



City of **Perth**

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# Agenda

Ordinary Council Meeting

31 March 2026

Notice of Meeting

To the Lord Mayor and Councillors

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 31 March 2026 in the Council Chamber, Level 9, 27 St Georges Terrace, Perth commencing at 5:00 PM.

**Michelle Reynolds**

Chief Executive Officer

26 March 2026

## Information

This information is provided on matters which may affect members of the public. If you have any queries on procedural matters, please contact a member of the City's Governance team via [governance@cityofperth.wa.gov.au](mailto:governance@cityofperth.wa.gov.au).

## Question Time for the Public

An opportunity is available at Council meetings for members of the public to ask a question about any issue relating to the City. This time is available only for asking questions and not for making statements. Complex questions requiring research should be submitted as early as possible to allow the City time to prepare a response.

The Presiding Person may nominate a member of staff to answer the question and may also determine that any complex question requiring research be answered in writing. No debate or discussion can take place on any question or answer.

To ask a question, please complete the Public Question Time form available on the City's website [www.perth.wa.gov.au/council/council-meetings](http://www.perth.wa.gov.au/council/council-meetings).

## Disclaimer

Members of the public should note that in any discussion during a meeting regarding any item, a statement or indication of approval by any council member, committee member or officer of the City is not intended to be, and should not be taken as, notice of approval from the City. No action should be taken on any item discussed at a meeting of a Committee prior to written advice on the Committee or Council's resolution being received.

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## Table of Contents

1.	Declaration of Opening.....	5
2.	Acknowledgement of Country/Prayer.....	5
3.	Attendance .....	5
3.1	Apologies.....	5
3.2	Leave of Absence .....	5
3.3	Applications for Leave of Absence .....	5
4.	Announcements by the Lord Mayor.....	5
5.	Disclosures of Interests.....	5
6.	Public Participation .....	5
6.1	Responses to Public Questions Previously Taken on Notice .....	5
6.2	Public Questions.....	5
7.	Confirmation of Minutes .....	5
8.	Questions by Members which due Notice has been Given.....	6
9.	Correspondence .....	7
10.	Petitions.....	7
11.	Planning and Sustainability Alliance Reports.....	8
11.1	Draft Noise Attenuation Local Planning Policy.....	8
12.	Community Development Alliance Reports .....	21
	Nil.	
13.	Infrastructure and Operations Alliance Reports.....	21
	Nil.	
14.	Commercial Services Alliance Reports.....	21
	Nil.	
15.	Corporate Services Reports .....	22
15.1	Monthly Financial Statements - January 2026 .....	22
15.2	Schedule of Accounts Paid - January 2026.....	83
16.	Engagement and Activations Alliance Reports .....	129
	Nil.	
17.	Chief Executive Officer Reports .....	130
17.1	Consideration of Decisions from the Electors General Meeting - 27 January 2026.....	130

- 17.2 Amending the Terms of Reference for Council Committee Meetings - recordings of meetings ..... 157
- 17.3 Mitigating City Legal Risk Exposure ..... 161
- 18. Committee Reports ..... 165  
Nil.
- 19. Motions of which Previous Notice has been Given ..... 166
  - 19.1 Notice of Motion - LifeVac Airway Clearance Devices in City- Managed Facilities..... 166
  - 19.2 Notice of Motion - Appointment of Additional Members to the CEO Performance Review Committee ..... 170
  - 19.3 Notice of Motion - Advocacy on Temporary Graduate (Subclass 485) Visa Fee Increase..... 174
- 20. Matters for which the meeting may be closed..... 184  
Nil.
- 21. Urgent Business ..... 184
- 22. Closure..... 184

1. Declaration of Opening
2. Acknowledgement of Country/Prayer
3. Attendance
  - 3.1 Apologies
  - 3.2 Leave of Absence
  - 3.3 Applications for Leave of Absence
4. Announcements by the Lord Mayor
5. Disclosures of Interests
6. Public Participation
  - 6.1 Responses to Public Questions Previously Taken on Notice
  - 6.2 Public Questions
7. Confirmation of Minutes

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## Recommendation

That Council CONFIRMS the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 and 25 February 2026 as a true and correct record.

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## 8. Questions by Members which due Notice has been Given

### 8.1 Councillor Raj Doshi

In accordance with cl. 4.7 of the City's *Standing Orders Local Law 2009* Councillor Raj Doshi submitted Questions for which due Notice has been Given.

<b>Question 1</b>	Deputy Lord Mayor travel to CCCLM Expenditure Disclosure Please provide a full itemised list of travel expenses (including flights, accommodation, meals, and incidentals) If no, state the reason for non-disclosure.
<b>Question 2</b>	Was the CEO informed of the Lord Mayor's intention not to attend CERA Week prior to the 7:15am email on 19 March 2025?
<b>Question 3</b>	Did the City have a contingency protocol in place for the Lord Mayor's non-attendance at a confirmed international engagement?
<b>Question 4</b>	Did the City incur financial costs as a result of the cancellation of flights, accommodation or associated bookings?
<b>Question 5</b>	Has a medical certificate been provided to the City to support the Lord Mayor's cancellation?
<b>Question 6</b>	Did the attending staff member take on responsibilities beyond their original scope as a result of the Lord Mayor's non-attendance?
<b>Question 7</b>	Does the CEO believe the Lord Mayor's non-attendance at CERA Week carries reputational risk for the City's hosting of WECP in November?"
<b>Question 8</b>	Does the Lord Mayor agree that notifying the organisation of non-attendance less than 17 hours before an international departure is consistent with the City's governance and duty of care obligations?"
<b>Question 9</b>	Did the Lord Mayor consult the CEO before declining the offer from a councillor to attend CERA Week in his place?"
<b>Question 10</b>	Why did the Lord Mayor decline my offer to attend in his place last minute, given my briefings , experience on panel and Q&As had been evidenced at the recent trip to Calgary for an energy conference where I won the pitch to host but also spoke to businesses who want to attend our conference in Perth as a result of my strategic approach in networking with them?
<b>Question 11</b>	Does the Lord Mayor agree to provide all elected members and the CEO with a regular summary of his external engagements, meetings and key discussions, in the interests of transparency, stakeholder continuity, and effective governance on behalf of the City's ratepayers?"
<b>Question 12</b>	Does the Lord Mayor agree that, while an alleged formal WorkSafe complaint made by the Deputy Lord Mayor against the CEO and administration remains unresolved, it would be prudent governance to assign external representation of the City to elected members without an active dispute of this nature?"
<b>Question 13</b>	Lord Mayor, until the matter is resolved, will you commit to redirecting the Deputy Lord Mayor's external representation of the City to other elected members, so as not to further damage the City's reputation?

9. Correspondence

10. Petitions

**11. Planning and Sustainability Alliance Reports**

11.1 Draft Noise Attenuation Local Planning Policy

<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Maria Cooke – General Manager Planning and Sustainability
<b>Voting Requirements</b>	Simple Majority
<b>Attachments</b>	Attachment 11.1A – Draft Noise Attenuation Local Planning Policy <a href="#">↓</a>

**Purpose**

For Council to consider the preparation and advertising of the draft Noise Attenuation Local Planning Policy.

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**Recommendation**

That Council RESOLVES to prepare and advertise the draft Noise Attenuation Local Planning Policy as shown in **Attachment A** to this report.

