



## **Agenda**

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2026

Ravensthorpe Council Chambers

Commencing at 6.00pm

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# NOTICE OF MEETING



Notice is hereby given that the

Shire of Ravensthorpe

Ordinary Council

Meeting

Will be held on

Tuesday, 16 June 2026

Commencing at

6.00pm

Located in the

Ravensthorpe Council Chambers

Nicole O'Neill JP  
Chief Executive Officer

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## Disclaimer

The advice and information contained herein is given by and to the council without liability or responsibility for its accuracy. Before placing any reliance on this advice or information, a written inquiry should be made to the Council giving entire reasons for seeking the advice or information and how it is proposed to be used.

Please note this agenda contains recommendations which have not yet been adopted by Council

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# AGENDA

**Mission Statement** *To grow our community through the provision of leadership, services and infrastructure.*

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## 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Shire President to declare the meeting open.

The Shire President acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet, and pays respect to Elders past, present, and emerging.

This meeting will be recorded, and the recording will be made publicly available on the Shire of Ravensthorpe website, together with the publication of the meeting minutes upon completion, in accordance with Regulation 14I of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996.

## 2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Rachel Gibson (Shire President)  
Cr Benno Sutherland (Deputy Shire President)  
Cr Sue Leighton  
Cr Robert Miloseski  
Cr Bill Auburn  
Cr Helen Burton  
Cr Geoff Fyfe

### OFFICERS

Nicole O'Neill JP (Chief Executive Officer)  
Paul Spencer (Director Infrastructure Services)  
Rod McGrath (Acting Director Corporate & Community Services)  
Michelle Grobler (Executive Assistant)

### APOLOGIES

Nil.

### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

## 3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil.

## 4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with section 5.24 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, a 15-minute public question time is made available to allow members of the public the opportunity of questioning Council on matters concerning them.

Council Consideration Towards Public

When public questions necessitate resolutions of Council, out of courtesy and at the Shire President's discretion, the matter is to be dealt with immediately to allow the public to observe the determination of the matter (obviates the need for the public to wait an undetermined period of time).

**5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

**6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

1. Cr Benno Sutherland 01 August 2026 to 31 August 2026.

**7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING****7.1. ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 19 MAY 2026**

(Attachment: 7.1) Statutory Environment:

Section 5.22 of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides that minutes of all meetings are to be kept and submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Council or Committee, as the case requires, for confirmation.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the minutes and associated attachments of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 19 MAY 2026 be CONFIRMED as a true and correct record.**

Moved: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

**Carried: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_**

**7.2. SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 02 JUNE 2026**

(Attachment: 7.1) Statutory Environment:

Section 5.22 of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides that minutes of all meetings are to be kept and submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Council or Committee, as the case requires, for confirmation.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the minutes and associated attachments of the Special Council Meeting held on 02 June 2026 be CONFIRMED as a true and correct record.**

Moved: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

**Carried: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_**

7.3. SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 26 NOVEMBER 2025

(Attachment: 7.1) Statutory Environment:

Section 5.22 of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides that minutes of all meetings are to be kept and submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Council or Committee, as the case requires, for confirmation.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the minutes and associated attachments of the Special Council Meeting held on 26 November 2025 be CONFIRMED as a true and correct record.**

Moved: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

Carried: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS BY ELECTED MEMBERS****CR RACHEL GIBSON (SHIRE PRESIDENT)**

- 20<sup>th</sup> May - Co-op & RHFF Meeting (Ravensthorpe Hopetoun Future Fund)-  
Discussed local shop works and processes  
Discussed ideas  
Discussed the shop clean-up & sale
- 20<sup>th</sup> May - RHFF Meeting (Ravensthorpe Hopetoun Future Fund)-  
Went through RHFF Community Grant Applications and discussed at length with RHFF Board.  
Board chose successful RHFF Grants.  
Discussed shop sale details and plans
- 20<sup>th</sup> May – Community OCM (Ordinary Council Meeting) Online Video  
Met with Nadine Maloney, Comms, in Hopetoun to record a video for the Shires Facebook page to provide information to the community from the OCM Meeting.
- 21<sup>st</sup> May - Southerners Hockey Club Meeting  
Met with members of the Southerners Hockey Club & with Nicole, Ted, Jeremy & Rod from the Shire. We looked over the Hopetoun Hockey Oval and discussed some options of how to improve its surface.  
Made plans on the rest of the years playing arrangements.  
All parties left happy knowing we were all on the same page and working together to have a safer surface for our senior and junior hockey games.
- 24<sup>th</sup> May – Ravensthorpe Markets  
Spoke with many locals at the markets about a lot of topics, ie Ravensthorpe Shop, Roads, Signs, Tourism, Medallion Metals Camp and Wildflower Show.  
Greeted and spoke with some travellers through and highlighted some areas to visit.
- 27<sup>th</sup> May – RHFF (Ravensthorpe Hopetoun Future Fund) & Co-op Meeting  
Met with RHFF & Co-op members at the Ravensthorpe Shop to go through some items and make a plan for the up and coming sale.

Sorted through items, labelled sale & not for sale items, price marked some items and general discussion on the running of the day.

