Other Fees [continued]

Fee 14 - For a combined permit and planning scheme amendment	Fee Unit	The sum of the highest of the fees which would have applied if separate applications were made and 50% of each of the other fees which would have applied if separate applications were made Under section 96A(4)(a) of the Act:	N	R	H
Fee 15 - For a certificate of compliance	Fee Unit	22 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 16 - For an agreement to a proposal to amend or end an agreement under section 173 of the Act	Fee Unit	44.5 fee units	N	R	H
Fee 17 - For a planning certificate (not electronic)	Fee Unit	1.5 fee units for an application not made electronically	N	R	H
Fee 17 - For a planning certificate (electronic)	Fee Unit	\$7.20 for an application made electronically Min. Fee excl. GST: \$7.20	N	R	H
Fee 18 - Where a planning scheme specifies that a matter must be done to the satisfaction of a responsible authority, Minister, public authority or municipal council	Fee Unit	22 fee units	N	R	H

Environmental Health

Waste Water Treatment System (Septic Tank)

Application (Construct, Install or Alter)	Per Permit	Min 74 Fee Units	N	R	H	
Application for Exemption	Per Application	Min 14.67 Fee Units	N	R	H	
Application Minor Alteration	Per Permit	Min 37.25 Fee Units	N	R	H	
Installation, replacement or relocation of the internal plumbing, fixtures or fittings of an on-site waste water management system						
Application to Amend Permit	Per Permit	Min 10.38 Fee Units	N	R	H	
Application to Renew Permit	Per Permit	Min 8.31 Fee Units	N	R	H	
Application Transfer Permit	Per Permit	Min 9.93 Fee Units	N	R	H	
Inspection Fee	Per Hour	Min 6.12 Fee Units per hour	N	R	H	
Permit & Plans Request	Per Application	\$135.00	\$140.00	N	F	G

Food Act 1984, Registrations

New Registration Fee – General	Per Application	Pro rata registration fee + inspection fee	N	P	C
New Registration Fee – Express	Per Application	Pro rata registration fee + inspection fee + 50%	N	F	G
Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$310.00\$320.00	N	P	C
Applicable to follow up & requested inspections.					
Late Fee	Per Application	20% of registration fee	N	F	G

Commercial Food Premises Annual Registration

Class 1	Annually	\$621.00	\$645.00	N	P	C
Class 2	Annually	\$522.00	\$540.00	N	P	C
Class 3 & Class 3A	Annually	\$280.00	\$290.00	N	P	C

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Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Commercial Food Premises Annual Registration [continued]

Additional Fee if > 10 EFT Employees	Per EFT Employee	\$37.00	\$38.00	N	P	C
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Community Groups (Not for Profit) Food Premises Annual Registration

Class 2	Annually	\$180.00	\$185.00	N	P	C
Food sold < 12 times per year.						
Class 3	Annually	\$130.00	\$135.00	N	P	C
Food sold > 12 times per year.						

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

Late Fee	Per Registration	20% of registration fee	N	F	G
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Accommodation

Public Health and Wellbeing Act

Annual Registration Fee	Annually	\$325.00	\$335.00	N	P	C
New Registration Fee – General	Per Application	Pro rata registration fee + inspection fee		N	P	C
Transfer Fee	Per Application	\$380.00	\$400.00	N	F	G
Fee includes inspection, report & certificate.						
Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$245.00	\$255.00	N	P	C
Applicable to follow up & requested inspections.						

Beauty Parlour/Skin Penetration

Public Health and Wellbeing Act

Transfer Fee	Per transfer	\$345.00	\$360.00	N	R	H
Fee includes inspection, report & certificate						
Annual Registration Fee	Annually	\$173.00	\$180.00	N	P	C
New Registration Fee – General	Per Application	Pro rata registration fee + inspection fee		N	P	C
New Registration Fee – Express	Per Application	Pro rata registration fee + inspection fee + 50%		N	F	G
Application will be determined within 14 days of lodgement; providing payment and all documents listed in supporting documents section of application are submitted with the completed application to the satisfaction of Council's authorised Environmental Health Officer						
Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$210.00	\$215.00	N	P	C

Hairdressing

Public Health and Wellbeing Act

New Registration Fee – General	Per Application	\$360.00	\$375.00	N	P	C
New Registration Fee – Express	Per Application	\$550.00	\$570.00	N	F	G
Application will be determined within 14 days of lodgement; providing payment and all documents listed in supporting documents section of application are submitted with the completed application to the satisfaction of Council's authorised Environmental Health Officer						
Transfer Fee	Per Application	\$360.00	\$375.00	N	P	G
Fee includes inspection, report & certificate.						

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Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Hairdressing [continued]

Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$210.00	\$215.00	N	P	C
Applicable to follow up & requested inspections.						

Caravan Park Registrations

Residential Tenancies Act - 3 Year Cycle 2025/2026

Registration Fee < 25 Sites	Per Registration	17 Fee Units	N	R	H
Registration Fee 26 – 50 Sites	Per Registration	34 Fee Units	N	R	H
Registration Fee 51 – 100 Sites	Per Registration	68 Fee Units	N	R	H
New Registration Fee – General	Per Registration	Pro rata registration fee	N	R	H
Transfer Fee	Per Registration	5 Fee Units	N	R	H
Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$281.00 \$290.00	N	F	G
Late Fee	Per Registration	20% of registration fee	N	F	G

Aquatic Facilities Registrations

Category 1 Aquatic Facility Registration	Annual	\$530.00	\$550.00	N	P	C
Transfer of Category 1 Aquatic Facility Registration	Per Transfer	\$690.00	\$715.00	N	F	G
Aquatic Facility Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$310.00	\$325.00	N	P	C
Applicable per follow-up & requested water sampling						
Aquatic Facility Water Sampling Analysis Fee	Per Inspection	\$400.00	\$415.00	N	P	C
Applicable per follow-up & requested water sampling						
Late Fee	Per Registration	20% of registration fee		N	F	G

Visitor Services

Tourism

New Roundabout Signs – Council Owned	Per Sign – Minimum 4	\$220.00	\$227.00	Y	P	C
Minimum 4 Signs – this new price includes print, design and installation per panel. Customer does not own the sign, but they can pay for the event sign first time, then pay for a date update in future years. We pay for the proboard and storage of the signs. Includes design, print & installation – minimum 4 signs required per order. Council retains ownership of the signs.						
New Roundabout Signs – Event Owned	Per Sign – Minimum 4	\$310.00	\$373.00	Y	P	C
Minimum 4 Signs – this new price includes panel, print, design and installation per panel. Customer pays for the proboard and owns the sign and can pay for a date update in future years. Event organiser stores the panels themselves or arranges for signage contractor to store. Includes design, print & installation – minimum 4 signs required per order. Event organiser retains ownership of the signs.						
Roundabout Signs - Date Amendments to Existing	Per Sign – Minimum 4	\$110.00	\$106.00	Y	P	C
Minimum 4 Signs – this new price includes design, print and installation of the sign with a date update only. The price is only applicable to customers that already have a sign made for the same event in a previous year and the sign has been stored. Includes design, print & installation – minimum 4 signs required per order.						

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Tourism [continued]

Roundabout Signs - Installation of Existing	Per Sign – Minimum 4	\$32.00	\$40.00	Y	P	C
Minimum 4 Signs – this new price includes INSTALL ONLY. The price is only applicable to customers that already have a sign made for the same event in a previous year and the sign has been stored and DOES NOT REQUIRE A DATE UPDATE. Installation ONLY – minimum 4 signs required per order.						

Caravan Parks

Site Fee - Powered

Booking: Per Night	Per Night	\$36.00	\$37.00	Y	P	C
Booking: Per Week	Per Week	\$220.00	\$224.00	Y	P	C
Additional Night (Nights 8 to 13)	Per Night	\$32.00	\$32.00	Y	P	C
Booking: Per Fortnight	Per Fortnight	\$365.00	\$378.00	Y	P	C

Site Fee - Unpowered

Booking: Per Night	Per Night	\$25.00	\$25.00	Y	P	C
Booking: Per Week	Per Week	\$160.00	\$161.00	Y	P	C
Additional Night (Nights 8 to 13)	Per Night	\$23.00	\$23.00	Y	P	C
Booking: Per Fortnight	Per Fortnight	\$295.00	\$322.00	Y	P	C

Waste Services

Transfer Stations

Garbage

Out of Zone - Combined 2 bin waste service	Year Pass	\$430.00	\$472.00	N	P	C
Garbage - Minimum Charge	Per 240L Bin	\$24.50	\$25.50	Y	P	C
Garbage - By Volume	Per m3 - Minimum charge 1m3	\$93.00	\$96.50	Y	P	C
Garbage - By Weight - Hamilton Only	Per Tonne	\$311.00	\$321.00	Y	P	C
Garbage Containing Recyclables or Green Waste - Minimum Charge	Per 240L Bin	\$30.50	\$32.00	Y	P	C
Garbage containing Recyclables or Green Waste - By Volume	Per m3 - Minimum charge 1m3	\$119.50	\$124.00	Y	P	C
Garbage Containing Recyclables or Green Waste - By Weight - Hamilton Only	Per Tonne	\$360.00	\$373.00	Y	P	C
Commercial & Industrial / Building & Demolition Garbage - Hamilton Only	Per Tonne	\$390.00	\$402.00	Y	P	C

Green Waste

Green Waste - By Volume	Per m3 – Minimum Charge 1m3	\$25.50	\$26.50	Y	F	C
Green Waste - By Weight - Hamilton Only		\$172.00	\$177.50	Y	F	C

Recyclables

Clean Recyclables - 240L Bin	per 240L Bin	\$12.80	\$13.40	Y	P	C
Clean Recyclables - per tonne - Hamilton Only	per tonne	\$139.00	\$150.50	Y	P	C

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Recyclables [continued]

Commercial Recyclables	Per tonne	\$0.00	\$335.00	Y	F	I
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Clean Fill

Concrete for Crushing - Hamilton Only	Per Tonne	\$69.50	\$72.00	Y	F	G
50mm or Finer Crushed Concrete or Aggregate - Hamilton Only		No charge		Y	Z	G

Tyres

Passenger	Per Tyre	\$11.00	\$12.40	Y	F	G
Light Truck	Per Tyre	\$19.00	\$21.00	Y	F	G
Medium/Heavy Truck	Per Tyre	\$27.00	\$29.00	Y	F	G
Tractor – Diameter <1m	Per Tyre	\$119.00	\$123.50	Y	F	G
Tractor – Diameter <2m	Per Tyre	\$246.00	\$255.00	Y	F	G

E-Waste

Small (30x30x30)	Per m3 – Minimum Charge 1m3	\$6.30	\$6.60	Y	F	G
Medium (50x50x50)	Per m3 – Minimum Charge 1m3	\$18.00	\$18.80	Y	F	G
Large (>50x50x50)	Per m3 – Minimum Charge 1m3	\$24.00	\$25.00	Y	F	G

Bed Mattress

Single	Per Mattress	\$38.00	\$39.50	Y	F	G
Double	Per Mattress	\$43.50	\$45.50	Y	F	G
Queen or King	Per Mattress	\$43.50	\$45.50	Y	F	G
Latex/Memory Foam – Any Size	Per Mattress	\$43.00	\$43.00	Y	F	G

Other

Automotive Batteries		No charge		Y	Z	A
Empty Oil Containers	Per Container	\$2.20	\$2.30	Y	M	G
Refrigerator (Non-degassed)	Per Fridge	\$24.00	\$25.00	Y	F	G
Soft Furnishings		\$43.50	\$45.50	Y	F	C
Sump Oil & Oil Filters		No charge		Y	Z	A

This service is only available at the following locations - Hamilton, Glenthompson, Balmoral, Dunkeld and Coleraine

Steel – Non Contaminated		No charge		Y	Z	A
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Waste Management – Miscellaneous

Replacement/New Mobile Garbage Bin	Per 120L Bin	\$95.00	\$95.00	N	F	G
Replacement/New Mobile Recycling Bin	Per 240L Bin	\$95.00	\$95.00	N	F	G
Replacement/New Organics Bin	Per 240L Bin	\$95.00	\$95.00	N	F	G

Name	Unit	Year 25/26 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 26/27 Fee (incl. GST)	GST	Pricing Basis	Pricing Principle
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Kerbside Collection - Elective Services

Elective Garbage 120L weekly	Annual	\$242.50	\$266.00	N	F	G
Elective Recycling 240L fortnightly	Annual	\$141.00	\$155.00	N	F	G
Elective FOGO 240L fortnightly	Annual	\$154.00	\$169.00	N	F	G
Elective - Combined 3 bin waste service	Annual	\$485.00	\$532.00	N	F	G

Infrastructure Services

Miscellaneous

Old Hamilton Reservoir Water Supply	Per KL	100% cost per kl (wannon water rate - non potable) plus 10% margin	N	F	G
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Hamilton Aerodrome

Aircraft Arrival Fee		No charge	Y	R	H
Aircraft Departure Fee		No charge	Y	R	H
Aircraft Training Flight Approach Fee		No charge	Y	R	H
Aircraft Parking Fee		No charge	Y	R	H
Hangar Site Rental – Non Commercial	Per Year	As detailed in the users licence agreement	Y	P	G
Hangar Site Rental – Commercial	Per Year	As detailed in the users licence agreement	Y	P	G
Non Hangar Site Rental – Non Commercial	Per Year	As detailed in the users licence agreement	Y	P	G
Non Hangar Site Rental – Commercial	Per Year	As detailed in the users licence agreement	Y	P	G
Terminal Building – Lease	Per Year	As detailed in the users licence agreement	Y	P	G
Aerodrome Grounds – Lease	Per Year	As detailed in the users licence agreement	Y	P	G
Refuelling Rights	Per Year	As detailed in the users licence agreement	Y	P	G
Non Hangar Site User Fee		No charge	Y	P	G
Aerodrome Water Supply – Private Users	Per KL	Cost + 0.11 per kl	Y	F	G

Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange

Cattle	Per Head	\$16.60	\$18.00	Y	M	I
Bulls	Per Head	\$21.50	\$22.50	Y	M	I
Calf	Per Head	\$6.00	\$6.50	Y	M	I
Horse	Per Head	\$24.00	\$25.00	Y	M	I
Sheep & Lambs	Per Head	\$1.30	\$1.35	Y	M	I
Ewe & Lambs at foot	Per Ewe	\$1.80	\$1.90	Y	M	I
Rams	Per Head	\$1.70	\$1.80	Y	M	I
Stock in Transit – Cattle	Per Head Per Night	\$14.60	\$15.20	Y	M	I
Stock in Transit – Sheep	Per Head Per Night	\$1.20	\$1.25	Y	M	I
Agents Fees	Per Annum	\$178,775.00	\$185,035.00	Y	M	I
Scanning/Data Fee – Store Cattle ONLY	Per Head	\$1.60	\$1.70	Y	M	I

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Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange [continued]

Private Weighs – Includes Scanning Fee	Per Head + Opening Fees	\$13.80	\$14.40	Y	M	I
Opening Fees – Weekends, Public Holidays & After Hours	Per Event	\$91.00	\$100.00	Y	M	I
Non Hamilton and District Agents Association Sale	Per Sale	\$2,045.00	\$2,120.00	Y	M	I
Agistment	Per Head Per Week, Min 1 Week	\$1.70	\$1.90	Y	M	I
Agistment	Per Head, Per Night in Excess of 7 night	\$0.65	\$0.75	Y	M	I
Cattle Ear Tag – Supply	Per Untagged Animal	\$31.00	\$35.00	Y	M	I
Cattle Ear Tag – Fitting	Per Untagged Animal	\$31.00	\$35.00	Y	M	I
Sheep Ear Tag – Supply	Per Untagged Animal	\$3.20	\$7.50	Y	M	I
NCV Sheep (Light & Weak or Diseased Animals)	Per Head	\$76.50	\$100.00	Y	M	I
Truckwash – AVDATA	Per Minute	\$1.65	\$1.75	Y	M	I
Truckwash – Coin System – \$1 Coin ONLY - Minimum \$2	\$2 Per 2 Minute	\$1.00	\$1.00	Y	M	I
Avdata Key Purchase	Per Key	\$35.00	\$36.50	Y	M	I
Stock Feeding - Small Bale	Per Bale	\$17.80	\$26.00	Y	M	I
Stock Feeding - Large bale	Per Bale	\$120.00	\$150.00	Y	M	I

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Concrete for Crushing - Hamilton Only	[Clean Fill]	35
Copies of Permits & Plans	[Planning and Subdivision – Non Statutory]	23
Corporate / Institution Functions Outside Business Hours	[Venue & Additional Hire Fees]	11
Corporate / Institution Functions Within Business Hours	[Venue & Additional Hire Fees]	11

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
C [continued]		
Council supplied title search – 1 Search (e.g. Search statement and plan)	[Planning and Subdivision – Non Statutory]	23
Creche	[Weekend with Tournament]	19
Credit Card Pouch	[Laminating]	13
D		
Damage Deposit	[Mitchell Park]	21
Damage Deposit	[Inclusive Sports Hub]	21
Damage Deposit	[Lake Hamilton]	21
Damage Deposit - AFL Pavilion	[Pedrina Park]	21
Debt Recovery Costs non Magistrates Court	[Corporate Services]	7
Digital Event Signage - Tier 1	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
Digital Event Signage - Tier 2	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
Digital Event Signage - Tier 3	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Gold - Adult]	15
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Gold - Family]	15
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Bronze - Adult Concession]	16
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Gold - Adult Concession]	15
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Silver - Corporate & Club - 25% off]	15
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Bronze - Adult Off Peak]	16
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Silver - Adult Concession]	15
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Fit 55's]	16
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Bronze - Adult]	16
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Silver - Adult Off Peak]	15
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Gold - Corporate & Club - 25% off]	15
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Bronze - Family]	16
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Bronze - Corporate & Club - 25% off]	16
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Silver - Adult]	15
Direct Debit - Fortnightly	[Bronze - Child]	16
Dishonour Cheque Fee	[Corporate Services]	7
Display of goods for sale	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
Display of goods for sale – Multiple permits for the same business premises: maximum per annum	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
Dog – Declared Dog	[Dog and Cat Registration (Domestic Animals Act 1994)]	10
Dog – Maximum Fee	[Dog and Cat Registration (Domestic Animals Act 1994)]	10
Dog – Maximum Fee – Concession	[Dog and Cat Registration (Domestic Animals Act 1994)]	10
Dog – Reduced Fee (1)	[Dog and Cat Registration (Domestic Animals Act 1994)]	10
Dog – Reduced Fee (1) – Concession	[Dog and Cat Registration (Domestic Animals Act 1994)]	10
Dog – Reduced Fee (1) – Concession Requirements	[Dog and Cat Registration (Domestic Animals Act 1994)]	10
Dog – Restricted Breed Dog	[Dog and Cat Registration (Domestic Animals Act 1994)]	10
Dogs / Cats – For each subsequent day	[Keeping/Sustenance While Impounded]	9
Dogs / Cats – For the first day	[Keeping/Sustenance While Impounded]	9
Double	[Bed Mattress]	35
Droving or Grazing of Livestock	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
Dry Exercise	[Group Bookings]	19
Duplex A3 (Black & White)	[Other]	13
Duplex A3 (Colour)	[Other]	13
Duplex A4 (Black & White)	[Other]	13
Duplex A4 (Colour)	[Other]	13
E		
Elective - Combined 3 bin waste service	[Kerbside Collection - Elective Services]	36
Elective FOGO 240L fortnightly	[Kerbside Collection - Elective Services]	36
Elective Garbage 120L weekly	[Kerbside Collection - Elective Services]	36
Elective Recycling 240L fortnightly	[Kerbside Collection - Elective Services]	36
Empty Oil Containers	[Other]	35
Euthanasia / Disposal	[Animal Surrender]	9
Euthanasia/Disposal	[Other Livestock Impoundment Fees]	9
Euthanasia/Disposal of Impounded Livestock	[Other Livestock Impoundment Fees]	9
Events	[Library Services]	13
Ewe & Lambs at foot	[Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange]	36
Exam Supervision - per session	[Library Services]	13
Excess Animal Permit	[Fees and Permits]	7
Exclusive Use	[Hire]	20
Exclusive Use	[Hire]	20
Extensions of Time – 1st request	[Planning and Subdivision – Non Statutory]	23
Extensions of Time – 2nd request	[Planning and Subdivision – Non Statutory]	23

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
E [continued]		
Extensions of Time – 3rd request	[Planning and Subdivision – Non Statutory]	23
F		
Facility Cleaning Fee	[Melville Oval]	20
Facility Fee (Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/Netball Courts) – Per Hour	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Facility Fee (Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/Netball Courts) – Per Hour	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Facility Fee (Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/Netball Courts) – Per Hour - NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Facility Fee (Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/Netball Courts) – Per Hour - NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Facility Fee (Per Oval) – Per Hour	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Facility Fee (Per Oval) – Per Hour	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Facility Fee (Per Oval) – Per Hour - NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Facility Fee (Per Oval) – Per Hour - NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Facility Fee (Per Tennis/Netball Court) – Per Hour	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Facility Fee (Per Tennis/Netball Court) – Per Hour	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Facility Fee (Per Tennis/Netball Court) – Per Hour - NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Facility Fee (Per Tennis/Netball Court) – Per Hour - NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Failing to Comply with a Direction of the Chair	[Governance - Local Law No 1 2021]	7
Failure to register swimming pool or spa within relevant timeframe	[Swimming Pools]	23
Family	[10 Visit Swim Pass]	17
Family	[20 Visit Swim Pass]	18
Family Ticket (2ad + 2ch)	[Major Exhibition]	12
Fee 1 - Amendment to a permit to change the use of land allowed by the permit or allow a new use of land	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	29
Fee 10 - Amendment to a class 10 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Fee 10 - For combined permit applications	[Table 4: Other Fees]	30
Fee 11 - Amendment to a class 12, 13, 14 or 15 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Fee 12 - Amend an application for a permit or an application to amend a permit	[Table 4: Other Fees]	30
Fee 12 - Amendment to a class 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit *if estimated cost of development is between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Fee 13 - Amendment to a class 16 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Fee 13 - For a combined application to amend permit	[Table 4: Other Fees]	30
Fee 14 - Amendment to a class 17 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Fee 14 - For a combined permit and planning scheme amendment	[Table 4: Other Fees]	31
Fee 15 - Amendment to a class 18 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Fee 15 - For a certificate of compliance	[Table 4: Other Fees]	31
Fee 16 - Amendment to a class 19 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Fee 16 - For an agreement to a proposal to amend or end an agreement under section 173 of the Act	[Table 4: Other Fees]	31
Fee 17 - Amendment to a class 20 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Fee 17 - For a planning certificate (electronic)	[Table 4: Other Fees]	31
Fee 17 - For a planning certificate (not electronic)	[Table 4: Other Fees]	31
Fee 18 - Amendment to a class 21 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Fee 18 - Where a planning scheme specifies that a matter must be done to the satisfaction of a responsible authority, Minister, public authority or municipal council	[Table 4: Other Fees]	31
Fee 19 - Amendment to a class 22 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
F [continued]		
Fee 2 - Amendment to a permit (other than a permit to develop land for a single dwelling per lot or to use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot or to undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot) to change the statement of what the permit allows or to change any or all of the conditions which apply to the permit.	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	29
Fee 3 - Amendment to a class 2 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	29
Fee 4 - Amendment to a class 3 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	29
Fee 5 - Amendment to a class 4 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	29
Fee 6 - Amendment to a class 5 or class 6 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	29
Fee 7 - Amendment to a class 7 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Fee 7 - For requesting the Minister to prepare an amendment to a planning scheme exempted from the requirements referred to in section 20(4) of the Act.	[Table 4: Other Fees]	30
Fee 8 - Amendment to a class 8 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Fee 8 - For requesting the Minister to prepare an amendment to a planning scheme exempted from certain requirements prescribed under section 20A of the Act.	[Table 4: Other Fees]	30
Fee 9 - Amendment to a class 9 permit	[Table 3: Fees for Applications to Amend Permits under Section 72 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 11)]	30
Film Group Concession 12 Month Membership	[Specialist Groups]	12
Film Group Concession 3 Month Membership	[Specialist Groups]	12
Film Group Concession 6 Month Membership	[Specialist Groups]	12
Film Group Concession Single Ticket	[Specialist Groups]	12
Film Group Full Price 12 Month Membership	[Specialist Groups]	12
Film Group Full Price 3 Month Membership	[Specialist Groups]	12
Film Group Full Price 6 Month Membership	[Specialist Groups]	12
Film Group Full Price Single Ticket	[Specialist Groups]	12
Fire Prevention – Block Clearance Administration Fee	[Fees and Permits]	7
Fit 55's	[Gym or Group Exercise]	16
Fit 55's	[20 Visit Pass for Gym or Group Fitness]	17
Fixed Venue Fee	[Fund Raisers]	12
Fixed Venue Hire Fee - 4 hours	[Conference/Meetings Only]	12
Fixed Venue Hire Fee - 6 hours	[Conference/Meetings Only]	12
Fixed Venue Hire Fee - Full Day (8 hours)	[Conference/Meetings Only]	12
Fixed Venue Hire Fee - Per hour after 8 hours	[Conference/Meetings Only]	12
For the giving of written notice to the owner of impounded livestock	[Other Livestock Impoundment Fees]	9
For the walking or transporting of impounded livestock to a pound	[Impoundment]	9
Fraudulently Signing a Petition or Joint Letter	[Governance - Local Law No 1 2021]	7
Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Oval and Tennis/ Netball Courts) Daytime only	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	21
Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Oval and Tennis/ Netball Courts) Daytime only	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Oval) Daytime only	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	21
Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Oval) Daytime only	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Tennis/Netball Courts) Daytime only	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	21
Full Day (8hrs Clubrooms and Tennis/Netball Courts) Daytime only	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Function Room Hire	[Melville Oval]	20
Function Room Hire - Commercial / Light use (no kitchen use)	[Melville Oval]	21
Function Room Hire - Not For Profit - Meeting	[Melville Oval]	21
Function Room Hire - Sporting Event	[Melville Oval]	21
G		
Garbage - By Volume	[Garbage]	34

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
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G [continued]

Garbage - By Weight - Hamilton Only	[Garbage]	34
Garbage - Minimum Charge	[Garbage]	34
Garbage containing Recyclables or Green Waste - By Volume	[Garbage]	34
Garbage Containing Recyclables or Green Waste - By Weight - Hamilton Only	[Garbage]	34
Garbage Containing Recyclables or Green Waste - Minimum Charge	[Garbage]	34
General Hire	[Room Hire]	19
General Hire - 4 hours	[Room Hire]	19
General Hire - 8 Hours	[Room Hire]	19
General Infringements Administration Fee	[Fees and Permits]	7
General Permit	[Fees and Permits]	7
Green Waste - By Volume	[Green Waste]	34
Green Waste - By Weight - Hamilton Only	[Green Waste]	34
Group - 2 x Adults + 3 x U16	[Casual Fees]	17
Group Hire	[Squash / Table Tennis]	18
Group Hire	[Multi Purpose Courts]	18
Group Hire – Includes Equipment Hire	[Squash / Table Tennis]	18

H

Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval and Tennis/ Netball Courts)	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval and Tennis/ Netball Courts) NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/ Netball Courts)	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval or Tennis/ Netball Courts) -NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval)	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval)	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval) - NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and Oval) -NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and tennis/netball courts)	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and tennis/netball courts)	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and tennis/netball courts) - NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 1 Facility - Melville Oval, Hockey, Soccer]	22
Half Day (4hrs Clubrooms and tennis/netball courts) -NIGHT-TIME	[Tier 2 Facility - Mitchell Park, rest of Pedrina Park, CFA, Running Track]	22
Hangar Site Rental – Commercial	[Hamilton Aerodrome]	36
Hangar Site Rental – Non Commercial	[Hamilton Aerodrome]	36
HILAC after-hours staff rate	[User Group Fees]	19
Hire Fee	[Penshurst Botanical Gardens]	21
Hire Fee	[Inclusive Sports Hub]	21
Hire Fee	[Hamilton Botanical Gardens]	21
Hire Fee - Sports Event	[Inclusive Sports Hub]	21
Horse	[Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange]	36
HOSC – Swimming Club	[User Group Fees]	19
HOSC – Swimming Club	[Other]	20

I

Inspection Fee	[Waste Water Treatment System (Septic Tank)]	31
Inspection Fee	[Food Act 1984, Registrations]	31
Inspection Fee	[Accommodation]	32
Inspection Fee	[Beauty Parlour/Skin Penetration]	32
Inspection Fee	[Hairdressing]	33
Inspection Fee	[Caravan Park Registrations]	33
Inter Library Loans	[Library Services]	13
Inter Library Loans – Universities	[Library Services]	13
Interest on Other Debts	[Corporate Services]	7
Interest on Rates & Charges – Excludes Special Schemes	[Corporate Services]	7
Itinerant Trading permit – per month	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
Itinerant Trading permit – per year	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8

K

Keen-Agers Table Tennis Program	[User Group Fees]	19
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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
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K [continued]

Kiosk	[Melville Oval]	21
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L

Land Information Certificates	[Corporate Services]	7
Lane Hire or Restricted Area	[Hire]	20
Lane Hire or Restricted Area	[Hire]	20
Large (>50x50x50)	[E-Waste]	35
Late Fee	[Aquatic Facilities Registrations]	33
Late Fee	[Food Act 1984, Registrations]	31
Late Fee	[Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008]	32
Late Fee	[Caravan Park Registrations]	33
Latex/Memory Foam – Any Size	[Bed Mattress]	35
Letters of Request – Researched Information – Per Tenement Request	[Planning and Subdivision – Non Statutory]	23
Library Bag Sales	[Library Services]	13
Library School Holiday Program	[Specialist Groups]	12
Light Truck	[Tyres]	35
Local Law Permit Inspection Fee	[Fees and Permits]	7
Lost or Damaged Items	[Library Services]	13

M

Medium (50x50x50)	[E-Waste]	35
Medium/Heavy Truck	[Tyres]	35
Member	[Major Exhibition]	12
Microchipping - Dogs/Cats	[Dog and Cat Registration (Domestic Animals Act 1994)]	10
Monday to Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm (Business Hours) – Non Local	[Tour Only]	11
Monday to Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm (Business Hours) – Non Local	[Tour & Refreshments]	11
Monday to Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm (Business Hours) – Not for Profit & Local	[Tour Only]	11
Monday to Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm (Business Hours) – Not for Profit & Local	[Tour & Refreshments]	11

N

NCV Sheep (Light & Weak or Diseased Animals)	[Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange]	37
New Linemarking	[All Council reserves & facilities]	22
New Registration Fee – Express	[Food Act 1984, Registrations]	31
New Registration Fee – Express	[Beauty Parlour/Skin Penetration]	32
New Registration Fee – Express	[Hairdressing]	32
New Registration Fee – General	[Food Act 1984, Registrations]	31
New Registration Fee – General	[Accommodation]	32
New Registration Fee – General	[Beauty Parlour/Skin Penetration]	32
New Registration Fee – General	[Hairdressing]	32
New Registration Fee – General	[Caravan Park Registrations]	33
New Roundabout Signs – Council Owned	[Tourism]	33
New Roundabout Signs – Event Owned	[Tourism]	33
No Notification Fee	[Occasional Care]	11
Non FOI Searches	[Corporate Services]	7
Non Hamilton and District Agents Association Sale	[Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange]	37
Non Hangar Site Rental – Commercial	[Hamilton Aerodrome]	36
Non Hangar Site Rental – Non Commercial	[Hamilton Aerodrome]	36
Non Hangar Site User Fee	[Hamilton Aerodrome]	36
Non Return of Key	[All Council reserves & facilities]	22
Not for Profit - Functions Outside Business Hours	[Venue & Additional Hire Fees]	11
Not for Profit - Functions Within Business Hours	[Venue & Additional Hire Fees]	11
Notification to Owner of Impounded Livestock	[Other Livestock Impoundment Fees]	9
Notification to Public of Intention to Sell Impounded Livestock	[Other Livestock Impoundment Fees]	9

