



Agenda

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Tuesday, 20 May 2025

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,

20 May 2025

Commencing at 6.00pm

Located in the

Hopetoun Community Centre

Matthew Bird
Chief Executive Officer

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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In particular and without derogating in any way from the broader disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a licence, any statement or limitation of approval made by a member or officer of the Shire of Ravensthorpe during the course of any meetings is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Ravensthorpe. The Shire of Ravensthorpe warns that anyone who has an application lodged with the Shire of Ravensthorpe must obtain and should only rely on written confirmation of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attached to the decision made by the Shire of Ravensthorpe in respect of the application.

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AGENDA

Mission Statement	<i>To grow our community through the provision of leadership, services and infrastructure.</i>
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1. **DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

The Presiding Member to declare the meeting open.

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

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

ELECTED MEMBERS

Cr Thomas Major (Shire President) (Presiding Member)

Cr Sue Leighton (Electronic Attendance)

Cr Graham Richardson

Cr Robert Miloskeski

Cr Rachel Gibson

Cr Roger Mansell

OFFICERS

Matthew Bird (Chief Executive Officer)

Natalie Bell (Executive Manager Projects and Regulatory Services)

Paul Spencer (Executive Manager Infrastructure Services)

Les Mainwaring (Executive Manager Corporate Services)

Rod McGrath (Manager Community, Sport and Recreation)

VISITORS

APOLOGIES

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Mark Mudie (Deputy President) via resolution #17/25.

3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS 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

Nil.

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

7.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 15 APRIL 2025

(Attachment: Yellow 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 15 April 2025 be CONFIRMED as a true and correct record.

Moved: _____

Seconded: _____

Carried: ____/ ____

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS BY ELECTED MEMBERS

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

10. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

11. MATTERS ARISING FROM COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

12.1 EXECUTIVE SERVICES

12.1.1 RAVENSTHORPE TOURISM ADVISORY GROUP

File Reference:	N/A
Location:	N/A
Applicant:	N/A
Author:	Chief Executive Officer
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date:	13 May 2025
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	12.1.1 RTAG Nominees 12.1.2 Draft RTAG Terms of Reference
Previous Reference:	N/A

PURPOSE

1. To request Council endorse the nominations for the Ravensthorpe Tourism Advisory Group as per Attachment 12.1.1 and endorse the revised Terms of Reference in Attachment 12.1.2.

BACKGROUND

2. Council endorsed the establishment of the Tourism Advisory Group at the February 2025 OCM via resolution number 04/05 as per below;

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved by Cr Mudie and seconded by Cr Leighton

Resolution #04/25

That Council APPROVE:

1. ***The establishment of the Ravensthorpe Tourism Advisory Group as detailed in the draft Terms of Reference as per Part 5 Administration of the Local Government Act 1995; and***
2. ***The Chief Executive Officer to allocate appropriate resources and establish the new group as a priority.***

Carried 6/0

3. Shire officers promoted the new group to the local community seeking 3 local industry/business representatives and for local groups to nominate their respective representatives.

COMMENT

4. The list of RTAG nominees is included in Attachment 12.1.1 and includes a broad mix of local business, tourism, community and sporting groups, arts, state government departments drawn from across the Ravensthorpe district.
5. Shire officers and Council representative will administer and chair the meetings.
6. There were only 3 local business nominations received for the 3 available spaces.
7. A Councillor must also be nominated for the group and discussion was undertaken by Council at the recent May Corporate Discussion workshop. Cr Leighton was proposed as the Council representative and Cr Miloseski as the proxy representative.
8. The RTAG terms of reference have also been revised as per Attachment 12.1.2 to include a representative from each of the Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show and the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

9. As this is a Committee of Council, all Councillors are welcome to attend the RTAG meetings as observers.
10. The RTAG is advisory in nature. The Advisory Group proposes recommendations to the Council, which retains the decision-making authority.

CONSULTATION

11. All Councillors and Executive Team.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

12. The proposed committee of council is to be established as per Part 5 Administration of the Local Government Act 1995. The proposed committee of council adheres to the following sections of the Act as per;
 - a. s5.9 (2) types of committees - "a committee is to comprise (c) council members, employees and other persons".
 - b. s5.16 (1) delegation of some powers and duties to certain committees - "a local government may delegate to a committee any of its powers and duties other than this power of delegation", and
 - c. s5.17 (1) limits on delegation of powers and duties to certain committees "a local government can delegate (c) to a committee referred to in section 5.9(2)(c) any of the local government's powers or duties that are necessary or convenient for the proper management of i) the local government's property; or ii) an event in which the local government is involved".

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

13. Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

14. Any recommendations for expenditure made by the RTAG will be considered by Council on a case by case basis.

RISK MANAGEMENT

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

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Performance (Operational) That Shire tourism and marketing activities do not reflect local business aspirations	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Formation of the RTAG will provide Council with local business and stakeholder advice to guide tourism investments.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

16. Council may revise any or all of the draft Terms of Reference and/or nominate a different Council representative.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

17. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan 2020-2024.