- 28<sup>th</sup> May – Online meeting with James Rowe (EA for Minister David Michaels)  
Discussed and got updates on many topics previously talked about when Minister David Michaels and James Rowe visited Ravensthorpe.  
Munglinup GROH Housing, Fire & Recovery updates, Hopetoun Nursing Post & Shire medical costs, Bus service between towns & local FQM housing.
- 31<sup>st</sup> May – Windspray Arts Visit  
Visited and checked out the local talent that was on display from the art competition.  
Had lengthy discussion with Suzette McCrae on the Windspray Arts building and future.  
Spoke about meetings & great information to provide to council.
- 1<sup>st</sup> June – Phone call with Sam Foulds HPA (Hopetoun Progress Association)  
Conversations on HPA lease & Hopetoun Skate Park Budget.  
Discussed Hopetoun Beach Accesses and signage.  
Spoke about the Off Road Vehicle 2023 Policy, Cat & Dog Laws Policies.  
Touched on the RTAG (Ravensthorpe Tourism Advisory Committee) meetings and about signage around towns and the Fitzgerald Coast Website.  
Debate and discussion on the decision by council to approve the erection of flag poles and new flags.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Roads Group Meeting  
Organised the meeting dates and times for 2026/2027.  
Discussed and harvest issues and feedback.  
GPS-SLK app to be used to pin point road issues.  
Questions on shire machineries availability, utilization, costings.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> June – ARIC (Audit Risk & Improvement Committee) Meeting  
Audit Review  
Briefing on Audit Processes
- 2<sup>nd</sup> June – CD (Corporate Discussion) Meeting  
Presentation by Peter Hartley DBCA regarding Marine Park and also an outline on the recovery from the Telegraph Track Bushfire.  
Covered Agenda Items and followed by general Business.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> June – LEMC (Local Emergency Management Committee) Meeting  
Lengthy Desktop exercise to get conversation happening about different agencies roles and responsibilities.  
LEMA (Local Emergency Management Authority) discussions  
General Discussion opportunities for members
- 4<sup>th</sup> June – MCG (Munglinup Community Group) Meeting  
Welcomed CEO Nicole O'Neill & husband Mick to our community.  
Munglinup Community went through building projects/plans/finances.  
Spoke on Munglinup Football Exhibition Match.  
Massive turnout on fortnightly Friday dinners, 55 people at last event.

All Community Groups provided updates to the group.

7<sup>th</sup> June – RHFF (Ravensthorpe Hopetoun Future Fund) Shop Clear Out Sale

Huge turnout for sale day, queue along carpark.

Possible 200 shopping bags sold at \$5 & \$10.

Larger items sold and vacated premises.

Ravensthorpe P&C held sausage sizzle/drinks and was well supported with funds raised for RDHS P&C.

Massive Clean out of rubbish and out of date items.

Supported by and thanks to Ravensthorpe SES for their man power, directions and overall community presence. Supplying with skip bins and manoeuvring of large equipment.

- 8th June – Les Mainwaring Farewell

Popped in to say farewell and wish Les Mainwaring all the best for his retirement.

### **CR BENNO SUTHERLAND (DEPUTY SHIRE PRESIDENT)**

- Conducted a tour of Hopetoun with Cr Miloskeski, including discussions with the proponent of the Ocker Brewing project regarding future development opportunities.
- Attended the PBS (Performance Based Standards) Information Evening in Perth hosted by Centurion, which included the unveiling of the latest electric vehicle (EV) trucks and hybrid engine technology.
- Participated in a Corporate Discussion Forum.
- Attended the local Supermarket Clearance Day and engaged with community members.
- Continued regular engagement with ratepayers across the district, with road conditions, road funding, and supermarket services remaining the predominant topics of discussion.
- Attended a meeting of the Shire Roads Group to discuss regional road priorities and advocacy initiatives.
- Travelled to Melbourne to participate in a Fuel Mapping and Productivity Roundtable focused on freight efficiency and future transport requirements.
- Attended a meeting with Minister Rita Saffioti and Mr Des Snook from Main Roads Western Australia regarding last-mile access issues and freight productivity in light of projected freight task growth across the region.
- Participated in an Australian Trucking Association (ATA) meeting in Melbourne, focusing on regional road networks, freight productivity, and the implementation of rural freight task initiatives.

### **CR SUE LEIGHTON**

- Council Meetings Attended

19 May 2026 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Attendance at the Ordinary Council Meeting.

- Community Engagement & Events

24 May 2026 – Ravensthorpe Community Market Day

This was a very rewarding morning, providing the opportunity to engage with residents and small businesses within the Shire. The Cultural Precinct continues to prove an excellent venue for this event.

28 May 2026 – Community Collab Lunchtime Zoom Meeting

A valuable meeting that provides a platform for community groups and agencies to share updates from their respective areas and collaborate with others across the Shire.

4 June 2026 – Munglinup Community Group Meeting

Attended meeting where several local initiatives and projects were discussed, including:  
Preparations for the upcoming community football game  
Security camera upgrades  
Purchase of new kitchen equipment  
Minor modifications to the community kitchen area

- Council and Committee Meetings

2 June 2026 – Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting

A positive report for the Shire was presented and discussed.