O

Occupation of Metered Parking Bays for Charitable Purposes	[Fees and Permits]	7
Occupation of Metered Parking Bays for Commercial Purposes (per day)	[Fees and Permits]	7

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
O [continued]		
Occupation of Metered Parking Bays for Commercial Purposes (week)	[Fees and Permits]	7
Occupation of the Road for works in order to: occupy or fence off part of a road, erect a hoarding or overhead protection awning, use a mobile crane or travel tower for any building work, make a hole or excavate or reinstate a hole or excavation or any other works on any part of the road or road reserve	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
Old Hamilton Reservoir Water Supply	[Miscellaneous]	36
Opening Fees – Weekends, Public Holidays & After Hours	[Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange]	37
Operating Technician (Up to 8 hours) Public Holidays and Sundays	[Staffing]	14
Other Domesticated Animal	[Impoundment]	9
Other Domesticated Animal	[Sustenance While Impounded]	9
Other Livestock	[Sustenance While Impounded]	9
Out of Zone - Combined 2 bin waste service	[Garbage]	34
Outdoor eating facilities on roads – 1st table	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
Outdoor eating facilities on roads – subsequent tables	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
Outside of Carnival	[School, community and not-for-profit groups]	20
Outside of Carnival	[School, Community and not-for-profit groups]	20
Outside School Hours Care	[Specialist Groups]	12
P		
Parking Fees at meters	[Fees and Permits]	7
Parklet Permit - per year	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
Part 5 Report and Consent, Farm Building exemptions or any other building regulation determinations	[Other Charges]	23
Passenger	[Tyres]	35
Permit & Plans Request	[Waste Water Treatment System (Septic Tank)]	31
Personal Training - 10 Session pass	[Small Group]	17
Personal Training - 5 Session pass	[Small Group]	17
Personal Training - Casual	[Small Group]	17
Personal Training - People with disability (NDIS)	[One on One]	17
Personal Training Direct Debit - 1 Session Per Week	[One on One]	17
Personal Training Direct Debit - 1 Session Per Week	[Small Group]	17
Personal Training Direct Debit - 2 Sessions Per Week	[One on One]	17
Personal Training Direct Debit - 2 Sessions Per Week	[Small Group]	17
Personal Training Direct Debit - 3 Sessions Per Week	[One on One]	17
Personal Training Direct Debit - 3 Sessions Per Week	[Small Group]	17
Photocopying – A4 Page	[Freedom of Information (Access Charges) Regulations 2014]	7
Piano Hire - Commercial	[Venue & Additional Hire Fees]	11
Piano Hire - Not For Profit	[Venue & Additional Hire Fees]	11
Pool or Spa - information search fee	[Swimming Pools]	23
Pool or Spa Registration Fee	[Swimming Pools]	23
Private Weighs – Includes Scanning Fee	[Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange]	37
Processing Fee	[Library Services]	13
Program Instruction	[School, community and not-for-profit groups]	20
Program Instruction	[School, Community and not-for-profit groups]	20
Program Instructor/Leisure services Officer	[Miscellaneous]	19
Program Room	[Weekend with Tournament]	19
Public Program	[Programs]	11
Purchase of PC headset	[Library Services]	13
Q		
Queen or King	[Bed Mattress]	35
R		
Rams	[Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange]	36
Refrigerator (Non-degassed)	[Other]	35
Refuelling Rights	[Hamilton Aerodrome]	36

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
R [continued]		
Reg. 10 - Engineering plan prepared by Council	[Engineering]	27
Reg. 11 - Supervision of works	[Engineering]	27
Reg. 6 - Certification of a plan of subdivision	[Regulation]	27
Reg. 7 - Alteration of plan under Section 10(2) of the Act	[Regulation]	27
Reg. 8 - Amendment of certified plan under Section 11(1) of the Act	[Regulation]	27
Reg. 9 - Checking of engineering plans	[Engineering]	27
Registration Fee < 25 Sites	[Caravan Park Registrations]	33
Registration Fee 26 – 50 Sites	[Caravan Park Registrations]	33
Registration Fee 51 – 100 Sites	[Caravan Park Registrations]	33
Registration of Domestic Animal Business	[Dog and Cat Registration (Domestic Animals Act 1994)]	10
Release of Property & Financial Information	[Corporate Services]	7
Replacement Card	[Library Services]	13
Replacement Customer Fob	[Miscellaneous]	19
Replacement/New Mobile Garbage Bin	[Waste Management – Miscellaneous]	35
Replacement/New Mobile Recycling Bin	[Waste Management – Miscellaneous]	35
Replacement/New Organics Bin	[Waste Management – Miscellaneous]	35
Room Hire – Regular Users (Rock n Rollers, Yoga, Judo, Bowls, Schools, Mulleraterong)	[Patterson Park]	21
Rotunda – Electricity Charge	[Penshurst Botanical Gardens]	21
Rotunda – Electricity Charge	[Hamilton Botanical Gardens]	21
Roundabout Signs - Date Amendments to Existing	[Tourism]	33
Roundabout Signs - Installation of Existing	[Tourism]	34
S		
Satisfaction Matters	[Planning and Subdivision – Non Statutory]	23
Scanning/Data Fee – Store Cattle ONLY	[Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange]	36
School Athletics Carnival	[All Council reserves & facilities]	22
School Group	[Casual Fees]	17
School Group	[Gym or Group Exercise]	16
School Group	[Multi Purpose Courts]	18
School Group	[Room Hire]	19
School Group	[Room Hire]	19
School Group - 8 Hours	[Room Hire]	19
School Group – Carnival	[Casual Fees]	17
School Holiday - Single child / Concession - Fortnight Pass	[Court Hire]	18
School Holiday - Single child / Concession - Week Pass	[Court Hire]	18
School Program - ALL	[Programs]	11
School Swimming Admin Fee	[Casual Fees]	17
Search Fee	[Freedom of Information (Access Charges) Regulations 2014]	7
Secondary Consent	[Planning and Subdivision – Non Statutory]	23
Sheep & Lambs	[Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange]	36
Sheep Ear Tag – Supply	[Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange]	37
Sheep or Goat	[Impoundment]	9
Sheep or Goat	[Sustenance While Impounded]	9
Simplex A3 (Black & White)	[Other]	13
Simplex A3 (Colour)	[Other]	13
Simplex A4 (Black & White)	[Other]	13
Simplex A4 (Colour)	[Other]	13
Single	[Squash / Table Tennis]	18
Single	[Bed Mattress]	35
Single Concession	[Squash / Table Tennis]	18
Small (30x30x30)	[E-Waste]	35
Small Animal Trap – Deposit	[Fees and Permits]	8
Soft Furnishings	[Other]	35
Special Events	[User Group Fees]	19
Stage 1 - Use only	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	28
Stage 1 For: a) considering a request to amend a planning scheme; and b) taking action required by Division 1 of Part 3 of the Act; and c) considering any submissions which do not seek a change to the amendment; and d) if applicable, abandoning the amendment	[Table 1: Fees for Amendment to Planning Scheme (Regulation 6)]	27
Stage 10 - VicSmart Application (other than a class 7, 8 or 9 permit)	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	28

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
S [continued]		
Stage 11 - To develop land (other than a class 2, class 3, class 7 or class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is less than \$100,000	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	28
Stage 12 - To develop land (other than a class 4, class 5, or class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$100,000 and not more than \$1,000,000	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	29
Stage 13 - To develop land (other than a class 6 or class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$1,000,000 and not more than \$5,000,000	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	29
Stage 14 - To develop land (other than a class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$5,000,000 and not more than \$15,000,000	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	29
Stage 15 - To develop land (other than a class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$15,000,000 and not more than \$50,000,000	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	29
Stage 16 - To develop land (other than a class 8 or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$50,000,000*	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	29
Stage 17 - To subdivide an existing building (other than a class 9 permit)	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	29
Stage 18 - To subdivide land into 2 lots (other than a class 9 or class 16 permit)	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	29
Stage 19 - To effect a realignment of a common boundary between lots or consolidate 2 or more lots (other than a class 9 permit)	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	29
Stage 2 - To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 7 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is \$10,000 or less	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	28
Stage 2 For (i) up to and including 10 submissions which seek a change to an amendment and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel; or	[Table 1: Fees for Amendment to Planning Scheme (Regulation 6)]	27
Stage 2 For (ii) 11 to (and including) 20 submissions which seek a change to an amendment and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel; or	[Table 1: Fees for Amendment to Planning Scheme (Regulation 6)]	27
Stage 2 For (iii) Submissions that exceed 20 submissions which seek a change to an amendment, and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel; and	[Table 1: Fees for Amendment to Planning Scheme (Regulation 6)]	27
Stage 20 - Subdivide land (other than a class 9, class 16, class 17 or class 18 permit)	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	29
Stage 21 - To a) create, vary or remove a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988; or b) create or remove a right of way; or c) create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or d) vary or remove a condition in the nature of an easement (other than right of way) in a Crown grant.	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	29
Stage 22 - A permit not otherwise provided for in the regulation	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	29
Stage 3 - To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$10,000 but not more than \$100,000	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	28

Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
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Stage 3 For a) adopting the amendment or part of the amendment in accordance with section 29 of the Act; and b) submitting the amendment for approval by the Minister in accordance with section 31 of the Act; and c) giving the notice of the approval of the amendment required by section 36(2) of the Act.	[Table 1: Fees for Amendment to Planning Scheme (Regulation 6)]	27
Stage 4 - To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$100,000 but not more than \$500,000	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	28
Stage 4 For a) consideration by the Minister of a request to approve the amendment in accordance with section 35 of the Act; and b) giving notice of approval of the amendment in accordance with section 36(1) of the Act.	[Table 1: Fees for Amendment to Planning Scheme (Regulation 6)]	28
Stage 5 - To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$500,000 but not more than \$1,000,000	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	28
Stage 6 - To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of development is more than \$1,000,000 but not more than \$2,000,000	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	28
Stage 7 - VicSmart application if the estimated cost of development is \$10,000 or less	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	28
Stage 8 - VicSmart application if the estimated cost of development is more than \$10,000	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	28
Stage 9 - VicSmart application to subdivide or consolidate land	[Table 2: Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Regulation 9)]	28
Steel – Non Contaminated	[Other]	35
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Stock Feeding - Small Bale	[Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange]	37
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Street parties, street festivals and processions less than 100 people	[Fees - Community Local Law No.1 of 2022]	8
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Technical Support - Additional Hours as Required after 8 hours	[Other]	13
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Technical Support – Additional Hours as Required	[Other]	13
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Touch Up Linemarking	[All Council reserves & facilities]	22
Tractor – Diameter <1m	[Tyres]	35
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ATTACHMENT ONE – SUBMISSIONS TABLE

SUBMISSION NO.	PROPERTY	COMMENTS (<i>VERBATIM</i>)
1	11 Leahy Street	<p>It has recently been brought to my attention the councils plan for the property at 11 Leahy Street Hamilton. Having been a resident/owner of 8 Leahy Street for more than 40 years I wish to voice my concerns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council is in the process of applying for Adverse possession of this land. My understanding is this land was bequeathed to the residents of Leahy St as a green area by the land's original owners, the Leahy family. In fact, when we first took up residence in the street it had installed children's playground equipment. This equipment was quietly removed by council, with no reference to any residents in the area some years ago. This land represents the final public green space in the street. Whilst the councils plan to donate the land to a philanthropic group is to be commended, I wish to point out this little street already has a public housing the land in question being almost opposite. Traffic/parking in the street is already difficult due to its narrowness and the street being dead-end. During the neighbouring government schools drop off and pick up time this becomes especially of concern. The potential of units being constructed would severely impact the convenience and safety of the street's residents. Finally, and naturally, I am concerned about the potential impact of this proposal on property values and safety of residents in the immediate area. <p>I would be more than happy to discuss this matter further, if required.</p>
2	11 Leahy Street	<p>I am writing this email to formally protest the acquisition and donation of 11 Leahy street, Hamilton, to Women's Housing Limited (WHL). Whilst I do agree with the reasoning behind social housing, I do believe the location is a poor choice for the following reasons.</p>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poor Road Access – Leahy St only has one entry and exit point. It is a very narrow street and if there is a vehicle parked on either side of the road, it is impossible for larger vehicles (Rubbish Collection, Emergency Services, etc) to pass by. 2. Location – The proposed site backs on to a highly attended local school. 3. Last Green Space – This is the last remaining green space in our neighbourhood. With multiple young children in Leahy St, this is important for play and exercise in a safe and controlled environment. 4. De-Valuation of Assets – The vast majority of residents in Leahy St are Owner-Occupiers. The building of social housing in the street will cause de-valuation of the residents' primary financial asset. <p>I look forward to hearing from you and discussing further.</p>
3	11 Leahy Street	<p>Hi Aaron, I dropped off our formal objection letter at the Shire offices today. Mel advised that I could send our personal objection letter to you. Can you please disregard my first email as we have more information now and the first one was a little off the cuff!. Thanks for your help. As you will see, a lot of time and effort has gone into our communal objection but as I feel we have the most to lose as it were, I wanted to add a personal touch.</p> <p>We live at ■ Leahy Street Hamilton which is adjacent to ■ Leahy Street which you have advertised your intention to donate to Women's Housing Limited. We are part of a group objection from local residents, however, I would like to give some more personal views. As I stated in my earlier email, we have resided in Leahy Street since 1978. A lot of families have come and gone but the block has been consistently used for various purposes over the years and is truly communal space. Was there a reason 11 Leahy Street was chosen for donation rather than the other blocks? The David Street block is much larger and would allow for more units. Moreover, Council do not own the block. It belongs to the estate of George Christoson Shilcock (Appendix 1 attached), How can you donate what you don't own? Even more concerning is that, according to the Plan of Subdivision of crown allotments 54 & 55 Section A, Parish of North Hamilton, Document Number LP 15579 (Appendix 2 attached), 11 Leahy Street</p>

		<p>is designated Recreation Reserve No. 1. This subdivision occurred in 1940. Therefore, 11 Leahy Street has been a reserve for 86 years. That precedent cannot be ignored. Isn't it worth \$1200 per year plus the fire services levy to maintain a community space? Why were these facts not disclosed to councillors at the 10th February 2026 council meeting where the disposal of several blocks was on the agenda? Isn't a certain percentage of subdivision supposed to be green space? The lack of transparency and consultation with residents and councillors is disappointing to say the least. On a purely personal level, we were devastated when we found out about your intentions. There were several sleepless nights worried about the implications for us. The block has been an extension of our home for nearly fifty years and with no warning, not just our tranquil lifestyle but our near neighbours as well has been taken away. We have cared for the block for many years, well before council started mowing it. It is only mowed sporadically and usually with our prompting. Meanwhile we keep it as tidy as we can. While we recognise that public housing is urgently needed, multi-unit public housing on a small block in a narrow street which already has traffic congestion problems, is a daunting prospect. We have a public housing residence over the road which has had numerous visits from police over the years not to mention loud and frightening incidents in the street. We respectfully request you reconsider your position on this matter.</p>
4	<p>11 Leahy Street *NOTE THAT THIS PETITION CONTAINS 34 SIGNATURES*</p>	<p>We, the undersigned residents of Leahy Street Hamilton and other concerned citizens write to formally object to the proposed gifting of 11 Leahy Street Hamilton to Women's Housing Limited, and for it to remain as a recreation reserve for the local community as it was purposed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appendix 1: attached. According to Transfer of Land Act 1958, Reserve 1 on Plan of Subdivision 015579, Parent Title Volume 11604, 06350 Folio 782. 873, the registered proprietor, Estate Fee simple, Sole Proprietor is George Christoson Shilcock of Hamilton Vic 3300. Application No. 049955. Therefore the land is not "surplus council-owned property" as stated in public notices. Council cannot dispose of land it does not legally own.

		<p>2. Appendix 2: attached. Document LP015579, Plan of Subdivision of Crown Allotments 54 & 55 Section A, Parish of North Hamilton, County of Dundas, Volume 6350, Folio 873 dated 1940 clearly shows 11 Leahy Street is Recreation Reserve No. 1. The land was clearly planned as recreation reserve for the use of the neighbourhood as an open community space. As the subdivision was planned in 1940, it has been a communal space for 86 years.</p> <p>3. Appendix 3: attached, is a list of opposed residents.</p> <p>4. Appendix 4: attached, is a list of questions for the council.</p> <p><u>Questions:</u></p> <p>The original subdivision plan identifies this parcel as 'Recreation Ground No. 1'. When the title was created in 2015, was that recreation reserve status formally removed?</p> <p>Has the council properly assessed the need for local open space before declaring it surplus?</p> <p>The original subdivision plan LP15579 clearly designates this parcel as 'Recreation Ground No. 1' for the use of the purchasers in the subdivision. As the subdivision has not been amended, we ask the council to explain why land set aside for recreation is now considered surplus.</p> <p>Can the Council hold the title, or is ownership still with the estate/heirs of George Christoson Shilcock?</p> <p>If ownership is unclear, what steps will the Council take to clarify and formalize it?</p> <p>Can the Council confirm that the property is officially recorded as recreation space?</p> <p>Are there any plans to change the classification or intended use of the property?</p> <p>Has the Council taken any steps to formally recognize or maintain the land as a recreation space?</p> <p>How does the Council ensure that long-standing use and community interest in recreation space are considered in planning decisions?</p>
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		<p>5. Appendix 5: attached, is a statement of concerns. <u>Our key concerns are:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Loss of the last remaining green space in the neighbourhood. 11 Leahy Street represents the last remaining green space in our immediate neighbourhood. Over many years, this space has been used and appreciated by local families and residents. With three newborn children welcomed into our street in the past three years, this green space provides an important and safe outdoor area for young families. Removing this land as a recreation reserve would permanently eliminate a valuable community asset that contributes to the wellbeing, recreation and liveability of the neighbourhood. 2. Safety concerns in a dead-end street. Leahy Street is a dead-end street, with only entry and exit point. Any increase in traffic volume would directly impact the safety of existing residents. In emergency situations, congestion with vehicles parked on both sides of the street and increased vehicle movement could create additional risk. The limited access point must be carefully considered in any development proposal. 3. Parking and traffic risks during school pick up and drop off times. Parking in Leahy Street is already limited. The street effectively functions as a laneway during school pick up and drop off times. There are existing safety concerns, particularly when vehicles enter and exit the street during these peak times. Visibility is restricted when pulling out, and the combination of parked cars and through-traffic creates a hazardous situation. Additional residential development, particularly high-density development is likely to intensify these risks. 4. Potential devaluation of surrounding properties Residents are also concerned about the potential impact this proposal may have on the value of existing properties in Leahy Street. Many homeowners have invested significant financial resources into their properties and rely
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		<p>on their home as they primary asset. Any development that may negatively affect property value presents a serious financial concern for residents in our street.</p> <p>5. Existing public housing and community safety concerns</p> <p>Our street already includes a public housing property. Whilst we acknowledge the importance of social and affordable housing within the community, there have been multiple visits to the existing public housing residence by local police. This has raised genuine safety concerns amongst residents.</p> <p>We respectfully request that council reconsider the proposal and undertake thorough consultation with the community. We also request a traffic and safety assessment before making any decision.</p> <p>This green space and the safety of our neighbourhood are matters of significant importance to residents, and we ask that our concerns are given proper consideration.</p> <p><u>In conclusion:</u></p> <p>Regarding ownership, there is no documented evidence confirming that legal ownership has passed to the Council or any other party. This means that until ownership is formally established, any proposal to sell, gift, lease or otherwise dispose of the land would not be legally valid.</p> <p>The Council notice states that these properties have been identified as having ‘no foreseeable future’. Given that this land is recorded as a recreation space, it is important to understand how that determination was made, what criteria were used, and whether the existing classification and historical status of the land were properly considered in that assessment.</p> <p>If the identification is internal policy or assessment, and not properly documented, “no foreseeable future” is an opinion, not a legal fact.</p> <p>The precedent of its classification as a recreation space carries legal and community significance. Longstanding recognition of the land as a recreation space establishes an expectation of continued public use, and any change in status must comply with statutory requirements, planning instruments, and legal obligations.</p>
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		<p>Based on this evidence, we respectfully request that the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm the current legal ownership of the property. • Ensure that Council records accurately reflect its classification as a recreation space. • If the council has legally identified this property of 11 Leahy Street to be no longer a Recreation reserve, we formally request for it to be restored to its previous status, and remove it off the list of “surplus council-owned properties” • Adhere to all statutory and procedural requirements before considering any change in use. • Maintain transparency and involve the community in any future decisions regarding this land. <p>These steps are necessary to protect both the legal integrity of the property and the community interest it represents.</p> <p>We thank the Council for considering this information and respectfully request a formal response regarding the property’s current status.</p> <p>Respectfully, Residents of Leahy Street Hamilton and the wider community.</p>
5	11 Leahy Street	The selling of surplus land at 11 Leahy Street for commission housing. The residents of Leahy Street dispute this and therefore should not be sold. It is a piece of land that is historical to the street and should not be sold.
6	11 Leahy Street	I’m live at [REDACTED] Leahy St Hamilton. The small space at 11 Leahy Street is the only green space on the street, Leahy street is very narrow and quite densely built on street with mostly senior residents some having lived here in excess of 50 years and they use this area and street for gentle exercise. In recent times several young families have moved into the street with young children. It’s a safe quiet street even tho it’s next to Baimbridge College with some students using the street to go to and from school. Early morning and school exit time it’s very tricky exiting or entering Leahy Street with kids, buses and pick up time not to mention parking issues. I personally think this space should be assigned to the college for teacher and student use with no entry from Leahy street as it actually backs onto college grounds and would make good

		sense to link this vacant block to college for horticulture or gardening use and teaching purposes.
7	11 Leahy Street	Objection via telephone. Await formal submission shortly.
8	11 Leahy Street	<p>GROUP SUBMISSION LETTER</p> <p>Dear Southern Grampians Shire Council,</p> <p>Further to our objection letter 16th March 2026, we write with additional feedback regarding our objection to the proposed donation and any rezoning of 11 Leahy Street, Hamilton. This land is a designated recreation reserve and its disposal would be inconsistent with Council's adopted strategic frameworks, the planning scheme, and the long-term interests of the Hamilton community.</p> <p>1. Strategic inconsistency with Council plans</p> <p>Council's <i>Community Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021–2025</i> clearly prioritises access to open space to support physical activity, mental health, and social connection. In a regional centre such as Hamilton, local recreation reserves are critical pieces of social infrastructure that contribute directly to these outcomes. Similarly, the <i>Sustainability Strategy 2024–2041</i> emphasises the importance of protecting green space, enhancing biodiversity, and building climate resilience. Open space such as 11 Leahy Street contributes to urban cooling, stormwater absorption, and ecological value—functions that will become increasingly important over time. The proposed sale and rezoning would therefore directly contradict both strategies by removing an established community and environmental asset.</p> <p>2. Planning Scheme – Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ)</p> <p>If 11 Leahy Street is currently zoned under the Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) within the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme, the primary purpose of that zone is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise areas for public recreation and open space • Protect and conserve areas of significance where appropriate • Ensure land is available for public use and enjoyment

		<p>Rezoning land from PPRZ to a residential or commercial zone requires clear strategic justification. In this case, such a change would represent a net loss of public open space, which is generally discouraged unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The land is demonstrably surplus to community needs, and • Equivalent or better open space is provided nearby <p>Without this, the rezoning would be inconsistent with the intent of the zone and broader planning policy.</p> <p>3. Victorian Planning Policy Framework (VPPF)</p> <p>State planning policy strongly supports the protection of open space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clause 11 (Settlement) encourages healthy, liveable communities with access to open space • Clause 12 (Environmental and Landscape Values) promotes protection of natural assets • Clause 19 (Infrastructure) recognises open space as essential community infrastructure <p>Removing a recreation reserve in an established town like Hamilton conflicts with these principles, particularly where the land already serves a community function.</p> <p>4. Net Community Benefit and Irreversibility</p> <p>Planning decisions must deliver a net community benefit. The permanent loss of public land must be weighed against any proposed private gain.</p> <p>Once sold and rezoned, this land will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No longer be publicly accessible • Be unavailable for future community needs • Be extremely difficult and costly to replace <p>Given population change, climate pressures, and increasing demand for green space, retaining existing reserves is far more prudent than disposing of them.</p> <p>5. Precedent and cumulative impact</p> <p>Allowing the sale and rezoning of a recreation reserve sets a concerning precedent. Incremental loss of open space over time can significantly erode the liveability of Hamilton and undermine long-term strategic planning.</p>
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		<p>6. Alternative approach</p> <p>Rather than selling the land, Council should consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing the reserve's usability and amenity • Supporting passive and active recreation opportunities • Leveraging the site for environmental and community wellbeing outcomes in line with Council's adopted strategies <p>Conclusion</p> <p>The proposed sale and rezoning of 11 Leahy Street is inconsistent with Council's own strategic plans, the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme, and State planning policy. It would result in the permanent loss of valuable public open space and diminish the health, environmental, and social outcomes for the Hamilton community.</p> <p>I respectfully request that Council retain 11 Leahy Street as a recreation reserve and abandon any proposal to rezone or dispose of this land.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, Residents of Leahy Street, Hamilton.</p>
9	Grosvenor Place	<p>We hereby object to the proposed sale of the parcel of 4,033m² of land known for years by residents as "Grosvenor Common", located between Grosvenor Place and Windsor Drive, Hamilton, VIC 3000.</p> <p>We, along with other neighbouring residences, have enjoyed this designated recreational area over the years as a safe haven for exercise, playing cricket and footy, and walking our dogs, as well as a general gathering place for locals to picnic and socialise.</p> <p>Grosvenor Common is also used by school children as a corridor to walk through to and from school.</p> <p>The common also has a large, well established trees that is used for nesting by a large tribe of Magpies and often visited by Sulphur-crested cockatoos and Lorikeets.</p> <p>The original Developer was required to transfer land for green space to the Shire to manage the impact of new development on communities and the environment. This ensures essential public open space, recreational areas, and natural environmental</p>

		<p>protection, fostering improved health, biodiversity, and community wellbeing. It is a standard requirement for sustainable development and infrastructure planning.</p> <p>Key reasons for this requirement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure Contributions: New developments increase demand on public infrastructure, and land transfer is a form of contribution to meet that demand. • Environmental Protection and Climate Change: Green spaces protect biodiversity, help manage stormwater, improve air quality, and mitigate the "urban heat island" effect, keeping areas cooler. • Community Wellbeing: These spaces offer areas for recreation, exercise, and social interaction, supporting mental and physical health. • Maintaining Liveability: Green space adds aesthetic value and improves the overall quality of life in rapidly expanding areas. • Green Wedges/Buffers: Similar to metropolitan Melbourne, regional areas use these zones to prevent uncontrolled sprawl and preserve natural environments or agricultural land. <p> www.planning.vic.gov.au +7</p> <p>These requirements are often part of the planning permit process, such as Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs), ensuring that, as populations grow, necessary public amenities are provided.</p> <p>We look forward to your confirmation that other abundant land in Hamilton, VIC, will be used for housing, and the subject parcel of land will remain for years to come for recreational purposes and not be sold off for housing.</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p>
10	Grosvenor Place	<p>We hereby object to the proposed sale of the parcel of 4,033m² of land known for years by residents as "Grosvenor Common", located between Grosvenor Place and Windsor Drive, Hamilton, VIC 3000.</p> <p>We, along with other neighbouring residences, have enjoyed this designated recreational area over the years as a haven for exercise, playing cricket and footy, and</p>

		<p>walking our dogs, as well as a general gathering place for locals to picnic and socialise.</p> <p>There are no footpaths close to Grosvenor Place in the heavy traffic areas of Hensley Park Road and King Street; therefore, school children use Grosvenor Common as a way to walk through to and from school.</p> <p>The Common also has large, well-established trees that are used for nesting by a large tribe of Magpies and often visited by Sulphur-crested Cockatoos, Lorikeets, and Kola Bears.</p> <p>Grosvenor Common forms part of the reasonable water management that flows downhill as runoff from Windsor Drive, through to Grosvenor Place.</p> <p>The original Developer was required to transfer land for green space to the Shire to manage the impact of new development on communities and the environment. This ensures essential public open space, recreational areas, and natural environmental protection, fostering improved health, biodiversity, and community wellbeing. It is a standard requirement for sustainable development and infrastructure planning.</p> <p>Key reasons for this requirement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure Contributions: New developments increase demand on public infrastructure, and land transfer is a form of contribution to meet that demand. • Environmental Protection and Climate Change: Green spaces protect biodiversity, help manage stormwater, improve air quality, and mitigate the "urban heat island" effect, keeping areas cooler. • Community Wellbeing: These spaces offer areas for recreation, exercise, and social interaction, supporting mental and physical health. • Maintaining Liveability: Green space adds aesthetic value and improves the overall quality of life in rapidly expanding areas. • Green Wedges/Buffers: Similar to metropolitan Melbourne, regional areas use these zones to prevent uncontrolled sprawl and preserve natural environments or agricultural land.
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		<p>These requirements are often part of the planning permit process, such as Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs), ensuring that, as populations grow, necessary public amenities are provided.</p> <p>To ensure the Southern Grampians Shire continues to be the best place to live, we look forward to your support and confirmation that the subject “Grosvenor Common” parcel of land will remain for years to come for recreational purposes and not be sold off for housing. Yours faithfully,</p>
11	Grosvenor Place	<p>Email to Council, To Mr Tony Doyle CEO SGSC, I wish to express my concerns regarding the possible sale of the land between Grosvenor Place and Windsor Drive, known as Grosvenor common.</p> <p>To my knowledge this parcel of land was donated to council as part of a subdivision requirement approx 20 years ago. The subdivision required a percentage of the land to be allocated to parkland.</p> <p>This parkland is used frequently</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -for a safe passage for school children to walk to and from school and for children to catch the bus in king st. (Note there is no footpaths on that section of king st) - childrens activities, riding bikes and scooters, ball games including football and cricket -social gatherings of local residents -for dog walkers and people walking through to lake Hamilton Native animals reside in this parkland space, having seen many koalas, wallabies and native birds. <p>Many residents in this area purchased their land or established homes for the serenity of this area. Selling this parcel of land especially to social housing would devalue our properties.</p> <p>We did not receive formal notice that this was an agenda item at the council meeting. Please reconsider the sale of this parkland green space which is enjoyed by many of the ratepayers.</p> <p>Thanking you</p>
12	Grosvenor Place	<p>I believe there are a number of issues that have not been brought to Council attention about this reserve, known locally as Grosvenor Common:-</p>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safety of Pedestrians, especially Children. Children walk daily through the reserve to primary schools on Macarthur St., and also down to the Monivae bus stop on King St. Alternative routes are not safe for pedestrians. Neither Hensley Park Rd. nor King St. has a footpath. Hensley Park Rd. is a designated B-double route and King St, has a road cutting that is unsafe for ANY pedestrian. 2. Potential COST to Council to manage Existing Engineering Infrastructure. Grosvenor Common has an installed electricity <u>power kiosk</u> which catastrophically exploded during an electrical storm on one occasion. It also has <u>earth works for flood mitigation</u>, designed to direct flood waters from Windsor Cres. Into Grosvenor Place, thus protecting houses on the lower side of the reserve. Presumably there would be a cost to council for these to be attended to before any sale of the land could proceed. 3. Breach of Council Policy. Your own policy state:- <i>“Community Infrastructure and Assets – We will deliver well-planned, high quality infrastructure and spaces that connect people and respond to community needs.....”</i> The <u>green space</u> of Grosvenor Common was compulsorily acquired by council from the developer of the surrounding streets, to be set aside as a childrens playground and is shown as such on ALL plans of the subdivision. That <u>need</u> continues. The reserve is used regularly by small children to kick a footy, play cricket, and learn to ride a bike. It is also walked daily by locals for passive recreation, and is a place where <u>people connect</u>. It is <u>needed</u> for safe pedestrian movement. 4. Shortage of Housing does NOT EQUAL Shortage of Land! There are 6 unsold blocks of land in the immediate vicinity! Grosvenor Common at 4000+m² might attract interest for higher density housing which would immediately lead to a traffic management problem given the very narrow access to the reserve from either Grosvenor Place or Windsor Crescent. 5. REDUCED Council Revenue. Potential sale of the reserve would immediately devalue the surrounding properties, their values particularly
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		<p>supported by the adjacent green space. Rates collected from these properties would likely decline. In addition, Council compulsorily acquired the reserve from the developer of the housing estate for a children's playground. If it was truly no longer required for the designated purpose, Council would be obliged to return the land to the developer and bear the costs of transfer of land back to the developer. Any alternative would be theft.</p> <p>It seems that the proposal to sell the reserve at Grosvenor Place was made without adequate public consultation and consequently a lack of awareness of all issues involved. There are many good reasons to keep Grosvenor Common, all originally deemed important and all equally relevant and important now and in the future, It should remain as public green space as originally intended. Yours sincerely,</p>
13	Grosvenor Place	<p>Dear Council, I have just become aware that the Council has listed a recently acquired "Grosvenor Place Common" as "surplus to requirements" and of "no future Council use" and possibly sold.</p> <p>I need to draw your attention to the fact that <u>it</u> is needed and used, and <u>is not</u> seen as "surplus to requirement by the residents of the area".</p> <p>I also need to draw your attention to the fact that it was acquired by Council as a common area <u>NEEDED</u> for Council approval for the large housing development in the area. I agree with that requirement but it seems a complete reversal by your Council to now think about selling it to more development. In fact it seems to me to smell of hypocrisy by this Council.</p> <p>I was shocked to read that Council would even consider selling a reserved area seen by Council as a needed activities area when acquired and now seen by Council as not required. I can assure you that the residents see it as needed by present & future generations as a green common space for exercise & activities. It was obviously seen by past Council as "just that".</p> <p>I am not familiar with the other areas in this proposal and don't want to comment on them, but if this proceeds it will paint Council as "out of touch" to a lot of local people. Hoping for more favourable decisions by Council, Yours sincerely,</p>