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

Item	Objectives and Strategies
1.1	To grow business and employment
1.2	The right resources and infrastructure are in place to support local commerce and industry

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
2.1	Social services and facilities are designed and delivered in a way that fits community needs and aspirations
2.2	Community groups function well with strong volunteer effort and feel supported by the community
2.4	People have access to attractive community facilities, activities and events which support activity and health, community involvement and enjoyment of life
2.5	Young people, older people and people with disability feel valued and have access to resources which provide opportunities for their development and enjoyment

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

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.1	The Shire's community is engaged and involved
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
5.5	The value of community owned assets is maintained

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

18. Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council APPROVE:

1. The revised Ravensthorpe Tourism Advisory Group Terms of Reference as per Attachment 12.1.2,
2. The nominations of local industry and groups as presented in Attachment 12.1.1 to form the Ravensthorpe Tourism Advisory Group; and
3. Councillor Leighton as the Council representative and Cr Miloseski as the proxy delegate to the Ravensthorpe Tourism Advisory Group.

Moved: _____

Seconded: _____

Carried: ____/ ____

12.1.2 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATIONS 2025/26

File Reference:	N/A
Location:	N/A
Applicant:	N/A
Author:	Manager Community, Sport and Recreation
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date:	13 May 2025
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	12.1 Confidential CDF 12.1 Applications Officer Recommendation
Previous Reference:	Nil

PURPOSE

1. The report seeks Council consideration for the awarding of grants under the 2025/26 Community Development Fund.

BACKGROUND

2. Each year the Shire of Ravensthorpe makes available a local community grant scheme called the Community Development Fund (CDF) as per Council Policy G20.
3. At the February 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council endorsed a revised CDF Policy G20 as per Resolution number 02/23.
4. The revised policy included an increase in funds allocation equivalent to up to 1.5% of the rate revenue of the previous year. Other amendments included the creation of four categories for funding with each category having a specific community focus, maximum funding level, and application and acquittal requirements. The categories considered as part of this annual funding round include;
 - a. **General Community Grants;** local community groups and not for profit organisations may apply for funding for projects and activities that benefit communities within the Shire up to a maximum of \$3,500.
 - b. **Community Events;** local community groups may apply for up to a maximum of \$5,000 for events that are targeted primarily at a local audience. Community events may create increased vibrancy, activate local places, and/or target specific groups within the local community.
 - c. **Major Events;** event organisers may apply for up to a maximum of \$10,000 for events that are delivered within the Shire and have significant economic benefit to the Ravensthorpe community during non-peak visitor periods to encourage additional economic visitor spend during shoulder and low seasons. Eligible events include, but not limited to sporting, recreational, music, cultural, food and wine, special interest, and business meetings that have the potential to attract visitation from outside the region.
5. In addition, under the **Shire President Donations** category, local community groups may apply for up to \$750 at any time of the year from a limited pool as approved by Council which assists to cover any applications that may not qualify for the other CDF categories.
6. At the August 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council endorsed a further revision to the CDF G20 Policy as per Resolution number 67/24, to allow multiple applications from the one entity in a given year, however no more than one per each category (General Community, Community Event, Major Event).

7. All applications received will be considered by Council as part of the competitive assessment process, however, applicants should be aware that if the CDF is over-subscribed in a given year then multiple applications may not be successful.
8. The CDF program was open to receive applications in March 2025. The CDF program was promoted via Shire communication channels, Community Spirit newsletter and shared to local Facebook media.

COMMENT

9. A total of 23 applications were received from eligible local community groups as per the below Table 1 with eleven (11) General Community, seven (7) Community Event and five (5) in the Major Event category application.

TABLE 1 – 2025/26 CDF GRANT APPLICATIONS SUMMARY

CDF category	Applicant Organisation	Project Description	\$ requested to max in Category
General Community	Ravensthorpe Historical Society	Dedicated laptop computer with associated software to service visitor centre patrons.	\$1,500.00
General Community	Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show	Town hall hire for the annual Wildflower Show and bus expenses for educational field trips	\$1,800.00
General Community	Ravensthorpe Tigers Football & Sports Club	Gear Up the Future (to purchase sports equipment for training and game days)	\$3,202.00
General Community	Ravensthorpe Tennis Club	Tennis Coaching Term 4, 2025	\$3,500.00
General Community	Munglinup Golf Club	Purchase of replacement commercial fridge	\$3,500.00
General Community	Ravensthorpe District High School	Horticultural Garden / Refrigeration Project	\$3,500.00
General Community	Ravensthorpe District Art Group	Pottery Shed and kiln improvements.	\$3,500.00
General Community	Liberty Arts	Liberty Arts Performing Arts Workshops	\$3,500.00
General Community	Windspray Arts (submitted \$3,887)	Windspray Arts Shire Rates and installation of fireplace	\$3,500.00
General Community	Hopetoun Clay Target Club	Kitchen upgrade	\$3,500.00
General Community	Hopetoun CRC	Purchase of STEM Equipment for Hopetoun Library	\$3,500.00
Community Event	Ravensthorpe CRC	Community Connections & Personal Growth (July to December 2025)	\$4,540.00
Community Event	Hopetoun CRC	Exploring Connections – (1) Exploring geometry of plants ^ oceans, and (2) Exploring cyclic patterns through weaving (September 2025 to January 2026)	\$4,960.00