2 June 2026 – Corporate Discussion

Participation in corporate discussions.

3 June 2026 – RTAG Meeting

It was resolved that RTAG will become a working group, with a recommendation to be presented at the July Council Meeting. This was a constructive and positive meeting, with strong engagement from both in-person and online attendees, who left feeling motivated and supportive of the direction forward.

- Community Organisations & External Engagement

6 June 2026 – Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show Meeting (via Zoom)

Planning is progressing well for the 2026 Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show, scheduled for 7–19 September. The event will feature over 40 activities across the 13-day program, with strong volunteer involvement.

7 June 2026 – Kalamunda Garden Festival

While not directly related to Council duties, attendance at the Kalamunda Garden Festival provided an opportunity to promote the Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show to a broader audience.

**CR ROBERT MILOSESKI**

- 

**CR BILL AUBURN**

- 

**CR HELEN BURTON**

- 24/5/2026 Attended the Market Day at Ravensthorpe CRC - good conversations from locals and tourists. Received positive feedback from travelers regarding the 24hour RV spot in Ravensthorpe and the cleanliness of the facilitates in town.
- 28/5/2026 Facilitated the Community Collaboration Zoom meeting. 12 attendees representing 15 different groups from around the region.
- 2/6/2026 Attended the Corporate Discussion
- 9/6/2026 Ravensthorpe Community Resource Centre General Meeting - Finalising their budget for the next financial year.
- 9/6/2026 Ravensthorpe St John Sub Centre General Meeting

**CR GEOFF FYFE**

-

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

**10. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS**

**11. REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

## 12. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

### 12.1. EXECUTIVE SERVICES

#### 12.1.1. ITEMS FROM SHIRE OF RAVENSTHORPE BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

<b>File Reference:</b>	.
<b>Applicant:</b>	.
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Malcom Grant, Bushfire Risk Mitigation Coordinator</b>
<b>Authorising Officer</b>	<b>Nicole O'Neill JP, Chief Executive Officer</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>16 June 2026</b>
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>Nomination of Fire Control Officers Bushfire Season 2026/27, Amended and new Fire Control Notice 2026/27,</b>
<b>Previous Reference:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

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### PURPOSE

1. Council to consider recommendations from the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting.

### BACKGROUND

2. Annual Autumn BFAC Annual General and General meetings and recommendations to be debated and considered by Council for adoption in this year's Fire Control Notice, Fire Break Notice and
3. Annual Autumn BFAC meeting and motions to be debated and considered by Council for amendment of the Shire of Ravensthorpe Bushfire Advisory Committee Terms of Reference,

### COMMENT

4. That Council assess the recommendations from the March 2026 Bushfire Advisory committee meeting as attached in Attachment 1, Minutes of the Meeting,
5. That Councillors endorse the recommendations from the BFAC Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026,
6. That Councillors endorse the proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference for the operation of the Bushfire Advisory committee, as per Attachment 2, with track changes highlighted,

### CONSULTATION

7. Shire Councillors
8. CEO

### STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

9. Bushfires Act, 1954, Section 33(2), Local Government Fire Control Notice,
10. Shire of Ravensthorpe Local Law 2010,
11. Bushfires Act, 1954, Section 25(1a), Lighting fires in the prohibited and restricted burning times,
12. Shire of Ravensthorpe Bushfire Advisory Committee Terms of Reference
13. Bushfires Act, 1954, Section 38(1), Local government appoint Fire Control Officers,
14. Bush Fires Regulations, 1954, Section 15(C), Local government may prohibit burning on certain days

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

15. LO1 Bush Fire Control – Camping and Cooking Fires to be amended
16. LO2 Shire of Ravensthorpe Bushfire Advisory Committee, (BFAC), review and upgrade plans and other key documents, BFAC Terms of Reference
17. LO3 Bush Fire Control – Burning Restrictions to be amended and updated

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

18. There are no perceived financial implications for the Shire with any of the recommendations made at the March BFAC meeting.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

19. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report;

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Performance (Operational)	Unlikely	Minor	Low	Ensure training provided to new FCO nominees,
Reputational	Possible	Minor	Low	Ensure QR Code linked information on the Shire website is accurate and up to date

## ALTERNATE OPTIONS

20. Nil.

## STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

21. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan. Outcome 2 – Community 2.3.2 Act to reduce the risk of bushfire and be prepared in case of bushfire in terms of emergency response and disaster recovery,

**Outcome 2: Community** - This is a safe and family-friendly community where people of all ages have access to services and facilities, and there is plenty to blow your socks off

Item	Objectives and Strategies
2.2	Community groups function well with strong volunteer effort and feel supported by the community
2.3	People feel that their community is safe for all, free of nuisance and protected from risk of damage

**Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership** - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.2	The Council ensures its decisions are well informed and considered

## VOTING REQUIREMENTS

22. Simple Majority

## OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

- 1. Endorse the recommendations made by Fire Control Officers from the Bushfire Advisory Committee meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026, as per Attachment 1 Minutes of the Meeting**
- 2. And that Councillors endorse the recommended changes to the Bushfire Advisory Committee Terms of Reference**

Moved: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

**Carried: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_**

12.1.2. SHIRE OF RAVENSTHORPE AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**File Reference:**

<b>Location:</b>	<b>Shire of Ravensthorpe</b>
<b>Applicant:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Nicole O'Neill</b>
<b>Authorising Officer</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>16 June 2026</b>
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference</b>
<b>Previous Reference:</b>	<b>OCM 17 October 2025</b>

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**PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of the report is to seek adoption of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference, and to appoint the Councillor Members, and the independent members of the Committee.