14	Grosvenor Place	<p>To the CEO Mr Tony Doyle.</p> <p>Dear Tony, I am writing a letter of absolute rejection to your proposal to sell land at Grosvenor Place that we of the neighbourhood call our Grosvenor common.</p> <p>I have consulted with the developer who had compulsorily had to leave "1 acre" as parkland/ reserve/community space. This ideal also is in line with your current infrastructure plans.</p> <p>This is an extremely well used public/community space. Every day young school students walk/ride through to school in Macarthur St. Also older students walk down to Hensley Park Rd to catch a Monivae bus. Walking up/down King St is dangerous as there is no footpath. also traffic comes over the King St hill at speed- sometimes over limit.</p> <p>Children regularly use this space to ride bicycles, kick footballs, soccer balls etc. Also little ones learning to ride their bicycles.</p> <p>My grandchildren use this space on their visits home as do other grandchildren some of whom live in Hamilton.</p> <p>It is such a valuable wll used space. Adults walk through getting their exercise and also walk their dogs.</p> <p>My main concern is that our home is strategically placed to enjoy a green, pleasant outlook facing North and East. Any future building would obliterate our current outlook. That is the main reason we purchased the property in 1999 when we came into town from a rural property.</p> <p>We DO NOT want bricks and mortar blocking views from the four main rooms looking out.</p> <p>And what about devaluation. Our home would be severely impacted by any future building. Also council would receive reduced rate income by the devaluation of all properties surrounding the lovely green space.</p> <p>Council mowing expense for this small area is trivial in the overall mowing budget.</p> <p>Traffic in/out is another negative factor for us.</p> <p>There is very substantial run off down the path to Grosvenor Place after heavy rains.</p>
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		<p>It is thoughtless to reclaim this space for housing and in particular any high density accommodation. I Thought we are meant to be GREENING AUSTRALIA - NOT making a CONCRETE JUNGLE.. My husband [REDACTED] and I chose to live here 26 years ago because of the green space and the pleasant quiet area in a no through road Street. Another factor is emergency access. In 2009 my husband had a severe brain hemorrhage and the ambulance was able to collect him via the back gate onto the common. This enabled them to get him into emergency at the hospital much more quickly and this probably saved his life.</p> <p>I also quote from your own council policy - "To deliver well planned high quality infrastructure and spaces that connect people and respond to community needs" , Your proposal quite clearly contravenes your policy.</p> <p>Also there are many other areas/blocks far more suited to your plans. Rippon Rd and Fyfe St and others I havent named.</p> <p>PLEASE,PLEASE , P:LEASE reconsider. Yours sincerely,</p>
15	Grosvenor Place	<p>Mr Tony Doyle CEO shire of Southern Grampians Shire Council.</p> <p>I am writing to you again , this time on behalf of my husband, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] had a stroke in March last year and is unable to write clearly and does not use a computer. We Co-own Nos [REDACTED] and no [REDACTED] Grosvenor Place. Our home is built on No [REDACTED]. It was designed and strategically placed to appreciate the green space. No [REDACTED] is garden and was incorporated in the original design to also maximise outlook onto green space. That block has two sides abutting the reserve.</p> <p>Any future buildings would destroy our outlook from all four main rooms of our house, and subsequent traffic could be annoying to say the least.</p> <p>There is significant strain on his mental health due to the proposal and to mine also.</p> <p>The property devaluation ensuing development would be devastating and is extremely concerning. He supports all the information in my previous email.</p> <p>Please do NOT go ahead with the sale of our precious reserve . There are plenty of much more suitable blocks of land for you to consider in Hamilton</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>

16	Grosvenor Place	<p>Dear Tony, We are writing to express our concerns regarding the Council's consideration to sell off the park land between Grosvenor Place and Windsor Drive. This park land is referred locally as Grosvenor Common.</p> <p>Firstly, we have been advised that when this particular area was subdivided for housing there was a requirement from Council that ten percent of any subdivision was to be donated to Council for use as parkland. This area was for the recreation and enjoyment of those living in the area. The sale of this parkland will devalue nearby properties. My wife and myself built a home in [REDACTED], once it was announced that the State Government were building social housing on Ballarat Road we sold and purchased our property in [REDACTED] as the area offered a quiet street with nearby parkland and no through road. The sale of Grosvenor Common will of course change all this.</p> <p>The area under consideration for sale is used on a daily basis by school children to walk to either the local schools or to a bus stop to travel the other schools. This park is the only safe access way for pedestrians to travel as there are no foot paths for safe transit along King Street.</p> <p>The street width in both Grosvenor Place and Windsor Drive are relatively narrow, with a vehicle parked on the street it is often necessary to give way to other vehicles to let them pass. Any increase in traffic movement will aggravate this situation.</p> <p>The majority of residents residing in this area are of an older age group living in family homes, over the next few years many of the homes will become available for sale. This in turn is an opportunity for Hamilton to attract families to the area particularly if there is nearby parkland for them to enjoy.</p> <p>We hereby ask that your Council reconsider the proposed sale of this land.</p>
17	Grosvenor Place	<p>Dear Councillors,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed sale or disposal of the 4,033m² parcel of Council-owned land located between Grosvenor Place and Windsor Drive, Hamilton, commonly known by local residents as Grosvenor Common.</p> <p>I am relatively new to the area, having purchased my home a little over a year ago. One of the reasons I chose this neighbourhood was the presence of Grosvenor Common.</p>

		<p>From the start, it stood out as a shared space that gives the area an open, welcoming feel.</p> <p>It is clearly valued by the people who live here and plays an important role in bringing neighbours together.</p> <p>Over the past year, I have seen the Common used regularly by residents for walking, informal games, exercising dogs, and simply spending time outdoors.</p> <p>It is also one of the few places in the immediate area where children can play and move about safely, away from busy roads. That sense of safety and visibility is something many families appreciate and rely on. There are no proper footpaths along nearby roads such as Hensley Park Road and King Street, which carry a lot of traffic. Because of this, the Common is also used as a safer route for school children walking to and from school. Removing this space would make everyday movement through the area less safe, particularly for younger residents.</p> <p>The land also contains established trees that support local wildlife. Magpies nest there, and the area is regularly visited by sulphur-crested cockatoos, lorikeets, and koalas. These trees add to the character of the neighbourhood and provide much-needed shade, which is increasingly important during hotter summers.</p> <p>It is my understanding that this land was originally set aside as public open space as part of the development of the area. Spaces like Grosvenor Common are not easily replaced once they are gone, and selling it would represent a permanent loss to the neighbourhood.</p> <p>As someone who deliberately chose to live here because of the sense of space, community, and liveability, I would be very disappointed to see this land sold off. I believe retaining Grosvenor Common as public open space is in the best interests of both current residents and those who will live here in the future.</p> <p>I respectfully ask Council to reconsider the proposed disposal and to ensure that Grosvenor Common remains a community space for years to come.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to consider this objection.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>
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18	Grosvenor Place	<p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed sale of the parkland located at Grosvenor Court.</p> <p>This land was originally acquired by Council as part of subdivision requirements for the purpose of providing public access and parkland for the surrounding community. It was transferred to Council at a nil value on the understanding that it would remain available for community recreation and open space.</p> <p>If Council determines that this land is no longer required for its original purpose as public parkland, it would be more appropriate for it to be returned to the original developer rather than sold on the open market.</p> <p>The land was not purchased by Council in the conventional sense but was instead provided as a planning requirement for community benefit.</p> <p>The Grosvenor park is actively used by local residents and families. It provides a valuable open space where children play cricket, ride balance bikes, and families gather for informal recreation such as frisbee and ball games. Grandparents and great-grandchildren regularly use the space together, and it has become an important part of the local neighbourhood.</p> <p>Over the next three years, the number of families in the area is expected to grow. Some of the original families in the neighbourhood are beginning to downsize, while new young families are moving into the area. This natural change in demographics will likely increase the use of this land and further increase demand for accessible local open space such as the Grosvenor park. Unlike other nearby vacant blocks, this park is particularly suitable for recreational use.</p> <p>The nature of the landscape means it requires relatively minimal maintenance compared with other sites.</p> <p>Local residents also take pride in the area and have historically helped maintain it where required.</p> <p>Removing this parkland would reduce the availability of community open space in a growing residential area. Given the anticipated population growth and the current level</p>
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		<p>of community use, retaining the parkland would better serve the long-term needs of local residents.</p> <p>I would also like clarification regarding the level of community consultation that has taken place in relation to the proposed sale of this land. As this park forms part of the neighbourhood's public open space and is regularly used by local residents, it is important that the surrounding community is properly consulted before any decision is made regarding its disposal.</p> <p>In addition, the size, shape, and limited entry access to the land raise questions about how suitable the site is for further subdivision or development. I question whether a detailed planning assessment has been undertaken by Council's town planning department to properly consider the practical constraints of the site, including access, layout, and the feasibility of any future subdivision options. These factors should be carefully reviewed before any decision is made to dispose of land that currently provides a valuable community benefit.</p> <p>Should Council still seek to place the land on the open market, careful consideration should be given to the size and configuration of the parcel being offered. In its entirety, the site is more likely to attract larger, corporate developers whose primary objective may be to maximise yield through higher-density 1 outcomes (for example, multiple 8–12 dwelling developments), which do not align with the existing character of the area.</p> <p>Once sold, Council's ability to influence the ultimate development outcome may be limited, particularly where experienced developers pursue approvals through the planning process and, if necessary, the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT). Proceeding in this manner could therefore result in an outcome that is inconsistent with community expectations and the established neighbourhood character.</p> <p>If disposal is to be considered at all, a more measured approach—such as reducing the size of the land parcel or exploring alternative subdivision options that better reflect the existing streetscape—may</p>
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		<p>present a more appropriate outcome and is more likely to be supported by the local community.</p> <p>Alternatively, if Council believes the land is genuinely no longer required for public park purposes, consideration should be given to returning the land to the original developer, [REDACTED], who has been responsible for the development of the surrounding areas for over 40 years, including Chelsea Place, St James, Windsor Drive and Grosvenor Place.</p> <p>I respectfully request that Council reconsider the proposed sale and instead retain the land for community use, or explore returning it to the original developer in recognition of the circumstances under which the land was originally provided.</p>
19	Grosvenor Place	<p>Dear Mr Doyle,</p> <p>We object to the proposed sale of public open space in Grosvenor Place on the following grounds,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any sale would lead to the subdivision of the land for residential use and result in a significant increase in noise and traffic in Grosvenor Place. 2. The open space is used as a walkway by many residents to connect to Windsor Drive, McArthur Street and two public schools. 3. The area is often used by young children to ride bikes and play ball games, 4. A number of properties adjoin this open space and have positioned and orientated their homes to maximise this open space, 5. Many properties have access via the open space area to provide emergency access and maximise their land usage, 6. The original subdivision was required to provide Public Open Space for the benefit of all new lots created in the area. This requirement has not changed and will be in greater demand in the future as the current vacant lots are developed, 7. Most residents in Hamilton prefer a reasonable size block of land and do not want developments similar to those happening in urban Melbourne, 8. There is still substantial residential zoned land in Hamilton to provide for any future housing development,

		<p>Finally we call on all Councillors to reconsider the proposed sale of land and allow the current situation to remain as unchanged.</p> <p>Yours faithfully,</p>
20	Grosvenor Place	<p>We wish to register objection to the sale of the area of land between Grosvenor Court & Windsor Drive.</p> <p>Our understanding is that the original site was required by council to be maintained as a green reserve & the wisdom of that council decision continues to be evident to residents in the area.</p> <p>We ask that councillors vote against the proposal to sell this land.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p>
21	Grosvenor Place	<p>Mr Tont Doyle CEO Southern Grampians Shire Council 111 Brown Street Hamilton VIC 3300.</p> <p>I would like to lodge my objection to the council disposal of land in Grosvenor Place, Hamilton.</p> <p>The land was set aside as a Reserve. This can be seen on the Plan of Subdivision of Crown Allotment 9 and part of Crown Allotments 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12. Reference: LP114492. Edition 1. Approved 16/2/79.</p> <p>Clearly marked 'Reserve No. 1 (Playground)'. (See attached)</p> <p>This map was part of the Section 32 when I bought my house in Grosvenor Place which reassured me that the empty block would not be built out.</p> <p>So it is intended as public open space to provide an amenity to the residents of Grosvenor place and the surrounding area. It was set aside by the developer as a condition of the development to provide that open space. Over subsequent decades even more development has occurred so the need for open space is even greater now than when it was originally set aside.</p> <p>How can the council arbitrarily decide to sell off public land that was clearly set aside as public open space? This sets a dangerous precedent for council to ignore the planning scheme in future and make windfall gains from land provided by a</p>

		<p>developer. This is clearly not the intention of the requirement for a developer to provide open space in a subdivision.</p> <p>I find the lack of consultation from the council to residents impacted by this proposal troubling. I would have expected a letter to affected ratepayers with an explanation of the proposal and guide to how to comment.</p> <p>What is the strategic justification for this decision? To say that there is a need for housing at the State level is spurious at best. What is the situation in Hamilton? How many unsold blocks are already on the market?</p> <p>The Grosvenor Common is used by the residents of McArthur Street, Windsor Place and St James Place as a safe connection to Lake Hamilton, Ray Middleton Reserve the Hamilton Hospital and beyond. It is a safe route to school for students attending Good Shepherd College and Hamilton and Alexandra College avoiding the busy King Street which is unsafe as it lacks a footpath. It is providing local interconnection not reliant on cars and fossil fuels.</p> <p>It is a place to meet the neighbours, walk the dog, play ball games and relax. The land has been used as a place of recreation and as a route of travel for more than twenty years - surely establishing a Public Right of Way over the land.</p> <p>The Common contributes to the biodiversity, health and sustainability of the area. These pockets of land are essential to maintain and improve biodiversity. Green spaces are essential for public health as they improve wellbeing. Australia has lost many endangered species and has a terrible record of extinction of species. The Common provides a wildlife corridor for animals to move between the edge of town and inner Hamilton and it is visited by many native species including magpies, cockatoos and koalas. There is a great opportunity to carefully replant local native species to improve the local flora and fauna, to boost biodiversity, improve public health through space for walking and connection. There is extensive research in this area from around the world proving the importance of green space.</p> <p>I look forward to the council rejecting this proposal and working to ensure that the land is protected as a place of recreation and green space in perpetuity.</p>
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		Yours sincerely,
22	Grosvenor Place	This space is used by the community and will be detrimental to us if sold. My children go there daily to play cricket, football and to ride their bikes. We see multiple children each day using it to get to and from Good Shepard as it is the only safe way for them to walk there due to there being no footpaths along king street or Hensley park road for them to use. It is also a natural water runway for the area as well. Having a large residential estate put in there not only takes away from our use of the space, but also increases traffic in our street. In recent years when a house was built on Windsor Drive, trades people used the entry from Grosvenor place to come and go at high speeds with no consideration for our neighbourhood. As the parent of young children this is a major safety concern. To move forward with this plan would take a safe space away from us all.
23	Grosvenor Place	I walk from McArthur st through the park on my way to the lake and would other wise have to walk beside the busy king street, as do school children and others. I also believe more details as to the size and number of blocks proposed would help with decisions. Will there still be a walk through? Will the roads be altered? How much more traffic?
24	Grosvenor Place	Dear Sir, I am most concerned regarding the proposal to sell council land adjacent to Grosvenor Place. This land abuts my property at [REDACTED]. I have existing rear access to Grosvenor Place via the Council land. I utilise this access regularly and therefore strongly oppose the proposed sale. The land in question also provides a valuable amenity for the local community for a range of uses, including a play area for children and a great area for Xmas get togethers by the locals. Yours sincerely,
25	8 David Street	Good morning, Thank you for your phone call this morning regarding the potential sale of 8 David Street, Hamilton. Please see below my notes in dot points to confirm your concerns in your submission against the potential sale and should there be anything further or you wish to correct, please feel free to contact me.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owns 2 neighbouring properties to 8 David Street, Hamilton: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [REDACTED]; and Very disappointed with Council that there was no letter drop to surrounding properties regarding this potential sale as he only just found out from neighbours. The legal obligations for Council to advertise in the newspaper and on their website may be legally correct but morally they should inform surrounding properties as a matter of courtesy and he finds this lazy on behalf of the Council. Approximately 20 years ago when their parents first purchased the property at [REDACTED], they were under the impression that 8 David Street remain a park (public reserve) and if there is a house or other buildings built on this land then there could potentially be a 6 meter high fence only @ 4 meters from the main bedroom. In this day and age of climate change and environmental concerns, James finds this unconscionable of Council to sell this land simply as a money grab for a minimal financial gain when green space is more important for people to enjoy, walk their dogs, throw a frisbee and simply be. Would also like Council to advise him of what they are going to do regarding the devaluation of his assets (property) values?
26	8 David Street	<p>Good afternoon, Thank you for meeting with me this morning regarding the Council's intention to dispose of 8 David Street, Hamilton. Please see below my notes in dot points to confirm your concerns in your submission against the potential disposal and should there be anything further or you wish to add or correct, please feel free to contact me.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [REDACTED] own [REDACTED] David Street, Hamilton since 1994 (since it was vacant land with the understanding that the "public reserve" would remain).

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [REDACTED] own [REDACTED] David Street, Hamilton since 2018 (a main selling point for the purchase was the open space next door “public reserve” and that it would remain that way). • The residents feel that the Council has already taken one green space (63 Gordon Street) in that area and that this would further diminish the green space surrounding that area. The closest other green spaces are Baimbridge Nature Reserve and HIRL, both of which are on North Boundary Road which does not have footpaths for pedestrians (or scooters for the elderly) and is also regularly used by large trucks. • In 1994, this area and surrounding lands were subdivided by [REDACTED] whose mother owned the entire “farm”. The various lots were sold for residential land with the proviso that this block of land be gifted to the Council and to remain as green space (public reserve) – there were some native trees specifically planted on that area for these purposes. • The residents feel that there has been a real lack of consultation with the community surrounding this block regarding the potential sale. It has been requested that the Councillors visit the site so that they can have a visualisation of the beauty of it and clearly see that it is not simply a “road reserve” or vacant block but rather a very special place that is home to native wildlife (including Koalas, native birds, etc). If the Councillors could actually see with their own eyes as part of this public consultation and perhaps meet with a couple of the residents to see what improvements they have made to the area over the years then maybe they would agree not to sell the land for residential development. • The vacant block has been maintained over many years by the neighbouring properties. It has been mowed, tended to and maintained by them. They take great pride in the street and this includes the block and also the street views. Many surrounding properties are now owned by ex-farmers who can still enjoy the benefits of being on larger blocks with the “country” being around them yet still being close to the town.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that in the Council papers under “Climate Change”- that this land was “under-utilised” by Council. This is disputed by the neighbouring properties. The block is a place for people to enjoy, walk their dogs, children to play and has become a bit of a men’s group to catch up and tend to the block together as a meeting place.
27	8 David Street	<p>Dear Ms Katie [REDACTED]</p> <p>My wife, [REDACTED] and I, along with our daughter, [REDACTED], have enjoyed living almost opposite the green space (8 David Street) for more than 17 years and would like to register our submission regarding the potential sale of this land. In our submission I wish to highlight the benefits from this green space that we have enjoyed as a family, as professionals and from seeing other neighbours reaping benefits as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Along with the green space of 63 Gordon Street which has unfortunately been listed for sale, 8 David Street is haven for wildlife which include: Lorikeets, Rosellas, Crested Parrots, Budgerigars, Koala and Kangaroos Our daughter, [REDACTED] has used this land whilst growing up for a variety of healthy pursuits and we now have new residents who have recently moved to the street with two primary school aged boys who kick the footy on this block as have past residents. Our two dogs enjoy regular exercise on this block and they get excited every time we do this. I am a qualified Generalist Counsellor and have used this space to assist clients with mental health issues primarily to teach them skills embracing: “Being present in the here and now” but the space has also played a part in assisting clients to overcome trauma after a bad experience with dogs through measured gradual exposure therapy. The benefits of greenspace from a mental health viewpoint are well documented and this particular space is easily accessible via paved footpaths. The site is sometimes used for formal wedding photography

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the 17 years plus that myself and family have lived her we have seen current and former neighbours take pride in their street even to the point of improving and maintaining the green space, especially after inclement weather has messed the property. <p>It is my understanding when we bought [REDACTED] David Street that the green space next us, [REDACTED] opposite us, 8 David Street was listed on records as “Green Space” but both properties at some points have had their zoning changed to residential. It is bewildering to me that council can make such a change without consultation with the surrounding residents, including those who don’t actually live on this street, that benefit from this street asset.</p> <p>In summary, I believe as a long-established resident of David Street, that through the above bullet points I have compellingly informed you that there are sound reasons for that 8 David Street should not be sold as a residential property. If the Southern Grampians Shire Council as whole is seriously invested in the welfare of their residents it will reconsider their intention to sell 8 David Street as a residential property especially as there are plenty of properties at Lakeside available for immediate sale to parties seeking to buy residential land.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p>
28	8 David Street	<p>Dear Councilors,</p> <p>We write to formally object to the Council’s proposal to sell the small reserve for open space, located within our neighborhood, for residential development.</p> <p>The area is not unused or surplus land. It serves as an important and well – utilized community space for residents of all ages. Local children use the area for safe outdoor play, and elderly residents rely on it as an accessible place for gentle exercise, fresh air, exercising their pet dogs and social interaction. The area is frequented by native wildlife and birds. Koalas can regularly be seen in the trees. The loss of this habitat would further diminish local environmental assets and green canopy with our municipality.</p> <p>The nearest alternative recreational reserve is located at a distance that is not reasonably walkable for many members of community, particularly seniors and young</p>

		<p>families. The walk to this alternative area requires a long walk on a busy road that is used by trucks. There are no footpaths on most of the walk and so it means that people often have to walk on the side of the road.</p> <p>The green space also functions as a vital community gathering point. Neighbors meet there informally, strengthening local connections and fostering a sense of belonging and safety.</p> <p>It is maintained voluntarily by men within the neighborhood who take pride in caring for the area, demonstrating the value and ownership the neighborhood community places upon it.</p> <p>We believe that the proposed sale appears inconsistent with the broader principles of community wellbeing, environmental stewardship, and the protection of accessible public open space. Once lost to development, this green space cannot be replaced. Importantly, we wish to formally express our disappointment that residents were not adequately informed of Council's intention to reclassify this land to "residential" prior to progressing with the proposal. Such a significant change to public land classification directly affects community access and expectations and we would reasonably expect early and timely notification, transparent consultation and a genuine opportunity for input before such proposals advance. (refer: relevant sections under the Victorian local Government Act 2020, Local Government Act 1989 and Planning and Environment Act 1987).</p> <p>For these reasons, we respectfully request that Council reconsider the intention to sell this space for redevelopment and retain the land as protected public open space for the continued benefit of current and future residents.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on this matter. We trust Council will give genuine consideration to the strong community value this space represents.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>
29	8 David Street	<p>As a long term residents being the 3 rd house to be built in the street we are extremely disappointed that council has thought that land in David street was superflous to their needs.</p>

		<p>When we built we were told that the land up for potential sale was never to be built on it was for recreation .</p> <p>In that time our children and now our grandchildren have used this space for football and cricket games and the like. It was a safe spot for them off the street.</p> <p>There is always an abundance of birds and various other wildlife present . As it is presented now it's a nice quiet haven for the neighbouring houses around the area .</p> <p>We were (even though not directly involved) were never consulted re the potential sale of the said site .</p> <p>The [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have maintained that block as council very rarely attend to mow it</p> <p>I know this is pretty much out of anyone's control at the present time but we are just voicing and supporting the neighbours who may be directly involved</p> <p>We remain residents [REDACTED] David Street (landowners/ratepayers)</p>
30	8 David Street	<p>We write to you to add our correspondence to councils proposed sale of 4 vacant blocks of land in Hamilton as reported in the Hamilton Spectator on February 20th, 2026.</p> <p>We would like to draw your attention to one block in particular that being 8 David Street Hamilton. Being residents in this street we are totally amazed and confused to understand Councils thinking regarding this very valuable and unique piece of parkland which is an amazing green space both for residents and City alike.</p> <p>May we remind Council that this city has very limited open (green) spaces available within the city limits compared to other surrounding cities of similar size.</p> <p>Having lived in our city for many years as business operators and ratepayers and now as retirees we shudder when Council even takes time to come up with these unbelievable ideas.</p> <p>8 David Street is vastly different to the other blocks suggested for proposed sale and must be retained purely for its appeal as natural open parkland as originally intended when subdivided.</p>

		<p>We might also remind Council that surrounding residents for many years have maintained, mowed and kept the area neat and tidy on Councils behalf, a tradition that could continue if left as parkland.</p> <p>Living in David Street we regularly see wildlife and birdlife that reside and visit this naturally treed area.</p> <p>Our grandchildren, when staying with us are delighted to spend time playing and enjoying the tranquility and space of this park, an opportunity not always available to then in larger cities where they live. We are comfortable with them using this space because of the relative safety the surrounding neighbourhood and street location provides.</p> <p>Finally, we implore Council to carefully consider any decision to deprive Hamilton and its residents of our wonderful open areas (green spaces) that we have been lucky enough to have up to this point. Most town planners will readily agree that green spaces are essential for the wellbeing of the community and the city itself.</p> <p>We hope our Council decision makers very carefully consider the decision that is before them when the time comes, and that common sense prevails as the proposed sale of these properties and the funds generated will be miniscule in the overall big picture of Council income and expenditure.</p> <p>Yours faithfully,</p>
31	8 David Street	<p>Dear Council Officers,</p> <p>We are writing to object to the Shire of Southern Grampians proposal to sell the recreation reserve in our street, the council has identified it as 8 David Street and have earmarked it for sale as a residential building block.</p> <p>We purchased our block of land at ■ David Street and built our family home over thirty-six years ago. We have raised three children and have enjoyed this recreational space for many years and hope to continue to do this in the future with our grandchildren.</p> <p>We were very disappointed with the lack of consultation for the proposed sale of the parkland, having found out about it from the local paper.</p>

		<p>The council has already listed the opposite green space for sale with no notification given to us as residents at [REDACTED] David Street.</p> <p>The green space provides habitat for native flora and fauna, koalas, native birds and wildlife are regularly seen living and moving through this space. Many residents of our street use this space to exercise, walk their dogs and play sport. It is also used as a meeting space for many of the street's residents promoting wellbeing and fostering community gatherings.</p> <p>The green space is regularly maintained by many of the street's residents at no cost to council.</p> <p>These reasons and many others give strong evidence to prove that this green space should not be taken away from the community and developed into a residential building block.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>
32	8 David Street	<p>To Ms Katie [REDACTED], Property Officer and Southern Grampians Shire Councillors,</p> <p>We write to raise the concerns of the residents of David Street Hamilton regarding the potential disposal of land that Council has listed as 8 David St but is in fact a Reserve for Public Open Space. We also wish to express the disappointment that was felt about the initial lack of communication from Council. In a time where fewer people buy the local newspaper or access websites it would have been appreciated if we had been notified in writing rather than leaving us to find out this news by word of mouth. David St is unique – it is not a street as such but a court with access to Kent Rd via an alleyway at the end and to 63 Gordon St via the roadside reserve that Council has recently decided to sell for residential purposes. Our street is a thoroughfare for the wider neighborhood with many people regularly using the area.</p> <p>All the residents enjoy being part of our small community and we are passionate about preserving the Reserve in our court. Over the past few weeks we have held several neighborhood meetings to discuss the proposal. It has been a time of heightened emotions and we have worked through these to arrive at a calm and measured response.</p>