Community Event	Ravensthorpe District Arts Group	The Fitz Gallery 2025 Annual Community Art Exhibition (20 June to 4 July, 2025)	\$5,000.00
Community Event	Hopetoun VFES	Bushfire Prevention Fun Afternoon (31 August 2025)	\$5,000.00
Community Event	Ravensthorpe Regional Arts Council	Balmy Nights – a vibrant community music event hosted at the Hopetoun Youth & Arts Space (21 November, 2025)	\$5,000.00
Community Event	Munglinup Community Group	Munglinup Football Exhibition Match (12 July 2025)	\$5,000.00
Community Event	Hopetoun Progress Association	Catchya for a Groyne – a free annual community event at the Hopetoun Groyne (February, 2026)	\$5,000.00
Major Event	Hopetoun Progress Association	Marine Week 2025 (10 to 15 August)	\$10,000.00
Major Event	Hopetoun Clay Target Club	The annual Qualup Bell DTL Carnival (10 to 12 October, 2025)	\$10,000.00
Major Event	Southerners Sporting Club	Hopetoun Fishing Classic Competition (27 to 28 February 2026)	\$10,000.00
Major Event	Ravensthorpe Car Club	Street to Strip motor sport event (28 Feb to 1 Mar, 2026)	\$10,000.00
Major Event	Southerners Sporting Club	MND Fundraiser Southerners Home Game (28 June 2025)	\$10,000.00
		Total	\$119,002

10. Council reviewed and assessed the CDF applications at the Corporate Discussion Meeting held on 6 May 2025, which formed the basis of the Officer Recommendation contained as Confidential Attachment 12.1 within this report.
11. Once approved by Council, Shire officers will publish details of the applications received, inform applicants on the outcome of their applications, and budget for the 2025/26 period accordingly.

CONSULTATION

12. Councillors, Executive team and applicants where further information was requested by Council.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

13. Nil.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

14. The Community Development Fund is administered as per Council Policy G20 – Community Development Fund.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

15. As per Council Policy G20 up to 1.5% of the rate revenue of the previous financial year (2024/2025) is to be made available under the Community Development Fund. For the 2025/26 period this equates to a notional maximum of \$90,000 ex GST less the amount

allocated to the adhoc Shire President's Donation grants category which currently had \$10,000 allocated for this financial year.

16. Therefore, about \$80,000 would be available for allocation for the 2025-2026 financial year for the three CDF categories of (1) General Community, (2) Community Event and (3) Major Event.
17. A total of \$119,002 in funds was requested under the 2025/26 CDF grant application process.
18. Council may award up to the total amount of \$80,000 as part of the adoption of the annual budget process. Last financial year the allocated amount was \$71,000.

RISK MANAGEMENT

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

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputational & Financial; The awarding of the CDF program and budget allocation is not formally endorsed by Council.	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	The CDF is an annual funding program expected from the local community groups. Council to consider application and endorse awarding.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

20. Council may endorse the officer recommendation or elect to support or not support its own selections.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

21. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan 2020-2024.

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

Item	Objectives and Strategies
1.1	To grow business and employment
1.2	The right resources and infrastructure are in place to support local commerce and industry

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
2.1	Social services and facilities are designed and delivered in a way that fits community needs and aspirations
2.2	Community groups function well with strong volunteer effort and feel supported by the community
2.4	People have access to attractive community facilities, activities and events which support activity and health, community involvement and enjoyment of life
2.5	Young people, older people and people with disability feel valued and have access to resources which provide opportunities for their development and enjoyment

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

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.1	The Shire's community is engaged and involved
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
5.5	The value of community owned assets is maintained

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

22. Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council ENDORSE:

- 1. The CDF Officer Recommendation for support as per Confidential Attachment 12.1 and**
- 2. The Chief Executive Officer to advise each group of the status of their application.**

Moved:_____

Seconded:_____

Carried:____/ ____

12.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

12.2.1 RATING STRATEGY POLICY AND DIFFERENTIAL RATES 2025-2026

File Reference:	RV.RC.001
Location:	N/A
Applicant:	N/A
Author:	Executive Manager Corporate Services
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date:	13 May 2025
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments: 12.2.1	Objects and Reasons 2025-2026 Draft LTFP 2025/26 – 2035/36
Previous Reference:	Nil

PURPOSE

1. This report recommends that Council adopt the 2025/2026 differential rates for the purpose of advertising.

BACKGROUND

2. Council adopted a system of differential rating for the first time in the 2015/2016 financial year.
3. As part of the budget setting process for 2025/2026 council will consider a continuation of differential rating, noting that as part of the differential rating process as it stands, ministerial approval will be required prior to rates being struck for the year.