**BACKGROUND**

2. New regulations have been developed to support the implementation of new requirements for audit, risk and improvement committees.
3. Following the commencement of the Local Government Regulations Amendment Regulations (No. 4) 2025 (the ARIC Regulations) from 1 January 2026, audit committees are to become Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees (ARICs) during a six-month transition period.
4. ARICs are required to have an independent Presiding Member and Independent Deputy to the Presiding Member.
5. These changes aim to strengthen transparency by enhancing local governments' financial, risk, and governance practices, forming a key part of the State Government's broader local government reforms.
6. Local governments have until 30 June 2026 to implement these changes.
7. The Shire has a current policy, G4 Audit Committee Terms of Reference. This policy last went to Council on the 17 December 2024 at which time the policy was reconfirmed with no amendments. Since the (then) Audit Committee is not a complying Committee under the new legislation it cannot continue, so it is proposed to constitute the (new) ARIC with Independent Presiding Member, Deputy Presiding Member, and Councillor Members.
8. The Shire first endorsed an Independent Presiding Member of its Committee in October 2025, referencing the change in committee title.

**COMMENT**

9. The key functions of ARIC include:
  - receive and review reports related to local government compliance audits required under the Local Government Act 1995 and regulations
  - make recommendations to the council on actions to be taken in relation to those reports
  - receive and review reports on the effectiveness of the local government's systems and procedures in relation to financial management, legislative compliance and risk management, and make recommendations to the council on improvements to those systems and procedures
  - receive and review reports on any actions the local government is required to take under the

Local Government Act 1995, or has decided to take in relation to a compliance audit report or report into the effectiveness of the local government's systems and procedures

- perform any function conferred on the ARIC prescribed in the regulations or another written law.
10. New Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference (Attachment 2) need to be adopted by Council.
  11. The Shire has sought an independent Deputy Presiding Member, via the WALGA Pool of Independent Presiding Members for Local Government Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees.
  12. Selection for inclusion in the WALGA Pool to be an Independent Presiding Member, Deputy of the Presiding Member or Deputy Presiding Members of a Local Government Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee included a requirement to have current qualifications and / or demonstrate extensive senior experience relevant to one or more of the following:
    - Financial management
    - Audit and assurance
    - Governance, compliance
    - Risk Management
    - Fraud, cyber security, internal controls
  13. Mr Keith Rowe JP has confirmed he is willing to be reappointed as the Independent Presiding Member of the Shire of Ravensthorpe ARIC.
  14. Mr Rowe has significant experience as a business owner of Ravensthorpe Building Supplies for many years and as the Local Manager of the Ravensthorpe State Emergency Service since 1974. He has held former roles as the Captain of the Ravensthorpe Town Fire Brigade, Secretary of the Ravensthorpe Lions Club.
  15. Mr Alan Lamb has confirmed he is willing to be the Deputy Presiding Member of the Shire of Ravensthorpe ARIC. Mr Lamb has 40 years' experience working for a range of local governments, he holds a Bachelor of Business Degree majoring in Accounting and has spent 25 years as a CEO in the industry, along with being the Presiding member of a number of other Local Government ARICs
  16. The Independent Presiding Member, and Deputy Presiding Member may be remunerated in accordance with the determination of the Salaries and Allowance Tribunal, which has set a minimum fee of \$105 per meeting, and a maximum of \$1215 per meeting. In addition, an independent committee member can be reimbursed for expenses attending ARIC meetings for the actual travel and associated costs incurred by the independent member demonstrated to the satisfaction of the local government.

## **CONSULTATION**

17. The Shire has consulted with WALGA in regard to the expression of interest undertaken to form the WALGA Pool of Independent Presiding Members for Local Government Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees.

## **STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT**

18. *Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996*

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

19. Community Engagement Policy and Strategy

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

20. All items will be carried out within the approved operational annual budget.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

21. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report;

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Consequence</b>	<b>Risk Analysis</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
Compliance – ARIC is not established by the required date set out by the State Government	Possible	Significant	Medium	Ensure the ARIC is established, and necessary independent appointments are made in accordance with legislative requirements.