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## Background

### Current Noise Attenuation Policy Provisions

1. The City has several existing planning policies under the current City Planning Scheme No. 2. These policies include provisions to address noise attenuation within the design and construction of development.
2. The *Development and Design Policy; Section 4.1 City Development Design Guidelines* outline requirements for development that is likely to generate a large amount of noise emissions. The policy stipulates the requirement for an acoustic report under these circumstances as well as outlining basic attenuation measures that can be incorporated.
3. The *Residential Design Policy* similarly outlines comprehensive requirements around the incorporation of noise attenuation measures into residential development, including specific requirements for the submission of relevant acoustic reports.
4. The overarching aims of the policies is to protect the character of areas and ensure non-residential land uses are able to conduct their normal day to day activities, while protecting the amenity of residents.

### Local Planning Strategy

5. The City's Local Planning Strategy (Strategy) outlines the strategic direction for the future planning and development of the city. The Strategy was adopted by Council on the 13 December 2022 and endorsed by the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) on 30 May 2023.
6. The Strategy includes actions to ensure residential development incorporates measures to mitigate adverse noise impacts.
7. The Strategy identifies that the management of conflicts between land uses and activities such as adverse noise impacts is critical for a growing residential population and a vibrant city.

### Draft Local Planning Scheme No. 3

8. On 30 April 2024, the Council resolved to seek approval from the WAPC to advertise draft LPS3. Draft LPS3 will replace all existing local planning schemes within the city.
9. Draft LPS3 was considered by the Statutory Planning Committee of the Western Australian Planning Commission on 4 February 2026. It is now being considered by the Minister for Planning to approve, to commence public consultation. Consultation on this draft LPP would coincide with consultation of draft LPS3.

### State Government Planning Framework

10. Local governments can prepare local planning policies in accordance with the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* (LPS Regulations) in regard to any matter related to planning and development within the Scheme area.
11. This LPP builds on *State Planning Policy 5.4 – Road and rail noise* (SPP 5.4). SPP 5.4 is a State Planning Policy whose purpose is to minimise the adverse impact of road and rail noise on noise-sensitive land-use and/or development. The policy identifies properties within the specified trigger distance of strategic freight and major traffic routes and other significant freight and traffic routes. SPP 5.4 seeks to ensure that the community is protected from unreasonable levels of transport noise, whilst also ensuring the future operations of these transport corridors.
12. The R-Codes provide uniform residential development standards across Western Australia. In relation to noise, the R-Codes Volume 2 includes planning and design provisions regarding the location of noise

sources and major openings to reduce the impact of noise on residential development. This policy supplements the requirements of the R-Codes.

## Discussion

13. The draft Noise Attenuation Local Planning Policy (LPP) (**Attachment A**) will supersede the current planning policy provisions once LPS3 comes into effect. It rationalises the City's noise attenuation planning controls into a single policy.
14. The LPP will apply to all applications for noise emitting and noise sensitive development. It will not cover the Crawley-Nedlands neighbourhood as the WAPC is preparing an Improvement Scheme for this area.
15. Noise sensitive development includes permanent and short-term residential accommodation, hospitals, aged care and educational land uses.
16. Noise emitting development includes entertainment land uses such as taverns, restaurants and small bars, as well as animal establishments, child care premises and mechanical plant and equipment.
17. The general objectives of the draft LPP are to ensure:
  - appropriate noise attenuation measures are incorporated at the design and construction of new buildings, including the refurbishment of existing buildings where it involves a change in land use.
  - residential amenity is protected through the incorporation of appropriate noise attenuation measures.
  - noise attenuation primarily occurs through built form and design rather than management.
  - development is designed to minimise the impact of noise generated by plant, waste services, deliveries, mechanical and service equipment, and noise generated as part of the day-to-day functioning of the city.
18. The focus of the policy is to ensure both noise emitting and noise sensitive development can sufficiently attenuate for the emission and receiving of noise.
19. The policy does not prescribe specific performance requirements for managing noise. It provides guidance and outlines the City's expectations for noise attenuation so as not to overly restrict design.
20. The planning application will need to demonstrate how the relevant noise attenuation provisions in the policy are achieved.

## Provisions

21. The policy focuses on noise attenuation through appropriate design and built form including construction methods and materials rather than reliance on management strategies.

### Noise Sensitive Development

22. The policy seeks to ensure noise sensitive development incorporates appropriate noise attenuation measures to provide a comfortable living environment.
23. The noise attenuation provisions seek to ensure that noise sensitive development is designed in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards for noise attenuation to provide an objective benchmark for acoustic reports.
24. Additional provisions ensure that the acoustic report provided as part of the application process demonstrates how a proposal successfully attenuates noise.

### Noise Emitting Development

25. The policy seeks to ensure that noise emitting development minimises impacts on the surrounding neighbourhood through appropriate design, construction and management measures.
26. The noise attenuation provisions require appropriate design, construction methods, materials and devices to mitigate noise emissions. This includes proposals for new development, significant building modifications or extensions, land use changes or intensification of use.
27. As above, additional provisions ensure that the acoustic report provided as part of the application process demonstrates how a proposal successfully attenuates noise.
28. Management plans while contributing to the control of noise are outlined as not being an effective substitute for built form controls.

### Ventilation and Mechanical Equipment

29. The policy seeks to ensure that mechanical, industrial and service equipment is appropriately designed, located and installed to minimise noise disturbance both internally and externally.
30. Additional provisions ensure that the acoustic report provided as part of the application process demonstrates how a proposal successfully attenuates noise.
31. An additional provision states that noise attenuation should primarily occur through built form and design rather than management strategies.

### Application Requirements

32. The policy includes application requirements which provide the minimum information requirements that must be included in an acoustic report.
33. The policy also requires that an acoustic report must be prepared by a suitably qualified acoustic consultant.

## Consultation

34. Consultation on the draft policy will occur concurrently with draft LPS3 for 90 days. Commencement of consultation is dependent on approval from the Minister for Planning.

## Decision Implications

35. If Council supports the recommendations, the draft LPP will be advertised with draft LPS3 and the suite of key supporting planning policies.
36. If Council does not support the recommendations, draft LPS3 will be advertised without one of the supporting local planning policies and the Strategy will not be implemented.

## Strategic, Legislative and Policy Implications

Strategy	
Strategic Pillar (Objective)	Liveable
Related Documents (Issue Specific Strategies and Plans):	<u>Local Planning Strategy</u> The draft LPP aligns with the Local Planning Strategy.

Legislation, Delegation of Authority and Policy	
Legislation:	<i>Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015</i> (Schedule 2 clause 4)
Authority of Council/CEO:	Under the LPS Regulations, the local government must resolve to prepare a local planning policy, which if supported, must be advertised in accordance with the Regulations.
Policy:	Nil.

## Financial Implications

37. An amount of \$67,000 has been set aside in the project budget to advertise and undertake consultation on the new LPS3 and key supporting local planning policies.
38. This will enable community information sessions with information boards, hire of the City of Perth library auditorium, public notices, and advertisements in newspapers, as well as letters.