	<p>As the Council (City of Hamilton) acquired the Reserve for Public Open Space in David St as part of a residential land subdivision under the Subdivision Act 1988, we request that this land be treated as a standalone item instead of being included with the disposal of the other blocks listed in the current notice to sell surplus council owned properties.</p> <p>Residents in the street will be providing personal submissions, while this submission objecting to the Council's proposal has been prepared by the four families who own property directly abutting the Reserve for Public Open Space:</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Also included at the end of this document are impact statements from each family. We appreciate the advice received from Property Officer Katie [REDACTED] and Assets Manager Aaron [REDACTED] and are grateful for the time Councillors Jayne Manning and Helen Henry spent onsite with residents to get a feel for the Reserve and to discuss the importance of retaining the greenspace for current and future generations.</p> <p>The land was originally farmland containing many gum trees and in 1994 was subdivided into large residential blocks to retain as many trees as possible. As part of the David St subdivision a requirement for Public Open Space was made and satisfied by the City of Hamilton. This contribution of land and additional planting of trees was an example of the owners' desire to create greenspace and bird habitat as a legacy for the future.</p> <p>This was a major factor for families to purchase properties in an area rich in nature, peace and tranquility. Residents who bought into this subdivision did so in the belief that the Public Reserve for Open Space would remain for future generations, and homes were designed to take advantage of the north facing direction and the aspect of the reserve. It has been a popular location for farmers who move off their land but are still seeking a similar environment to live in.</p>
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		<p>The Reserve is a vital greenspace which cannot be replaced. It is a well-used space for the local community, both young and old. It provides an area for children, families and dogs to play, and is easily accessible to all. It is full of birdlife and is part of a koala corridor, causing great excitement when one passes through.</p> <p>There is a sense of pride in keeping the area tidy for use by the residents in the court and adjoining neighborhoods. The Reserve has predominantly been maintained over many years by [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who mow, dispose of green waste and ensure fire safety, all at their own expense. As such, expenditure against Council's maintenance budget for the Reserve should be negligible.</p> <p>Large branches are occasionally placed at the front of the block for collection, however Council provision of maintenance is now minimal and to the best of our knowledge the last time Council staff mowed the Reserve was on November 11, 2025. The Reserve also serves as an evacuation route for residents at [REDACTED] David Street and [REDACTED] North Boundary Rd as these are both battle-axe blocks and the driveways may not be able to be used to exit in an emergency.</p> <p>The closest nature reserve is HIRL but it does not provide the same benefits that are available in our street and is not a practical alternative due to walking distance and lack of road safety on North Boundary Rd which is a designated truck route and where there are no footpaths.</p> <p>Using the radius method for access to greenspace the David St Reserve for Public Open Space would be the closest greenspace for many other residents in Hamilton to use.</p> <p>Finally, we draw your attention to State and Local Government Governance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The land was acquired by the City of Hamilton in 1994 as a Reserve for Public Open Space under the Subdivision Act 1988 (Section 18 or 18A) as part of a residential subdivision • As at February 18, 2026 the original Subdivision Plan from 1994 and the Dial before you Dig cabling plans for Telstra and Electricity all show the land in David St still listed as a Public Reserve for Open Space, not 8 David St.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any disposal of a Reserve for Public Open Space should be in accordance with the Subdivision Act 1988 (Section 20) and the Local Government Act 2020 Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision is still relevant for current subdivisions. <p>Victorian Planning Provisions (Clause 53.01) Subdivision Act 1988 (Section 18)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Victorian State Government has introduced requirements for the Development of an Urban Forest and Open Space Assets Strategy and has prepared a new Guide for Open Space Strategies to support local governments and other open space public land managers to prepare local open space strategies. guide-for-open-space-strategies.pdf <p>“These often-contested spaces are central to liveability and sense of place. They support community health and wellbeing, biodiversity, climate resilience and economic and social activity. As a network, open space can be the hardest working public land, delivering many benefits (Introduction, page 3)”</p> <p>“The open space legacy we enjoy today is the result of bold visions, foresight and many small incremental initiatives over time. It also reflects a history of open space at times undervalued reminding us of the constant need to protect, optimise and grow accessible land while complementing the network through creative use of other encumbered public lands (Introduction, page 4)”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGSC Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2017–2027 <p>Develop an Urban Forest and Open Space Assets Strategy (Table 7, Page 39)</p> <p>Predominantly concerned with vegetation, species selection and weed control</p> <p>We believe a Reserve for Public Open Space could be included in this strategy. Even a small reserve fits the Open Space definition as stated on Page 7 of the Open Space Strategy guide (October 2025) and therefore we dispute the Council’s view that the land has no foreseeable future Council use and is surplus to Council’s needs. Urban Forest and Open Space strategies aim to create resilient, healthy and accessible greenspaces that enhance liveability, mitigate climate impacts and engage communities.</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGSC Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2017–2027 <p>Risk Management</p> <p>Section 6.3.4 Consequence (Table 10, page 39)</p> <p>“As with likelihood for risk assessments to be effective a structured approach is required across the organisation to assessing consequence. Table 10 is a qualitative method of estimating the consequences of the identified climate change risk. Not all risks may pose negative impacts, some may have positive impacts. The positive impacts will be captured under the beneficial category.”</p> <p>We note that all categories in this table, including Environment and Open Space, have a positive impact on Climate Change.</p> <p>In conclusion, the opportunity to provide feedback to Council has been a valuable experience and has solidified the sense of community in our street. A greenspace is not one that should be given up easily, and we ask that Council reassess its value to current and future generations.</p> <p>On this basis we request that Council withdraw the property called 8 David St from the list of surplus council-owned properties and for it to be retained as a Reserve for Public Open Space with consideration given for inclusion in the Council’s Open Space Assets Strategy.</p> <p>Thank you for considering our group submission.</p> <p>Our impact statements are included below.</p> <p>From [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], [REDACTED] David St</p> <p>In 1995, we chose a larger block in a court with a natural setting to build a home and raise a growing family. Our children saw the Reserve as part of their backyard and to this day still feel a strong connection to it.</p> <p>Thirty years on it is a space our grandchildren love: [REDACTED] - a quiet space to practice dance routines, [REDACTED] – cricket and football, [REDACTED] – collecting slaters and bugs and flying kites, [REDACTED] – throwing the ball for our dog to chase, [REDACTED] – collecting sticks for firewood, [REDACTED] – bumpy walks in the pram.</p> <p>Even now the subdivision is full, the Reserve continues to offer an open space that is freely available for families in the court and surrounding streets.</p>
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		<p>Over the years many children have used this area for all manner of games and sports. They even constructed cubby houses and a BMX track amongst the trees providing hours of entertainment. Tree climbing was also a major activity.</p> <p>The Reserve is home to a family of Masked Lapwings (Plovers) and each season we enjoy watching them toil to hatch and raise their young, feeling a sense of achievement when one or more reach adulthood. The flowering gums attract many varieties of birds and their songs are the backdrop to our lives.</p> <p>The Reserve is irreplaceable and its loss would be widely felt by our family.</p> <p>From [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], [REDACTED] North Boundary Rd and [REDACTED] David St</p> <p>Once my parents decided to retire off the farm to Hamilton, they set about finding a block that would give them a feeling of space and tranquility away from the hustle of town living. The block at [REDACTED] North Boundary Road ticked all the boxes. They then set about designing an environmentally comfortable house. It was placed on the block at an angle to maximize winter sun and minimize summer sun. It was all designed with the belief that the park would never be sold, therefore no fence has been constructed because they felt the open space was more valuable.</p> <p>A few years later [REDACTED] David Street was purchased with the same values in mind. While they resided there, they made the space their own. I have had picnics on the grass. Their grandchildren have played chasey and various ball games on the Reserve. We would often hear about the comings and goings of the court community. The Reserve is a valuable asset that has always been looked after and loved by that community.</p> <p>From [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] David Street</p> <p>In 2015 we purchased [REDACTED] David Street.</p> <p>After leaving a farm the outlook onto a reserve was attractive to us as the front of the house looks out to the reserve. We were told this was designated green space and not a residential block.</p> <p>Being a battle axe block if the driveway is blocked the reserve is our only escape. The trees in the reserve attract and are home for many birds and animals with many of the birds regularly nesting in the trees. Also wallabies, ring tail possums, koalas and a family of hares frequent the area.</p>
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		<p>Children from around the area come to this safe area to play, ride bikes, kick the football and play cricket.</p> <p>It is commonly used by many dog owners for exercising their dogs.</p> <p>Many of the men in the street meet in the reserve for a cleanup and chat. We think this is very important for men's mental health.</p> <p>Picnics are also held in the park encouraging family time.</p> <p>From [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] – [REDACTED] David Street</p> <p>We bought our house in the Court eight years ago. Amongst the reasons for doing so was that our living areas overlook the Reserve, giving us access to the views, sounds and ambience of what it offers – the abundant bird and animal life and spaciousness. Further, we were assured that it would remain as an 'Open Space'.</p> <p>Coming from a previous rural setting, having this aspect has proven to be quite special. Now, we especially enjoy the spacious, neatly kept area, as we watch our grandchildren safely play.</p> <p>Finally, in the event that the land is sold for housing, there is a concern that this may lead to property devaluation.</p>
33	8 David Street	<p>As owners of [REDACTED] David Street we wish to object to the sale of 8 David Street.</p> <p>In 2015 we purchased our property after selling our farm.</p> <p>With our house looking out onto the reserve it was very attractive to us and we were told it was a designated green space and not a residential block so that was very appealing to us. We are very concerned if this sale was to go ahead our property would be devalued and less appealing if we were to sell.</p> <p>Being a battle axe block safety is a concern for us if the reserve is sold as it is our only escape if our driveway is blocked.</p> <p>The many trees in the reserve attract and are home to many species of birds of which many regularly nest.</p> <p>Wallabies, ring tail possums, koalas a family of hares and a plover family also frequent the reserve.</p> <p>Children from around the area come to this safe area to ride bikes, kick the football, play cricket and generally have fun together.</p>

		<p>It is commonly used by many dog owners for exercising their dogs and catching up with other owners.</p> <p>Many of the men in the street regularly meet in the reserve to keep it tidy and have a chat which is very important for their mental health.</p> <p>Picnics are also held in the park encouraging family time.</p>
34	8 David Street	<p>Dear Councilors</p> <p>We write to formally object to the Council's proposal to sell the small reserve for open space, located at 8 David street within our neighbourhood. The area is not unused or surplus land. It serves as an important and well - utilised community space for residents of all ages. Local children use the area for safe outdoor play, and elderly residents rely on it as an accessible place for gentle exercise, fresh air, exercising their pet dogs and social interaction. Birds and Koalas can regularly be seen in the trees and there are visiting wallabies/kangaroos often seen there. There has also been seen on occasion at night, a few bandicoots that may or may not have come from the nearby reserve. The loss of this habitat would further diminish local environmental assets and green canopy within our municipality.</p> <p>The nearest alternative recreational reserve is located at a distance that is not within reasonable walking distance for many members of our community. The walk to this alternative area, Pedrina Park requires a long walk on a busy road that is used by trucks. There are no footpaths and so it means that people often have to walk on the side of the road for a flat, level walking surface.</p> <p>The green space also functions as a vital community gathering point. Neighbours meet there informally, strengthening local connections and fostering a sense of belonging and safety. It is maintained voluntarily at no cost to council, by men within the neighbourhood who take pride in caring for the area, demonstrating the value and ownership the neighbourhood community places upon it. It is part of our amenity as it is for the other local residents. The proposed sale is inconsistent with the broader principles of community wellbeing, environmental stewardship, and the protection of accessible public open space. Once lost to development, this green space cannot be replaced.</p>

		<p>Importantly, we wish to formally express our disappointment that residents were not adequately informed of Council's intention to reclassify this land to "residential" prior to progressing with the proposal. In fact we were advised prior to our purchase in David St that the land in question was to remain a green space for the community. Such a significant change to public land classification directly affects community access and expectations of existing amenity and we would reasonably expect early and timely notification, transparent consultation and a genuine opportunity for input before such proposals advance. (refer: relevant sections under the Victorian local Government Act 2020, Local Government Act 1989 and Planning and Environment Act 1987).</p> <p>For these reasons, we respectfully request that Council reverse the intention to sell this space for redevelopment and retain the land as protected public open space for the continued benefit of current and future residents.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on this matter. I trust Council will give genuine consideration to the strong community and look forward to a favourable response.</p>
35	8 David Street	<p>Dear Jayne,</p> <p>Thanks for your email acknowledging our submission and personally advising us of the changes to the consultation period.</p> <p>The opportunity to provide feedback regarding the Reserve for Public Open Space in David St has turned out to be a positive experience for our small community, allowing us to work together to address our concerns about the local neighborhood.</p> <p>We really appreciate your efforts in trying to gather all the relevant information about the current proposal to dispose of these properties. You have done an amazing job of engaging with residents to gain a full understanding of the impact of the loss of local greenspaces on the community.</p> <p>We received our letter from Marg Scanlon yesterday acknowledging that Council should have contacted affected residents directly and advising the extension to the consultation period. Unfortunately, this error has caused a lot of distress to all the residents affected by the proposal, and we feel that this is just one of the Council's oversights in this process.</p>

		<p>Whilst not wanting to criticize the author of the document, we have concerns that some of the information about the properties presented at the February Council Meeting in Item 12.3 Property Disposal shows a lack of understanding of the complexities of each of the properties for disposal. We did not think that it was necessary to include the comments below as an actual submission but hope that it's appropriate to share our concerns about the following sections privately with you.</p> <p>Council Plan, Community Vision, Strategies and Policies</p> <p>Risk Management</p> <p>The proposed recommendation does not present any risks of Council. Retention of these properties by Council is considered a missed opportunity to dispose of identified surplus properties.</p> <p><i>The alternate view is that the risk of losing valuable greenspace that cannot be replaced is high and should be considered.</i></p> <p>Climate Change, Environmental and Sustainability Considerations</p> <p>The proposal to sell the properties demonstrates Council's leadership to consider the surplus property which is otherwise under-utilised. This will also contribute to Council's sustainability as the development of these sites will assist with the current housing shortage that is happening in the region (and the State).</p> <p><i>We suggest that while this statement may be relevant to some of the surplus property listed it does not apply to a Reserve for Public Open Space. The need for additional land for housing in a market that already has many blocks of land that are unable to be sold should be weighed up against precious greenspaces that provide value to the residents of Hamilton both now and in the future.</i></p> <p>The past few weeks have been a difficult time for us but have been made easier by initial support from Katie Krebs and the positive interaction we have had with you and we are grateful for this.</p> <p>Thank you for keeping us informed and we look forward to hearing from you after the briefing in April.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>
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36	8 David Street	<p>To Whom it May Concern.</p> <p>My husband and I were disappointed on learning that the vacant block of land in David Street has been re-zoned residential , changed from recreational green space.</p> <p>I am old enough to remember our former Councillor and Mayor, the late Kevin Thomas. I also remember his parents.</p> <p>The late Cr Thomas is remembered as a very progressive and forward thinking person, and achieved a lot of projects, for the future benefit for Hamilton.</p> <p>It was this family who bequeathed this block , to be kept and used as a green space for local residents and families to enjoy as a recreational area.</p> <p>In this day of modern day technology, green space is so important. It is peaceful , and the plentiful bird life encourages relaxation.</p> <p>It encourages families to congregate and interact.</p> <p>I note Council has estimated a cost to maintain this space. This is incorrect . As the residents in David Street mow and maintain this space, for their personal benefit, and advantage , at no cost to Council.</p> <p>It is wrong for Council to re- zone, and sell this land, when it isn't theirs to sell.</p> <p>The late Cr Kevin Thomas, would not be happy with this proposal.</p> <p>As a suggestion. If Council really wanted to do something beneficial, for everyone, re-zone some of the parkland opposite the Hospital and Hamilton Medical Group. This would help alleviate the lack of parking in this area.</p> <p>There is an old saying. " If it is not broken, don't change it".</p> <p>Looking forward to a positive outcome , for David Street residents, there being NO SALE on the block in David Street.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>
37	Elizabeth/McPhee Streets	<p>Hi Katie, Thankyou for your phone call this morning regarding the proposed sale of the vacant block next to ■■■ McPhee St Hamilton. When we purchased our house the allotment plan had Prince St. running through the vacant block from Elizabeth St. and one of the reasons we bought the house is that it had side access gates to the back yard and garage.</p>

		<p>Our house has a retaining wall behind it stepping up to the back yard and garage of which the garage faces the access gates on the vacant block side which are used to get the boat and trailer in and out.</p> <p>If the vacant block is sold it would deny access to my backyard and we only have a single carport at the front where our cars are parked making the garage useless for storing the boat or trailer and no way to access for any works being done in the back yard. The vacant block has a sewer main running between Elizabeth and McPhee St a few of metres off the boundary fence line, making this strip of land unusable to build on. I would be open to an agreement that if the council gifted a 4m strip running along the existing fenceline that we would fence to allow yard access that would be around the same size as a nature strip had Prince St. been sealed then I would not stand in the way of the remainder of the block being sold off for the purpose of building private houses, one at the McPhee St end and one at the Elizabeth St end. However I would be opposed to commission housing/ halfway housing etc being built as it would dramatically devalue our property. Regards</p>
38	Elizabeth/McPhee Streets	<p>I write in response to Council's Notice of Intention to Sell Surplus Council-Owned Property pursuant to section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 (Vic), specifically in relation to the parcel described as Elizabeth/McPhee Streets, Hamilton (identified on Landata as LGD3564).</p> <p>I am the owner of ■ Elizabeth Street, Hamilton, which directly adjoins the subject land. This email constitutes a formal objection to the proposed sale. The subject parcel functions as an established rear access laneway serving adjoining residential properties, including my own.</p> <p>If Council proceeds on the basis that the land is redundant when it is in fact actively relied upon, such characterisation would be unreasonable in the administrative law sense.</p> <p>As an adjoining owner, the proposed sale would result in loss or restriction of vehicle access to my rear shed, diminution of the functional utility of my land, loss of rear</p>

		<p>access character, reduction in development potential, and likely adverse impact on property value.</p> <p>These are not minor inconveniences. They constitute material detriment. Section 114 requires Council to consider community feedback prior to making a final decision. A failure to properly consider the extent of this detriment would amount to a failure to take into account relevant considerations.</p> <p>At the time of purchase, the existence of rear access formed part of the functional character of the property.</p> <p>The property was marketed with reference to “scope to further develop rear yard or add further shedding.”</p> <p>Such representations necessarily rely upon continued rear access.</p> <p>Removal of the laneway frustrates reasonable reliance and expectations.</p> <p>Administrative decision-making must accord with principles of procedural fairness and reasonableness.</p> <p>Council must genuinely consider objections, properly weigh impact on adjoining owners, provide transparent reasons, and act in the public interest rather than primarily for financial benefit.</p> <p>If the decision to sell is predetermined or driven primarily by revenue considerations without adequate regard to impact on affected landowners, that would raise serious concerns regarding compliance with public law obligations.</p> <p>Before any final decision is made, I request that Council provide confirmation of the legal status of the land (including whether it remains a road reserve), any internal assessment addressing access reliance by adjoining properties, details of any proposed easements or access protections should the sale proceed, and written reasons addressing the matters raised in this objection.</p> <p>The subject land is not functionally surplus and its sale would materially prejudice adjoining landowners. If Council proceeds without properly addressing these matters, the decision may be susceptible to review on grounds including failure to consider relevant considerations, unreasonableness, and procedural fairness.</p>
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		<p>I respectfully request that Council reconsider the proposed sale in light of the substantial and ongoing access function the land provides.</p> <p>Would also like to add very safe area for the local children to play, communication between neighbours, dog park, walk between Elizabeth & McPhee Street used regularly.</p>
39	Elizabeth/McPhee Streets	<p>I was disappointed to be made aware that the area of Prince St from Elizabeth St to McPhee St is on notice of disposal.</p> <p>We, the owners of properties involved, strongly oppose this.</p> <p>2 properties have the only access to garages from this area.</p> <p>We have diligently maintained this area to keep it clean and tidy mowing the grass and spraying along fencelines in agreeance with our MOU, signed 21/2/2018</p> <p>The open space is a public amenity for walking dogs, children playing ball games, and neighborhood communications.</p> <p>We invite councillors to come and inspect the area before making any decisions.</p> <p>Yours faithfully,</p>
40	Elizabeth/McPhee Streets	<p>To Mr Tony Doyle, Please find enclosed paperwork for erection of double garage. We cannot understand why this was allowed if Council decided to sell Prince Street. We also would like if Council could come and view our situation. Thanking you,</p>
41	GENERAL COMMENT	<p>Green unoccupied parkland space is required. Council has specifically required some of these blocks to maintain the amenity and parkland space in new developments.</p> <p>This new proposal to sell such land flies in the fact of long term council vision. It is a money grab for council to now pocket funds from sale of land that planning required be designated in private developments as parkland. It is not fair or appropriate. It is short sighted. It is contrary to long term planning.</p>
42	GENERAL COMMENT	<p>I disagree with the selling off of public land / our asset. Perhaps finances would benefit from better fiscal management and policy. Increasing visitation with better shopping, incentives to entice businesses to our town and removing parking meters would also help – look to Horsham City Council to see how their town benefited from removing them.</p>

43	GENERAL COMMENT	I do not support the sale of this land. I am not confident that the council would make the best use of the revenue generated, and I have concerns about the lack of transparency throughout this process. For example, I was unable to locate a clear map outlining the specific land at Grosvenor Place that is proposed for sale on the council's official website. Instead, it appears that much of the information is being shared via Facebook, which is not accessible to everyone. This approach limits public awareness and does not support an open and inclusive consultation process.
44	GENERAL COMMENT	I object to the sale of these properties. This land was set aside for the community as public open space. It is not surplus. It has simply not been used. Selling it off is a permanent loss of community assets to generate short term cash. Once it is gone, it is gone for good. It cannot be replaced. Council should be protecting community land, not selling it. These properties should not be sold.
45	GENERAL COMMENT	We need to keep these spaces for future generations. It falls in line with having green spaces around town and between residencies. This also falls in line with looking after our environment for sustainability.
46	GENERAL COMMENT	Green spaces amongst residential areas is vital. It is important for the environment. It is important to ensure that our residential areas don't fall victim to the "urban heat island effect", where built-up areas with limited vegetation absorb and trap heat. Taking away these green spaces and building more housing would be a detriment to these areas. It is a very short sighted proposal and one that residents will be opposed to. As a former long term resident of Grosvenor Place, the green spaces there were very important to the residents. It provided play area for children and a gathering space for the community, as well as a refuge for local wildlife. I am strongly opposed to council selling of any of these blocks.
47	GENERAL COMMENT	Given the vague nature of the address on two of these properties a link should have been provided to mapping to remove any doubt as to the parcels of land being discussed. This remains partial information and difficult to comment on. The nature of the title on these holdings warrants explanation (one appears to be a road reserve and requires confirmation of title as distinct from crown reserve).

48	GENERAL COMMENT	Public open space is a valuable asset for any community especially at a time when denser housing in urban area is proposed. Like many assets that benefit a community in passive ways and even when they support active activities it is very difficult to estimate a value in monetary terms, despite this the value to the health and well being of the local community of public open space may be immense. These spaces are far too valuable for current and future generations to loose.
49	GENERAL COMMENT	It not yours to sell. If sold the money should be given to the community not the council.
50	GENERAL COMMENT	I do not agree with Southern Grampians Shire selling off land set aside for community use (whether currently being used or not). It is not owned by the shire, it is owned by the community. Try cutting your wasteful spending, 'pigs at the trough' jollies, rescind your massive pay rises, weed out your top heavy staffing and make sure that the rest actually do some real work.
51	GENERAL COMMENT	Interesting that your survey assumes I have an objection... I am in favour of selling off these blocks. It makes no sense for council to own the parcels of land.
52	GENERAL COMMENT	I don't have an object but I feel there is a need for a visual map to help with undefined locations. Some of the properties just list street names and not numbers.
53	GENERAL COMMENT	I object to to the parcel of between Elizabeth and McPhee Sts land being sold. Residents next to this easement bought their properties after being told that it would never be sold therefore allowing them to gain access to their properties via the easement.
54	GENERAL COMMENT	It is important to have green space within residential areas. Selling these areas now is not going to make up for the poor decision making and planning that has cost this town so much money to date. All the higher ups within the shire council, coming from outter towns, you're only interest is to make large changes (very rarely are they well executed) within our town. So it looks good on paper for when you apply for a role in a town that you actually care about. Do something with these areas, put a playground in, an undercover BBQ area, a fenced off concrete pad with road signs and a crossing so kids can learn the importance of road safety while riding a bike. It will cost money, but it will also increase the value of houses and land here, get your money from the increased

		rates once the house prices have risen. Have something here that brings people to this town
55	Grosvenor Place *NOTE THAT THIS PETITION CONTAINS 45 SIGNATURES*	<p>Petition to the Southern Grampians Shire Council – Council Reserve on Grosvenor Place.</p> <p>The people whose names, addresses and signatures appear below, petition the Southern Grampians Shire Council as follows:</p> <p>Council is proposing to sell the Grosvenor Place Reserve for residential development. WE, the undersigned are totally opposed to selling this Reserve.</p> <p>It is NOT surplus to our needs:-</p> <p>It provides a safe and enjoyable pedestrian route used daily.</p> <p>It provides a safe play space for children to kick a footy, hit a cricket ball and learn to ride a bike.</p> <p>It is a place where neighbours meet and socialise.</p>
56	Grosvenor Place	<p>A very well used community green space. Very detrimental to my home as 50 percent of our boundaries adjoin the reserve and all our windows of four rooms face onto it. We do NOT want bricks and mortars as our view. House strategically placed to maximise peaceful views. Would not have bought here if we knew the reserve would be sold. Devaluing our property is a concern. Your policies state you will provide high quality infrastructure and provide spaces that connect people and respond to community needs!! This sale contravenes that statement. We NEED that space. Our mental health is affected and also loss of sleep during this saga. There are several other sites much more suited to further housing development. You must reconsider and reverse the decision. We feel it is a revenue raising exercise without any consideration to the affected residents. Also land sales are extremely slow in Hamilton at present.</p>
57	Grosvenor Place	<p>I formally object to the proposed sale of the public reserve at Governor Place for the purpose of residential development. This reserve represents an important community asset that provides open space, environmental value, and recreational opportunities for local residents. Public green spaces such as this contribute significantly to the wellbeing, health, and social cohesion of the community. Once sold and developed,</p>

		<p>this land cannot be replaced. It is my understanding that this section of land was originally donated by the original landowner with the intention that it be preserved as designated green space for public use. If this is the case, the proposed sale raises serious ethical and legal concerns. The disposal of land gifted for community benefit, particularly if done to generate profit, appears inconsistent with the original purpose of the donation and risks undermining public trust. If the terms of the original donation included restrictions or covenants, proceeding with a sale could potentially be in breach of those conditions. In practical terms, this reserve is actively used and valued by the community. It serves as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An accessible green space for residents to relax and spend time outdoors A safe area for children to play A natural corridor for local wildlife A pedestrian cut-through that allows residents to move safely through the area, particularly where there are no footpaths A space for exercise, including walking and dog walking <p>The loss of this reserve would therefore have a direct and negative impact on the daily lives of residents, reducing safety, accessibility, and opportunities for outdoor activity. I am concerned that the loss of this reserve would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce accessible green space for current and future residents Negatively impact local biodiversity and the natural environment Set a concerning precedent for the sale of public land Diminish the character and livability of the surrounding area <p>Given the long-term importance of preserving public open space, I strongly urge Council to reconsider this proposal and retain the reserve for community use. I also request that Council provide full transparency regarding the original conditions under which this land was acquired or donated, and how the proposed sale complies with those conditions. I ask that Council prioritise the protection of public land and explore alternative solutions that do not involve the permanent loss of this valuable shared space. Thank you for considering this submission.</p>
58	GENERAL COMMENT	<p>These properties should be considered to be sold to Winda-Mara Aboriginal Corporation or Winda-Mara Housing Limited to offer Aboriginal clients housing in Hamilton. Currently there's little to no houses available in Hamilton for Winda-Mara clients that are on housing waiting lists both through the ACCO and through social</p>

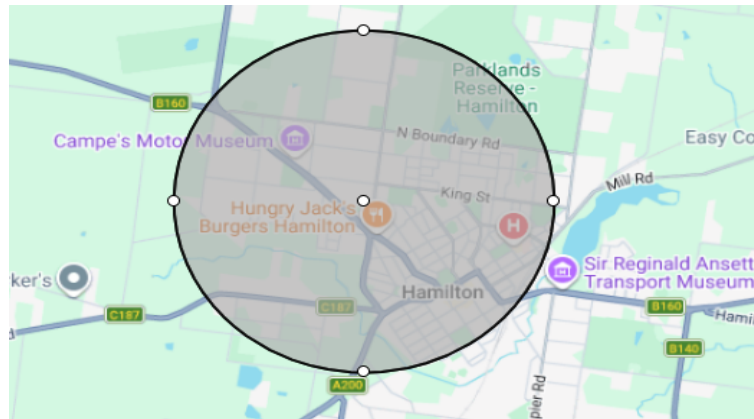
		housing registrar. This would open up more opportunities to build houses for families in crisis as well.
59	Grosvenor Place	<p>I am writing to register my family's objection to Council's current proposal to sell the land as described above.</p> <p>Before outlining our reasons for objecting to the proposed sale, we would first wish to record our profound disappointment in the manner in which the proposal was communicated. The fact that Council didn't take the time, nor make the effort to consult with, nor even bother to even advise those most affected, indicates, at best, an ambivalence by Council towards ratepayers' interests.</p> <p>Furthermore, the unilateral nature of Council's diktat with regard to The Common, shifts the onus to residents to have to defend their interests, instead of Council justifying the decision in the first place. This places the residents at a disadvantage and furthers a perception of Council's arrogance in handling the sale and how such an "oversight" could impact any fair and equitable process for those most affected.</p> <p>The reasons for our objection to the sale of Grosvenor Common land are;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Many of the affected residents based their decision to purchase their homes on the existence of The Common and the fact that it was a designated green space and local thoroughfare, as well as the associated amenity that the space provides. Any arbitrary view of a map of the area clearly demonstrates the important linkage that the Common provides. This particularly impacts those residents in Grosvenor Place, Windsor Drive and St. James Place. It is what differentiates these streets from any other similar cul-de-sacs that would otherwise be dead-ends without any secondary access. Then there are the direct impacts of residents that are now to be built out, that originally purchased their properties on the understanding that their outlooks would never be compromised. Does Council think that selling The Common is fair or equitable for all those residents impacted? How does Council reconcile such

		<p>an impost? Should Council progress this proposal, will they offer compensation to the affected parties based on their loss of amenity and utility, which also carries a real financial impact on their property values? In our opinion, any such sale is an unfair impost on the local residents, that we cannot understand why Council would appear willing to countenance.</p> <p>2. The Common is used by school children accessing nearby Good Shepherd Junior School and The Hamilton and Alexandra College Junior School and boarding house. It is used by residents for exercise and to walk their dogs and as a direct thoroughfare to access the nearby lake and its attractions.</p> <p>3. We understand that the current designation of The Common land is as 'green space' owned by Council and that Council has the legal capacity to subdivide the land and sell them as residential blocks. We do not dispute Council may have the power to dispose of the Common, however, the question remains; by doing so, whether Council is in fact acting in good faith? Council required the developer at the time to set aside an amount of land (5%?) as 'green space' that was required to be handed over to Council for little, if any, consideration. Over time the commercial value of that land has increased, in no small measure, due to the built infrastructure and landscape provided and paid for by the residents, not Council, with the resultant sense of community also created by those same residents. Residents view Council's opportunistic proposal to sell The Common land for a profit as somewhat duplicitous, given that what was originally required by Council's own planning framework to be set aside for 'green space' is now, by some arcane edict, morphed into "land surplus to requirements." The argument that what was once a requirement no longer exists for the benefit of the greater good is patently aporetic and does not stand</p>
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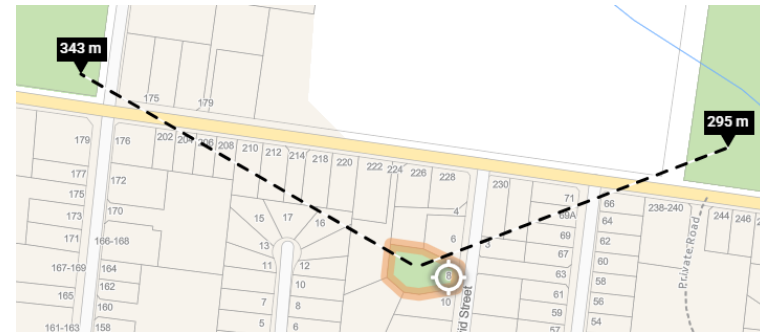
		<p>scrutiny. It is of little consequence whether or not the proceeds of the sale go to the maintenance of green space elsewhere in the Shire, or to general revenue, the fact is that it is the local residents that are subject to the loss, for which Council would benefit.</p> <p>4. Were it a resident realising a similar transaction, it would be subject to State windfall tax, as they would have benefitted from a sale of land that was subject to a rezoning. In this case It would appear that it is Council rezoning its own land for its own benefit. While it would appear to us to be a conflict of interest, we will leave it to the Councilors as to whether they have any governance concerns with regard such a transaction.</p> <p>5. If Council are prepared to arbitrarily dispense with previous planning decisions, then what guarantee do residents have that similar decisions won't be forthcoming in future when there is another occasion for Council to monetarise such windfall gains. What impact will such opportunistic interventions have on the integrity and reliability of Council's planning scheme, particularly when it runs contrary to its own Urban Design Framework? Most planning schemes promote connectivity and activity through pedestrian corridors within their urban planning schemes, yet Council appears to discount such important linkages when they are clearly available. Should Council invest in such spaces, instead of neglecting them, then their community utility and amenity would only improve.</p> <p>6. Finally, the argument that the maintenance costs of The Common are significant also appears spurious, considering the minimal attention it receives</p>
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		<p>and the quantum of land involved compared with Council's overall green space commitments, that surely remain within Council's service responsibilities.</p> <p>Just because Council can, doesn't mean Council should. The question remains; will Council act in good faith this matter, or, permanently penalise the local residents for their own short-term gain?</p> <p>Yours Faithfully</p>
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2km Radius of Hamilton 1



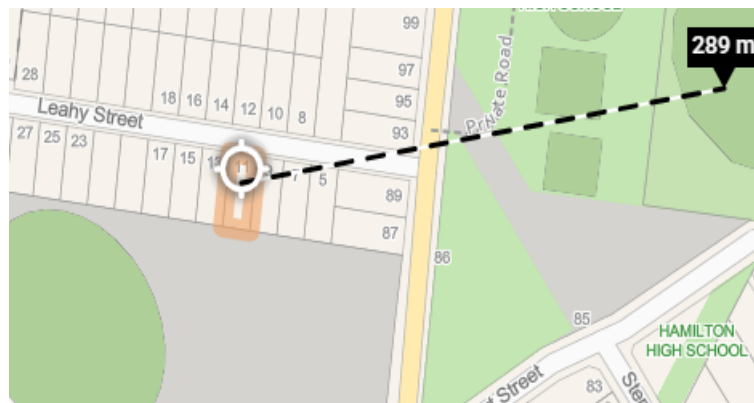
David Street Mapping 1



Grosvenor Place Mapping 1



Leahy Street Mapping 1



Hamilton Recreation Reserve

Ray Middleton Reserve

Mt Baimbridge Reserve

HIRL / Pedrina Park

Elizabeth Street Mapping 1





Governance Rules

Adopted by Council: TBC

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COMMITMENT

These Governance Rules are made in accordance with Section 60 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

Good governance, integrity and accountability are central to the Act, underpin local government democracy, conduct and enable our community to hold Council to account.