COMMENT

4. Section 6.36 of the *Local Government Act (1995)* allows Council to implement a system of differential rating subject to public advertising, adoption by Council, and approval from the Minister for Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, before being applied.
5. The Act allows for differential rates to be applied to help overcome issues where the land use within a rating category has a differing contributory cost to Council and therefore rates in the dollar applied are varied. The use of differential rating helps to ensure equity of contribution within the rating system.
6. In recent years the Shire had been experiencing a growing local economy with strong mining activity from two operational mines, however in February 2024 the Shire was advised of a slowing of activity in both nickel and lithium, then the nickel mine closed operations with a loss of almost 500 jobs by mid-2024, the lithium mine was soon to follow moving into care and maintenance by early 2025. This downturn has had an immediate impact on local government services such as airport passenger numbers, commercial waste volumes and childcare places. This has resulted in a loss of net revenue to the shire from the airport of at least \$1.7M within 12 months representing a drop in total revenues of about 14%.
7. During this period 4 jobs from airport/ranger services have been reduced and all other airport contract works have been reviewed down to a minimum level to retain CASA airport certification. To close the airport completely would put the shire in an unenviable position of requiring millions of dollars at a latter time to reopen to a level of safety standard meeting current CASA certification requirements. The heavily subsidised Childcare services have been transferred to a specialist rural provider, health services have been outsourced, investment into capital reserves has been minimised for 2 years and further savings of \$220,000 will be sought across all other local government programs and services in 25/26, with further savings

again needed in 26/27 to avoid the shire going into a deficit situation. These final savings may involve the downgrading of current services to the public whilst noting the priorities of roads and emergency service activities.

8. At the budget workshops held 29 August 2025 and 6 May 2025, it was indicated in the Draft Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) that shire needed to make some significant cut backs during the next two years, if rates rises are not to exceed 5% in the short term and the shire is to avoid significant financial difficulties affecting operations.
9. The annual 2025 revaluation of Unimproved Values by the Valuer Generals Office has revealed an increase in land values of rural +20.28% (LY +30%) and mining +3.6% (LY +8%). Whilst a general rating yield increase will be set for rural at 5% it is envisaged that some amount of variation will occur across different rural sectors due to non-uniform valuation increases. That is, whilst the aggregate of valuations has risen by 20.28%, some land areas will rise in value more than others therefore the rural rate burden will shift according to those relativities.
10. The budget process uses a zero-based budget approach where every line item is examined for the content of last years' experience to provide a predictive analysis together with seeking further opportunities for an additional net reduction of at least \$220,000 in expenditure on top of changes that have already been made from the effect of the economic downturn. New initiatives will still be considered, however in the context that further cuts will be required elsewhere for the coming year.
11. The objects and reasons for the differential rating model remains consistent from 2024/2025 where Ministerial Approval was last granted.
12. The proposed model attached delivers an overall increase in rate income for 2025/2026 of approximately 5% (an increase 0.5% from last year's 4.5%). This slight percentage increase of 0.5%, notwithstanding the significant loss of revenues being faced by the shire as a direct result of the mining downturn, is quite generous when all things are considered. There may be some community objection to changes of services over the next 12-24 months, however the alternative to maintaining all existing operations would have been a significant increase in rates well above acceptable levels in this community.
13. LTFP Policy of Rating Strategy - Key elements of the 2025/2026 and beyond LTFP Rating Strategy are that proposed rate increases have increased to an overall yield of +5% for the next two years in response to the shires immediate financial situation, then dropping back to +4.5% in outer years. The shire will be closely reviewing the directions of the LTFP Rating Strategy annually prior to each budget, in order to constantly review the rating strategy and any further operational changes that are needed to maintain a prudent financial direction. As always when considering priorities, the Shire references the latest information from the community plan and corporate business plan to deliver on the clear priorities, processes, plans, budget resource priorities, direction on land use, infrastructure, services, asset management, operations, planning and workforce requirements.
14. The proposed year on year overall rate yield has increased by 5% (\$6.017M to \$6.320M) compared to last year, however this will not be uniform across all differential rating categories because of growth or reduction in each category. UV rates in the dollar have been adjusted downwards, when UV revaluation increases were processed, such that the calculated \$ yield remains at 5%.