## Further Information

39. Nil.

# Noise Attenuation Local Planning Policy

Draft March 2026

**Version Control**

Version #	Date	Action
1	Date of Adoption (00/00/00)	Adopted
2	Date of Amendment	Amended
3	Date of Amendment	Amended

## Contents

1.	Citation.....	3
2.	Purpose and Application.....	3
2.3.1	Relationship to the Residential Design Codes .....	3
3.	Objectives .....	4
4.	Provisions.....	4
4.1	Noise Sensitive Development .....	4
4.1.1	Objectives .....	4
4.1.2	Provisions.....	4
4.2	Noise Emitting Development .....	4
4.2.1	Objectives .....	4
4.2.2	Provisions.....	5
4.3	Ventilation and Mechanical Equipment.....	5
4.3.1	Objectives .....	5
4.3.2	Provisions.....	5
4.4	Northbridge Special Entertainment Precinct - Special Control Area.....	5
4.4.1.	Provision .....	5
5.	Application Requirements .....	6
5.1	Noise Sensitive Development Acoustic Report.....	6
5.2	Noise Emitting Development Acoustic Report .....	7
5.3	Ventilation and Mechanical Equipment Acoustic Report.....	7
5.4	Determination of an application .....	8
6.	Definitions.....	8

## 1. Citation

This is a local planning policy prepared under Schedule 2 of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*. This policy may be cited as the *Noise Attenuation Local Planning Policy*.

## 2. Purpose and Application

### 2.1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- (a) Detail the requirements for the design, construction and management of development to facilitate the co-existence of noise sensitive and noise emitting development within the City of Perth.
- (b) Outline requirements to guide the assessment of applications for development approval.
- (c) Clarify when an acoustic report is required to be submitted and the requirements for the different types of acoustic reports.
- (d) Clarify when notifications on title pursuant to section 70A of the *Transfer of Land Act 1893* will be required to inform prospective landowners and residents of the likelihood of higher noise levels within the area.

### 2.2 Application

This policy applies to all applications for development approval for noise emitting and noise sensitive development on land zoned on the Scheme Map. An acoustic report may be required for all new noise sensitive and noise emitting development (as defined in this policy), or where requested by the City.

This policy is structured to provide both objectives and provisions. Development must align with the objectives. The provisions provide a means of fulfilling the objectives. Variations to the provisions will only be considered where the City is satisfied that the proposed development will not impact or be impacted by noise to such an extent that it adversely effects the amenity of the of the area in which it is located.

### 2.3 Relationship to other Planning Documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with the City of Perth *Local Planning Scheme No. 3 (LPS3)* and other relevant local planning policies.

Where this policy is inconsistent with LPS3, the provisions of LPS3 prevail to the extent of any inconsistency.

#### 2.3.1 Relationship to the Residential Design Codes

For residential development, this policy should be read in conjunction with the *Residential Design Codes Volume 1 and 2 (R-Codes Volume 1 and 2)* and the Residential Design Local Planning Policy.

This policy supplements the Deemed-to-Comply and Acceptable Outcomes of the R-Codes Volume 1 and 2.

## 3. Objectives

To ensure:

- (a) Appropriate noise attenuation measures are incorporated at the design and construction phase of new buildings, in the refurbishment of existing buildings and where appropriate, for changes in land use.
- (b) Residential amenity is protected through the incorporation of appropriate noise attenuation measures.
- (c) Development is designed to minimise the impact of noise generated by plant, waste services, deliveries, mechanical and service equipment, and noise generated as part of the day-to-day functioning of the city.

## 4. Provisions

### 4.1 Noise Sensitive Development

#### 4.1.1 Objectives

- (a) To ensure noise sensitive development incorporates appropriate noise attenuation measures to provide a comfortable living environment.
- (b) To ensure that the inherent higher noise levels characteristic of an inner-city environment is given due consideration, while maintaining a reasonable standard of amenity for noise-sensitive land uses.

#### 4.1.2 Provisions

- (a) Noise sensitive development should be designed to attenuate ambient noise to meet the standards prescribed in Australian Standard AS/NZS 2107:2016 (Acoustics - Recommended design sound levels and reverberation times for building interiors).
- (b) Residential development, short-term rental accommodation and tourist and visitor accommodation should be designed to meet the requirements of Part 5 of the National Construction Code (NCC) Sound transmission and insulation.
- (c) The acoustic report must demonstrate how objective (a) and (b) are achieved.
- (d) Noise sensitive development may require a notice on title pursuant to section 70A of the *Transfer of Land Act 1893* to inform prospective landowners and residents of the likelihood of higher noise levels. A notification will only be required if the amenity impacts are not sufficiently ameliorated by relevant details of the proposed development, or by conditions on the development approval that add additional aspects of amelioration.

### 4.2 Noise Emitting Development

#### 4.2.1 Objectives

- (a) To ensure noise emitting development complies with the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* and minimises impacts on the surrounding neighbourhood through appropriate design, construction and management measures.

#### 4.2.2 Provisions

- (a) Noise emitting development that has potential for significant noise disturbance requires appropriate design, construction, materials and devices to mitigate noise emissions. This includes proposals for new development, significant building modifications or extensions, change in land use or intensification of use.
- (b) Noise emitting development may require appropriate management conditions and a management plan to mitigate noise disturbance that could be caused by the operation of the premises.
- (c) Noise attenuation should occur through built form and design rather than reliance on management strategies. The mitigation of noise through appropriate design and construction methods will be prioritised over management to mitigate noise emissions.
- (d) The acoustic report must demonstrate how provision (a), (b) and (c) are achieved for the development proposed.

### 4.3 Ventilation and Mechanical Equipment

#### 4.3.1 Objectives

- (a) To ensure mechanical, industrial and service equipment is appropriately designed, located and installed to minimise noise disturbance both internally and externally.

#### 4.3.2 Provisions

- (a) Ventilation and mechanical equipment should be located and designed to minimise noise nuisance to the occupants of the subject building and surrounding buildings and are to emit low levels of noise.
- (b) Noise attenuation should occur through built form and design rather than reliance on management strategies. The mitigation of noise through appropriate design and construction methods will be considered over management to mitigate noise emissions.
- (c) The acoustic report must demonstrate how provision (a) and (b) is achieved for the development proposed in accordance with the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997*.

### 4.4 Northbridge Special Entertainment Precinct - Special Control Area

#### 4.4.1. Provision

- (a) An acoustic report for accommodation land uses and entertainment venues proposed in the Northbridge Special Entertainment Precinct (NSEP) as specified in Schedule 5 – Special Control Area 1 Northbridge Special Entertainment Precinct clause 5(3) and 6(3) of *Local Planning Scheme No. 3*, must be in accordance with the application requirements of clause 5 of this policy.

## 5. Application Requirements

### 5.1 Noise Sensitive Development Acoustic Report

An acoustic report and associated plans required to be submitted as part of an application for development approval detailing compliance with the provisions of this policy must be prepared by a suitably qualified acoustic consultant and include:

- (a) The identification of all noise sources.
- (b) The measurement of all identified noise sources, including adequate sampling to enable the establishment of reliable ambient noise levels and intrusive background noise levels specific to the site.
  - i. For traffic noise, measurements should be taken at different times, including during peak traffic times.
  - ii. For ambient and background noise, a daytime measurement between 3pm-5pm Monday to Friday and a night-time measurement between 10pm -12pm Friday to Saturday night, or at other relevant times, that represent a current worst case scenario for the subject site.
- (c) Noise measurements shall be taken in accordance with part 3 of the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997*.
- (d) Discussion on the character of intrusive background noise sources is to be adequately described in terms of noise spectrum analysis (minimum of octave bands) and building design solutions to intrusive in-bound noise elements are to be detailed in the report.
- (e) The expected indoor sound level and reverberation ranges for each type of habitable room in accordance with the Design Standards prescribed in *Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2107:2016 Acoustics - Recommended design sound levels and reverberation times for building interiors*.
- (f) Noise sensitive development located within the Northbridge Special Entertainment Precinct should address both *ISO 12354-3:2017 Building acoustics — Estimation of acoustic performance of buildings from the performance of elements — Part 3: Airborne sound insulation against outdoor sound* and *AS/NZS 2107:2016* in the report.
  - i. *ISO 12354-3:2017* is to demonstrate the sound reduction index of each component that forms the façade of the building, and inform appropriate design responses to achieve the technical requirement standards in clause 28.4.2 of *City of Perth City Planning Scheme No. 2 Amendment No. 41*
  - ii. *AS/NZS 2107:2016* shall be used to estimate the indoor sound level and reverberation time range standards for each type of habitable room, in response to the façade design solutions derived from *ISO 12354-3:2017*
- (g) A detailed description of the construction measures/ standards needed to maximise the likelihood of the proposed development achieving appropriate sound attenuation performance (including but not limited to construction materials selection, building and installation methodology and any ongoing maintenance considerations).