Council is committed to embedding the principles of good governance throughout its decision making, corporate governance and democratic governance by establishing and adhering to the Governance Rules.

Council decision making will be founded on good governance and conducted with transparency. The process by which decisions will be made is transparent and clearly articulated in these Governance Rules for the scrutiny of our community and accountability of Councillors, Members of Delegated Committees and Council staff.

Council recognises that accountability, integrity and transparency are of fundamental importance to our community and are critical for enhancing good governance.

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE

These Governance Rules determine the way in which Council will:

- Make decisions:
 - In the best interest of the Southern Grampians Shire community
 - Fairly and on merits of the matter; and
 - In a way that ensures any person whose rights will be directly affected by a decision will be entitled to communicate their views and have their interests considered.
- Elect its Mayor and Deputy Mayor, or acting Mayor if required;
- Conduct meetings of Council, Delegated Committees, Community Asset Committees;
- Give notice of meetings and record and make available meetings records (minutes and live streaming of meetings where applicable);
- Be informed in its decision making through community engagement, advisory committees and Management Reports; and
- Require the disclosure and management of conflicts of interest.

The Government Rules include:

- Council's Election Period Policy

1.2 GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

Council must, in performance of its role, give effect to the overarching governance principles outlined in the Act. These principles are:

- (a) Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
- (b) Priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
- (c) The economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
- (d) The municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
- (e) Innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued;
- (f) Collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
- (g) The ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;

- (h) Regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
- (i) The transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

In giving effect to the overarching governance principles, Council must take into account the following supporting principles:

- the community engagement principles;
- the public transparency principles;
- the strategic planning principles;
- the financial management principles; and
- the service performance principles.

CHAPTER 2: CONTEXT

2.1 AFFECTED PERSONS RIGHTS AND INTERESTS

In any matter in which a decision must be made by Council (including a person acting with the delegated authority of Council), Council must consider:

- fairly, by giving consideration and making a decision which is balanced, ethical and impartial; and
- on the merits, free from favouritism or self-interest and without regard to irrelevant considerations.

Council must, when making any decision to which the principles of natural justice apply, adhere to the principles of natural justice (including, without limitation, ensuring that any person whose rights will be directly affected by a decision of Council is entitled to communicate their views and have their interests considered).

Before making a decision that affects a person's rights, Council will endeavour to identify whose rights may be affected and provide an opportunity for that person (or persons) to convey those views regarding the effect on their rights and consider those views.

This includes but is not limited to the rights outlined in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

2.2 CONTEXT

These rules should be read in the context of and in conjunction with:

- (a) The overarching governance principles specified in section 9(2) of the Act; and
- (b) The following documents adopted or approved by Council:
 - Code(s) of Conduct
 - Public Transparency Policy
 - Confidential Information Policy
 - Governance Local Law No. 1 of 2021
 - Community Engagement Policy
 - Council Plan

2.3 DEFINITIONS

In these Governance Rules, the following phrases mean:

Act	means the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>
Advisory Committees	means a committee established by the Council that provides advice to the Council or a member of Council staff who has been delegated a

	power, duty or function of the Council – that is not a Delegated Committee
Agenda	means the notice of a meeting setting out the business to be transacted at the meetings
Authorised Officer	has the same meaning as the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> or any other Act
Chairperson	means the Chairperson of a meeting and includes an acting, a temporary and a substitute Chairperson
Chief Executive Officer	means the Chief Executive Officer of Council
Community Asset Committee	means a Community Asset Committee established under section 65 of the Act
Council	means Southern Grampians Shire Council
Councillor	means a person who is an elected member of Council
Council Meeting	means a meeting of the Council convened in accordance with these Governance Rules and includes a scheduled and unscheduled meeting whether held as face-to-face (in-person) attendance in a set location or via electronic means (virtual) or in a hybrid format that mixes in-person and electronic attendance
Delegated Committee	means a Delegated Committee established under section 63 of the Act
Deputy Mayor	means the Councillor elected as Deputy to the Mayor (if Council resolves to elect a Deputy Mayor)
Division	means a formal count of those for and those against a motion, generally to remove any doubt as to whether the motion is supported or opposed and names will be stated in the minutes of the meeting
Mayor	means the Mayor of Council

Minutes	means the collective record of proceeding of Council
Municipal district	means the municipal district of Council
Open to the Public	<p>means in the case of Council meeting or a joint Council meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Attendance in person by members of the public; or(ii) A meeting that is broadcast live on the Council's internet site(iii) Any other prescribed means of meeting. <p>And in the case of a delegated committee meetings, points (i), (ii) and (iii) as above and;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(iv) A meeting that is recorded and published on the Council's internet site as soon as practicable after the meeting.
Procedural Motion	means a motion which relates to a procedural matter only and which is not designed to produce any substantive result but used merely as a formal procedural measure
Quorum	means a majority of the members of the Council
Suspension of Standing Orders	means the suspension of the provisions of the meeting procedure to facilitate full discussion on an issue without formal constraints
Urgent Business	means a matter which has arisen since distribution of the Agenda and cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Meeting

CHAPTER 3: MEETING PROCEDURE

3.1 PURPOSE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

- (a) Council holds scheduled meetings and, when required, unscheduled meetings to conduct business of Council.
- (b) Council is committed to transparency in decision making and, in accordance with the Act, Council and Delegated Committee meetings are open to the public to attend. Meetings will only be closed to members of the public if:
 - (i) There are clear reasons for particular matters to remain confidential in accordance with section 3 of the Act; or
 - (ii) A meeting is required to be closed for security reasons; or
 - (iii) It is necessary to enable the meetings to proceed in an orderly manner.
- (c) If a meeting is closed to the public for the reasons outlined in 3.1(b)(ii) or 3.1(b)(iii), the meeting will continue to be live broadcasted. In the event live broadcast is not available, the meeting may be adjourned, or a recording of the proceedings may be available on the Council website.

3.2 MEETINGS AND THE USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

OVERVIEW:

In accordance with the Act, Council is required to provide for the procedure and proceedings for the conduct of council and delegated committee meetings to be held by electronic means, including the requesting and approving of members attendance by electronic means.

Whilst in person decision-making forums will be the default format, Council can decide to conduct meetings in any of the following formats:

- Physical or In Person - all Councillors are present in person at one location
- Virtual – all Councillors participate by electronic means of communication
- Hybrid – some Councillors are physically present at one location and some participate by electronic means of communication
- Parallel – some Councillors are present in person at one location, and some are physically present at another location

3.2.1 DETERMINATION OF MEETING FORMAT

- (a) By default, Council meetings shall be conducted in person except as provided for in this section.
- (b) Despite this section, Council may, by resolution, determine that a specific meeting or meetings will be conducted:
 - (i) In person; or
 - (ii) By electronic means of communication.

- (c) In accordance with subrule 3.2.3, the CEO may determine a Council meeting shall be conducted electronically, should circumstances warrant it, in accordance with subrule 3.2.3.

3.2.2 MEETINGS CONDUCTED IN PERSON

- (a) At meetings conducted in person, Councillors shall physically attend the meeting unless a request to participate by electronic means of communication has been granted in accordance with this section.
- (b) A request to participate by electronic means of communication must be in writing, signed by the Councillor, including by electronic means of signature, and be lodged or sent to the Chief Executive Officer at least 48 hours before the commencement of the meeting.
- (c) Requests are to be made on a meeting-by-meeting basis.
- (d) A request to participate in a meeting by electronic means of communication must provide an explanation as to why the Councillor cannot reasonably participate in the meeting. For the avoidance of doubt, a Councillor's personal preference to participate by electronic means of communication does not constitute sufficient grounds for making a request. The Chief Executive Officer shall, if requested by the Councillor, keep confidential the submitted reasons for the request.
- (e) Subject to sub-rule 3.2.3(a), the Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Mayor, will grant all requests to participate in the meeting by electronic means of communication and will notify all Councillors of the decision.
- (f) The Chief Executive Officer may choose not to grant a request to participate in a meeting by electronic means of communication:
 - (i) At the first meeting of Councillors after a general election; or
 - (ii) Where the meeting is being held in such a location that, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, does not have the facilities to support participation in the meeting by electronic means of communication; or
 - (iii) If the meeting will consider:
 - a. The election of the Mayor under section 25 of the Act;
 - b. The election of a Deputy Mayor under section 27 of the Act;
 - c. The adoption of Governance Rules under section 60 of the Act;

- d. The adoption of a Community Vision under section 88 of the Act;
- e. The adoption of a Council Plan under section 90 of the Act;
- f. The adoption of a Long Term Financial Plan under section 91 of the Act;
- g. The adoption of an Annual Budget under section 94 of the Act;
- h. The adoption of a Revised Budget under section 94 of the Act;
- i. The presentation by the Mayor of an Annual Report under section 100 of the Act; or
- j. The adoption of a Councillor Code of Conduct under section 139 of the Act;

Unless they are satisfied that extraordinary circumstances warrant it.

- (g) A Councillor who is not physically in attendance at a meeting but is present by electronic means of communication without approval will be recorded as absent and will not be permitted to participate in the proceedings of the meeting, including moving or seconding motions, speaking during a debate or casting a vote on a motion before the meeting.
- (h) Meetings conducted in person shall be chaired by a Councillor who is physically present, in the following order of preference:
 - (i) The Mayor; or
 - (ii) If the Mayor is not physically present, the Deputy Mayor;
 - (iii) If neither the Mayor or Deputy Mayor are physically present, a Councillor who is physically present and is appointed by a resolution of the Council

3.2.3 MEETINGS CONDUCTED BY ELECTRONIC MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

- (a) Should the Chief Executive Officer receive requests under section 3.2.2 to participate in a meeting by electronic means of communication from an absolute majority of Councillors, the meeting shall be conducted solely by electronic means of communication.
- (b) Should the Chief Executive Officer determine that extraordinary circumstances warrant it, they may determine that any meeting be conducted solely by electronic means of communication.
- (c) The Chief Executive Officer may take all relevant factors into account in making a determination that extraordinary circumstances warrant a

meeting being conducted solely by electronic means of communication including, but not limited to:

- (i) Any risk to the health and safety of Councillors, staff and the community;
- (ii) Whether all or part of the meeting is planned to be closed to members of the public under section 66(2) of the Act;
- (iii) The ability to provide public notice to members of the public who had submitted a request for public participation.
- (iv) Whether the orderly conduct of a meeting may be affected by the choice of meeting format; and
- (v) The availability of suitable meeting facilities.

3.2.4 ADJUSTMENTS TO MEETING RULES

If a meeting is conducted by electronic means of communication, the following modifications to the application of the Rules in this Chapter are to be made:

- (a) References to a Councillor being present at a meeting shall be a reference to a Councillor being able to both hear and see other members in attendance and be heard and be seen by other members in attendance;
 - (b) Momentary absences (less than one minute) shall not be recorded as absences for the purposes of the meeting minutes, unless a vote or the Chairperson's request for the declaration of conflicts of interest occurs during the absence;
 - (c) Casting a vote may occur by a Councillor either raising their hand in view of their camera such that it can be seen by other members in attendance or, at the Chairperson's request, verbally stating their vote;
1. In the event of the absence of a Councillor during a vote due to an apparent technical failure, a Councillor or member of Council staff may bring this to the attention of the Chairperson, who may briefly adjourn the meeting to enable the Councillor to re-join the meeting. Should the Councillor be unable to reconnect within five minutes, the meeting shall:
- (i) Resume in the Councillor's absence which will be recorded in the meeting minutes as outlined in sub-rule 3.12.1; or.
 - (ii) If a quorum cannot be maintained as a result of a councillor being recorded as absent the meeting will be adjourned as outlined in subrule 3.5.4

- (d) In the event of a Councillor being required to leave a meeting due to following the declaration of a conflict of interest, a Councillor may leave the meeting by:
 - (i) Deactivating their microphone and camera (for meetings that are open to the public); or
 - (ii) Disconnecting from the online meeting platform (for all meetings).
- (e) The Chairperson may, with the consent of the meeting, modify the application of any other Rules in this Chapter to facilitate the more efficient and effective transaction of the business of a meeting which is conducted by electronic means of communication.

3.3 MEETING ROLES

OVERVIEW:

In accordance with the Act, the Mayor must take the Chair at all Council Meetings at which the Mayor is present. If the Mayor is absent or attending virtually, the Deputy Mayor (if any) must take the chair and if both are absent, Council must elect one of the Councillors as Chairperson of the meeting.

The way in which Council and Committee meetings are conducted makes a significant contribution to good governance. The Chairperson plays a crucial role in facilitating an orderly, respectful, transparent and constructive meeting by ensuring all Councillors and members of Delegated Committees have the opportunity to be heard, matters are adequately discussed, meeting procedures are followed appropriately, and statutory requirements are adhered to.

The Chairperson is an independent leader of meetings and generally does not participate in debate or move or second motions.

The Act provides for the Mayor to appoint a Councillor as the Chair of a Delegated Committee and any such appointment prevails over any appointment made by Council. While there are no limitations on exercising that power, the Mayor must always act in a way that is consistent with the adopted Model Code of Conduct and transparency commitments of the Council.

Additionally, each member of the meeting has an obligation to participate in good decision making through their preparation and contribution to the meeting.

Specific duties and discretions of the Chairperson are outlined throughout these Governance Rules.

3.3.1 CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS

- (a) The Chairperson, Councillors, and Members of Delegated Committees will ensure:

- (i) Decision making is transparent to members, participants and observers;
- (ii) Meeting members have sufficient information to make decisions;
- (iii) Every member is supported to contribute decisions;
- (iv) Any person whose rights are affected has their interests considered;
- (v) Debate and discussion is focussed on the issues at hand;
- (vi) Meetings are conducted in an orderly manner;
- (vii) Decisions should be made on the merits of the matter.

3.3.2 MAYOR TO TAKE THE CHAIR

- (a) The Mayor must take the Chair at all Council Meetings at which the Mayor is present.
- (b) If the Mayor is not in attendance at a Council Meeting or participating virtually, the Deputy Mayor (if one has been elected) must take the chair.
- (c) If the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor are not in attendance at a Council Meeting, Council must appoint one of the Councillors as a temporary Chairperson by resolution.

3.3.3 DELEGATED COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

- (a) At a meeting at which Council establishes a Delegated Committee, it must also appoint a Chairperson.
- (b) The Chairperson of a Delegated Committee must also be a Councillor.

3.3.4 THE CHAIRPERSON'S DUTIES AND DISCRETIONS

In addition to the specific duties and discretions provided for in these Governance Rules, the Chairperson:

- (a) Must not accept any motion, question or statement which is:
 - (i) Vague or ambiguous
 - (ii) Defamatory, malicious, abusive or objectionable in language or substance; or
 - (iii) Outside the powers of Council.
- (b) Must allow the Chief Executive Officer the opportunity to correct factual errors or incorrect assertions that arise during the meeting;
- (c) Must call a person to order if their behaviour is disruptive and interferes with the conduct of the business of Council;
- (d) May direct that a vote be recounted to be satisfied of the result;
- (e) Must decide on all points of order in accordance with Rule. 3.11; and

- (f) Subject to sub-rule a), the Chairperson may determine to close a meeting to the public to maintain security and order, if the circumstances prevent a Council resolution in accordance with Rule 3.14.1.

3.3.5 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- (a) The Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, may participate in the meeting to provide support to the Chairperson.
- (b) The Chief Executive Officer:
 - (i) Should immediately advise if a proposed resolution or action is, to the best of their knowledge, contrary to legislation or Council policy,
 - (ii) May advise if there are administrative or operational implications arising from a proposed resolution;
 - (iii) May assist to clarify the intent of any unclear motion to facilitate implementation of a resolution;
 - (iv) On request, assist with procedural issues that may arise.

3.3.6 COUNCILLORS AND MEMBERS OF DELEGATED COMMITTEES

Councillors and members of Delegated Committees contribute to good governance and decision making by:

- (a) Seeking views of community members and reading agendas papers prior the meeting;
- (b) Demonstrating respect and consideration to community views and the professional / expert advice provided in the agenda papers;
- (c) Attending meetings and participating in debate and discussion;
- (d) Demonstrating respect for the role of the Chairperson and the rights of other Councillors and members of Delegated Committees to contribute to the decision-making;
- (e) Being courteous and orderly.

3.3.7 COMMUNITY

Council Meetings are decision making forums for the Council that are open to the community to attend and / or view the proceedings.

- (a) Community members may only participate in accordance with Rule 3.8;
- (b) If the meeting is to be held virtually, community members will be provided with the opportunity to participate via electronic means;
- (c) Community members are encouraged to participate in Council's engagement processes;

- (d) Community members may seek to inform individual Councillors of their views by contacting them directly in advance of meetings.

3.3.8 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

- (a) Councillors and members of Delegated Committees who are unable to attend a meeting may submit an apology:
 - (i) In writing to the Chairperson or the Chief Executive officer, who will advise the meeting; or
 - (ii) By seeking another Councillor or member of the Delegated Committee to submit it at the meeting on their behalf.
- (b) An apology submitted to a meeting will be recorded in the minutes.
- (c) If a Councillor leaves a Council Meeting, the Councillor must request permission from the Chairperson before leaving the Chamber.
- (d) Unless there is an emergency, or otherwise in accordance with sub-clause 3.3.8 (h) of these Governance Rules, a leave of absence requested during a Council Meeting will only be granted at the end of a motion.
- (e) Unless there is an emergency, or otherwise in accordance with sub-clause 3.3.8 (h) of these Governance Rules, a leave of absence must not be requested or granted during a debate.
- (f) The Chairperson may call a comfort break at any time during a meeting on a request from a Councillor.
- (g) A Councillor intending to take a leave of absence must submit the notification in writing to the Mayor with the corresponding dates to which the leave of absence will apply to.
- (h) If this is not practicable, the Councillor must give the Chief Executive Officer notice of a leave of absence prior to the Council Meeting.
- (i) As per Section 35(4), the Council must grant any reasonable request for leave for the purposes of subsection (1)(e).

Note: A Council Resolution is required for a leave of absence.

3.4 NOTICES OF MEETINGS AND DELIVERY OF AGENDAS

OVERVIEW:

Council meetings are held regularly to conduct the ongoing business of Council and unscheduled meetings may be held from time to time.

It is important that the community is made aware of the times, dates and locations of Council and Delegated Committee meetings and the matters Council will consider. The timing of this notice should give the community adequate time to make arrangements to attend the meeting or view via the live broadcast.

An agenda for each Council meeting must be provided to Councillors in advance so that they can prepare adequately for the Council meeting. The agenda contains the order of business and the professional/ expert advice of the organisation, with a recommendation for Council to consider.

The agenda is made available to the public via Council's website and in hard copy format at the meeting location prior to the meeting.

3.4.1 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETINGS

- (a) At or before the last meeting of each calendar year, Council must fix the date, time and place of all Council Meetings for the following calendar year.
- (b) Council by resolution, or the Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Mayor, may change the date, time and place of, or cancel, any meeting which has been fixed and must provide notice of the change to the public.

3.4.2 UNSCHEDULED MEETINGS

- (a) Council may by resolution call an unscheduled meeting of the Council; or
- (b) The Mayor or three Councillors may by written notice call an unscheduled meeting of the Council; or
- (c) The Chief Executive Officer, following consultation with the Mayor, may call an unscheduled Meeting.
- (d) A written notice to call an unscheduled meeting must:
 - (i) Specify the business to transacted;
 - (ii) Be delivered to the Chief Executive Officer or delegate in sufficient time to enable notice to be given in accordance with Rule 3.4.3.
- (e) The Chief Executive Officer must determine the time and date for the meeting, giving consideration to:
 - (i) The urgency of the business to be transacted;
 - (ii) The availability of Councillors; and
 - (iii) A reasonable notice period for persons whose rights or interest may be impacted by the business to be transacted.
- (f) The Chief Executive Officer must arrange for notice of the meeting on Council's website and / or public notice in the local newspaper, including the business to be transacted.
- (g) Any resolution of Council to call an unscheduled meeting must specify the date and time of the unscheduled meeting and the business to be transacted.
- (h) The Chief Executive Officer must call an unscheduled meeting to elect a Mayor following a Council election declaration, in accordance with the Act.

- (i) The unscheduled meeting for the election of a Mayor following an election may also consider the role of Deputy Mayor and any other matters as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

3.4.3 NOTICE OF MEETINGS

(a) Council Meetings

- (i) Council Meeting agendas must state the date, time, place and format of the meeting and the business to be dealt with. Agendas must be delivered or made available electronically to every Councillor for all Council Meetings, as early as practicable, or at least 48 hours before the meeting.
- (ii) A schedule of Council Meetings must be prepared and published that ensures it is available to a broad section of the community including on Council's website at least once each year.

Council Meeting agendas will be made available for public inspection by 5pm the Friday prior to the Meeting on Council's website.

(b) Unscheduled Meetings

- (i) Notice of an unscheduled meeting must be published on Council's website and / or the local newspaper, as soon as practicable after the date, time and place of the meeting has been determined.
- (ii) An agenda for an unscheduled meeting must be made available electronically to every Councillor at least 48 hours before the meeting. A period of less than 48 hours may be justified if exceptional circumstances exist.
- (iii) An agenda for an unscheduled meeting will be made available on Council's website no less than 24 hours before the Council Meeting.

- (c) The Council website will make available, at a minimum, the past 12 months of meeting agendas and minutes. Earlier copies will be made available by contacting customer service.

3.5 QUORUM

OVERVIEW:

No business can be transacted at a Council Meeting or a Delegated Committee meeting unless a majority of the Councillors or members of the Delegated Committee (as the case may be) is present (quorum).

If there is no quorum at the commencement of a meeting or if a quorum cannot be maintained during a meeting, the meeting is to be adjourned to another date and/or time. A quorum is an absolute majority in accordance with s61(7) of the Act.

3.5.1 INABILITY TO GAIN A QUORUM TO COMMENCE

If after 30 minutes from the scheduled start time of any Council Meeting, a quorum cannot be obtained:

- (a) Those Councillors present; or
- (b) If there are no Councillors present, the Chief Executive Officer; or
- (c) In the absence of the Chief Executive Officer, an Authorised Officer;

Must adjourn the Council Meeting for a period within four weeks from the date of the adjournment.

3.5.2 INABILITY TO GAIN A QUORUM

If during any Council Meeting or any adjournment of the Council Meeting, a quorum cannot be maintained:

- (a) Those Councillors present;
- (b) If there are no Councillors present, the Chief Executive Officer; or
- (c) In the absence of the Chief Executive Officer, an Authorised Officer

Must adjourn the Council Meeting for a period not exceeding 7 days from the date of the adjournment.

3.5.3 INABILITY TO ACHIEVE OR MAINTAIN A QUORUM DUE TO CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OF COUNCILLORS

If a quorum cannot be achieved or maintained due to disclosure of conflicts of interest by the majority of Councillors, Council will:

- (a) Determine the matter will be considered in separate parts, if a quorum can be maintained for each separate part; or
- (b) Determine to make decisions on separate parts of the matter at a meeting where quorum can be maintained, before making a decision on the whole matter.

3.5.4 INABILITY TO ACHIEVE OR MAINTAIN A QUORUM DUE TO TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

If a quorum cannot be achieved or maintained during a virtual or hybrid Council Meeting due to technical difficulties, Council will:

- (a) Briefly adjourn the meeting to enable the Councillor or Councillors to re-join the meeting (up to five (5) minutes).
- (b) If unable to reconnect within five minutes to maintain a quorum, adjourn the Council Meeting for a period not exceeding seven (7) days from the date of the adjournment.

3.5.5 DELEGATION DUE TO CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

If a quorum cannot be achieved or maintained due to a declaration of conflicts of interests by the majority of Councillors, and the matter cannot be separated into component parts or prior decisions made, Council may delegate the decision to be made by the Chief Executive Officer. A decision made under delegation due to Council not being able to achieve or maintain a quorum will be reported to the next Council Meeting.

3.5.6 ADJOURNMENT

The Chief Executive Officer must provide written notice of an adjournment under sub-rules 3.5.1, 3.5.2, 3.5.3 or 3.5.4, however, where this is not practicable because the time does not permit that to occur, then, provided every reasonable attempt is made to contact every Councillor, notice by telephone, email, in person or by some other means is sufficient.

3.5.7 ADJOURNED MEETINGS

- (a) Council may adjourn any Council Meeting.
- (b) The Chief Executive Officer, or their delegate, must give notice to each Councillor of the date, time and place to which the Council meeting stands adjourned and of the business remaining to be considered.
- (c) Notice of an adjournment to another date or time must be published on Council's website and/or in the local newspaper as soon as practical.

3.6 ELECTION OF THE MAYOR

OVERVIEW

The role and functions of the Mayor are provided in the Act. The holder of this significant office is the Chairperson at Council Meetings, is the leader of the Councillors, acts as the principal spokesperson for Council and carries out civic and ceremonial duties.

This section describes how the Mayor, a Deputy Mayor and Acting Mayor are to be elected.

The Act has specific provisions governing the election of the Mayor and the term of office for the Mayor:

Section 25 - Election of Mayor

1. At a Council meeting that is open to the public, the Councillors must elect a Councillor to be the Mayor of the Council.
2. Subject to section 167 of the Act, any Councillor is eligible for election or re-election to the office of Mayor.
3. The election of the Mayor must—

- (a) be chaired by the Chief Executive Officer; and
 - (b) subject to this section, be conducted in accordance with the Governance Rules.
4. Subject to subsections (5) and (6), the Mayor must be elected by an absolute majority of the Councillors.
 5. If an absolute majority of the Councillors cannot be obtained at the meeting, the Council may resolve to conduct a new election at a later specified time and date.
 6. If only one Councillor is a candidate for Mayor, the meeting must declare that Councillor to be duly elected as Mayor (no vote required).
 7. In this section, absolute majority means the number of Councillors which is greater than half the total number of the Councillors of a Council.

Section 26 – When is a Mayor to be elected

1. A Mayor is to be elected no later than one month after the date of a general election.
2. Before the election of the Mayor, a Council, other than the Greater Geelong City Council, must determine by resolution whether the Mayor is to be elected for a 1 year or a 2-year term.
3. If the Mayor is elected for a 1-year term, the next election of the Mayor must be held on a day to be determined by the Council that is as close to the end of the 1-year term as is reasonably practicable.
4. If the Mayor is to be elected for a 2-year term, the next election of the Mayor must be held on a day to be determined by the Council that is as close to the end of the 2-year term as is reasonably practicable.
5. A Mayor is to be elected within one month after any vacancy in the office of Mayor occurs.
6. The election of a Mayor after the period specified in this section does not invalidate the election.
7. A Councillor elected to fill a vacancy in the office of Mayor caused other than by the expiration of a one year or a two-year term serves the remaining period of the previous Mayor's term.

3.6.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO SET TIME AND DATE FOR ELECTION OF MAYOR

- (a) The Chief Executive Officer must determine the most appropriate time and date for the election of the Mayor, taking into account the election of the Mayor must be held in accordance with any provisions contained in the Act and these Governance Rules.
- (b) At the meeting to elect the Mayor, Council must first resolve if the term of the Mayor is to be one or two years.
- (c) The order of business at the Council Meeting to elect the Mayor is to be determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

- (d) The Councillor elected to the position of Mayor may make a commencement speech for up to 10 minutes outlining their vision for the Mayoral term.
- (e) The commencement speech may not address matters outside the powers of the Council, be derogatory, or be prejudicial to any person or the Council.

3.6.2 ROLE AND ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

- (a) At the Council Meeting at which the Mayor is to be elected, the Council may also resolve to establish the position of Deputy Mayor and elect a Councillor to the position of Deputy Mayor.
- (b) If the Mayor is not in attendance at a Council Meeting, the Deputy Mayor must take the Chair.
- (c) The term of a Deputy Mayor can be for a one-year or two-year term.
- (d) If the Council has not resolved to establish the position of Deputy Mayor, any provisions in these Governance Rules relating to the Deputy Mayor have no effect.

3.6.3 METHOD OF VOTING FOR MAYOR

The election of the Mayor must be carried out by show of hands.

3.6.4 PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF THE MAYOR

- (a) The Chief Executive Officer must preside during the election of the Mayor.
- (b) The Chief Executive Officer must formally invite nominations for the office of Mayor and confirm acceptance on the nomination with the nominee.
- (c) In an election for the Mayor:
 - (i) where only one nomination is received, that Councillor must be declared elected;
 - (ii) where there is more than one nomination received, the Councillor receiving an absolute majority of votes will be declared elected;
 - (iii) in the event no candidate receives an absolute majority of the votes, the candidate with the fewest number of votes is eliminated.
 - (iv) Councillors present at the Meeting shall then vote for one of the remaining candidates;
 - (v) Where one of the remaining candidates receives an absolute majority of the votes, that Councillor shall be declared elected;
 - (vi) Where none of the remaining candidates receives an absolute majority of the votes, the procedure in 3.6.4 (c) (iii) is repeated;
 - (vii) Voting for the remaining candidates shall be repeated in this way until one of the candidates receives an absolute majority of the votes;

- (viii) Where two candidates have an equal number of votes, councillors must vote again. If an absolute majority cannot be obtained for one of the candidates, the Council may resolve to conduct a new election at a later specified time and date.

NB: For the avoidance of doubt, it is mandatory for Councillors to vote in the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor (where applicable).

3.6.5 PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR

- (a) If Council resolves to have the office of Deputy Mayor, the provisions of sub-rules 3.6.3 and 3.6.4 apply to the election for the Deputy Mayor with all necessary modifications and adaptations, including the Mayor conducting the election, rather than the Chief Executive Officer.
- (b) Subject to sub-rule 3.6.5 (a), the Chief Executive Officer must arrange an election as soon as possible after the office of Deputy Mayor becomes vacant.

3.7 CONDUCT AND BUSINESS OF MEETINGS

OVERVIEW

The business to be transacted at a Council meeting is contained in the agenda provided to Councillors and available to the public on Council's website.

The Chief Executive Officer oversees preparation of the agenda and determines the content and order of business to facilitate open, efficient and effective processes of government.

The role of the Mayor includes providing advice to the Chief Executive Officer when the Chief Executive Officer is setting the agenda for Council meetings.