**ALTERNATE OPTIONS**

22. Request alternative and provide a rationale.  
23. Defer the item and request further information.

**STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

24. This item is relevant to the Council's approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

25. Absolute Majority

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council**

- 13. Establishes the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee;**  
**14. Adopts the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference attached as Attachment 2 to this report;**  
**15. Appoints Cr Rachel Gibson, Cr Benjamin Sutherland, Cr Sue Leighton, Cr Robert Miloseski, Cr Bill Auburn, Cr Helen Burton and Cr Geoff Fyfe to be members of the ARIC, for a term expiring at the 2026 Ordinary Council elections;**  
**16. Appoints Mr Keith Rowe JP as the Independent Presiding Member with remuneration of \$105.00 plus, reimbursement of actual travel and other costs incurred in attending the meeting, for a term expiring at the 2026 Ordinary Council elections; and**  
**17. Appoints Mr Allan Lamb as the Deputy Independent Presiding Member with remuneration of \$105.00 plus reimbursement of actual travel and other costs incurred in attending the meeting, for a term expiring at the 2026 Ordinary Council elections.**

Moved:\_\_\_\_\_

Seconded:\_\_\_\_\_

**Carried:\_\_\_/ \_\_\_**

### 12.1.3. STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

**File Reference:**

<b>Location:</b>	<b>Shire of Ravensthorpe</b>
<b>Applicant:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Nicole O'Neill</b>
<b>Authorising Officer</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>16 June 2026</b>
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>Ravensthorpe Review 2026</b>
<b>Previous Reference:</b>	

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**PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of the report is to note the Strategic Community Plan Review, as per Appendix 1.

**BACKGROUND**

2. The Strategic Community Plan outlines community long term (10+ years) vision, values, aspirations and priorities, with reference to other local government plans, information and resourcing capabilities.
3. The Strategic Community Plan outlines community long term (10+ years) vision, values, aspirations and priorities, with reference to other local government plans, information and resourcing capabilities. The Strategic Community Plan is not static. A full review is required every four years with a desktop review every two years.
4. The Strategic Community Plan:
  - a. Establishes the community's vision for the local government's future, including aspirations and service expectations.
  - b. Drives the development of local government area/place/regional plans, resourcing and other informing strategies, for example workforce, asset management and services, and
  - c. Will ultimately be a driver for all other planning.
  - d. The integration of asset, service and financial plans means the local government's resource capabilities are matched to their community's needs.
5. Engaging with community is essential for the development of a Strategic Community Plan. Community engagement is a tool to identify the long-term goals and priorities of your community. This can be done through a range of activities including surveys, meetings, on-line forums and facilitated workshops.

**COMMENT**

6. The Shire has undertaken significant progress in regard to the Shire of Ravensthorpe Strategic Community Plan 2020 – 2030, as outlined in Attachment 1.
7. The Shire is now commencing a formal review of the plan, with the intent to bring a new Council Plan to elected members for consideration in 2026.

**CONSULTATION**

8. The Shire undertook consultation in the development of the current Strategic Community Plan. There was a total of 2992 participants.
9. The Shire has recently undertaken community consultation, which closed on the 12 June 2026 to assist with the development of the new Council Plan.

**STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT**

10. *Local Government Act 1995*,
11. *Local Government Regulations 1996*

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

12. Community Engagement Policy and Strategy

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

13. All items will be carried out within the approved operational annual budget.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

14. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report;

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Consequence</b>	<b>Risk Analysis</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
Compliance Strategic Community Plan not reviewed in a timely manner	– Possible	Significant	Medium	Ensure review of the Strategic Community Plan, and develop a revised plan retitled as a Council Plan in 2026.

**ALTERNATE OPTIONS**

15. Request alternative and provide a rationale.
16. Defer the item and request further information.

**STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

17. This item provides a review of progress on the Council's approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

18. Simple Majority

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION****That Council**

1. **Note the Strategic Community Plan 2020 - 2030 review of progress as per attachment 1.**

Moved: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

Carried: \_\_\_\_/ \_\_\_\_

**12.2. CORPORATE SERVICES****12.2.1. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNT PAYMENTS – MAY 2026**

<b>File Reference:</b>	<b>GR.ME.8</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Shire of Ravensthorpe</b>
<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Finance Manager</b>
<b>Authorising Officer</b>	<b>Acting Director Community &amp; Corporate Services</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>16 June 2026</b>
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Attachments: 12.1.1</b>	<b>Schedule of Paid Accounts May 2026</b>
<b>Previous Reference:</b>	<b>Nil</b>

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**PURPOSE**

1. Council is presented the list of payments made from the Municipal and Trust Accounts under delegation since the last Ordinary Council Meeting in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Regulation 13 and Regulation 13A).

**BACKGROUND**

2. Council delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer annually through Delegation 1.2.12 Payments from the Municipal or Trust Funds.
3. Trade Creditors are subject to strict monitoring and control procedures. In accordance with the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Regulation 13), reporting on payments made from Municipal Fund and Trust Funds must occur monthly.
4. Effective from 1 September 2023 under Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Regulation 13A), if a local government has authorised an employee to use a credit, debit or other purchasing card, a list of payments made using the card must be prepared each month.

**COMMENT**

5. The schedule of accounts as presented have been checked and are fully supported by vouchers and invoices which are submitted herewith, and which have been duly certified as to the receipt of goods, the performance of services, to prices computation, costings and the amounts that have been paid.