- (h) Noise sensitive premises in close proximity to rail and road freight corridors should also have regard to the State Planning Policy 5.4 – Road and Rail Noise.
- (i) Comment on the suitability of the development's orientation and layout, taking into account the location of existing/potential environmental noise sources.

## 5.2 Noise Emitting Development Acoustic Report

An acoustic report and associated plans may be required to be submitted as part of an application for development approval detailing compliance with the provisions of this policy. Reports are to be prepared by a suitably qualified acoustic consultant and include:

- (a) The identification of all noise sources to be addressed, such as machinery, equipment, service vehicles and deliveries, patrons, music, amplifiers and speakers.
- (b) Details of external noise sources.
- (c) Determination of noise source levels, character and hours of operation.
- (d) The establishment of assigned levels for noise sensitive premise in the vicinity, in accordance with the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997*.
- (e) A detailed description of the noise attenuation measures that have been, or will be, included in the building design and construction and/or the premises fit-out and management to achieve the assigned noise levels in accordance with the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* and Australian Standard 2107: Recommended design sound levels and reverberation times for building interior.
- (f) Calculations are to be based on octave band noise source data and octave band noise reduction performance for construction elements.

## 5.3 Ventilation and Mechanical Equipment Acoustic Report

An Acoustic Report and associated plans may be required to be submitted as part of the development application detailing the development's compliance with the Performance Standards of this policy. Reports are to be prepared by a qualified and experienced acoustic consultant and is to include:

- (a) Type and amount of equipment.
- (b) Equipment specifications, including selection of equipment models technical information on their noise emissions.
- (c) Ascertaining assigned noise levels for noise sensitive premises in the vicinity, in accordance with the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997*.
- (d) Locating plant and equipment away from windows and doors of subject buildings and neighbouring noise sensitive premises.
- (e) A detailed description of noise attenuation measures/devices, such as noise barriers and enclosures that have been, or will be, included to achieve the assigned noise levels in accordance with the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* and Australian Standard 2107: Recommended design sound levels and reverberation times for building interiors.

## 5.4 Determination of an application

The City will not support a proposal if it is not satisfied that the provisions of this policy can be met.

- (a) The City may, in addition to any other conditions which may be lawfully imposed, include as a condition of approval, a requirement:
  - i. to submit a report by a qualified acoustic consultant confirming to the satisfaction of the local government, that the construction drawings the subject of an application for a Building Permit under section 20 of the *Building Act 2011* will comply with the acoustic report required by clause 5 of this policy and section 20(1)(0) of the *Building Act 2011*.
  - ii. to submit a report co-signed by the contracted builder and a qualified acoustic consultant prior to lodging an application for an Occupancy Permit under the *Building Act 2011*, and prior to the building being occupied. This report must confirm, to the satisfaction of the local government, that all construction standards outlined in the acoustic report required by clause 5 of this policy have been installed.
  - iii. for the lodgement of a notification pursuant to section 70A of the *Transfer of Land Act 1893* to inform prospective landowners and residents of the likelihood of higher noise levels within the area.

## 6. Definitions

**Qualified acoustic consultant** means a person who is at least a Member of, or eligible for membership as a Member of the Australian Acoustical Society and demonstrated experience preparing acoustic reports for major developments.

**Noise sensitive development** includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Dwellings, Residential Building, grouped dwelling, multiple dwelling
- (b) Short-term rental accommodation, Tourist and Visitor Accommodation
- (c) Student accommodation
- (d) Hospital
- (e) Residential Aged Care Facility, independent living complex

**Noise emitting development** includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Entertainment uses such as hotels, taverns, night clubs and small bars
- (b) Reception centres and exhibition centres
- (c) Places of worship
- (d) Recreation – private
- (e) Animal establishment
- (f) Industry, Light Industry
- (g) Mechanical plant and equipment, for example cooling towers, compressors, ventilation systems, wind powered generators, air conditions, pool pumps etc.

12. Community Development Alliance Reports

Nil.

13. Infrastructure and Operations Alliance Reports

Nil.

14. Commercial Services Alliance Reports

Nil.

## 15. Corporate Services Reports

### 15.1 Monthly Financial Statements - January 2026

<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Michael Kent – Chief Financial Officer
<b>Voting Requirements</b>	Simple Majority
<b>Attachments</b>	<p>Attachment 15.1A – Statement of Financial Activity - P07-26 <a href="#">↓</a></p> <p>Attachment 15.1B – Notes to Statement of Financial Activity - P07-26 <a href="#">↓</a></p> <p>Attachment 15.1C – Supplementary Notes to SFA - P07-26 <a href="#">↓</a></p> <p>Attachment 15.1D – Monthly Financial Performance Statistics - P07-26 <a href="#">↓</a></p> <p>Attachment 15.1E – Statement of Financial Position P07-26 <a href="#">↓</a></p> <p>Attachment 15.1F – Alliance Operating Variances - P07-26 <a href="#">↓</a></p> <p>Attachment 15.1G – Capital Variances P07-26 <a href="#">↓</a></p> <p>Attachment 15.1H – Monthly Investment Report P07-26 <a href="#">↓</a></p> <p>Attachment 15.1I – Monthly Rates Report - P07-26 <a href="#">↓</a></p>

### Purpose

This suite of reports provides Council with timely, meaningful financial insights regarding the City’s operating activities, financial performance, and financial position.

### Recommendation

That Council RECEIVES the following financial reports for the period ended 31 January 2026:

- a. Statement of Financial Activity (SFA) - **Attachment A**.
- b. Notes on Significant Variances - **Attachment B**.
- c. Supplementary Notes to the Statement of Financial Activity - **Attachment 15.1C**.
- d. Monthly Financial Statistics – **Attachment D**.
- e. Statement of Financial Position - **Attachment E**.
- f. Alliance Operating Variances - **Attachment F**
- g. Capital Variances - **Attachment G**
- h. Investment Report - **Attachment H**.
- i. Rates Monthly Debtors Report - **Attachment I**.

## Background

1. Presentation of a monthly financial report to Council is both a statutory obligation and good financial management practice that:
  - a. Demonstrates the City's commitment to managing its operations in a financially responsible and sustainable manner.
  - b. Provides timely identification of variances from budget expectations for revenues and expenditures and identification of emerging opportunities or changes in economic conditions.
  - c. Ensures proper accountability to the community for the use of financial resources.
2. Preparation of a monthly Statement of Financial Activity (SFA) is the minimal statutory requirement of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 34 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*. It is also a responsible financial management practice to allow Council to effectively execute their financial management responsibilities.
3. Financial information that is required to be reported directly to Council monthly includes:
  - a. Operational financial performance against budget expectations.
  - b. Explanations for identified variances from expectations.
  - c. Financial position of the City at each given month end.
4. This statutory financial information is supported by additional supplementary information including investments performance and reports on rates and general debtors.