15. The proposed rates in the dollar for 2025/2026 are outlined below and in the attached model:

RATING CATEGORY	2024/25 RATE Cent in \$	2025/26 RATE Cent in \$
GRV Residential	12.3276	12.9734
GRV Commercial	15.1340	16.1125
GRV Industrial	15.1340	16.1125
GRV Transient Workforce / Short Stay	31.6389	33.2208
Unimproved Valuation	0.003869	0.003377
UV Mining Tenements	0.240386	0.243744
<u>Minimum Rates</u>		
GRV Residential/Commercial/Industrial	\$1,026	\$1,077
GRV Transient Workforce / Short Stay	\$1,026	\$1,077
Unimproved Valuation	\$1,026	\$1,077
UV Mining Tenements	\$1,026	\$1,077

CONSULTATION

16. Nil.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

17. *Local Government Act 1995* - Sections 6.33, 6.35 and 6.36.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

18. Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

19. It is estimated the overall rate yield, based on the proposed rates in the dollar, in 2025/2026 will be \$6.320 million (LY \$6.017M +5%).

20. 1% of rates is worth about \$63,000 for additional project initiatives.

RISK MANAGEMENT

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

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Financial	likely	Major	High	Set a sufficient rate to meet budget deficit
Reputational	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Insufficient rate increase will cause future rating shocks

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

22. Council may vary the proposed increased yield from \$303,000.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

23. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan 2020-2024.

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 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
2.4	People have access to attractive community facilities, activities and events which support activity and health, community involvement and enjoyment of life

Outcome 3: Built Environment - The built environment is accessible, honours history and provides for the economic and social needs of residents, industry and visitors

Item	Objectives and Strategies
3.3	The towns of the Shire have attractive streetscapes in keeping with local character

Outcome 4: Natural Environment - Our unique world class biosphere is valued and protected for the enjoyment of current and future generations

Item	Objectives and Strategies
4.4	Energy is used efficiently and there is an increased use of renewable energy in the Shire

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
5.4	The Shire of Ravensthorpe is known as a good employer, and staff have the capacity and skills to deliver identified services and strategies
5.5	The value of community owned assets is maintained
5.6	Financial systems are effectively managed

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

24. Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Endorse the following differential rates across all categories to form the basis of the proposed rate setting for the 2025/26 budget.

	Cost in \$	Minimum
GRV Residential	0.129734	\$1,077.00
GRV Commercial	0.161125	\$1,077.00
GRV Industrial	0.161125	\$1,077.00
GRV – Transient Workforce Camps / Short Stay Accommodation	0.332208	\$1,077.00
UV - Rural	0.003377	\$1,077.00
UV – Mining	0.243744	\$1,077.00

- 2. Adopt the Objectives and Reasons for the Proposed Differential rates for 2025/2026**
- 3. 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**
- 4. 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.**
- 5. Adopt the draft Long Term Financial Plan 2025/26 to 2035/36 as the policy of rating strategy, plus addendum of LTFP assumptions including rates.**

Moved: _____

Seconded: _____

Carried: ____/ ____

12.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

12.2.2 SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNT PAYMENTS – APRIL

File Reference: GR.ME.8
Location: Shire of Ravensthorpe
Applicant: Shire of Ravensthorpe
Author: Finance Officer
Authorising Officer: Executive Manager Corporate Services
Date: 5 May 2025
Disclosure of Interest: Nil
Attachments: 12.2.2 Creditors List of Accounts Paid April 2025
Credit Card Transactions to 01 April 2025
Fuel Card Transactions April 2025
Previous Reference: Nil

PURPOSE

1. This item presents the schedule of payments for Council approval in accordance with Regulation 13 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

BACKGROUND

2. Period 01/04/2025 – 30/04/2025.

2024/2025						
Month	Cheques	EFT Pymts	Direct Debits	Credit Card	Total Creditors	Payroll
Jul	17,790	1,293,044	105,982	12,502	1,429,318	377,723
Aug	11,617	584,755	137,072	4,563	738,007	365,425
Sep	6,118	699,166	50,146	8,503	763,934	440,523
Oct	10,460	788,134	64,705	11,999	875,299	507,921
Nov	8,520	632,429	58,225	13,603	712,777	369,762
Dec	8,716	519,297	47,915	10,646	586,574	344,413
Jan	6,386	1,081,650	619	3,202	1,091,856	351,326
Feb	10,133	578,659	198,515	2,532	789,839	367,581
Mar	6,850	427,994	100,500	7,867	543,212	370,626
Apr	11,557	696,509	73,434	7,443	788,943	504,948
May	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jun	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	98,147	7,301,638	837,113	82,860	8,319,758	4,000,247
23/24	186,555	12,324,178	1,020,367	106,440	13,637,540	4,948,850
22/23	114,562	12,445,050	943,431	81,842	13,584,885	4,162,759
21/22	109,610	11,455,728	1,217,128	101,107	12,883,572	4,057,812
20/21	219,357	8,442,181	965,406	135,103	9,762,047	3,790,863

COMMENT

3. The schedule of accounts as presented, submitted to each member of the Council, 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, costing's and the amounts that have been paid.