3.7.1 THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business at any Council meeting is determined by the Chief Executive Officer to facilitate and maintain open, efficient and effective processes of government.

Unless otherwise resolved by Council, the general order of business at a Scheduled Council Meeting will be listed as follows:

- (a) Membership
- (b) Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country
- (c) Prayer/Opening Statement
- (d) Apologies
- (e) Confirmation of Minutes
- (f) Declaration of Interest

- (g) Leave of Absence
- (h) Documents for Tabling (optional inclusion)
- (i) Questions on Notice
- (j) Public Deputations / Request to Speak to Agenda Item
- (k) Petitions
- (l) Informal Meetings of Councillors
- (m) Management Reports
- (n) Urgent Business
- (o) Notices of Motion
- (p) Mayor, Councillors and Delegated Reports
- (q) Confidential Matters
- (r) Review of Confidential Matters (optional inclusion)
- (s) Close of Meeting

3.7.2 URGENT BUSINESS

- (a) Business can only be admitted as Urgent Business by resolution of Council and only then if:
 - (i) The Agenda for a Meeting makes provision for Urgent Business; and
 - (ii) It relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the Agenda; and
 - (iii) It cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Scheduled Council Meeting; and
 - (iv) It cannot be addressed through an operational service request process; or
 - (v) The Chief Executive Officer has advised the Mayor of an item they determine appropriate for Council to consider admitting as Urgent Business in accordance with 3.7.2(e).
- (b) The matter must not:
 - (i) Substantially affect the levels of Council service;
 - (ii) Commit Council to significant expenditure not included in the adopted budget;
 - (iii) Establish or amend Council Policy; or
 - (iv) Commit Council to any contractual arrangement.
- (c) A Councillor proposing that a matter be admitted as Urgent Business must lodge it in writing to the Chief Executive Officer no later than 5pm on the day of the Meeting.

- (d) A councillor wishing to submit a Motion as an item of Urgent Business:
 - (i) Must provide a written copy of the proposed motion to Councillors and the Governance Coordinator no later than 5pm on the day of the Meeting;
 - (ii) Must move a procedural motion that the Motion be admitted as an item of Urgent Business;
 - (iii) Will provide a brief explanation in not more than two (2) minutes why the Motion should be submitted.
- (e) The Chief Executive Officer will advise the Mayor of any matter they determine appropriate for Council to consider admitting as Urgent Business; and:
 - (i) Will provide an officer's report including an officer recommendation to Councillors and the Governance Coordinator not less than two (2) hours before the start of the Meeting;
 - (ii) Will provide a brief explanation why the Urgent Business should be submitted.
- (f) Council must consider a procedural motion to admit an item of Urgent Business and if,
 - (i) Carried, the Councillor will move the Motion and it will be considered as a motion in accordance with these Rules; or
 - (ii) Lost, the Council Meeting will move to the next item of business.

3.7.3 CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

Once an agenda has been sent to Councillors, the order of business for that Council Meeting may only be altered by a resolution of the Council. This includes a request for an item to be brought forward.

3.8 PUBLIC QUESTIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

OVERVIEW

As outlined in the purpose of these Governance Rules, Council meetings are held for Council to make its decisions. Although members of the public do not have a statutory right to address Council, provisions are made for Council to respond to questions from the community and for the public to make depositions, address Council and table petitions to Council.

At each meeting there is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of the Council. Assistance will be available for any member of the public who requires and seeks support to write their question(s).

Petitioning is a long-established process for members of the community to demonstrate community support for a request or views on a matter, and for that request or view to be presented directly to Council.

This Section sets out the procedures to be followed for public question time, public deputations, petitions and the circumstances under which they may be disallowed and the process for addressing and responding to the questions, deputations or petitions at or after the meeting.

Council meetings may be broadcast to the public and recorded, this includes public questions, deputations and petitions.

3.8.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Members of the public are welcome to ask questions of council at its scheduled Council Meetings.

Question Time is not an opportunity to make public statements or to provide gratuitous advice.

- (a) There will be no public question time held at unscheduled meetings or during the local government election caretaker period.
- (b) Questions must be submitted through completion of the Public Question Time form and be received by the Chief Executive Officer no later than 5pm on the Monday before the Meeting and a maximum of two questions may be asked. The name of the person who submitted the question(s) will be printed in the minutes.
- (c) A question may be disallowed by the Chairperson if the Chairperson determines it:
 - (i) Relates to a matter outside the duties, function and powers of Council;
 - (ii) Is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance
 - (iii) Deals with a subject matter already answered at a previous Council Meeting;
 - (iv) Is aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or a member of Council staff;
 - (v) Relates to personnel matters;
 - (vi) Relates to the personal hardship or any resident or ratepayer;
 - (vii) Relates to industrial matters;
 - (viii) Relates to contractual matters;
 - (ix) Relates to proposed developments;
 - (x) Relates to legal advice;
 - (xi) Relates to matters affecting the security of Council property;

- (xii) Relates to any other matter which Council considers would prejudice Council or any person.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt, only the question itself will be accepted and no background information or preamble will be printed in the agenda or minutes.

- (d) Questions must:
 - (i) Not pre-empt debate on any matter listed on the agenda of the Council meeting at which the question is asked
 - (ii) Not refer to matters designated as confidential under the *Local Government Act 2020*
 - (iii) Be clear and unambiguous and not contain argument on the subject
 - (iv) Not be derogatory, defamatory or embarrassing to any Councillor, member of staff, rate payer or member of the public.
- (e) The Chair will have the right to accept or reject any question.
- (f) The Chair will state the name of the person asking each question and:
 - (i) the submitter may then read the question(s) aloud; or
 - (ii) should the submitter not wish to read aloud or is not present, the Chair will read the question(s) aloud on their behalf; and
 - (iii) the Mayor will read the answer aloud regardless of whether the submitter is present at the meeting.
- (g) The question and answer will be included in the minutes of the meeting.
- (h) All questions and answers must be as brief as possible, and no discussion may be allowed other than for the purposes of clarification.

3.8.2 PUBLIC DEPUTATIONS

The public may make a public deputation at its scheduled Council Meetings. A deputation is a presentation to Council and is not limited to topics on the agenda.

- (a) Deputations must be received by 5pm on the Monday before the meeting and be submitted through the Request to Make a Deputation Form to the Chief Executive Officer.
- (b) Speaking time is limited to four (4) minutes, and extension time is at the discretion of the Chair.
- (c) Organisations can have up to four (4) representatives speak to the deputation, with one (1) representative nominated as the principal spokesperson and point of contact.
- (d) The principal spokesperson and representatives will each have four (4) minutes to speak, and extension time is at the discretion of the Chair.
- (e) Any Councillor can ask a question of the spokesperson and representatives.

- (f) Deputations wishing to make a written submission to the Council must provide a copy of the submission to the Chief Executive Officer prior to the Council Meeting. Written submissions will be distributed to Councillors prior to the Meeting.
- (g) Members of the public must also comply with these Rules in relation to meeting procedures and participation at meetings

3.8.3 PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

A petition is a formal written document, signed by many people, which requests action in relation to an issue. Petition is one of the traditional ways in which community members can make a request directly to Council in relation to a Council issue.

Petitions must adhere to certain standards to ensure that the intended message is conveyed in a clear and succinct manner. A petition template is available on Council's website, this template is not a requirement but petitions submitted to Council should comply with these Rules and be in a similar format to the template provided.

- (a) A petition or joint letter received by the Council or an individual Councillor must be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer and received by 5pm on the Monday before the scheduled Council Meeting.
- (b) A petition must conform to the following:
 - (i) Must be addressed to the Council, a Councillor or the CEO
 - (ii) Can be posted or hand delivered to the Chief Executive Officer, emailed to council@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au;
 - (iii) Must be received by the Chief Executive Officer by 5pm on the Monday before the scheduled Council Meeting;
 - (iv) Must be clearly written, typed or printed, and be signed by at least five (5) people;
 - (v) Every page of the petition must contain the request of the petitioners/signatories;
 - (vi) The request, suggestion or grievance must be set out using language that is respectful and not offensive;
 - (vii) Every petitioner/signatory must sign the petition only once, directly onto the petition form;
 - (viii) Every page of the petition must be a single page of paper. It is not acceptable for signatures to be cut and pasted or otherwise affixed or transferred to the petition;
 - (ix) The pages of a petition must be free from erasures and alterations.
- (c) The Chief Executive Officer must arrange for petitions to be submitted to the next practicable meeting following their receipt.

- (d) The only motions that may be considered for any petitions are:
 - (i) That the petition be received;
 - (ii) That the petition be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration and response;
 - (iii) That the petitions be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for a report to a future Council Meeting.
- (e) If the petition relates to an operational matter, the Council must refer it to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration.
- (f) If the petition relates to:
 - (i) A planning matter which is subject of a public notification process under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*; or
 - (ii) A statutory matter which is the subject of a public submission process;The petitions will be treated as a joint submission in relation to the planning matter or statutory matter (as the case may be).
- (g) A petition may nominate a person to whom a reply must be sent, but if no person is nominated or is the obvious intended contact person, the Council may reply to the first signatory who appears on the petition.
- (h) Any petition that does not comply with these Governance Rules:
 - (i) Can be referred to relevant Councillors by the Chief Executive Officer for their information; and
 - (ii) Can be tabled as a joint letter at a Council Meeting.
- (i) There will be no personal information such as names and addresses provided in the report to Council and copies of petitions are not included in the public Agenda but will be circulated to Councillors. The report to Council will only provide a summary of the petition matter (including the Petition request) and the number of signatures received. Sometimes some general demographic information is also noted in the report, i.e. what suburbs the petitioners are from (if relevant to the matter).

3.8.4 SPEAKING TO AN AGENDA ITEM

Members of the public are welcome to address Council Meetings in relation to any items on the public agenda.

- (a) Members of the public wishing to speak to an item must submit a Request to Address Council form to the Chief Executive Officer no later than 5pm Monday preceding the Meeting.
- (b) Speaking time is limited to three (3) minutes, and extension time is at the discretion of the Chair.
- (c) Members of the public must also comply with these Rules in relation to meeting procedures and participation at meetings.

3.8.5 PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE MEETING

- (a) Any member of the public addressing the Council must extend due courtesy and respect to Council and the processes under which it operates and must take direction from the Chairperson whenever called to do so.
- (b) Council may suspend standing orders in accordance with rule 3.13, to hear from a community member or representative of an organisation, on matters of significance to the Council, only if prior arrangements have been made by written request to the Mayor or Chief Executive Officer.

3.8.6 CHAIRPERSON MAY REMOVE

- (a) Members of the public present at a Council meeting must not interject during the Council meeting.
- (b) If a person, other than a Councillor, interjects or gesticulates offensively during the Council meeting, the Mayor may direct the person be removed.

3.8.7 CHAIRPERSON MAY ADJOURN DISORDERLY MEETING

The Chairperson may call a break in a meeting for either a short time, or to resume another day if:

- (a) the behaviour at the Council table or in the gallery is significantly disrupting the meeting; or
- (b) The break referred to in sub-rule (a) is an adjournment.

If the Chairperson calls a meeting to resume on another day, the provisions of rule 3.5.6 apply

3.9 MOTIONS OF DEBATE

OVERVIEW

This section describes the procedure for introducing a motion or amendment, the rules of debate, foreshadowing a motion or amendment and the duty of the Chairperson in relation to accepting motions and amendments. It also describes the process for a Councillor lodging a notice of motion for consideration and/or indicating they will raise a matter at the next Council meeting.

A Councillor may move any motion related to an item included in the agenda. In the interest of transparency and informed decision making, motions or amendments should not introduce new matters to a debate that have not been the subject of the management report of the motion being considered by Council.

As a resolution must be able to be acted upon, a motion must clearly state what is intended and what its effect will be if it becomes the decision. This provides clarity for the implementation of Council decisions.

This section also describes the circumstances and procedures under which a Council decision can be rescinded or altered. It also prescribes a procedure under which a Council policy can be altered or varied.

3.9.1 COUNCILLOR MAY PROPOSE NOTICES OF MOTION

Councillors may propose an issue to be listed on the agenda by lodging a Notice of Motion in accordance with the rules outlined in this section.

3.9.2 NOTICES OF MOTION

- (a) Prior to a Council Meeting, Councillors wanting to include a matter on the agenda, must complete a notice of motion form.
- (b) A notice of motion form must be signed by two Councillors; and be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer (whether personally, email or otherwise) by 9am the Monday the week before the Council meeting. So as to allow sufficient time to give other Councillors notice of such notice of motion; and to allow sufficient time for the notice of motion to be put in the agenda for the next Council meeting. If a notice of motion form is received after that time, it must, unless withdrawn, be included in the agenda for the following Council meeting.
- (c) A Councillor may be a signatory for up to two (2) notices of motion for any meeting. For the avoidance of doubt, no part of this section commits the signatories to then having to move or second the notice of motion at the Council Meeting.
- (d) The Chief Executive Officer must reject any notice of motion which:
 - (i) is too vague;
 - (ii) is identical or substantially similar to a notice of motion or a rescission motion that has been considered by the Council and lost or lapsed in the preceding six (6) months;
 - (iii) is defamatory;
 - (iv) may be prejudicial to any person or Council;
 - (v) is objectionable in language or nature;
 - (vi) is outside the powers of Council;
 - (vii) is a notice of motion submitted during the Caretaker Period; or
 - (viii) is a matter subject to a Council decision making process which has commenced but is not yet complete.
- (e) If the Chief Executive Officer rejects a notice of motion under sub-rule 3.9.2(d), they will inform the Councillor who lodged the notice of motion of that rejection and the reasons for it. The Councillor will be provided with 24 hours to lodge a revised notice of motion provided that the meeting at which

the notice of motion is to be considered is more than 24 hours from the time of rejection.

- (f) The Chief Executive Officer may reject and refer any notice of motion to the Council's operational service request process if it relates to a matter they determine is more appropriately addressed that way.
- (g) Subject to sub-rules 3.9.2 h) and i), a notice of motion must call for a Council report if the notice of motion:
 - (i) substantially affects the level of Council services;
 - (ii) commits the Council to expenditure in excess of \$20,000 and that has not been included in the adopted budget;
 - (iii) impacts any litigation to which council is party
 - (iv) establishes or amends a Council policy; or
 - (v) commits the Council to any contractual arrangement, as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.
- (h) Where a notice of motion is likely to commit Council to significant expenditure not included in the adopted budget, then the notice of motion must call for a report for Council's consideration and public submission process if applicable.
- (i) The Chief Executive Officer may direct a notice of motion to be confidential in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the Act, in which case the notice of motion will be confidential unless the Council resolves otherwise.
- (j) The text of the proposed notice of motion accepted by the Chief Executive Officer must be included in the material accompanying the agenda but will not include any background information.
- (k) The Chief Executive Officer must arrange for a formal report to be prepared and presented to the Council for the purposes of sub-rule (g). Where practicable the report should be presented to the next Council meeting.
- (l) The Chief Executive Officer must cause all notices of motion to be numbered, dated and entered in the notice of motion register in the order in which they were received.
- (m) Except by leave of Council, each notice of motion must be considered in the order in which they were received by the Chief Executive Officer.
- (n) If a Councillor who has given a notice of motion is absent from the Council meeting or fails to move the motion when called upon by the Chairperson, any other Councillor may move the motion.
- (o) If a Councillor proposing the motion wishes to amend the notice of motion, they may do so by seeking leave of the Council to amend the notice of motion prior to it being seconded.
- (p) The Chairperson, having lodged a notice of motion in accordance with this sub-rule, must vacate the Chair of the Council meeting to move the notice

of motion; and the Deputy Mayor or, in the absence of the Deputy Mayor, temporary Chairperson appointed by the Council, will take the Chair for the duration of consideration of the item.

- (q) If a notice of motion is not moved at the Council Meeting at which it is listed, it lapses and cannot be considered for a further six (6) month period.

3.9.3 INTRODUCING A NOTICE OF MOTION AT A COUNCIL MEETING

A Councillor may, at the complete discretion of the Chairperson, introduce a notice of motion at a Council meeting once it has been moved (but before seconding). In not more than two (2) minutes, the Councillor may introduce the notice of motion by indicating its intent or desired outcome if it is passed and to encourage support.

3.9.4 UNACCEPTABLE MOTIONS AT A COUNCIL MEETING

Any motion which is determined by the Chairperson at a Council meeting to be:

- (a) defamatory;
 - (b) objectionable in language or nature;
 - (c) vague or unclear in intention;
 - (d) outside the powers of Council;
 - (e) irrelevant to the item of business on the agenda and has not been admitted as urgent or general business; or
 - (f) purports to be an amendment but is not;
- must not be accepted by the Chairperson.

3.9.5 MOVING A MOTION OR AN AMENDMENT TO A MOTION AT A COUNCIL MEETING

Provided rule 3.9.4 does not apply, the procedure for moving any motion or amendment to a motion is:

- (a) the mover must state the motion;
- (b) the motion must be seconded by a Councillor other than the mover;
- (c) if a motion is not seconded, the motion lapses;
- (d) if a motion or an amendment is moved and seconded the Chairperson must ask:
- (e) "Is the motion or amendment opposed?"
- (f) if a Councillor indicates opposition, then the Chairperson must call on the mover to address the Council meeting;

- (g) after the mover has addressed the meeting, the seconder may address the Council Meeting, or the seconder may reserve their right to speak later in the debate;
- (h) after the seconder has addressed the Council meeting (or after the mover has addressed the Council meeting if the seconder does not address the Council meeting) the Chairperson must invite debate by calling on any Councillor who wishes to speak to the motion, providing an opportunity to alternate between those wishing to speak against the motion and those wishing to speak for the motion; and
- (i) if, after the mover has addressed the Council meeting, the Chairperson has invited debate and no Councillor speaks to the motion, then the Chairperson must put the motion to the vote.

3.9.6 RIGHT OF REPLY

As a mover of the motion, the Councillor has a right of reply to sum up the debate.

- (a) The mover of a motion has a right of reply to matters raised during debate.
- (b) The mover of a motion loses their right of reply if an amendment to the option is carried.
- (c) The mover of an amendment to a motion does not have a right of reply.
- (d) A Councillor exercising a right of reply must not introduce any new matter.
- (e) After the right of reply has been taken, the motion must immediately be put to the vote without any further discussion or debate.

3.9.7 MOVING AN AMENDMENT TO A MOTION

- (a) Subject to sub-rule b), a motion which has been moved and seconded may be amended by leaving out or adding words. Any added words must be relevant to the subject of the motion.
- (b) A motion to confirm a previous resolution of Council cannot be amended.
- (c) With the leave of the Chairperson, both the mover and seconder of the motion may agree to an alteration proposed by another Councillor.

For the purpose of clarification, an alteration, shall not be regarded as an amendment to the motion.

3.9.8 WHO MAY PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT

An amendment to a motion may be proposed or seconded by any Councillor, except the mover or seconder of the original motion.

3.9.9 WHO MAY DEBATE AN AMENDMENT

A Councillor may address the meeting once (1) on any amendment, whether or not they have spoken to the original motion, but their debate must be confined to the terms of the amendment.

3.9.10 HOW MANY AMENDMENTS MAY BE PROPOSED

- (a) Any number of amendments may be proposed to a motion but only one (1) amendment may be accepted by the Chairperson at any one time.
- (b) No second or subsequent amendment may be taken into consideration until the previous amendment has been dealt with.

3.9.11 AN AMENDMENT TO A MOTION ONCE CARRIED

- (a) If the amendment to a motion is carried, the motion as amended then becomes the motion before the Council meeting.
- (b) The mover and seconder of the amendment are deemed to be the mover and seconder of the motion before the meeting.

3.9.12 AN AMENDMENT TO A MOTION IF LOST

- (a) If the amendment to a motion is lost, the debate can resume from where it left off.
- (b) A Councillor who has already spoken to the original motion must not speak again unless to continue the debate as if the amended motion had not been put.

3.9.13 WITHDRAWAL OF MOTIONS

Before any motion is put to the vote, it may be withdrawn by the mover with agreement from the seconder or by resolution of Council.

3.9.14 CHAIRPERSON MAY ALLOW MOTIONS TO BE MOVED IN A BLOCK

The Chairperson may, at their discretion, allow or request Councillors to move “like items” in a block.

3.9.15 PRIORITY OF ADDRESS

In the case of competition for the right to speak, the Chairperson must decide the order in which the Councillors concerned will be heard.

3.9.16 MOTIONS IN WRITING

- (a) All motions, except procedural motions, must be in writing and provided to the Governance Coordinator by 5pm the day of the meeting, for circulation to all Councillors.
- (b) The Chairperson may request the person taking the minutes of the Council meeting to read the motion or amendment to the Council meeting before the vote is taken.

3.9.17 DEBATE MUST BE RELEVANT TO THE QUESTION

- (a) Debate must always be relevant to the question before the Chairperson, and, if not, the Chairperson must request the speaker to confine debate to the question.
- (b) If after being requested to confine debate to the question before the Chairperson, the speaker continues to debate irrelevant matters, the Chairperson may direct the speaker to be seated and not speak further in respect of the question then before the Chairperson.
- (c) A speaker to whom a direction has been given under sub-rule b), must comply with that direction.

3.9.18 SPEAKING TIMES

- (a) Unless a motion for an extension of time has been carried, the maximum speaking time will be:
 - (i) The mover of a motion – three (3) minutes
 - (ii) The mover of a motion when exercising their right of reply – three (3) minutes
 - (iii) Any other Councillor – three (3) minutes
- (b) A motion for an extension of speaking time cannot be accepted by the Chairperson if another speaker has commenced their debate.
- (c) An extension of speaking time must not exceed three (3) minutes.

3.9.19 ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL MEETING

If the Chairperson so determines:

- (a) Any person addressing the Chairperson must refer to the Chairperson as:
Mayor; or
Chair; or

As the case may be.

- (b) All Councillors, other than the Mayor, must be addressed as
Cr _____(surname).

- (c) All members of Council staff are to be addressed by their official title.

3.9.20 FORESHADOWING MOTIONS

- (a) At any time during debate a Councillor may foreshadow a motion so as to inform Council of their intention to move a motion at a later stage in the Council meeting, but this does not extend any special right to the foreshadowed motion.
- (b) A motion foreshadowed may be prefaced with a statement that in the event of a particular motion before the Chairperson being resolved in a certain way, a Councillor intends to move an alternative or additional motion.
- (c) A motion foreshadowed has no procedural standing and is merely a means to assist the flow of the Meeting.
- (d) The Chief Executive Officer or person taking the minutes of the meeting will not record a foreshadowed motion in the minutes until the foreshadowed motion is formally moved.

3.9.21 RIGHT TO ASK QUESTIONS

- (a) Subject to sub-rule (c), a Councillor may, at any time when no other Councillor is speaking, ask any question concerning or arising out of the motion or amendment before the Council.
- (b) Questions are not to be asked between moving and seconding a motion except to seek clarification on the motion moved.
- (c) The Chairperson has the right to disallow any question that does not specifically relate to the motion or amendment directly before it and to disallow any question should they, in the reasonable opinion of the Chairperson, be considered irrelevant.
- (d) The Chairperson has the right to limit questions and direct that debate be commenced or resumed.

3.9.22 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

- (a) Unless otherwise prohibited, a procedural motion may be moved at any time and must be dealt with immediately by the Chairperson.
- (b) Procedural motions require a seconder.
- (c) The mover of a procedural motion must not have moved, seconded or spoken to the question before the Chairperson or any amendment of it but this does not apply to a motion for an extension to speaking time under subrule 3.9.18.
- (d) Unless otherwise provided, debate on a procedural motion is not permitted and the mover does not have a right of reply.

- (e) Unless otherwise provided, a procedural motion cannot be amended.

3.9.23 NOTICE OF RESCISSION OR AMENDMENT

- (a) A Councillor may propose a motion to rescind or amend a previous resolution of Council provided the Notice of Rescission or Amendment:
- (i) is signed and dated by at least two (2) councillors; and
 - (ii) the resolution proposed to be rescinded or amended has not been acted on; and
 - (iii) is received in writing by the Chief Executive Officer not later than close of business two (2) business days following the meeting at which the resolution was adopted and in accordance with rule 3.9.1; or
 - (iv) is a Notice of Rescission or Amendment proposed by a Councillor in accordance with rule 3.9.24 and
- (b) No action will be taken to implement a resolution on which a notice to rescind or amend the resolution has been given pursuant to rule 3.9.23(a).
- (c) The Chief Executive Officer, or a member of Council staff with responsibility for it, may implement a resolution at any time after the close of the meeting at which it was made. A resolution will be deemed to have been acted on if:
- (i) its contents have, or substance has, been formally communicated to a person whose interests are materially affected by it; or
 - (ii) a statutory process has been commenced;

so as to vest enforceable rights in or obligations on Council or any other person.

- (d) The CEO, in consultation with the Mayor, may propose a motion to rescind a previous resolution of Council where it is deemed the resolution is not able to be acted upon. The motion to rescind must be accompanied by a management report outlining the proposed reason for rescission.

Note: It should be remembered that a Notice of Rescission or Amendment is a form of Notice of Motion. Accordingly, all provisions in these Rules regulating Notices of Motion equally apply to Notices of Rescissions or Amendments.

3.9.24 NOTICE OF RESCISSION OR AMENDMENT IF LOST

If a notice of rescission or amendment is lost or lapses, a similar motion may not be put before Council for at least six (6) months from the date it was last lost or lapsed, unless Council resolves that the notice of rescission or amendment be re-listed at a future Council meeting.

3.9.25 IF NOT MOVED

If a notice of rescission or amendment is not moved at the Council meeting at which it is listed, it lapses.

3.9.26 MAY BE MOVED BY ANY COUNCILLOR

A notice of rescission or amendment listed on an agenda may be moved by any Councillor present but may not be amended.

3.9.27 WHEN NOT REQUIRED

A notice of rescission or amendment is not required where Council wishes to change policy.

3.9.28 CHANGES TO COUNCIL POLICY

- (a) Council reviews its policies to ensure they are current and continue to reflect community expectations and the position held by Council.
- (b) It is good practice for Council to review significant policies at least once in each Council term (every 4 years) and such reviews may lead to change in policy position.
- (c) Subject to sub-rule (d), if Council wishes to change a Council policy, a formal notice of rescission is not required.
- (d) If a policy has been in force in its original or amended form for less than 12 months, any intention to change the policy which may result in a substantial change to the policy's application or operation for members of the public should be communicated to those affected, and their comment sought, prior to the policy being changed.

3.10 VOTING

OVERVIEW

At the conclusion of debate on a matter before the meeting, the Chairperson must put the question, motion or amendment to the vote. Each Councillor is entitled to one vote and voting must be able to be seen by those participating in the meeting and those observing the meeting.

The vote is determined by a majority of the Councillors present at the meeting at the time the vote is taken voting in favour of the motion.

If a vote is tied, the Chairperson has a casting vote in addition to their vote as a Councillor.

Sometimes a Councillor may want their vote to be recorded –this is provided for in this section, along with the procedure for when a Councillor calls for a division on a vote which is when the way in which each Councillor voted is recorded in the minutes.

Provision is made for the introduction of an electronic voting system as long as Council has resolved to implement the system and all participants in a meeting and those observing a meeting are able to see which way Councillor has voted on a matter at the time the vote is taken.

3.10.1 HOW A MOTION IS DETERMINED

- (a) To determine a motion before a Council Meeting, the Chairperson must:
 - (i) first call for those in favour of the motion;
 - (ii) then those opposed to the motion; and
 - (iii) if required, identify any Councillor who has abstained from voting, and then declare the result to the Council Meeting.
- (b) In the event of a tied vote, the Chairperson has a casting vote in accordance with these Rules.

3.10.2 BY SHOW OF HANDS

Unless Council resolves otherwise, voting on any matter is by show of hands.

3.10.3 PROCEDURE FOR DIVISION

- (a) Immediately after any question or motion is put to a Council meeting and before the next item of business has commenced, a Councillor may call for a division.
- (b) When a division is called for, the vote already taken must be treated as set aside and the division shall decide the question, motion or amendment.
- (c) When a division is called for, the Chairperson must:
 - (i) first ask each Councillor wishing to vote in the affirmative to raise a hand and upon such request being made, each Councillor wishing to vote in the affirmative must raise one (1) of their hands;
 - a. the Chairperson must then state and the Chief Executive Officer or their delegate must record, the names of those Councillors voting in the affirmative; and
 - (ii) then ask each Councillor wishing to vote in the negative to raise a hand and upon such request being made, each Councillor wishing to vote in the negative must raise one (1) of their hands;
 - a. the Chairperson must then state and the Chief Executive Officer or their delegate must record, the names of those Councillors voting in the negative;
 - b. the Chief Executive Officer or their delegate must record, the names of those Councillors who abstained from voting.
 - c. No Councillor is prevented from changing their original vote at the voting on the division, and the voting of the division will determine the Council's resolution on the issue.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt, abstaining from a vote is counted as a no vote.

3.10.4 NO DISCUSSION ONCE DECLARED

Once a vote on a question or motion has been taken, no further discussion relating to the question or motion is allowed unless the discussion involves:

- (a) a Councillor requesting, before the next item of business is considered, that their opposition to a resolution be recorded in the minutes;
- (b) foreshadowing a notice of rescission or amendment where a resolution has just been made; and/or foreshadowing an alternative motion in relation to the rescinded resolution.

NB: A foreshadowed a notice of rescission or foreshadowed motion as per 3.10.4(b) must be included in the minutes of the Council Meeting.

3.11 POINTS OF ORDER

OVERVIEW

A point of order is taken when a Councillor officially draws the attention of the Chairperson of a Council Meeting to an alleged irregularity in the proceedings. Valid points of order, the process for raising and ruling on a point of order, and the procedure if there is dissent on the Chair's ruling are described in this section.

3.11.1 POINTS OF ORDER

A point of order may be raised in relation to:

- (a) an act that is contrary to these Governance Rules;
- (b) an act of disorder or conduct in contravention of the Model Code of Conduct;
- (c) a question of procedure under these Governance Rules;
- (d) an act or conduct that is frivolous, vexatious or constitutes improper conduct; or
- (e) any act of disorder.

3.11.2 PROCEDURE FOR POINT OF ORDER

- (a) A Councillor raising a point of order must nominate the ground under rule 3.11.1 relied upon to support the point of order being taken.
- (b) When the point of order is raised, the Councillor who is speaking must stop and remain silent until the point of order is decided upon, unless otherwise directed by the Chairperson.
- (c) The Chairperson may request a Councillor provide an explanation in respect to the point of order raised.

3.11.3 CHAIRPERSON TO DECIDE

The Chairperson must decide all points of order by stating the provision, rule, practice or precedent which they consider applicable to the point raised without entering into any discussion or comment.

3.11.4 CHAIRPERSON MAY ADJOURN TO CONSIDER

- (a) The Chairperson may adjourn the Council meeting to consider a point of order, but otherwise must rule on it as soon as it is raised.
- (b) All other questions before Council are suspended until the point of order is decided.

3.11.5 FINAL RULING ON A POINT OF ORDER

The decision of the Chairperson in respect to a point of order raised will not be open for discussion and will be final and conclusive.

3.11.6 CONTRADICTION OR OPINION

A point of order may not be raised to express a mere difference of opinion or to contradict a speaker.