## Understanding the Financials

5. When reading the financial information provided in this report, 'variances' (deviations from budget expectations) are classified as being either:
  - a. Favourable variance.
  - b. Unfavourable variance.
  - c. Timing variance.
6. A timing variance relates to a budgeted revenue or expense that has not occurred at the time it was expected, but which is still expected to occur within the budget year. That is, the financial transaction will still occur - but just in a different month. There should be no impact on the projected budget surplus by year end.
7. A realised favourable or unfavourable variance is different to a timing variance. It represents a genuine difference between the actual and budgeted revenue or expenditure item.
8. A realised favourable year to date variance on a revenue item is a positive outcome for the City as it increases the projected budget surplus. An unfavourable variance on a revenue item has the opposite effect, resulting a decrease to the projected budget surplus.
9. A realised favourable variance on an expenditure item may have either of two causes - one being a saving because the outcome was achieved for a lesser cost, which has the effect of increasing the projected budget surplus. The other cause may be that the proposed expenditure may not have been undertaken and is not expected to be incurred in that financial year. Whilst this may seem positive from the financial position perspective, it may not be a positive outcome for the community if the service or project is not delivered.

10. A realised unfavourable year to date variance on an expenditure item, (over-expenditure) results in a decrease to the projected budget surplus.
11. The Schedule of Significant Variances (**Attachment B**) provides commentary on whether the nature of the variance is savings related, timing related or otherwise.
12. If a realised favourable or unfavourable variance is material in value (of significant size), it will be amended through a formal budget review process.

## Discussion

13. It is a statutory requirement to present a set of Monthly Management Accounts within two months of the end of the month to which they refer.
14. The SFA by Nature & Type - **Attachment A** presents a whole of organisation perspective on the attainment of revenue and expenditure targets overall - classified by nature and type.
15. The headline data from the SFA at month end is shown in Table 1 below.

**Table 1:**

Item Details	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual 25/26	Variance	F/ U
Operating Revenue	\$126.37 M	\$ 77.45 M	\$ 83.78 M	\$ 5.34 M	F
Rates Revenue	\$112.25 M	\$111.99 M	\$112.85 M	\$ 0.86M	F
Cash Operating Exp	\$197.79 M	\$ 115.39 M	\$ 109.58 M	\$ 5.81 M	F
Non-Operating Revenue	\$ 7.03 M	\$ 0.87 M	\$ 4.62 M	\$ 3.57 M	F
Property, Plant & Equip	\$ 36.00 M	\$ 17.72 M	\$ 18.40 M	\$ 0.68 M	U
Capital - Infrastructure	\$ 25.81 M	\$ 7.28 M	\$ 6.62 M	\$ 0.66 M	F
Capital Contributions	\$ 15.25 M	\$ 0.00 M	\$ 0.00 M	\$ 0.00 M	-

16. Material operating revenue and expenditure variances from **Attachment A** are detailed (with explanatory comments) in the Notes on Significant Variances (**Attachment B**).
17. Each line item listed in the SFA by Nature & Type **Attachment A** can be cross referenced (using the Note reference) back to the relevant note.
18. Examining the SFA (**Attachment A**) in more detail; the aggregation of operating revenues and operating expenses reflects a year-to-date Net Cash Position from Operations of \$100.28M compared to a year-to-date budget of \$87.99M. This is a favourable variance of \$12.29M at the end of the month.
19. Investing activities reflect a result of (\$24.33M) compared to a year-to-date budget of (\$24.12M). This is a favourable variance of \$0.21M.
20. Construction of infrastructure to month end is \$0.66M under budget expectations.
21. Acquisition of non-infrastructure to month end is \$0.68M ahead of budget expectations.
22. Adjusting for opening funds (Net Current Position), generates the Budget Deficiency before Rates. This then indicates the Amount Required to be Raised from Rates. The difference between the Rates amount, and the Deficiency before Rates, is the Closing Position.

23. The SFA for the period to 31 January shows a rate yield of \$112.85M has been levied compared to the budget of \$111.94M. The actual balance will be reduced following the Council decision on a contested billing amount in February.
24. The disclosed SFA Closing Position of \$100.28M compares favourably to the projected year to date budget closing position of \$88.00M - due to improved operating revenue and reduced expenditure.
25. This projected windfall gain is recognised in the February mid-year budget review.
26. Key financial statistics at each month end are presented graphically in **Attachment D** as an alternative representation of the data.
27. The Net Current Position Note (**Attachment C**) at month end reflects an indicative adjusted Net Current Position value of \$100.88M compared to the year-to-date value of \$88.00M and a year-end budget projection of \$6.73M. The projected year end projected balance will be adjusted in mid-year budget review in February.
28. Headline data from this month's Net Current Position report is shown in Table 2 below.

**Table 2:**

Item Details	June 25 Actual	June 26 Annual Budget	YTD 26 Actual
Current Assets	\$ 244.36 M	\$ 214.15 M	\$ 313.44 M
Current Liabilities	(\$ 40.06 M)	(\$ 40.72 M)	(\$ 47.56 M)
Unadjusted Net Assets	\$ 204.30 M	\$ 173.42 M	\$ 265.88 M
Less Restricted Items & Adjustments	(\$ 160.92 M)	(\$ 166.69 M)	(\$ 165.60 M)
Less Allowance for Carry Forward Projects	(\$ 16.53 M)	-	-
Adjusted Net Current Position	\$ 26.86 M	\$ 6.74 M	\$ 100.28 M

29. The Net Current Position at year end is impacted by the factors noted at paragraph 24 above.
30. A Statement of Financial Position as at month end (showing 2024/25 Actual balances, the Revised 2025/26 Budget and the 2025/26 Year to Date Actual balances) is presented as **Attachment E**.
31. In line with relevant local government financial management reporting changes, **Attachments A to Attachment C** form the portion of monthly management accounts that is a statutory obligation.
32. The remaining **attachments D through to I** are supplementary information provided to give Council additional transparency of the City's financial management performance.
33. **Attachment H** - Investment Report for January 2026 presents detail of the City's cash investment portfolio in terms of performance, percentage exposure of total portfolio by credit risk, counterparty exposure and maturity profile.
34. The report indicates the City has adequate cash flow to meet its financial obligations as and when they will fall due; and it has achieved compliance with the various Investment Policy limits.
35. **Attachment I** - Rates Debtors provides a monthly update and analysis of rates collections by differential property rating category and overall. The 2025/26 rates notices were issued on 26 July 2025, and the third instalment due date was 14 January 2026. Collections currently represent 88% of total rates collectable at month end which is consistent with previous financial years.

## Consultation

36. Nil.

## Decision Implications

37. Council's acknowledgement of receiving the Statement of Financial Activity and supporting documents will meet its statutory obligation in respect of overseeing the City's financial resources.

## Strategic, Legislative and Policy Implications

Strategy	
Strategic Pillar (Objective)	A Well-Governed City
Related Documents (Issue Specific Strategies and Plans):	Nil.