**CONSULTATION**

6. Nil

**STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT**

7. Regulation 13 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations
8. Regulation 13A of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

9. Nil

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

10. This item discloses Council's expenditure from Municipal funds which have been paid under delegated authority.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

11. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report;

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputational That Council does not receive the schedule of account payments.	Rare	Insignificant	Very Low	That Council receives the schedule of account payments.

## ALTERNATE OPTIONS

12. Nil

## STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

13. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan.

**Outcome 1: Economy** - The population is growing, in tandem with a thriving, resilient local economy

Item	Objectives and Strategies
1.2	The right resources and infrastructure are in place to support local commerce and industry

**Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership** - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.2	The Council ensures its decisions are well informed and considered
5.3	The Council, with the support of the community, is an effective advocate for resources and facilities which support the vision for the future
5.4	The Shire of Ravensthorpe is known as a good employer, and staff have the capacity and skills to deliver identified services and strategies

## VOTING REQUIREMENTS

14. Simple Majority

## OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

### That Council:

- RECEIVE the monthly lists of payments made for the month of May 2026 from the Municipal Accounts, including by employees via purchasing cards for the month of April 2026 (Attachments 1) totaling \$1,573,798 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Regulation 13 and Regulation 13A).

Moved: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

Carried: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

12.2.2. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – MAY 2026

<b>File Reference:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Shire of Ravensthorpe</b>
<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Finance Manager</b>
<b>Authorising Officer</b>	<b>Acting Director Community &amp; Corporate Services</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>16 June 2026</b>
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Attachments: 12.2.1</b>	<b>Monthly Financial Reports for 31 May 2026</b>
<b>Previous Reference:</b>	<b>Nil</b>

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**PURPOSE**

1. This report presents the monthly Financial Statements for the period from the 1 July 2025 to the 31 May 2026 for Council endorsement.

**BACKGROUND**

2. The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is prepared in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 r. 34 s. 6.4. The purpose of the report is to provide Council and the community with a reporting statement of year-to-date revenues and expenses as set out in the Annual Budget, which were incurred by the Shire of Ravensthorpe during the reporting period.

**COMMENT**

3. The Monthly Financial Report for the period ending 31 May 2026 is contained in the Attachments.

Statement of Financial Activity

This report shows the expenditure and revenue from financing and investing activities and compares the actual results with the adopted budget and revised budget.

The current surplus YTD is \$3.3m which is higher than the budgeted surplus of \$1.2m by the end of June 26.

The budget for 2026/27 is currently being prepared, and this includes reviewing the 2025/26 expected surplus. Based on current projects, it is still expected the surplus will be around \$1.2m to \$1.5m.

Report on Significant Variances

This report contains explanations for items with a material variance. Actual values for the year to date are compared to the year to date budget to present a percentage variance as well as the variance amount.

The variances to date are primarily due to timing differences between the budget and the actual being spent. There is a favourable permanent variance of \$1.01m where we have received grants that were not budgeted for.

**CONSULTATION**

4. Nil

**STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT**

5. Section 6.4 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulation 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 apply.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

6. Nil.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

7. All expenditure has been approved via adoption of the 2025/2026 Annual Budget, 2025/2026 Budget Revision or resulting from a Council Motion for a budget amendment.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

8. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report;

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputational – That Council does not receive the Financial Activity Statements as required by S6.4 of the <i>LG Act 1995</i> .	Rare	Insignificant	Very Low	That council receives the Financial Activity Statements as required by legislation.

**ALTERNATE OPTIONS**

9. Council may adopt the recommendations; or  
 10. Defer consideration and seek further information.

**STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

11. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030, Corporate Business Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan 2025.

**Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership** - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.5	The value of community owned assets is maintained
5.5.1	Assets renewals and upgrades are funded to the level required to maintain asset value and agreed service levels
5.5.2	Projects are well-planned and delivered on time and on budget, with effective and thorough risk management and reporting
5.6	Financial systems are effectively managed
5..6.1	Financial management and reporting systems are able to deliver on all administrative and management functions (including reporting), and long-term financial planning requirements

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

12. Simple Majority

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

**RECEIVE the May 2026 Monthly Financial Reports as presented.**

Moved: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

**Carried: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_**

### 12.2.3. DRAFT SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES 2026/2027

<b>File Reference:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Shire of Ravensthorpe</b>
<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Finance Manager</b>
<b>Authorising Officer</b>	<b>Acting Director Community &amp; Corporate Services</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>16 June 2026</b>
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Attachments: 12.2.1</b>	<b>Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027</b>
<b>Previous Reference:</b>	<b>Nil</b>

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#### **PURPOSE**

1. To consider the proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2026/27 to commence from 1 July 2026.

#### **BACKGROUND**

2. The Council adopts the Schedule of Fees and Charges on an annual basis in accordance with section 6.16(1) of the Local Government Act 1995. This section allows for a local government to impose and recover a fee or charge for any goods or services it provides or proposes to provide, other than a service for which a service charge is imposed.
3. The Council has many fees and charges, and it is proposed that they are adopted prior to the adoption of the annual budget to provide adequate notice to those impacted.
4. All Fees and Charges have been reviewed by Shire Officers with recommended changes incorporated into the proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges.
5. If adopted these Fees and Charges will be used by Shire officers when compiling the 2026/27 Annual Budget.