CONSULTATION

4. Accountant and Executive Manager Corporate Services.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

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

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6. Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

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 schedule of account payments.	Rare	Insignificant	Very Low	That Council receives the schedule of account payments.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

9. Nil.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

10. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan 2020-2024.

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
5.6	Financial systems are effectively managed
5.7	Customer service and other corporate systems are of high quality

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

11. Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

Pursuant to Regulation 13 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, the payment of accounts for the month of April 2025 be NOTED.

Moved:_____

Seconded:_____

Carried:____/ ____

12.3 PROJECT AND REGULATORY SERVICES

12.3.1 ENDORSEMENT OF BUILDING ENVELOPE PLAN – 4645 RAVENSTHORPE-HOPETOUN ROAD

File Reference:	Nil
Location:	4645 Hopetoun-Ravensthorpe Road
Applicant:	Albany Mapping and Surveying Services
Author:	Executive Manager Projects and Regulatory Services
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date:	2 May 2025
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments: 12.3.1	Subdivision Application Plan B
Previous Reference:	Nil

PURPOSE

1. For Council to review and endorse the Subdivision's Building Envelope Plan (as attached) to ensure proper siting of any development.

BACKGROUND

2. The owner of 4645 Hopetoun-Ravensthorpe Road is currently subdividing their property which has the approval of the Western Australian Planning Commission.
3. As part of the Western Australian Planning Commission requirements, a plan is to be prepared with the Shire, identifying the building envelopes for the two (2) lots that are being created. See below.
 6. Prior to commencement of subdivisional works, a detailed plan identifying building envelope(s) on all lots on the approved plan of subdivision is to be prepared in consultation with the local government to ensure the appropriate siting of development. (Local Government)

COMMENT

4. The land in question is zoned 'rural' under the Shire of Ravensthorpe Local Planning Scheme No. 6 (Amendment 3) (the Scheme).
5. The Shire Planner, Richard Hindley, has confirmed the Plan submitted aligns with the Scheme.
6. Any future development will be required to be consistent with the Scheme and any other relevant statutory obligations and National Construction Code requirements.

CONSULTATION

7. Shire Planner
8. Executive Team
9. WAPC

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

10. State Planning Policy 2.5 - Rural Planning
11. Shire of Ravensthorpe Local Planning Scheme No.6 (Amendment 3)

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

12. LPP 3 Outbuildings
13. LPP 4 Housing

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

14. Nil.

RISK MANAGEMENT

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

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputational	Unlikely	Minor	Very Low	Compliance with all required planning policies and schemes.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

16. Nil due to compliance with the Shire Local Planning Scheme No6 (Amendment 3).

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

17. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan 2020-2024.

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

Item	Objectives and Strategies
1.1	To grow business and employment
1.2	The right resources and infrastructure are in place to support local commerce and industry

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
2.3	People feel that their community is safe for all, free of nuisance and protected from risk of damage

Outcome 3: Built Environment - The built environment is accessible, honours history and provides for the economic and social needs of residents, industry and visitors

Item	Objectives and Strategies
3.1	The Shire of Ravensthorpe has appropriate housing choice available to the community
3.2	New development (including commercial) is of a high quality and contributes positively to the character and appearance of the town
3.5	The Shire's heritage structures, heritage and cultural places are valued and protected, and are integrated into community life and economic activity.

Outcome 4: Natural Environment - Our unique world class biosphere is valued and protected for the enjoyment of current and future generations

Item	Objectives and Strategies
4.2	Water conservation and water harvesting opportunities are maximised

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

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

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

18. Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

ENDORSE the 'Subdivision Application Plan B' outlining the proposed building envelopes for the property subdivision at 4645 Hopetoun-Ravensthorpe Road.

Moved:_____

Seconded:_____

Carried:_____/ ____

12.3 PROJECTS AND REGULATORY SERVICES

12.3.2 HAMERSLEY INLET CAMP GROUND – ADDITION TO LAND USE REQUEST TO DPLH

File Reference:	N/A
Location:	Hamersley Camp Ground
Applicant:	Executive Manager Projects and Regulatory Services
Author:	Executive Manager Projects and Regulatory Services
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date:	01 May 2025
Disclosure of Interest:	N/A
Attachments: 12.3.2	Tenure Map showing Reserve Proposed Business Case
Previous Reference:	N/A

PURPOSE

1. Council is requested to consider an additional land use for the Hamersley Inlet campground to include TOURISM to the purpose of reserve 17544. This will enable the camp ground use to be increased from RV style accommodation only to chalet type accommodation to provide better access to the Fitzgerald River National Park and increased visitor numbers for the Shire.