Legislation, Delegation of Authority and Policy	
Legislation:	<p>Section 6.4(1) and (2) of the <a href="#">Local Government Act 1995</a>            Regulation 34(1) of the <a href="#">Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996</a></p> <p>This section of the Act and the related regulation prescribe the requirement to prepare and present to Council a Monthly Financial Report including a Statement of Financial Activity (SFA).            That Statement of Financial Activity (SFA) should contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Budget estimates, and approved revisions to these for comparison purposes.</li> <li>• Actual amounts of income and expenditure to the end of the month of the SFA.</li> <li>• Material variances between the comparable amounts and commentary on reasons for these variances.</li> </ul> <p>The Monthly Financial Report should also contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Statement of Financial Position at the end of the month.</li> <li>• An explanation of the composition of the Net Current Position at the end of the month to which the SFA relates.</li> </ul> <p>Any other information which the local government deems relevant.</p>
Authority of Council/CEO:	The above legislation prescribes that this report be presented, on a monthly basis, to Council.
Policy:	CP 2.1 Management of Investments.

## Financial Implications

38. The City's dynamic and proactive treasury management practices are reflected in these financial reports which demonstrate:
- the strong and sustainable financial position of the City.
  - a healthy cash position at report date
  - no debt
  - very good cash collections from rates
  - further strengthening of the projected year-end budget position - which meets or better industry financial targets.
39. The City's financial future is rigorously planned for, modelled and monitored to ensure that it can continue to deliver its services, programs and projects into the future.
40. There are no direct financial implications of receiving this report as it reflects a historical accounting of financial transactions. When material variances are noted, appropriate remedial action is initiated by the administration in a timely and prudent manner.

## Further Information

41. Nil.



City of Perth Statement of Financial Activity

Jan - 2026

Attachment A

Detail	Note	Revised Annual Budget \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	YTD Budget Variance \$	YTD Budget Variance %	Budget Impact
<b>Operating Activities</b>							
Revenue from Operating Activities							
Rates	1	112,246,343	111,988,010	112,854,827	866,817	0.8%	✓
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	2	4,674,597	2,624,941	2,879,299	254,357	9.7%	✓
Fees & Charges - Parking	3A	78,052,700	44,566,179	46,477,980	1,911,801	4.3%	✓
Fees & Charges - Waste	3B	11,731,500	11,466,500	11,622,415	155,915	1.4%	✓
Fees & Charges - Other	3C	3,224,656	1,985,315	2,345,121	359,806	18.1%	✓
Interest Revenue	4A	11,884,136	7,152,413	7,728,229	575,816	8.1%	✓
Distribution from Investments	4B	300,000	175,000	169,129	(5,871)	(3.4%)	✗
Fines & Associated Costs	5	8,333,254	4,759,802	5,050,146	290,344	6.1%	✓
Rental and Hire Revenue	6	5,583,329	3,354,256	3,759,448	405,192	12.1%	✓
Other Revenue	7	2,504,979	1,338,970	2,085,717	746,748	55.8%	✓
Change in Valuation of Investment	8	0	0	555,198	555,198	0.0%	!
Profit on Asset Disposals	9	78,842	22,855	113,794	90,939	397.9%	✓
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>238,614,336</b>	<b>189,434,241</b>	<b>195,641,303</b>	<b>6,207,062</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>✓</b>
Expenditure from Operating Activities							
Employee Costs	10	(97,113,378)	(56,868,780)	(54,683,868)	2,184,912	(3.8%)	✓
Materials and Contracts	11	(67,592,860)	(39,313,325)	(34,757,067)	4,556,258	(11.6%)	✓
Utility Charges	12	(4,282,731)	(2,418,920)	(2,423,678)	(4,758)	0.2%	✗
Finance Costs	13	(108,755)	(65,515)	(65,520)	(6)	0.0%	✗
Insurance	14	(1,656,909)	(965,983)	(962,984)	2,999	(0.3%)	✓
Parking Levy	15	(17,951,509)	(10,471,713)	(10,489,438)	(17,725)	0.2%	✗
Other Expenditure	16	(9,007,729)	(5,261,604)	(4,630,994)	630,610	(12.0%)	✓
Change in Valuation of Investment	17	0	0	(322,958)	(322,958)	0.0%	!
Depreciation & Amortisation	18	(38,338,444)	(22,436,280)	(21,710,718)	725,562	(3.2%)	✓
Loss on Asset Disposals	19	(4,757,481)	(2,775,647)	(834,412)	1,941,235	(69.9%)	✓
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>(240,809,795)</b>	<b>(140,577,768)</b>	<b>(130,881,639)</b>	<b>9,696,129</b>	<b>(6.9%)</b>	<b>✓</b>
Non Cash Amounts excluded from Operating Activities		43,017,083	25,189,072	21,302,746	(3,886,326)	(15.4%)	✗
<b>Amount attributable to Operating Activities</b>		<b>40,821,624</b>	<b>74,045,545</b>	<b>86,062,411</b>	<b>12,016,866</b>	<b>16.2%</b>	<b>✓</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>							
Inflows from Investing Activities							
Capital Grants, Subsidies and Contributions (Cash)	20	2,351,801	532,914	353,396	(179,518)	(33.7%)	✗
Contributed, Recognised and Right of Use Assets	21	0	0	3,930,308	3,930,308	0.0%	!
Distribution from Investments in Associates	22	3,541,700	0	0	0	0.0%	!
Proceeds from Disposal of Assets	23	1,135,404	339,679	339,679	0	0.0%	!
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>7,028,905</b>	<b>872,593</b>	<b>4,623,384</b>	<b>3,750,791</b>	<b>429.8%</b>	<b>✓</b>
Outflows from Investing Activities							
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment	24	(36,025,937)	(17,718,634)	(18,398,478)	(679,844)	3.8%	✗
Construction of Infrastructure	25	(25,796,186)	(7,279,003)	(6,621,601)	657,402	(9.0%)	✓
Contributed, Recognised and Right of Use Assets	26	0	0	(3,930,308)	(3,930,308)	0.0%	!
WACA Aquatic Centre Contribution	27	(11,250,000)	0	0	0	0.0%	!
Perth Concert Hall Contribution	27	(4,000,000)	0	0	0	0.0%	!
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>(77,072,122)</b>	<b>(24,997,637)</b>	<b>(28,950,387)</b>	<b>(3,952,750)</b>	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>✗</b>
<b>Amount attributable to Investing Activities</b>		<b>(70,043,217)</b>	<b>(24,125,044)</b>	<b>(24,327,003)</b>	<b>(201,959)</b>	<b>(0.8%)</b>	<b>✗</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>							
Inflows from Financing Activities							
Transfer from Reserves	28	44,878,351	38,768,351	38,768,351	0	0.0%	✓
Redemption of Mortgage Backed Securities	29	0	0	18,777	18,777	0.0%	!
Proceeds from New Borrowings	30	0	0	0	0	0.0%	!
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>44,878,351</b>	<b>38,768,351</b>	<b>38,787,128</b>	<b>18,777</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>✓</b>
Outflows from Financing Activities							
Transfer to Reserves	31	(51,426,920)	(43,494,025)	(43,446,602)	47,423	(0.1%)	✓
Repayment of Borrowings	32	0	0	0	0	0.0%	!
Payments for Principal Portion of Leases	33	(299,324)	(8,179)	(8,179)	0	0.0%	!
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>(51,726,244)</b>	<b>(43,502,204)</b>	<b>(43,454,781)</b>	<b>47,423</b>	<b>(0.1%)</b>	<b>✓</b>
<b>Amount attributable to Financing Activities</b>		<b>(6,847,893)</b>	<b>(4,733,853)</b>	<b>(4,667,653)</b>	<b>66,200</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>✓</b>
Movement in Surplus or (Deficit)							
Surplus / (Deficit) at Start of Financial Year	34	42,804,379	42,804,379	43,213,447	409,068	1.0%	✓
Amount attributable to Operating Activities		40,821,624	74,045,545	86,062,411	12,016,866	16.2%	✓
Amount attributable to Investing Activities		(70,043,217)	(24,125,044)	(24,327,003)	(201,959)	(0.8%)	✗
Amount attributable to Financing Activities		(6,847,893)	(4,733,853)	(4,667,653)	66,200	1.4%	✓
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) after Imposition of Rates</b>		<b>6,734,893</b>	<b>87,991,027</b>	<b>100,281,202</b>	<b>12,290,174</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>✓</b>
Favourable Impact on Budget Surplus	✓						
Unfavourable Impact on Budget Surplus							✗