#### **COMMENT**

6. The 2026/2027 schedule of fees and charges have been formulated using the 2025/2026 year as a basis.
7. This year the approach has been to review each of the council fees and charges individually and apply an increase by exception. This differs from previous years where a blanked increase has been applied across all the council fees and charges. The Shire has taken into account the current cost of living pressures that members of the community are under and has kept cost increases to a minimum, where possible, in the fees and charges.
8. The report has a column which indicates new fees and charges for 2026/2027, and if there has been an amendment to the existing fees and charges.

#### **CONSULTATION**

9. Councillors were consulted at a Corporate Discussion held on 2 June 2026 with all Councillors in attendance, except for Cr Miloseski.
10. Shire staff have also been consulted, and their input was taken into consideration.

#### **STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT**

11. Sections 6.16 and 6.17 of the Local Government Act 1995 (Imposition of fees and charges and Setting the level of fees and charges) Clauses 24 & 25 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Service charges & fees and charges).

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

12. Nil.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

13. Setting of fees and charges is an integral part of the budget preparation and will assist in predicting other revenue forecasts, other than rates.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

14. The following risks have been identified as a part of this report;

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Financial	Unlikely	Minor	Low	Fees to be reviewed as part of the quarterly budget reviews.

**ALTERNATE OPTIONS**

15. Nil proposed

**STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

16. This item is relevant to the Council's approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030, Corporate Business Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan.

**Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership** - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.5	The value of community owned assets is maintained
5.5.1	Assets renewals and upgrades are funded to the level required to maintain asset value and agreed service levels
5.5.2	Projects are well-planned planned and delivered on time and on budget, with effective and thorough risk management and reporting
5.6	Financial systems are effectively managed
5..6.1	Financial management and reporting systems are able to deliver on all administrative and management functions (including reporting), and long-term financial planning requirements

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

17. Absolute Majority

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- ADOPT the 2026/2027 Schedule of Fees and Charges as presented; and**
- ENDORSE the adopted 2026/2027 Schedule of Fees and Charges to be implemented and effective from the 1 July 2026.**

Moved: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

Carried: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

12.2.4. LATE ITEM - DIFFERENTIAL RATES SUBMISSIONS 2026-2027

<b>File Reference:</b>	<b>RV.RC.001</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Acting Director Corporate and Community Services</b>
<b>Authorising Officer</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>16 June 2026</b>
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Attachment:</b>	<b>Sandie Hollins Submission</b>
<b>Previous Reference:</b>	<b>Nil</b>

**PURPOSE**

1. This report recommends that Council endorse the one submission received after the 21 days of advertising of proposed 2026/2027 differential rates which closed on the 15 June 2026.

**BACKGROUND**

2. Local government rate increases are necessary to combat the same inflationary pressures affecting households, including rising costs for materials, energy, and labour. While private submissions generally emphasise the severe impacts of escalating grocery, fuel, and health costs on living standards, councils rely on rate revenue to maintain essential community services and infrastructure.
3. Councils increase rates to maintain community infrastructure and services while absorbing higher operational costs: including paying for some medical costs for the community.
4. Rates fund essential services like roads, waste management, public safety, and community facilities. Infrastructure renewal costs, for example, continue annually for the local government so that infrastructure capacity is in place to handle any changes within the community, including downturns/upturns in mining capacity and community membership.
5. In May 2025 Council endorsed a review of the Long-Term Financial Plan that sets an agreed rates strategy which includes setting an increase in general rates for 2026/2027 of 5%.
6. At the Ordinary Council Meeting 19 May 2026 Council resolved to:  
*Endorse the following differential rates across all categories to form the basis of the proposed rate setting for the 2026/2027 budget.*

	<i>Cost in \$</i>	<i>Minimum</i>
<i>GRV Residential</i>	<i>0.136156</i>	<i>\$1,131.00</i>
<i>GRV Commercial</i>	<i>0.169100</i>	<i>\$1,131.00</i>
<i>GRV Industrial</i>	<i>0.169100</i>	<i>\$1,131.00</i>
<i>GRV – Transient Workforce Camps / Short Stay Accommodation</i>	<i>0.348653</i>	<i>\$1,131.00</i>
<i>UV - Rural</i>	<i>0.002960</i>	<i>\$1,131.00</i>
<i>UV – Mining</i>	<i>0.249965</i>	<i>\$1,131.00</i>

*Adopt the Objectives and Reasons for the Proposed Differential rates for 2026/2027 for the purposes of public*

*advertising.*

*Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to advertise the differential rates and call for public submissions in accordance with Section 6.36 of the Local Government Act 1995 for a minimum of 21 days.*

*Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make application to seek Ministerial approval under Section 6.33 of the Local Government Act 1995 to impose differential rates that are more than twice the lowest differential rate being imposed.*

As part of the process of Ministerial approval for Differential Rates, Council is required to consider submissions received before proceeding with the application.