BACKGROUND

2. The Shire of Ravensthorpe currently manages the Hamersley Reserve Inlet (Reserve No. 17544) within Fitzgerald River National Park under the control of a Management Order. This Management Order states that the purpose of the Reserve is for 'Camping' only and the Shire is formally seeking approval to amend the Management Order to allow for 'Tourism' to be included as an additional purpose. The intent behind this proposed amendment is that the Shire would like to consider a wider range of tourism accommodation development options within the Reserve.
3. The Shire is seeking to amend the Management Order for the following reasons:
 - Arcadium and First Quantum Minerals have both this year announced care and maintenance for their respective projects around Ravensthorpe resulting in approximately 830 job losses which have had significant impacts to the economic and social well-being of the local community situated within the Shire.
 - The Ravensthorpe economy is dominated by local mining which represents 74% of the Shire's gross revenue output and the Shire, through our recent Strategic Community Plan, is prioritising diversification of the local industry base with a focus on developing sustainable tourism that delivers economic value.
 - The Fitzgerald River National Park has been noted as a key tourism attraction, which has the potential to reach iconic status for Western Australia similar to the Nornalup National Park with the Tingle forest near Walpole. To achieve this, would require greater leverage and development of the Hamersley Inlet, which is identified as a key tourism goal within the Shire's Tourism Strategy 2023.
 - In 2010, a concept for a redevelopment of the Hamersley Inlet Reserve was commissioned by the Department of Environment and Conservation. While this concept did not progress for a several reasons, it signalled the intent to increase the tourism offerings within the Reserve including development of established accommodation.

- Tourism WA supports this proposal as it aligns with the objectives of the National Park Tourism Experience Development (NPTED) Program which it is implementing in partnership with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

COMMENT

4. The Shire is interested in developing unique tourism accommodation that is compatible and compliments the existing ecological value of Fitzgerald River National Park. The focus is currently on developing an eco-accommodation development with waterfront views overlooking the Hamersley River Inlet which presents as a unique investment opportunity in a highly sought-after location to attract higher yielding visitors. The Hamersley Inlet Reserve currently has an existing campground and there is another bookable campground (DBCA's Four Mile Beach) within the National Park that caters for the low-cost travellers, however there are no alternative forms of accommodation for visitors who do not wish to camp.

CONSULTATION

5. Executive Management Team
6. Council
7. Tourism WA

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

8. *Land Administration Act (1997)*

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

9. Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. The Shire will need to cover any costs associated with the application and advertising of the request.

RISK MANAGEMENT

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

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Financial	Rare	Minor	Low	Costs for request a change in use minimal
Reputational	Possible	Minor	Low	Business Case provided by Tourism WA in support
Environmental	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Where an MO is granted any future project will require planning and Shire control

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

12. The Councillors do not support the request to change the Management Order.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

13. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan 2024-28.

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

Item	Objectives and Strategies
1.1	To grow business and employment
1.2	The right resources and infrastructure are in place to support local commerce and industry

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
2.1	Social services and facilities are designed and delivered in a way that fits community needs and aspirations
2.4	People have access to attractive community facilities, activities and events which support activity and health, community involvement and enjoyment of life
2.5	Young people, older people and people with disability feel valued and have access to resources which provide opportunities for their development and enjoyment

Outcome 3: Built Environment - The built environment is accessible, honours history and provides for the economic and social needs of residents, industry and visitors

Item	Objectives and Strategies
3.2	New development (including commercial) is of a high quality and contributes positively to the character and appearance of the town
3.4	It is easy and safe to move around and in and out of the district
3.5	The Shire's heritage structures, heritage and cultural places are valued and protected, and are integrated into community life and economic activity.

Outcome 4: Natural Environment - Our unique world class biosphere is valued and protected for the enjoyment of current and future generations

Item	Objectives and Strategies
4.1	Maximised resource recovery from waste and safe disposal of residual waste
4.2	Water conservation and water harvesting opportunities are maximised
4.3	The Shire's valued natural areas and systems are protected and enhanced

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

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.1	The Shire's community is engaged and involved
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
5.5	The value of community owned assets is maintained
5.6	Financial systems are effectively managed

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

14. Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

APPROVE a request to be submitted to the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage for an additional land use for the Hamersley Inlet campground to include TOURISM to the purpose of reserve 17544.

Moved:_____

Seconded:_____

Carried:_____ / _____

12.3 EXECUTIVE SERVICES

12.3.3 RESERVE 35379, LOT 461 – EXCISION AND AMALGAMATION INTO LOT 25270

File Reference:	N/A
Location:	45 Canning Boulevard, Hopetoun
Applicant:	Executive Manager Projects and Regulatory Services
Author:	Executive Manager Projects and Regulatory Services
Authorising Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Date:	02 May 2025
Disclosure of Interest:	N/A
Attachments: 12.3.3	Tenure Map showing Reserve
Previous Reference:	N/A

PURPOSE

1. Council is requested to consider excising Lot 461 on DP 214127 from Reserve 35379 and that Lot 461 is amalgamated into Reserve 25270.