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes



**Notes to Statement of Financial Activity – January 2026**

**Attachment B**

The Note reference and descriptor in each summary box below link back to the relevant line item on the Financial Activity Statement. The variance is then expressed as both a dollar value and a percentage. Letter F or U refers to the impact of the variance on the budget surplus (favourable / unfavourable).

**Notes to Accompany Statement of Financial Activity - Operating Revenues**

Comments on the 3.3% favourable variances in Operating Revenues are provided below.

Note 1	Rates	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$867K	0.8%	F

Favourable variance, interim rates higher than anticipated. Part of this variance relating to a contested rates notice will be adjusted downwards in February, the remainder is adjusted in the mid-year budget review in February.

Note 2	Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$254K	9.7%	F

Favourable variance attributed to partnership contributions for the Events program \$80K, remainder is a timing variance in partnership contributions.

Note 3A	Fees & Charges - Parking	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$1,912K	4.3%	F

Favourable variance mainly attributed to paid night-time parking. This favourable variance is adjusted in the mid-year budget review in February.

Note 3B	Fees & Charges - Waste	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$156K	1.4%	F

Favourable variance arose predominantly from higher than estimated fees for general waste and comingled recycling collection services.

Note 3C	Fees & Charges - Other	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$360K	18.1%	F

Favourable variance arose mainly from banners \$90K, planning fees \$54K, application fees \$44K, ESL administration charges \$43K, health premises fees \$37K, other administration charges \$35K and pollution control \$28K. The balance of variances is spread across several areas.

Note 4A	Interest Revenue	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$576K	8.1%	F

Favourable variance mainly attributed to interest received from investments \$340K and rate instalments \$219K. This favourable variance is adjusted in the mid-year budget review in February.

Note 4B	Distribution from Investments	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▼	Decrease Actual Surplus	(\$6K)	(3.4%)	U

Unfavourable variance arose from lower than estimated distribution from the City's Colonial First State Investment.

Note 5	Fines & Costs	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$290K	6.1%	F

Favourable variance mainly from higher than anticipated parking fines.

Note 6	Rental & Hire	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$405K	12.1%	F

Favourable variance mainly attributed to property rental for Raine Square Underpass \$258K, reserves hire charges \$111K, Goderich Street housing \$71K and banners \$34K.

Note 7	Other Revenue	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$747K	55.8%	F

This favourable variance is mainly attributed to QE2 licence agreement \$240K, recoverable works \$128K, insurance reimbursements \$158K and a one-off receipt for tree amenity reinstatement revenue \$46K. The balance of variances is spread across several areas.

Note 8	Change in Investment Valuation	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$555K	0.0%	F

Favourable variance arose from positive change in the City's Colonial First State Investment.

Note 9	Profit on Disposal of Assets (Non-Cash)	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
Nil	No Impact on Surplus	\$91K	397.9%	F

Favourable variance for disposal of replaced fleet and plant assets.

**Notes to Accompany Statement of Financial Activity - Operating Expenses**

Comments on the 6.9% favourable variance in Operating Expenses are provided below.

Note 10	Employee Costs	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$2,185K	3.8%	F

The employee costs are under budget due to higher than anticipated vacancies across the City.

Note 11	Materials & Contracts	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▲	Increase Actual Surplus	\$4,556K	11.6%	F

Overall, timing variance across materials and contracts expenditure arose from several service areas including:

- Events Management (Australia Day program, Elizabeth Quay shows) \$ 914K
- Corporate Services Management (HRIS project, contractor services) \$ 506K
- Information and Records Management (Records and information project) \$ 353K
- ICT Services (ICT projects, consultancy services and hosted services) \$ 342K
- Asset Maintenance (contractor services, security services) \$ 340K
- Parks and Environmental Operations (Tree replacement & tree borer projects) \$ 326K
- Waste and Cleaning (FOGO project, tipping fees, contractor services) \$ 316K
- Council Governance and Policy (Council Election expenditure) \$ 285K
- Project Delivery (Cathedral Plaza project, consultancy and contractor services) \$ 269K
- Economic Development (contractor services, catering, subscriptions) \$ 243K
- Marketing and Digital Services (contractor services, advertising costs) \$ 212K
- Fleet and Depot Operations (fuel and materials) \$ 159K
- Facility Management (reactive building, electrical, and lift maintenance) (\$ 170K)

Note 12	Utilities	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▼	Decrease Actual Surplus	(\$5K)	(0.2%)	U

Unfavourable timing variance is attributed to telecommunication charges.

Note 13	Finance Costs	Variance \$	Variance %	Type
▼	Decrease Actual Surplus	(\$0K)	(0.0%)	U

Lease interest expenses are in line with budgeted expenditure.







































































































15.2 Schedule of Accounts Paid - January 2026

Responsible Officer	Michael Kent – Chief Financial Officer
Voting Requirements	Simple Majority
Attachments	Attachment 15.2A – Schedule of Accounts Paid - January 2026 <a href="#">↓</a>

Purpose

For Council to note details of payments made under delegated authority for the month of January 2026.

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. RECEIVES the Schedule of Accounts Paid for the period ended 31 January 2026 as attached as **Appendix A**.
- 2. RECORDS in the Ordinary Council Meeting minutes the summary of accounts paid being:

Total Accounts Paid	
Municipal Fund	\$18,744,570.98
Trust Fund	\$0
Total - All Funds	\$18,744,570.98

## Background

1. In accordance with Regulation 13(2) and 13(3) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, where this power has been delegated, a list of payments for each month is to be compiled and presented to the Council. The Chief Executive Officer is delegated this authority under Delegation 2.14.
2. This authority has then been subdelegated by the Chief Executive Officer.
3. The listing of payments with full disclosure of all required information, is presented as an attachment to this report.
4. The listing of payments was made available to the Elected Members via the Council Hub, ahead of the agenda distribution, to provide additional time for review.
5. This summary report then facilitates the acknowledgement of the listing having been received.