3.11.7 DISORDERLY CONDUCT BY A COUNCILLOR

- (a) The conduct of Councillors at Council meetings is governed by the Act, these Governance Rules and the Model Code of Conduct.
- (b) During the course of any Council meeting, Councillors must comply with the Model Code of Conduct, a copy of which is available on the website, or can be obtained by contacting the Chief Executive Officer's office.
- (c) Where a Councillor engages in improper or disorderly conduct, or acts in a way that otherwise disrupts the meeting, and prevents the conduct of Council business:
 - (i) Council may, by resolution, suspend that Councillor from a portion of the meeting or from the balance of the meeting where the Chairperson has warned the Councillor to cease that behaviour; or
 - (ii) The Mayor, under section 19 of the Act, at a Council meeting, having previously warned the Councillor to cease that behaviour, may direct a Councillor to leave the meeting for a period of time or the balance of the meeting.
- (d) Where Council suspends a Councillor under sub-rule (c) (i), or the Mayor directs a Councillor to leave the meeting under sub-rule (c) (ii) the Councillor will take no active part in the portion of the meeting from which they have been suspended.
- (e) If a Councillor has been suspended from a meeting or directed to leave in accordance with sub-rule (c) the Chairperson may ask the Chief Executive

Officer, an Authorised Officer or a member of Victoria Police to remove the Councillor.

3.12 MINUTES

OVERVIEW

The minutes of a meeting must contain details of the proceedings and resolutions made, be clearly expressed, be self-explanatory and incorporate relevant reports or a summary of the relevant reports considered in the decision-making process. The minutes of a Council meeting must be submitted to the next appropriate Council meeting for confirmation.

3.12.1 KEEPING OF MINUTES

- (a) The Chief Executive Officer (or other person authorised by the Chief Executive Officer to attend the Council Meeting and to take the minutes of such meeting) must keep minutes of each Council meeting and those minutes must record:
 - (i) the date, place, time and nature of the Council meeting;
 - (ii) the names of the Councillors present and the names of any Councillors who apologised in advance for their non-attendance;
 - (iii) the names and titles of the members of Council staff present who are not part of the gallery;
 - (iv) any disclosure of an interest or a conflict of interest made by a Councillor in accordance with the Act;
 - (v) arrivals and departures (including temporary departures) of Councillors during the course of the Council meeting including departures due to technical difficulties (more than one (1) minute) when attending by electronic means;
 - (vi) each motion and amendment moved (including motions and amendments that lapse for the want of a seconder);
 - (vii) the outcome of every motion moved;
 - (viii) the vote cast by each Councillor upon a division;
 - (ix) the vote cast by any Councillor who has requested that his or her vote be recorded in the minutes;
 - (x) when requested by a Councillor, a record of their support of, opposition to, or abstention from voting on any motion, noting that under s61(5) of the Act that a Councillor present at the meeting who does not vote is taken to have voted against the question;
 - (xi) questions upon notice;

- (xii) the failure of a quorum;
 - (xiii) any adjournment of the Council meeting and the reasons for that adjournment; and
 - (xiv) the time at which standing orders were suspended and resumed.
- (b) In addition, the Minutes should:
- (i) bear the date and time the meeting commenced, was adjourned, resumed and concluded;
 - (ii) be consecutively page numbered;
 - (iii) contain consecutive item numbers which are clearly headed with a subject title and where appropriate sub-titles and file references;
 - (iv) contain a summary of the Mayor, Councillor and Delegated reports which must be provided by councillors to the CEO in writing by 5pm the day of the Meeting.
 - (v) contain any other matter which the Chief Executive Officer thinks should be recorded to clarify the intention of the meeting or the reading of the Minutes.
 - (vi) Be uploaded to the Council website as soon as possible following the Council meeting.

Note: Council meeting minutes uploaded to Council's website are draft Minutes until they are confirmed by Council resolution at the next scheduled Council Meeting. If any changes are required to the draft minutes on the Council website, please contact Customer Service on (03) 5573 0444.

3.12.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

At every Council meeting, the minutes of the preceding Council meeting must be dealt with as follows:

- (a) If no Councillor indicates objection, the minutes must be declared to be confirmed via a motion.
- (b) If a Councillor indicates opposition to the minutes:
 - (i) State the item or items with which they are dissatisfied; and
 - (ii) Propose a motion clearly outlining the alternative wording to amend the minutes.

3.12.3 NO DEBATE ON CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

No discussion or debate on the confirmation of minutes will be permitted except where the accuracy of a record of the proceedings of the meeting to which they relate is questioned.

3.12.4 DEFERRAL ON CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Council may defer the confirmation of minutes until later in the meeting or until the next meeting as appropriate.

3.12.5 VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDINGS OF MEETINGS

Council Meetings will be audio and video recorded and:

- (a) At the commencement of the meeting, the Chair of the meeting will notify members of the public that the meeting is being recorded and if applicable, livestreamed. .
- (b) The audio recording of proceedings at all scheduled and unscheduled meetings of Council by media representatives shall be permitted with the exception of items considered in closed council.
- (c) No other video or audio recording will be permitted other than what is stated in this policy.
- (d) Council's audio recordings of Council meetings will be retained within Council's Electronic Records Management System.
- (e) Council's video recordings will be made available on Council's website alongside the minutes.

3.12.6 LIVE STREAMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

To ensure Council meetings are accessible and transparent:

- (f) Council will stream Council meetings to its preferred Council social media platform, subject to accessibility; and
- (g) Those attending in person or electronically may be recorded or their image captured and where captured, consent is automatically given for those attending; and
- (h) Notices of this effect will be on display in the venue in which the meeting is being held.

3.12.7 RECORDS OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Records should be kept of Council meetings in accordance with the Act.

3.13 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

3.13.1 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Council may decide to suspend the Council meeting to discuss the issues surrounding an item on the agenda. Council may hold this discussion in the Council Chamber or move to another room to discuss in private.

- (a) To expedite the business of a Council meeting, Council may suspend standing orders.
- (b) The suspension of standing orders should not be used purely to dispense with the processes and protocol of the Council. An appropriate motion would be:
"That standing orders be suspended to enable discussion on....."
- (c) Once the discussion has taken place and before any motions can be out, the resumption of standing orders will be necessary. An appropriate motion would be:
"That standing orders be resumed."

3.14 CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH COUNCIL WILL CLOSE A MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

OVERVIEW

Council is committed to openness and transparency in its decision making and will only close a meeting to members of the public when it is unavoidable. In circumstances where a meeting is closed to the public to maintain order or safety and security, the meeting will be livestreamed.

The Act provides the basis for matters to be considered as confidential. Council will only close a meeting to the public for consideration of confidential matters in accordance with the Act and its Public Transparency Policy.

3.14.1 MEETINGS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

The Chief Executive Officer may determine to advertise that a meeting will be closed to members of the public if:

- (a) There is reason to believe the safety or security of Councillors, Council staff or members of the public will be at risk if the meeting is open to the public; or
- (b) All matters to be considered at the meeting are confidential in nature.

Council may resolve to close a meeting to members of the public if:

- (i) There is reason to believe the safety or security of Councillors, Council staff or members of the public is at risk; or

- (ii) A meeting, has become, or is at risk of becoming so disorderly that the business of Council cannot be conducted; or
- (iii) The matter to be considered relates to confidential matters.
- (c) Having closed the meeting in accordance with sub-rule (b), Council may resolve that its decision or any report considered, or any part of its decision or part of any report considered, may be released to the public, to provide clarity that a Councillor or Council staff member who discusses those elements resolved to be released is not releasing confidential information.

CHAPTER 4: MISCELLANEOUS

4.1 INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

If there is a meeting of Councillors that:

- (a) is scheduled or planned for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors;
- (b) is attended by at least one Council officer; and
- (c) is not a Council meeting, Delegated Committee meeting or Community Asset Committee meeting.

The Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a summary of the matters discussed at the meeting are:

- (i) tabled at the next convenient Council meeting for noting without requiring a resolution; and
- (ii) include attendees, matters discussed, and matters declared.

4.1.1 DESIGNATED CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

- (a) If the Chief Executive Officer is of the opinion that information relating to a meeting is confidential information as prescribed under section 66(5) and described in section 3(1) of the Act, the Chief Executive Officer may designate the information as confidential and advise Councillors and/or members of Council staff in writing accordingly.
- (b) Information which has been designated by the Chief Executive Officer as confidential information within the meaning of the Act, and in respect of which advice has been given to Councillors and/or members of Council staff in writing, accordingly, will be presumed to be confidential information.

CHAPTER 5: JOINT COUNCIL MEETINGS

Regional collaboration provides benefits through collective procurement, increased advocacy and alignment for major projects. While on some matters that are worked on in

partnership, it is possible for the participating Councils to make their own decisions and determinations, in some circumstances, it may be beneficial to hold Joint Council Meetings, which are provided for in the Act.

- (a) Council may resolve to participate in a Joint Council Meeting to consider:
 - (i) Collaborative projects;
 - (ii) Collaborative procurement;
 - (iii) Emergency response
- (b) If Council has resolved to participate in a Joint Council Meeting, the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) will agree on governance rules with the participating Council(s).
- (c) Where Southern Grampians Shire Council is the lead Council on a matter to be brought for consideration at a Joint Council Meeting, the Mayor will be nominated to Chair the Joint Council Meeting.
- (d) A majority of Councillors will be appointed to represent Council at a Joint Council Meeting.
- (e) Consistent information will be provided to Councillors prior to any Joint Council Meeting and every endeavour will be made by the Chief Executive Officer to facilitate a joint briefing.
- (f) A joint Council Meeting arranged in accordance with these Rules may be held electronically.
- (g) A joint briefing arranged in accordance with these Rules may be held electronically.

CHAPTER 6: DELEGATED COMMITTEES

Council may establish Delegated Committees and Advisory Committees as part of its governance framework. Delegated Committees can comprise Councillors, members of Council staff and others and must be chaired by a Councillor. A Council may delegate specific powers, duties and functions to Committees, their meeting procedures need to be formal.

If Council establishes a Delegated Committee, the Rules apply to the Delegated Committee Meetings with any necessary modifications.

- (a) For the purpose of these Rules:
 - (i) A Council Meeting is to be read as a reference to a Delegated Committee Meeting;
 - (ii) A Joint Council Meeting is to be read as a reference to a Joint Delegated Committee;
 - (iii) A Councillor is to be read as a reference to a Member of a Delegated Committee; and
 - (iv) A reference to the Mayor is to be read as a reference to the Chairperson of the Delegated Committee.
- (b) If Council establishes a Delegated Committee, Council may resolve that a provision of this governance rules do not apply to that Committee.
- (c) At the meeting at which Council establishes a delegated committee, it must also appoint a Chairperson.
- (d) The Chair of a Delegated Committee must be a Councillor.

CHAPTER 7: COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES

The Act provides for Council to establish a Community Asset Committee for the management of a community asset such as a hall. Council may appoint members of the community to the committee and delegate to it powers, duties and functions. The powers delegated to a community asset committee must be limited in the amount and purpose of any financial delegation.

- (a) The Governance Rules may apply to any Community Asset Committee established by Council.
- (b) Council may resolve, in establishing a Community Asset Committee which sections of the Governance Rules apply but as a minimum must include the rules governing minutes.
- (c) A Community Asset Committee must report the minutes of all Committee Meetings to the next Council meeting.
- (d) A Community Asset Committee must act in accordance with its adopted Charter, Instrument of Delegation and any Terms of Reference adopted by Council.

CHAPTER 8: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Act defines general and material conflicts of interest and provides exemptions for remoteness and interests in common with a substantial proportion of ratepayers along with other specific circumstances.

The Act also provides Council must include in its Governance Rules procedures for disclosures of Conflicts of Interest, including at meetings conducted under the auspices of Council include those meetings arranged or hosted by Council.

These Rules provide the procedures for disclosure of conflict of interest.

Obligations with regard to conflict of interest:

(a) Councillors, Members of Delegated Committees and Council staff are required to:

- Avoid all situations which may give rise to conflicts of interest;
- Identify any conflicts of interest; and
- Disclose or declare conflicts of interest.

(b) Councillors and Members of Delegated Committees:

- May not participate in discussion or decision-making on a matter in which they have a conflict of interest.
- When disclosing a conflict of interest, Councillors must clearly state their connection to the matter.
- All disclosures of conflicts of interest will be recorded in the minutes of a Council or Delegated Committee Member.
- Council will maintain a conflict of interest register which will be made available on Council's website.

(c) Procedure at Council or Delegated Committee Meeting

At a time indicated in the Agenda, a Councillor with a conflict of interest in an item on that agenda must indicate they have a conflict of interest by clearly stating:

- The item for which they have a conflict of interest; and
- Whether their conflict is general or material; and
- The circumstances that give rise to the conflict of interest.

Immediately prior to the consideration of the item in which they have a conflict of interest, a Councillor or Member of a Delegated Committee must indicate to the meeting the existence of the conflict of interest and leave the meeting.

A Councillor who is not present at the designated time in the agenda for disclosures of conflicts of interest, must disclose their conflict of interest in the manner required for the declarations of conflicts of interest prior to leaving the meeting.

A Councillor or Member of a Delegated Committee who discloses a conflict of interest and leaves a Council meeting must not communicate with any participants in the meeting while the decision is being made.

(d) Procedure at other meetings organised, hosted or supported by Council

- (i) A Councillor who has a conflict of interest must not participate in discussion of matters that will come before Council for a decision, or if a decision will be made by a member of staff acting under delegation.
- (ii) At the time indicated on the agenda, a Councillor with a conflict of interest will indicate the existence of the conflict of interest and the matter in which the conflict of interest arises.
- (iii) If there is no agenda, a Councillor with a conflict of interest will indicate the existence of the conflict of interest as soon as the matter arises.
- (iv) At the time for discussion of that item, the Councillor will leave the discussion and not communicate with any members of the meeting for the duration of the discussion.
- (v) The existence of a conflict of interest will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- (vi) If there are no minutes kept of the meeting, the conflict of interests will be recorded in a meeting record and provided to the Governance Coordinator for recording in the register of Conflicts of Interest.
- (vii) The meeting minutes or record will also record the duration of the discussion and whether the Councillor left the meeting.
- (viii) Meeting records and reports will be presented to Council for noting and inclusion on the public record.

(e) Council staff

- (i) Must act in accordance with the Employee Code of Conduct
- (ii) Must not exercise a delegation or make a decision on any matter where they have a conflict of interest.
- (iii) May be permitted to provide advice to a decision maker if a conflict of interest exists, subject to the procedure and disclosure provisions and the Employee Code of Conduct.

(f) Procedure for disclosures of Conflicts of Interest by Council staff

- (i) Council staff must disclose the existence of all conflicts of interest in writing and in the form determined by the Chief Executive Officer
- (ii) All conflicts of interest disclosure by Council staff will be provided to the Governance Coordinator for recording in the register of Conflicts of Interest
- (iii) A Council staff member who has discloses a conflict of interest may provide advice to Council or another staff member acting under delegation if:

- a. The number and qualifications of other people providing advice regarding the same matter is equal or greater; or
- b. The staff member who has disclosed the conflict of interest is the only staff member with the expertise in the area; and
- c. The staff member's Director determines that the conflict of interest has not influenced the advice provided and
- d. The existence of the conflict of interest is documented in all advice provided by the staff member and in the case of verbal advice, is documented by the decision maker.

CHAPTER 9: ELECTION PERIOD POLICY

ELECTION PERIOD POLICY

Council will have in place an election period policy that:

- a) Governs decision making during a local government election period, including what may be considered at a Council meeting;
- b) Prohibits the use of Council resources for any election campaign purposes;
- c) Sets out the conditions for any community engagement required to be undertaken during an election period, including consultations, Civic events, and activities of Advisory Committees established by Council;
- d) Sets out the requirement for any Council publications during a local government election period – including the website, social media, newsletters and advertising – to ensure Council does not publish materials that relate to issues that are the subject of election campaigns;
- e) Define roles and responsibilities in relation to who is the spokesperson for Council during an election period;
- f) Sets out the requirements for a Councillor or member of Council staff who is a candidate in an election.

At least once in each Council term, prior to the commencement of an election period, Council will review its election period policy.

The Election Period Policy forms part of the Governance Rules.

The Operation of Council Committees shall be suspended upon the commencement of the election period ahead of a general Council election.

Any outstanding Delegate's Reports may still be reported to a Council meeting during this period.

Council Committees shall resume meeting following the election and the appointment by the incoming Council of Councillors to each Committee.

ELECTION PERIOD POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The *Local Government Act 2020* provides that during the election period, certain prohibitions apply to the general functions and powers of Council.

The election period is defined by the Act as starting at the time nominations close on nomination day and ending at 6pm on the election day.

The close of nominations is 12 noon on the day that is 39 days before the election day.

The election period starts at the time that nominations for the election of Council close, known as nomination day. The election period for the 2024 elections will apply from 12 noon Tuesday 17 September 2024 until 6pm on Election Day, Saturday 26 October 2024, inclusive.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure that the election for the Southern Grampians Shire Council is conducted in a manner that is ethical, fair and equitable, and publicly perceived as such.

The policy will also facilitate the continuation of the ordinary business of Local Government in Southern Grampians Shire Council throughout the election period in a responsible and transparent manner, in accordance with statutory requirements and established election period conventions.

This policy also commits Council during the election period to:

- Avoid making significant new policies or decisions that could unreasonably bind a future Council; and
- Ensure public resources, including staff resources are not used in election campaigning in a way that may improperly influence the result of an election, or improperly advantage existing Councillors as candidates in the election.

DEFINITIONS

Election Period	The Act defines the Election Period as commencing on the close of nominations on nomination day and ending at 6 pm on election day, a period of 39 days.
Electoral Material	Means an advertisement, handbill, pamphlet or notice that contains electoral matter, but not does include an advertisement in a newspaper that is only announcing the holding of a meeting.
Handbill	A small printed advertisement or other notice distributed by hand.
Electoral Matter	Matter which is intended to, or likely to, affect voting in an

	election other than that which is prepared by the Returning Officer for the purposes of conducting the election.
Publication	Includes any means of publication including letters and information on the internet and social media.
Significant Decision	Means a decision that significantly affects the municipality.
Act	Means <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>

APPLICATION

This policy applies to all Councillors, Advisory Committees, Delegated Committees, and Community Asset Committees and Council staff.

RESPONSIBILITIES

All Councillors, Delegated Committees, Advisory Committees, Community Asset Committee Members and Council staff are responsible for complying with this policy. The Governance Coordinator has the responsibility of ensuring that this Policy is updated as required.

SCOPE

This Policy is made in accordance with:

- *Local Government Act 2020*
- Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2020
- *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*
- Public Transparency Policy
- Councillor Code of Conduct

There are specific caretaker provisions in the *Local Government Act 2020* that Councils must implement during the election period.

This policy has been written to provide guidance for Councillors, candidates, Delegated Committees, Community Asset Committees, Advisory Committees and Council staff, it does not substitute legal advice.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Chief Executive Officer must ensure, as far as possible, that:

- All Councillors and Council staff are informed of the application of this policy prior to the commencement of the Election period; and
- Matters of Council business requiring major policy or significant decisions are scheduled for Council to enable resolution prior to the commencement of the election period, or deferred where appropriate for determination by the incoming Council.

DECISIONS BY COUNCIL

Major Policy Decisions

Section 69 (2) of the Act prohibits any Council decision during the election period for a general election that:

- Relates to the appointment or remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer but not the appointment or remuneration of an Acting Chief Executive Officer;
- Commits the Council to expenditure exceeding one percent of the Council's income from general rates, municipal charges and service rates and charges in the preceding financial year;
- The Council considers could be reasonable deferred until the next Council is in place;
- The Councils considers should not be made during an election period.

During the election period, section 69 (4) of the Act prohibits Council making major policy decisions and any major policy decision made during the election period is deemed to be invalid under the Act.

Significant Decisions

During the election period, Council will avoid making decisions that significantly affect the municipality and unreasonably bind the incoming Council.

Council acknowledges it has an ongoing responsibility to act in the best interests of the community. Where a delay in making a significant decision would result in a significant detriment to the municipality, Council may make an exception where the issue is:

- Urgent
- Cannot be reasonably deferred without major negative repercussions.

It is the responsibility of the CEO to determine if a matter is significant and urgent and as such, will request an exemption from the Minister for Local Government in accordance with section 177 of the Act. The request for exemption is not automatically granted.

Delegations

Before making decisions under delegated authority during the election period, Council staff should consider the following:

- Whether the decision is significant
- The urgency of the issues
- Whether the decision is likely to be controversial
- Whether the decision is in the best interests of Council

It is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer to determine if a matter is significant and if it is urgent.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meeting papers will be carefully vetted to ensure that no agenda item is included that could potentially influence voters' intentions at the forthcoming election or could encourage councillors and candidates to use the item as part of their electioneering.

There will be no Public Question Time or Deputations during the election period.

BRIEFING SESSIONS

Briefing session meeting papers will be carefully vetted to ensure that no agenda item is included that could be perceived as a disadvantage to candidates.

Access to historical briefings and workshop papers will be suspended for the duration of the election period.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The operation of Council Advisory Committees shall be suspended upon the commencement of the election period ahead of a general Council election.

DELEGATED COMMITTEES

The operation of Delegated Committees shall be suspended upon the commencement of the election period ahead of a general Council election.

COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES

The operation of Community Asset Committees shall be suspended upon the commencement of the election period ahead of a general Council election.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EVENTS

Community engagement will not take place during the election period except where there is a legal obligation, or the CEO determines special circumstances exist.

Scheduling of Council events will be permitted but limited during the election period. Council events will only be organised and run by Council administration if they are part of the normal services or operation of the Council and the scheduling of the event during the election period is deemed appropriate.

Where events occur and whether or not a Councillor is to make a speech, Councillors will be conscious of the fact that they are representing Council and are not to use the opportunity for electioneering.

Speeches for Councillors will only be prepared by Council staff in relation to events that are part of the normal services or operation of the Council and such speeches will not be circulated or available for publication.

COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS

Prohibition on publishing material that contains electoral material

Section 304(2) of the Act prohibits Council from printing, publishing or distributing any electoral material during an election period unless the electoral material only contains

information about the election process or is otherwise required in accordance with, or under, any Act or regulation. This is to ensure that Council does not utilise public funds that may influence or be seen to influence people's voting intentions.

CEO Certification

Council must not print, publish or distribute or cause, permit or authorise to be printed, published or distributed, any advertisement, handbill, pamphlet or notice unless the advertisement, handbill, pamphlet or notice has been authorised by the CEO.

Prohibited material

Electoral matter is defined in the Act and means any matter which is intended or likely to affect voting in an election, but does not include:

- Any electoral material produced by or on behalf of the Victorian Electoral Commission election manager for the purposes of conducting the election.

Website

Material published on Council's website in advance of the election period is not subject to certification, however existing material that is prominently displayed will be reviewed and consideration given to the removal of any such material that would be considered electoral matter, were it to be published during the election period.

Councillor contact information will remain available on the website during the election period, but Councillor profiles will be removed.

Any material published on Council's website during the election period must be certified by the CEO.

Annual Report

The Annual Report will be compiled during the election period and will not contain any material that could be regarded as electioneering or inappropriately promotes individual Councillors. Information about Councillors will be restricted to names, contact details, titles, membership of Committees and other bodies to which they have been appointed by the Council.

Social Media

Any publication (comments or new content) on Council-managed social media sites during the election period must be certified by the CEO.

At the commencement of the election period, Council may advise social media subscribers that comments containing electoral matter will be deleted.

Councillor's individual (personal) social media pages are not managed by Council and are not subject to the same provisions.

Newsletters

The CEO Weekly Update and Exchange Newsletter will continue to be provided during the election period.

COUNCIL RESOURCES

Public resources must not be used by Councillors or a member of Council staff in a manner that would influence the way people vote in elections. Council will ensure Council resources are not used inappropriately during the Council election and comply with the requirements of section 304 of the Act.

Council resources, including offices, Council staff, equipment, electronic equipment and stationery will be used exclusively for normal Council business during the election period, and will not be used in connection with any electioneering activity.

Use of Council Resources by Councillors

Councillors may continue to use any Council equipment provided to them to facilitate their performance of normal Council duties, subject to existing protocols and terms of use. Councillors standing for re-election must not use Council equipment as a resource to assist with election campaigns.

Photocopying for election campaigning by Councillors or staff on office photo copiers is not permitted.

Databases and mailing lists held by the organisation remain the property of the Council and are therefore not available to members of the public, candidates or Councillors.

The organisation will not prepare or produce any materials associated with Councillors' individual election campaigns.

No Council logos, letterheads or other Council branding should be used for, or linked in any way to, a candidate's election campaign.

Councillors will not use Council issued mobile phone and email addresses for election campaigning purposes.

The use of Council's internet and intranet sites for any activity to do with election campaigning is prohibited. This includes linking Council websites to private candidate websites.

Access to the voters' roll is subject to the requirements of the Act and the Privacy and Data Protection legislation. A copy of the voters' roll will be provided to candidates by the Returning Officer (VEC). The voters' roll will be available for inspection during the election period at advertised times.

Council facilities booked for electoral campaigning purposes by Councillors, candidates or supporters or other persons during the election period will be let at the same rates to all hirers.

Staff Discretion

Staff must avoid assisting Councillors in ways that are, or could, create perception that staff are assisting Councillors in their election campaign.

If any staff member considers that a particular use of Council resources may influence voting in the election, or be perceived as influencing voting, or be perceived as being part of an election campaign, they must advise the CEO immediately.

Councillor Expenses Reimbursement

Reimbursement of Councillor's out-of-pocket expenses during an election period will only

apply to costs that have been incurred in the performance of official Council duties as defined and not for expenses that could be perceived as supporting or being connected with a candidate's election campaign.

MEDIA

Council publicity during the election period will be restricted to communicating normal Council activities and initiatives and subject to certification by the CEO.

All official media statements during the election period will only be made by the CEO.

Media Releases or other media statements will not refer to specific Councillors or feature any photograph, quote from or name of incumbent Councillors during the Election Period. Where it is necessary to make or clarify any public statement, comment on sensitive or political issues or identify a spokesperson in relation to an issue, the matter must be referred to and approved by the CEO.

Media services, including media releases, will not be provided for individual Councillors by any Council officers, including the CEO, during the election period.

Media statements dealing with their election campaign must be issued by Councillors privately. Statements must be clearly communicated as personal opinion and not undermine the standing of the Council in the community.

Councillors must not use their position as an elected representative or their access to Council staff and resources to gain media attention in support of an election campaign.

Council staff

Staff must not provide advice or assistance in the preparation of media releases or other media statements that contain electoral material.

Staff must not make any public statement that can be interpreted as a political comment or have influence on the electoral process, public statement includes social media platforms. Council staff must make it clear when making comments related to the election that they are expressing their own views and not making an official comment.

It is critical that Council staff be, and appear to be, apolitical throughout the election period to maintain the confidence of the Council, Councillors, candidates and the community at all times throughout the electoral process.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Candidates

All election related enquiries from candidates or prospective candidates must be directed to the VEC Returning Officer.

Staff must not provide any information to any candidate or prospective candidate that is not publicly available. If staff receive requests from candidates, or prospective candidates, for any information that is not publicly available these requests must be forwarded to the Governance Coordinator.

If the information requested is appropriate to be released to the candidate, the Governance Coordinator will ensure that it is made available to all candidates, not just the candidate who requested the information. This is to ensure that all candidates have fair and equitable access to information.

Current Councillors

As Councillors must continue to perform their elected role during the election period, they may receive all necessary information for them to fulfil that role. Information that can be provided to Councillors includes:

- Information that is publicly and freely available – Council Plans, Annual Reports, strategies, policies etc.;
- Information and advice provided by Council's management as part of Council meeting agendas; and
- Briefing papers in relation to matters to be decided upon at forthcoming Council meetings.

Any information provided to Councillors must be necessary to the carrying out of the Councillor's role and must not be used for election purposes.

Requests for information which require significant resources to be devoted to making a response or which might be perceived to support an election campaign must be referred to the CEO or the Governance Coordinator for consideration.

Information Request Register

Governance will maintain an Information Request Register during the election period that will be made publicly available. It will record all requests relating to electoral matters and non-routine requests for information by Councillors and candidates, and the responses given to those requests.

DISPLAYING ELECTORAL MATERIAL

Electoral material, including pamphlets, posters and notices must not be visible or available at any council premises, including libraries, during the election period. The only exception to this is material issued by the Returning Officer for the purpose of conducting the election.

USE OF TITLE

Councillors may use the title 'Councillor' in their election material as they continue to hold the positions in the period; however to avoid confusion, Councillors must ensure that any election publication using the title Councillor clearly indicates that it is their own material and has not been produced or endorsed by Council.

IMPLEMENTATION

Prior to an Election Period, the CEO will ensure that Councillors, and Council staff are advised in regard to the application of the Policy.

The Policy will be published on Council's website, a copy provided to all Councillors and

copies available at Council's offices.

CHAPTER 10: REVIEW

The first Governance Rules made under section 60 of the *Local Government Act 2020* required adoption by 1 September 2020.

These Rules were adopted by Council on the following dates:

- 12 August 2020
- 13 October 2021
- 10 August 2022
- 21 June 2023
- XXXXXX 2026

The Rules will be reviewed every four years



Council Policy

ART ACQUISITION AND COLLECTION POLICY	Date Adopted:	
	Adopted By:	Council
	Review Due:	
	Responsible Officer:	
	Directorate:	
	EDRMS No:	

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for the management, including to the acquisition, or donation, of works of art offered and contained in Southern Grampians Shire Council permanent collection, managed by Hamilton Gallery.

DEFINITIONS

Council	means Southern Grampians Shire Council
Work of art / art work	Diverse range of human activities, creations, and methods of expression that may include objects of cultural and historic heritage.
Accession	process undertaken that formally acknowledges an artwork or archive to be part of the collection.
Acquisition	taking legal possession and ownership of a work of art through purchase, bequest or gift.
Art Collection	Group of artworks acquired, cared for, and preserved for by a gallery for public benefit and cultural heritage.
Bequest	Funds or property to advance the collection.
Cultural Gifts Program	the Australian Government's program of tax incentives for culturally significant gifts to Australia's public collections. Eligibility is restricted to institutions registered as DGR's.
De-accessioning	The process by which a work of art is legally and formally removed from the permanent collection.
Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR)	funds, authorities or institutions endorsed by the Australian Tax Office. Collections recognised as DGR's are eligible for registrations with Australian Government's Cultural Gift Program.
Disposal	the physical removal of a work of art or public art from the collection, following de-accessioning.

Loans	Process by which items in a collection may be temporarily exchanged between approved institutions or organisations. Outward loans refer to items lent from a collection; inward loans refer to items brought into an institution or organisation
Works of Art Committee	<p>Advisory committee, established to keep the cultural and aesthetic standards of the permanent collection at a level of excellence.</p> <p>The Works of Art Committee will comprise of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hamilton Gallery Director • Hamilton Gallery Operations Manager • Hamilton Gallery Curator

APPLICATION AND SCOPE

This policy applies to the acquisition and de-accession of works of art in relation to the permanent collection, including but not limited to donations, purchases, gifts or bequests.

This policy does not apply to public art and/or other objects, artistic or heritage, owned by Southern Grampians Shire Council but not accessioned within the permanent collection of Hamilton Gallery.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Commitment to the following principles apply:

- collecting is always in the pursuit of developing a high-quality cultural asset;
- economic growth of the asset is not the key focus of collecting;
- transparency in acquiring and de-accessioning of works of art, to and from the permanent collection;
- the policy framework is to provide process in relation to accessioning and de-accessioning practices;
- collecting is in the interest of enhancing the community's understanding and appreciation of art.

ACQUISITION

CRITERIA

A work of art will be acquired for the permanent collection if:

- that work of art adheres to the general principles of the policy
- the work is acquired unencumbered to allow the unconditional right to retain custody and control in perpetuity. Council will not accept works which bear any restrictions or conditions.
- Council, via Hamilton Gallery, can care for and store the work of art appropriately. Practicalities regarding the storage and movement of works of art or cultural material include – but are not limited to – long-term storage concerns and workplace health and safety issues, and associated costs in managing these factors

- d) the work of art is in a good state of preservation. Hamilton Gallery has limited capacity or funding to store or undertake conservation of art or cultural material in poor condition.
- e) the work of art is not a duplicate of a work already in the collection
- f) that the work of art is suitable for public display
- g) the title can be legally transferred unencumbered to Council
- h) the work of art either enhances the strengths of the existing collection, addresses key gaps in the current holdings, or develops a considered representation of the art of our time. The focus is placed on outstanding works of art that are also informed by principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

PROCESS

If a work of art is deemed appropriate for the permanent collection, an Acquisition Request will be completed by the Curator. This will detail relevant information about the artist and artwork, outline the provenance and purchase type. The Director will also recommend the work based on the Collection Area and how it fulfills the acquisitions criteria specified above and include information on the work of art's significance. This will include works of art offered via donation, gift, bequest or via Council allocated funds. Due diligence will be performed by the Curator to highlight any potential risks or issues with the proposed acquisition.