## COMMENT

7. Section 6.36 of the *Local Government Act (1995)* ('the Act') allows Council to implement a system of differential rating subject to public advertising, adoption by Council, and approval from the Minister for Local Government; Disability Services; Volunteering; Youth; Gascoyne.
8. The Act allows for differential rates to be applied to help overcome an issue where the land use within the rating category has a differing contributory cost to Council infrastructure or services and therefore rates in the dollar applied are varied. The use of differential rating helps to ensure equality of contribution within the rating system.
9. The Shire received one submission during the advertising of the differential rates from a ratepayer.
10. The submission specifically related to affordability and livability concerns; specifically increasing prices for groceries, fuel, electricity, health care and basic living standards.
11. Hardship experienced was expressed and the submitter confirmed with staff they were happy for details to be published.
12. The Shire has options available for residents experiencing hardship and the Shire will continue to work with ratepayers experiencing difficulty with payment of rates and can arrange payment plans and a range of supports depending on individual circumstances. Any ratepayer experiencing difficulty is encouraged to contact the Shire to discuss options and individual circumstances.
13. The Shire of Ravensthorpe can assist ratepayers facing financial difficulty through customized payment arrangements for financial hardship provisions. Eligible pensioners and seniors may also access state-sponsored rate rebates.
14. The Shire can help set up an individualized, flexible payment schedule (e.g., weekly, fortnightly, or monthly) to pay off their annual rates balance within the current financial year.
15. If a property owner is experiencing genuine financial distress (due to unemployment, illness, family crisis or severe financial difficulties), they can apply for formal hardship consideration. Under the Shire's Financial Hardship Policy, payment arrangements (can be) facilitated in accordance with Section 6.49 of the Act are of an agreed frequency and amount. These arrangements will consider the following:
  - That a ratepayer has made genuine effort to meet rate and service charge obligations in the past;
  - The payment arrangement will establish a known end date that is realistic and achievable;
  - The ratepayer will be responsible for informing the Shire of any change in circumstance that jeopardises the agreed payment schedule.
16. Property owners who hold a valid Pensioner Concession Card or State Senior Card may be eligible to significant government rebates on their rates and emergency services levies.
17. The advertised rates in the dollar for 2026/2027 are outlined below:

RATING CATEGORY	2026/27 RATE Advertised Cent in \$
<b>GRV Residential</b>	<b>0.136156</b>

<b>GRV Commercial</b>	<b>0.169100</b>
<b>GRV Industrial</b>	<b>0.169100</b>
<b>GRV Transient Workforce / Short Stay</b>	<b>0.348653</b>
<b>UV Rural Other</b>	<b>0.002960</b>
<b>UV Mining Tenements</b>	<b>0.249965</b>
<b>Minimum Rates</b>	
<b>GRV Residential/Commercial/Industrial</b>	<b>\$1,131</b>
<b>GRV Transient Workforce / Short Stay</b>	<b>\$1,131</b>
<b>UV Rural Other</b>	<b>\$1,131</b>
<b>UV Mining Tenements</b>	<b>\$1,131</b>

### CONSULTATION

18. Public advertising has been undertaken.

### STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

19. Regulation 13 (1) – (3) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations

20. Interpretation Act 1984 (WA), section 61

### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

21. Nil.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

22. Rates are a significant source of funding and are expected to equate to approx. 60% of the Shire's operating income for 2026/2027.

### RISK MANAGEMENT

23. The following risks have been identified as part of this report;

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Consequence</b>	<b>Risk Analysis</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
Performance (operational) – Council is required to prepare and adopt a budget by 31 August, in the form and manner prescribed, a budget for its municipal fund for the financial year ending 30 <sup>th</sup> June next, following that 31 August.	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Council to adopt the budget before 31 August 2026

### ALTERNATE OPTIONS

24. Defer the Council report and seek further information.

25. Reject the officer report.

### STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

26. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030.

Outcome 5: Governance and Leadership - The Shire of Ravensthorpe partners the community, and is an effective advocate and responsible steward

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.6	Financial systems are effectively managed
5.6.1	Financial management and reporting systems are able to deliver on all administrative and management functions (including reporting), and long-term financial planning requirements

## VOTING REQUIREMENTS

27. Simple Majority

## COUNCIL DECISION

That Council

1. **RECEIVE** the submission for the proposed GRV differential rates for 2026/2027 from Sandie Hollins.
2. **AUTHORISE** the Chief Executive Officer to make application to seek Ministerial approval under Section 6.33 of the *Local Government Act 1995* to impose differential rates that are more than twice the lowest differential rate being imposed.

Moved: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

Carried: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**12.3. PROJECTS AND REGULATORY SERVICES**

Nil.

**12.4. INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

Nil.

**13. MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

Nil.

**14. BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING**

Nil.

**15. MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

*In accordance with Section 5.23(2) of the Local Government Act 1995, the meeting is closed to the members of the public for the following items as the following sub-sections applies:*

- 1. (b)ii – a review of performance under section 5.38*
- 2. (C) – a prescribed matter*

**15.1. EXECUTIVE SERVICES**

15.1.1. CEO KPI REVIEW 2026/2027

15.1.2. LOT 301 QUEEN STREET LEASE

**16. CLOSURE**

The Presiding Member to declare the meeting closed.