BACKGROUND

2. The Shire of Ravensthorpe currently manages Reserve 35379 for the purpose of 'recreation' and 'parklands' under the control of a Management Order. Part of the reserve, being Lot 461, is a vacant lot adjacent to the existing Hopetoun Beachside Caravan Park. The Shire would like to amalgamate Lot 461 into Reserve 25270, for which it currently has a Management Order with the Power to Lease.
3. The Shire's request is based on providing an expansion opportunity for the caravan park and provide a more cost-effective offering for visitors to the Shire in lieu of the existing 48hr rest area. The intent behind this proposed amendment is that the Shire would like to consider a wider range of tourism accommodation development options within the Reserve whilst maintaining its RV friendly status in Hopetoun.
4. The Shire is seeking to amend the existing Management Orders through and excision and amalgamation for the following reasons:
 - The Shire would like to increase its tourism opportunities, particularly given the downturn in mining with the 2 most significant mines in the Shire going into care and maintenance.
 - Hopetoun is becoming more popular with RV and visitors passing through to regions such as Esperance. The Shire would like to capitalise on the growth but currently has little ability to do so. The growth in the RV market has been highlighted in the Shires 2023 Tourism Strategy. The ease of which this market can be catered for without a significant and unviable capital asset spend, is the first short-medium term step in the tourism strategy.
 - The Shire supports the land being used for low-cost RV use and that this be managed by the Caravan Park Operator. Initially the area will be opened up for low cost RV sites to attract short term visitors to the area which has world renowned biodiversity including a biosphere and the Fitzgerald River National Park.

COMMENT

5. The Shire is interested in developing unique tourism accommodation offerings that is compatible and compliments the existing local business offerings but can continue to attract the main visitor type to the area through low cost RV and camping options. The Shire supports

local business through the opportunity to manage and provide benefits through increased visitor offerings.

CONSULTATION

6. Executive Management Team
7. Council
8. Local Business
9. Community Groups

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

10. *Land Administration Act (1997)*

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

11. Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

12. Due to the current status as a class A Reserve, the proposal is required to be advertised in the West Australian, pursuant to section 42(5) of the Land Administration Act at an approximate cost of \$2,000.00.

RISK MANAGEMENT

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

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Financial	Rare	Minor	Low	Costs to be recovered through a lease agreement
Reputational	Possible	Minor	Low	Community consultation
Environmental	Unlikely	Minor	Low	Area is cleared for fire control purposes

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

14. The Councillors do not support the request to changes to the Management Orders or amalgamation of Lot 461 into Reserve 25270.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

15. This item is relevant to the Councils approved Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan 2024-28.

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

Item	Objectives and Strategies
1.1	To grow business and employment
1.2	The right resources and infrastructure are in place to support local commerce and industry

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
2.1	Social services and facilities are designed and delivered in a way that fits community needs and aspirations
2.4	People have access to attractive community facilities, activities and events which support activity and health, community involvement and enjoyment of life
2.5	Young people, older people and people with disability feel valued and have access to resources which provide opportunities for their development and enjoyment

Outcome 3: Built Environment - The built environment is accessible, honours history and provides for the economic and social needs of residents, industry and visitors

Item	Objectives and Strategies
3.2	New development (including commercial) is of a high quality and contributes positively to the character and appearance of the town
3.4	It is easy and safe to move around and in and out of the district
3.5	The Shire's heritage structures, heritage and cultural places are valued and protected, and are integrated into community life and economic activity.

Outcome 4: Natural Environment - Our unique world class biosphere is valued and protected for the enjoyment of current and future generations

Item	Objectives and Strategies
4.1	Maximised resource recovery from waste and safe disposal of residual waste
4.2	Water conservation and water harvesting opportunities are maximised
4.3	The Shire's valued natural areas and systems are protected and enhanced

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

Item	Objectives and Strategies
5.1	The Shire's community is engaged and involved
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
5.5	The value of community owned assets is maintained
5.6	Financial systems are effectively managed

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

16. Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- APPROVE a request to be submitted to the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage for the excision and amalgamation of Lot 461 into reserve 25270.**
- APPROVE costs associated with the advertising and administration associated with the application.**

Moved:_____

Seconded:_____

Carried:____/____

14. MEMBERS NOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil.

15. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF MEETING

Nil.

16. MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

16.1 BOEING 737 PLANE TAIL EOI

16.2 MITIGATION ACTIVITY FUND 2025-2027

17. CLOSURE

The Presiding Member to declare the meeting closed.