Purchases utilising Hamilton Gallery Trust funds, either partially or in full, will be presented by the Hamilton Gallery Director to the Trust for approval and will adhere to both the Works of Art Committee and Hamilton Gallery Trust governance guidelines and deed of transparency, accountability, and ethical acquisition practices.

Acquisitions to the permanent collection from time to time will fall outside of the Council's Procurement Policy.

MANAGEMENT OF THE COLLECTION

Access to the Collection

It is intended that the Hamilton Gallery Collection be accessible to the community through exhibition and display to promote an understanding, appreciation and engagement of works in the collection and art and culture more broadly.

The Curator will ensure works from the collection are on display wherever possible, however it should be noted that some works may not be appropriate for public display due to preservation concerns, for instance lack of climate control.

Collection records and images are accessible for research purposes by appointment or through general enquiry. Due to excessive demands currently placed on storage areas, easy and safe access to works of art or cultural material in these areas is limited. All access is at the discretion of staff and must be facilitated by a staff member. A genuine effort to facilitate access where possible will be made.

Collection Care

Hamilton Gallery Collection will be managed, documented, and catalogued by appropriately qualified staff with industry-specific experience and to museum standards. Research information will be made available to the public if requested.

Hamilton Gallery is committed to the preventative conservation of the Collection according to recognised museum standards. The Gallery only engages qualified and accredited conservator and approved contractors to advise and work on the care, repair, maintenance, display, and exhibition of the collection. The Curator or the Gallery Operations Manager will recommend works for conservation on an as-needed basis.

Hamilton Gallery lends and borrows material through outward and inward loan processes. The terms and conditions of outward loans are detailed in the Outward Art Work Loan Policy.

Storage

The care and storage of the collection is of utmost importance, and the following guidelines shape best practice:

- Storage areas must be clean and secure
- Temperature and relative humidity should be kept as stable as possible.
- Access to storage areas is limited to key personnel.
- Lights must be off when storage areas are not in use.
- Archival quality storage materials should be used for all significant material.
- Storage areas must be regularly checked for pests and other problems.
- Objects are not to be stored on the floor.
- Archival boxes should be fitted out specifically for works of significant value.

REMOVAL OF ITEMS (DE-ACCESSIONING)

To de-accession an artwork is to officially remove the work of art from the registered and accessioned holdings of the permanent collection. A record of all items de-accessioned will be kept within the collection management software.

CRITERIA

A work of art can only be identified for de-accessioning if fulfills one or more of these criteria:

- A) Of negligible historical, social, or aesthetic merit, or has significance or artistic merit that falls below the general level of the collection
- B) Item is of lesser quality than other works of the same type or by the same artist, either already in the collection, or about to be acquired
- C) Is no longer representative of the collection in line with the Gallery's vision and priorities for collection development
- D) Damaged beyond repair, or conservation work is beyond the means of Hamilton Gallery's budget
- E) Storage of a work is currently unsafe for either staff or the work, is at risk of significant damage or the provision of safe, accessible storage is beyond the means of Hamilton Gallery
- F) The authenticity, attribution or genuineness of the item is questionable or determined to be false or fraudulent

- G) The work of art was acquired unethically
- H) Is identified as an object of significance to an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community or Indigenous community in another country and will be returned to that community or a representative museum, cultural centre, or keeping place as negotiated, required by law, or determined by principles of best practice

LIMITATIONS

Council will not de-accession a work of art if:

- a) it impedes the willingness of current and/or future donations from benefactors
- b) it contradicts the Australian Cultural Gifts Programs policies and procedures
- c) it is to fund any other aspect of Council or the Gallery, including but not limited to infrastructure, collection care, operating costs, facility upgrades, other cultural projects etc.

RECOMMENDATION AND APPROVAL FOR DE-ACCESSIONING

The Curator, Gallery Operations Manager, or Director may nominate a registered item for de-accession and disposal. The nomination will consist of a written report that evaluates the object against the accession and de-accession criteria and recommends a disposal method. An external industry expert may also be appointed to identify works for potential deaccessioning.

All items nominated for de-accessioning will be brought to the Work of Art Committee. The committee will review the report against the criteria of the Collection Management Policy and determine if it is appropriate to de-accession. The Committee is responsible for endorsing the disposal of artworks. The item nominated for de-accessioning will be held for a six-month cooling off period from the date of the report being accepted before disposal occurs.

If de-accessioned, the item must be de-registered. A record of the object's provenance and de-accession documentation must be retained, and the electronic record marked 'de-accessioned' but not deleted.

A de-accessioned item must be disposed of by the following methods listed in priority order:

1. return to the donor or family
2. transferred to another appropriate institution by gift
3. sold by public auction (funds must be used solely for the purchase of future acquisitions for the collection)
4. Used as an educative/interpretive tool
5. destroyed or recycled if appropriate

Works of art obtained through the Cultural Gifts Program must follow the conditions set by the Program and the Australian Tax Office. This includes a condition that any item obtained through the Cultural Gifts Program cannot be returned to the donor as they have already obtained a tax benefit from their donation.

No member of Gallery staff, the Works of Art Committee, the Hamilton Gallery Foundation, the Hamilton Gallery Trust, Southern Grampians Shire Council or their families shall be eligible to purchase or otherwise obtain a de-accessioned object.

This section must be read in conjunction with Council's Asset Disposal Procedure. The method of disposal shall be conducted in accordance with the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and Aboriginal Heritage Amendment Act 2016.

IMPLEMENTATION

This Policy was first adopted by Council on 12 June 1996 and was last reviewed on the following dates:

- 10 May 2017
- April 2021

CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

It is considered that this policy is compatible with the relevant human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)*.

GENDER EQUALITY COMPLIANCE

It is considered that this policy is compatible with the relevant gender equality principles identified in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

Is a Gender Impact Assessment required?

- ☐ Yes (*legally required for all policies that have a direct and significant impact on the public*)
- ☒ No (*please provide an explanation why a Gender Impact Assessment is not required*)

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Council's Asset Disposal Procedure

Gender Equality Act 2020

REVIEW

This Policy must be reviewed a minimum every four years.

AUTHORISED

Adopted at Council Meeting on 14 July 2021.

END



Council Policy

ART ACQUISITION AND COLLECTION POLICY	Date Adopted:	14 July 2021
	Adopted By:	Council
	Review Due:	14 July 2025
	Responsible Officer:	Manager Cultural Arts
	Directorate:	Planning & Development
	EDRMS No:	D/21/68851

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for the management, including to the acquisition, commission or donation, of works of art offered and contained in Southern Grampians Shire Council permanent collection, managed by Hamilton Gallery.

DEFINITIONS

Council	means Southern Grampians Shire Council
Work of art / artwork	means a form or expression of the visual arts. It may include objects of cultural heritage.
Acquisition	taking legal possession and ownership of a work of art through purchase, bequest of gift.
Art Collection	held in trust for the benefit of the Southern Grampians Shire and its residents. Consideration is given to any acquisition to the collection, or the disposal of any items in the collection. Southern Grampians Shire Council recognises its responsibility, when acquiring a work to the permanent collection, to ensure that care, documentation and use of collections will meet gallery and museum standards. It will take into account limitations on collecting imposed by such factors as resources, staffing and storage.
Bequest	a work of art or financial donation left to the Gallery as part of a deceased estate.
Cultural Gifts Program	the Australian Government's program of tax incentives for culturally significant gifts to Australia's public collections. Eligibility is restricted to institutions registered as DGR's.
De-accessioning	the permanent removal of a work of art from the permanent collection.
Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR)	funds, authorities or institutions endorsed by the Australian Tax Office. Collections recognised as DGR's are eligible for registrations with Australian Government's Cultural Gift Program.

Disposal	the physical removal of a work of art or public art from the collection, following de-accessioning.
Works of Art Committee	<p>Advisory committee, established to keep the cultural and aesthetic standards of the permanent collection at a level of excellence.</p> <p>The Works of Art Committee will comprise of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Member of the Hamilton Gallery Trust • A Member of the Hamilton Gallery Friends • Director Planning and Development • Manager Cultural Arts • Hamilton Gallery Artistic Director • Hamilton Gallery Collections Coordinator

APPLICATION AND SCOPE

This policy applies to the acquisition and de-accession of works of art in relation to the permanent collection, including but not limited to donations, purchases, gifts or bequests.

This policy does not apply to public art and/or other objects, artistic or heritage, owned by Southern Grampians Shire Council but not accessioned within the permanent collection.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Commitment to the following principles apply:

- collecting is always in the pursuit of developing a high-quality cultural asset;
- economic growth of the asset is not the key focus of collecting;
- transparency in acquiring and de-accessioning of works of art, to and from the permanent collection;
- the policy framework is to provide process in relation to accessioning and de-accessioning practices;
- collecting is in the interest of enhancing the community's understanding and appreciation of art.

ACQUISITION

CRITERIA

A work of art will be acquired for the permanent collection if:

- that work of art adheres to this policy
- the work is acquired unencumbered to allow the unconditional right to retain custody and control in perpetuity. Council will not accept works which bear inappropriate or unacceptable restrictions on their use.
- Council, via Hamilton Gallery, can care for and store the work of art appropriately
- the work of art is in a good state of preservation
- the work of art is not a duplicate of a work already in the collection

- f) that work of art is suitable for public display
- g) the title can be legally transferred unencumbered to Council

PROCESS

If a work of art is deemed appropriate for the permanent collection, a recommendation by the Hamilton Gallery Artistic Director will be made to the Works of Art Committee. This will include works of art offered via donation, gift, bequest or via Council allocated funds.

Purchases utilising Hamilton Gallery Trust funds, either partially or in full, will be presented by the Hamilton Gallery Artistic Director to the Hamilton Gallery Trust for approval. An acquisition report is required to be written to accompany the request.

The acquisition process will adhere to the both the Works of Art Committee and Hamilton Gallery Trust governance guidelines.

Acquisitions to the permanent collection from time to time will fall outside of the Council's Procurement Policy.

This process must be read in conjunction with Council's Accounting for Assets Policy.

REMOVAL OF ITEMS (DE-ACCESSIONING)

To de-accession an artwork is to officially remove the work of art from the registered and accessioned holdings of the permanent collection. A record of all items de-accessioned will be kept. A work of art will be nominated in a written report which clearly outlines why the item is no longer appropriate to be retained by Council.

CRITERIA

Council can only de-accession a work of art if it:

- a) is damaged or suffering from serious deterioration
- b) has been lost or stolen
- c) has no legal title
- d) is inconsistent with this policy or was incorrectly included in the collection
- e) poses a high risk to other collection objects, staff or the public by storing the object
- f) is a duplication of a work of art already in the permanent collection
- g) the legal and/or ethical circumstances are such that it is unfit to remain in the collection and should be returned to a particular person, entity, community or country.

LIMITATIONS

Council will not de-accession a work of art if:

- a) it significantly damages the Council or Hamilton Gallery's reputation
- b) it impedes the willingness of current and/or future donations from benefactors
- c) it contradicts the Australian Cultural Gifts Programs policies and procedures
- d) it is to fund any other aspect of Council or the Gallery, including but not limited to operating costs, facility upgrades, other cultural projects etc.

RECOMMENDATION AND APPROVAL FOR DE-ACCESSIONING

If a work of art is deemed appropriate for de-accession, the Hamilton Gallery Artistic Director will make a full written report and present the recommendation to the Works of Art Committee.

The committee will review the report against the criteria of this policy and determine if it is appropriate to de-accession.

A de-accessioned item must be disposed of by the following methods listed in priority order:

1. return to the donor or family
2. sold by public auction (funds will be used solely for the purchase of future acquisitions for the collection)
3. transferred to another appropriate institution by gift
4. destroyed or recycled

Works of art obtained through the Cultural Gifts Program must follow the conditions set by the Program and the Australian Tax Office. This includes a condition that any item obtained through the Cultural Gifts Program cannot be returned to the donor as they have already obtained a tax benefit from their donation.

No member of Gallery staff, the Works of Art Committee, Southern Grampians Shire Council or their families shall be eligible to purchase or otherwise obtain a de-accessioned object.

This section must be read in conjunction with Council's Asset Disposal Procedure.

IMPLEMENTATION

This Policy was first adopted by Council on 12 June 1996 and was last reviewed on the following dates:

- 10 May 2017
- April 2021

CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

It is considered that this policy is compatible with the relevant human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)*.

GENDER EQUALITY COMPLIANCE

It is considered that this policy is compatible with the relevant gender equality principles identified in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

Is a Gender Impact Assessment required?

- ☐ Yes (legally required for all policies that have a direct and significant impact on the public)
- ☒ No (please provide an explanation why a Gender Impact Assessment is not required)

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Council's Asset Disposal Procedure

Gender Equality Act 2020

REVIEW

This Policy must be reviewed a minimum every four years.

AUTHORISED

Adopted at Council Meeting on 14 July 2021.

END



Council Policy

PUBLIC ART POLICY	Date Adopted:	
	Adopted By:	Choose an item.
	Review Due:	
	Responsible Officer:	
	Directorate:	
	SharePoint Ref:	

PURPOSE

This policy provides a framework for the implementation of public art within the public domain and applies to all applications to undertake public artworks, whether initiated internally or externally, including those arising through commissions, grants, and major capital works projects.

DEFINITIONS

Public art can include:

- permanent and temporary projects
- cultural and historical interpretation
- creative design incorporated into functional infrastructure
- street art and graffiti art.

APPLICATION AND SCOPE

Public art contributes to the urban environment, enhances local identity and increases the municipality's attractiveness as a place to live, work and visit. As one of the most visible and accessible art forms, public art plays an essential role in creating a vibrant, stimulating and memorable community spaces within Southern Grampians Shire.

Public art enriches public spaces by offering opportunities for interpretation, reflection and dialogue. It provides a means for individuals and communities to express identity, celebrate shared stories and challenge or explore social ideas. In this way, public art makes a meaningful contribution to community life.

Public art can improve the liveability of a community, strengthen civic pride, reduce anti-social behaviour and support economic development, including increased housing values. Public art initiatives will be coordinated with other Council strategies and major projects.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Public art does not include signage or works that promote a business, organisation, individual or enterprise. Public art is not considered part of a formal collection but will be included in Council's asset register. Public art is not civic monuments, plaques or memorials. Public Art will adhere to Australian Standards Playgrounds AS 4685:2021.

PRINCIPLES

The Southern Grampians Shire Council:

1. Supports community understanding and enjoyment of public art by integrating artworks into the built environment and public open spaces in a planned and strategic way.
2. Encourages public art through collaboration with artists, arts organisations and communities, supporting innovative projects that add value to public spaces.
3. Will consider all proposals for public art, including acquisitions, donations and commissions by panel review (as defined in the developing Governance Framework)
4. Will incorporate visual art components in major construction and refurbishments of Council-managed facilities, as appropriate, including integration with design features such as furniture or architectural elements.
5. Encourages public art on privately developed sites to increase the overall presence of art across the region.
6. Will ensure transparent, industry-standard selection processes.
Artworks will not be excluded or included solely on the basis of personal opinion or aesthetic preference. This supports the development of a municipality, recognised nationally for creativity, vibrancy and cultural sophistication.
7. Will develop a detailed Public Art Strategy to guide decision-making across the Shire and establish clear vision and criteria for commissioning, acquiring and managing public art.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the policy is to promote and facilitate quality, diverse public art initiatives in Southern Grampians.

1. First Nations Art is First Nations Led

First nation projects will be developed in respectful partnership with Traditional Owners, honouring the cultural authority, knowledge and creative leadership of First Peoples. First Nations artists, stories and cultural expressions will be central to the region's identity.

2. Access and Participation for All

Everyone in the Southern Grampians community, regardless of age, background, gender identity, income, ability or location has the right to access, create and experience public art. Public art will be visible, inclusive and designed to engage both residents and visitors. Opportunities for participation and creative contribution will be embedded across communities, from Hamilton to our rural townships.

3. Place, Storytelling and Civic Identity

Public art will reflect the unique environments, histories and narratives of the region.

Artworks will respond to place and strengthen civic identity. Local stories past, present and future will be celebrated through public art.

4. Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility

Public art will demonstrate leadership in environmental sustainability. Sustainable materials, processes and life-cycle design will be encouraged. Environmental impact, maintenance needs and climate resilience will be considered in all projects.

5. Cultural Diversity, Inclusion and Representation

Public art will reflect the diversity of the Southern Grampians community. Commissioning, programming and selection processes will support broad representation. Inclusive leadership and equitable opportunities will be embedded across public art practice.

6. Creative and Professional Sustainability

Artists and creative practitioners are essential to the vitality of public art. Projects will support fair remuneration and professional development. Partnerships with education and industry will strengthen pathways for artists.

7. Health, Wellbeing and Community Connection

Public art enhances community wellbeing and social cohesion. Artworks will promote reflection, joy, connection and dialogue. Council will encourage practices that support both mental and social wellbeing. To ensure that Public Art does not have potential to harm either natural environment or people.

8. Innovation, Collaboration and Future Readiness

Public art will embrace innovation, technology and cross-sector collaboration. Both traditional and experimental practices will be supported. Partnerships across government, business and community sectors will build creative capacity and ensure the region remains connected to national and global networks.

IMPLEMENTATION

This Policy will be implemented through supporting Procedures and strategies, including the development of a Public Art Strategy to guide delivery and the development of a public art committee will be developed to assess and adhere to all relevant guidelines.

This policy should also be read in conjunction with:

- Australian Standards Playgrounds AS 4685:2021
- Southern Grampians Community Engagement Policy [Community Engagement Policy 2023.pdf](#)
- Southern Grampians Shire Project Management Framework [Project Management Framework - Southern Grampians - April 2023.docx](#)
- Southern Grampians Plaques and Memorials Policy December 2025 [Plaques and Memorials Policy 2025](#)
- Southern Grampians Asset Management Framework [Policy-Asset-Management-Policy.pdf](#)

Public art will be decommissioned and disposed of through the procedures within the asset management framework and asset register procedure.

CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

It is considered that this policy is compatible with the relevant human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)*.

GENDER EQUALITY COMPLIANCE

It is considered that this policy is compatible with the relevant gender equality principles identified in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

Is a Gender Impact Assessment required?

☒ Yes

☐ No

REVIEW

This Policy must be reviewed a minimum of every three years.

END



Council Policy

CULTURAL – PUBLIC ARTS POLICY	Date Adopted:	May 2012
	Adopted By:	Council
	Review Due:	
	Responsible Officer:	Manager Cultural Arts
	Directorate:	Planning and Development
	EDRMS No:	

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the means by which the Southern Grampians Shire Council will –

- Stimulate interest in the creation of public arts within the city and townships of the Southern Grampians
- Lead to the creation of a strong feeling of identity, public ownership and pride in public spaces
- Contribute to the wellbeing and empowerment of our communities through their participation in helping shape our communities.
- Create landmarks within the urban environment that will become natural gathering places
- Provide a focus for local pride, history and storytelling
- Reflect and express the diversity of the Southern Grampians region
- Increase the understanding and enjoyment of contemporary art by the community.
- Establish artists and artisans as recognised assets of the region.
- Contribute to the destination branding of Hamilton and shire communities.
- Enhance cultural tourism opportunities

DEFINITIONS

Public Art

A permanent or temporary art object, installation or activity in the public realm not including collecting institutions.

In general, public art is sited on public land or on or in public buildings, and has been, loaned to, or purchased by, a public authority. Public art is that which results from the involvement of a person recognised to have artistic talents or skills.

Examples of Public Art may include but are not limited to sculpture, painting, work of artisans, landscaping, and landscape features, parts of buildings, sound and light works, performances, historical and cultural interpretations, multi media, and other art forms.

Public Art can include a wide range of art forms such as:

- Permanent 2D or 3D visual artworks such as sculptures and murals
- Street furniture and functional building elements
- New media works such as installations
- Temporary works such as installations
- Ephemeral art works such as environmental art works

Public Art celebrates who we are and is an important way to bring our public spaces to life, adding to their vibrancy, accessibility, and their role in educating and telling stories. Public art should add value in aesthetic, cultural, and economic terms, to places and communities.

Artist

An artist is a person who is able to demonstrate at least one of the following criteria:

- Has training, or is in the process of training within their field [not necessarily in academic institutions] and is involved in the creation of art as a recreation or professional pursuit.
- Has demonstrated recognition through exhibitions, commissions, awards and prizes and is considered an artist by his or her peers as demonstrated through representations in public collections and coverage in the media.
- Continues to develop, refine, and evolve, their skills and talents by engaging with contemporary social issues, contemporary arts movements or processes.
- Craftspeople and artisans who operate within the above parameters are also defined as artists
- An artist can be in the visual, literary, and performing arts fields and include visual artists ,designers ,craftspeople, writers, poets, performers , composers, and musicians in art making

Public Space

A space, place, or any physical [or conceptual] open or enclosed area, to which the public have access or can view, regardless of the legal ownership of the property, excluding collecting institutions. Such spaces may include parks, streets, squares, promenades, and also art works incorporated within building facades.

Permanent Public Art

Public art works which has an enduring life span. Permanent public art works are generally considered to be made from materials and construction methods that guarantee a lifespan of at least 10 years in external conditions.

Temporary Public Art

Public art works that have a limited life span, which for the purposes of this document is no longer than 12months in total.

APPLICATION AND SCOPE

GENERAL PROVISIONS

POLICY STATEMENT

To achieve the aims outlined in the purpose of this policy, The Southern Grampians Shire Council will –

- Encourage public art that is a reflection of the peoples of Western Victoria and our rural and urban environments
- Embrace our Aboriginal and European cultures and histories, our topography, geology, flora and fauna
- Reflect our distinct rural and urban environments
- Encourage creativity and innovation
- Nurture local and regional skills and talents in the areas of originality and uniqueness
- Where appropriate, support the acquisition of Australian and international artworks that reflect a wider world view to the Shire community

PUBLIC ARTS PROGRAMS

The Shire of Southern Grampians will stimulate the public arts development by:

- The establishment of a public art fund
- Temporary placement of art in public places
- Encourage local and regional artists to submit works for public display.
- Encourage community groups and business to support and sponsor public art projects
- Nurture “artists/artisans ‘in residence programs
- Encourage acceptance of selected and appropriate gifts of art

SPONSERSHIP DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS

The Shire of Southern Grampians may be offered donations and gifts of existing arts works, sculptures, memorials, and other objects or be offered funds or sponsorship to have new works of public art produced.

Given the potential for an enormous range in terms of quality and relevance of such items to the Shire and the ongoing requirement for the Shire to maintain and take responsibility for these items the Shire will not automatically accept a gift or donation of public art

Prior to the acceptance of any public art work:

- A suitable location must be confirmed and agreed
- All costs will be identified and a funding process determined prior to acceptance:
 - The donor may be required to make advanced cash contribution towards the maintenance of the art works for a stipulated period

- For sponsorship, donations, gifts or bequests to be considered they must:
 - Meet the guidelines of the Public Art Policy and other Council policies as appropriate
 - Be approved by the “Public Arts Installation Reference Group” and the Shire of Southern Grampians Council.

RELOCATION

Will occur when -

- the art work is no longer considered appropriate to a particular site or the environment that a site specific work has been designed for has changed significantly
- An art work’s cultural significance to a place has changed
- Environmental concerns or vandalism have the potential to reduce the lifespan of the art work , alter the art work in such a way that it no longer reflects the artist’s intent and/or the work’s integrity cannot be maintained.

REMOVAL FROM A PUBLIC SPACE WILL OCCUR

- In the event that the work is deemed to be beyond repair or less value than the cost of repair
- In the event that the work is no longer considered relevant and appropriate in a cultural or social context
- If an artwork is to be removed, where the art has been donated, the donor should be given first option to resume possession of the work. Where the art has been purchased, the artist should be given the first option to purchase the work. Where the sale of the art work is undertaken by the Shire, any proceeds should be allocated to the development, care, maintenance or promotion of other works within the Shire of Southern Grampians

DE-ACCESSIONING

Artworks that do not fall within the guidelines or parameters of the collection will be de-accessioned from the collection. De-accessioning will mean removal from Council’s collection list, asset register and either removal, disposal or destruction of the work.

IMPLEMENTATION

CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

It is considered that this policy *Choose an item.* compatible with the relevant human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)*.

REVIEW

This Policy must be reviewed a minimum of *insert*



AUTHORISED

Maddocks Delegations and Authorisations

*S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and
Environment Act 1987)*

Southern Grampians Shire Council

Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation

(Planning and Environment Act 1987 only)

**Rory Neeson, Director Wellbeing, Planning and Regulation
Daryl Adamson, Manager Shire Strategy and Regulation
Anita Collingwood, Planning Coordinator
Suchita Deva Stuthi, Statutory Planner
Scott Elliott, Principal Strategic Planner**

**Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation
(*Planning and Environment Act 1987*)**

In this instrument "**officer**" means -

**Rory Neeson
Daryl Adamson
Anita Collingwood
Suchita Deva Stuthi
Scott Elliott**

By this instrument of appointment and authorisation Southern Grampians Shire Council -

1. under s 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* – authorises the officers to carry out the duties or functions and to exercise the powers of an authorised officer under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*; and
2. under s 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020* authorises the officers either generally or in a particular case to institute proceedings for offences against the Acts and regulations described in this instrument.

It is declared that this instrument -

- comes into force immediately upon its execution;
- remains in force until varied or revoked.

This instrument is authorised by a resolution of the Southern Grampians Shire Council on 12 May 2026.

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE
SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL
was affixed by authority of the Council
in the presence of:

.....
Councillor

.....
Chief Executive Officer

Date:



Council Policy

FEDERAL AND STATE ELECTION – COUNCIL CANDIDATE POLICY	Date Adopted:	DRAFT
	Adopted By:	Council
	Review Due:	
	Responsible Officer:	Governance Coordinator
	Directorate:	People and Performance
	EDRMS No:	

STATEMENT

This policy outlines Council's expectations and requirements for a Councillor who seeks or becomes a prospective candidate or a nominated candidate in a State or Federal election.

Compliance with this policy will allow for Councillors to avoid the appearance that they are improperly using their position as a Councillor as a platform for their election campaign in a State or Federal election.

DEFINITIONS

CEO	means Chief Executive Officer
Council	means Southern Grampians Shire Council
Election	means a Federal or State election, or a by-election for any of the Commonwealth parliaments. It does not refer to local government elections, which is bound by Council's Election Period Policy and relevant legislation
Election Campaign	means the period of time proceeding an election where a candidate undertakes activities to persuade people to vote for them
Electoral Commission	means the relevant Electoral Commission for each State and Territory
Formal Nomination Date	means the date set by the relevant electoral commission at which nominations to be candidates in an election close
Nominated Candidate	means a Councillor who nominates as a candidate for a State or Federal election. This is generally in the immediate weeks prior to the relevant election
Prospective Candidate	means a Councillor who becomes an endorsed candidate of a registered political party or publicly expresses an intention to run as an independent candidate for a State or Federal election. This generally occurs during the period of time to the formal nomination period.

APPLICATION AND SCOPE

This Policy applies to all elected Councillors of Southern Grampians Shire Council who become or seek to become a prospective candidate or nominated candidate in a State or Federal election.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE THEIR CANDIDACY

As soon as practicable, a Councillor who becomes or intends to become a proposective candidate or a nominated candidate for a State or Federal election must provide written advice to the CEO.

Upon receiving the advice that a Councillor has become or intends to become a proposective or nominated candidate, the CEO will, as soon as practicable, provide written advice to all Councillors.

For transparency, a Councillor must declare this at a meeting of the Council as soon as practicable after advising the CEO and have a request for a leave of absence included in the relevent Council Meeting agenda.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

A Councillor who intends to become a candidate for a State or Federal election with a State or Federal electoral commission must apply for a leave of absence from the Council.

This leave of absence must commence the day after announcing the intention to run at a Council Meeting, following written advice to the CEO and conclude no earlier than the close of voting for the relevent election. The Councillor allowances will be paid in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

During this period, a Councillor who is on a leave of absence should not attend meetings of the Council or otherwise act as a Councillor, notwithstanding attending a meeting of the Council for the sole purpose of declaring their intended candidacy and requesting a leave of absence from elected Councillor duties.

Council, upon receiving an application for a leave of absence from a Councillor who is a intended candidate or nominated candidate, should consider this request and approve that application for a leave of absence, as per the requirements in the *Local Government Act 2020*.

ELECTION OF AN ACTING MAYOR

If a Councillor who formally nominates for a State or Federal election holds the office of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor will serve as the Acting Mayor for a period no longer than the Mayor's leave of absence. If there is no Deputy Mayor, Council will resolve to appoint an acting Mayor for the duration of the leave of absence.

IMPROPER USE OF POSITION BY COUNCILLORS

Section 123 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, provides it is an offence for a Councillor to intentionally misuse their position to gain or attempt to gain an advantage for themselves or for any other person by intentionally making improper use of information acquired as a result of their position, and using public funds or resources in a manner that is improper or unauthorised.

A Councillor who is a prospective or nominated candidate should:

- Take care to declare conflicts of interests that may pertain to their conflicting role as a candidate
- Take care to differentiate between their role as a State or Federal election candidate and their role as a Councillor when making public comment

- Not participate in any way in the processes of Council relating to a matter before Council if the candidate is campaigning on the said matter
- Avoid campaigning on (through opposition or taking credit for) Council decisions
- Take all reasonable steps to avoid the appearance that they are using their position as a Councillor as platform to promote or further their candidacy

COUNCIL RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES

A Councillor who is a prospective candidate or a nominated candidate must not use Council resources in connection with an election campaign. These include, but are not limited to, officers and support staff, hospitality services, mobile phones, computers, tablets, stationary, printers, vehicles, paper, council publications, council issued email address, council facilities and photographs taken at or for official Council business.

A Councillor who is a prospective candidate or a nominated candidate should not use council activities, including council meetings, events, network meetings and council related external activities in relation to their candidacy.

RESIGNATION OF OFFICE UPON SUCCESSFUL CANDIDACY

Section 34(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* specifies a person is not qualified to be a Councillor and ceases to hold the Office of Councillor if they are a member of the Victorian Parliament, the Commonwealth Parliament, or of another State or Territory of the Commonwealth's Parliament. Therefore, a Councillor must resign immediately if their candidacy in a State or Federal Election is successful.

IMPLEMENTATION

This Policy will be made available for viewing on the Council website and circulated to Councillors after adoption and during induction.

COMPLIANCE

Compliance with this Policy is mandatory.

CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

It is considered that this policy is compatible with the relevant human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)*.

GENDER EQUALITY COMPLIANCE

It is considered that this policy is compatible with the relevant gender equality principles identified in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.


Is a Gender Impact Assessment required?

- ☐ Yes (*legally required for all policies that have a direct and significant impact on the public*)
- ☒ No (*please provide an explanation why a Gender Impact Assessment is not required*)

The *Gender Equality Act 2020* requires Council to undertake gender impact assessments when developing or reviewing any policy, program or service which has a direct and significant impact on the public. This policy **will not** have a direct and significant public impact and a Gender Impact Assessment has not been undertaken.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Local Government Act 2020



Model Councillor Code of Conduct

Governance Rules

MAV Guidelines of Councillors standing for State or Federal Elections

REVIEW

This Policy must be reviewed a minimum of every four years or as required.

AUTHORISED

Adopted at Council Meeting on {INSERT DATE}.

END