## Discussion

6. The Schedule of Accounts Paid (**Attachment A**) contains the following payments made under Delegated Authority 2.14 - Payments from the Municipal & Trust Fund:

Schedule of Accounts Paid – January 2026		
<b>Municipal Fund</b>		
EFT & Cheque Payments	Direct Creditor Payments	14,391,871.40
<b>Sub Total - EFT &amp; Cheques</b>		<b>14,391,871.40</b>
Direct Debits	Bank Charges and Merchant Fees	16,662.12
<b>Sub Total - Direct Debits</b>		<b>16,662.12</b>
Payroll	13/01/2026	2,161,086.30
	27/01/2026	2,147,007.61
<b>Sub Total - Payroll</b>		<b>4,308,093.91</b>
Corporate Cards		27,943.55
<b>Sub Total - Cards</b>		<b>27,943.55</b>
<b>Total per Attachment A</b>		<b>18,744,570.98</b>
<b>Total Payments from Municipal Fund</b>		<b>18,744,570.98</b>
Investments in Term Deposits		0
<b>Trust Fund</b>		
Trust EFT & Cheques		0
<b>Total - Trust Funds</b>		<b>0</b>

## Consultation

7. Nil.

## Decision Implications

8. Council's acknowledgement of receiving the Schedule of Accounts Paid will meet its statutory obligation under Regulation 13(1) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

## Strategic, Legislative and Policy Implications

Strategy	
Strategic Pillar (Objective)	Prosperous
Related Documents (Issue Specific Strategies and Plans):	Annual Budget

Legislation, Delegation of Authority and Policy	
Legislation:	<p>Section 6.10 of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i>.            Regulation 13(1) of the <i>Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996</i>.</p> <p>This section of the Act and the related regulation prescribes the requirement to prepare a list of all payments made for each month and to present them to Council. The Schedule of Accounts Paid (the 'list') should contain, for each payment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payee Name.</li> <li>• Amount of the Payment.</li> <li>• Date of the Payment.</li> <li>• Sufficient information to identify the transaction.</li> </ul>
Authority of Council/CEO:	In accordance with Regulation 13(2) and 13(3) of the <i>Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996</i> , where this power has been delegated, a list of payments for each month is to be compiled and presented to the Council.
Policy:	Nil.

## Financial Implications

9. There are no direct financial implications of receiving this report as it reflects a historical accounting of financial transactions that were provided for in the adopted budget (as amended).

## Further Information

10. Questions and Responses forming part of the Agenda Briefing Session on 24 March 2026 are as follows:

	Question	Response
1.	What was the payment of \$326.70 to David Broadway for?	The payment description for this is 'Deputy Lord Mayor headshots'.























































































16. Engagement and Activations Alliance Reports

Nil.

## 17. Chief Executive Officer Reports

### 17.1 Consideration of Decisions from the Electors General Meeting - 27 January 2026

Responsible Officer	Michelle Reynolds – Chief Executive Officer
Voting Requirements	Simple Majority
Attachments	Attachment 17.1A – New Confidentiality Provisions from 1 January 2026 <a href="#">↓</a>

### Purpose

To consider the decisions made at the Electors General Meeting (EGM) held on 27 January 2026.

### Recommendation

That Council:

1. In accordance with Section 5.33(1) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, CONSIDERS the 12 Decisions made at the Electors General Meeting held on 27 January 2026.
2. In response to Decision 1:
  - a. ACKNOWLEDGES that the 2024/25 Annual Report incorporating the Financial Statements and Auditor’s Report was accepted.
3. In response to Decision 2:
  - a. DOES NOT SUPPORT the proposal to introduce a Vacant Building Differential Rate
  - b. REQUESTS the CEO to prepare a report to Elected Members outlining options to facilitate and incentivise building owners to utilise vacant buildings.
4. In response to Decision 3:
  - a. DOES NOT SUPPORT a review of the City of Perth’s fixed and mobile CCTV camera network across all neighbourhoods at this time.
  - b. ACKNOWLEDGES that the City has a suite of community safety initiatives aimed at responding to community safety concerns and responding to anti-social behaviour. These initiatives include the City’s 24/7 fixed and mobile (trailer-based) CCTV network and monitoring, the deployment of mobile CCTV towers with a smaller footprint for use in constrained locations, trial decibel monitoring equipment to complement CCTV coverage, close operational working relationships with WA Police and the Department of Communities, the trial deployment of security staff to supplement Ranger services outside their scheduled hours, and the One City Together campaign, which encourages residents and businesses to report issues to the appropriate agency.
5. In response to Decision 4:
  - a. ACKNOWLEDGES the requirement for elected members to exercise their powers for their intended purpose, and to do so reasonably and in good faith.

- b. AFFIRMS the ability for elected members to debate items at decision making meetings of Council
  - c. ACKNOWLEDGES that the City's *Standing Orders Local Law 2009* is currently under review and members of the public will have the ability to provide submissions as part of that review process.
6. In response to Decision 5:
- a. ACKNOWLEDGES the existing role of Councillors as set out in Section 2.10 of the *Local Government Act 1995*
  - b. ACKNOWLEDGES the extensive development opportunities available to elected members at the City, together with the existing guidance and processes in place to support effective decision-making
7. In response to Decision 6:
- a. ACKNOWLEDGES the importance of Public Question Time as a mechanism for members of the public to engage with Council and participate in the decision-making process
  - b. ACKNOWLEDGES the legislative requirement that members of the public be provided an equal and fair opportunity to ask questions and receive responses
  - c. ACKNOWLEDGES that the presiding member determines the procedure for public question subject to the ability for the majority of council members to disagree with that procedure.
8. In response to Decision 7:
- a. ACKNOWLEDGES the importance of Public Question Time and Deputations as a way for members of the public to engage with Council and participate in the decision-making process.
  - b. SUPPORTS the Presiding Member of a meeting to provide members of the public an explanation regarding any decision of the presiding member in relation to refusing/rejecting Deputation requests and or Public Questions.
  - c. SUPPORTS bringing forward the deadline for submissions of deputation requests to 5:00 pm on the day prior to the meeting where deputations are being held.
  - d. ACKNOWLEDGES the requirement for elected members to exercise their powers for their intended purpose, and to do so reasonably and in good faith.
9. In response to Decision 8:
- a. ACKNOWLEDGES the recent reforms to the *Local Government Act 1995* in relation to confidentiality at Council and Committee Meetings.
  - b. SUPPORTS open and transparent decision-making, where possible.
  - c. ACKNOWLEDGES that Council and the administration will consider and review:
    - i. the frequency and categories of confidential items;
    - ii. the legislative basis for confidentiality determinations; and
    - iii. opportunities to maximise disclosure while remaining compliant with legislation

10. In response to Decision 9:
- a. REQUESTS the Administration to commence an investigation into the formal naming and signposting of the public open space/park located north of Wellington Square (Moort ak Waadiny), between 139 Royal Street and 94 Wittenoom Street, East Perth, as outlined in points 1-3 of the Electors General Meeting Notice of Motion – Park Naming; and
  - b. NOTES that a report outlining the outcomes of the investigation, including the proposed park name(s) and estimated implementation costs, will be provided to Elected Members by December 2026.
11. In response to Decision 10:
- a. NOTES that consultation has been undertaken with a broad cross-section of the Aboriginal community, and that this engagement is ongoing, with outcomes to be reported to Elected Members in due course.
  - b. SUPPORTS the continued facilitation by the City of engagement with the Aboriginal community to inform future cultural programming, including consideration of First Nations led events.
  - c. NOTES feedback from the Aboriginal community indicating support for a First Nations led event on 26 January (not City led), under Aboriginal community leadership.
  - d. ACKNOWLEDGES the Administration will continue to play a facilitative role in progressing this work, with outcomes to be presented to Elected Members for consideration.
  - e. ACKNOWLEDGES the City's continued commitment to reconciliation, and to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural expression through programming that is community-informed, safe, sustainable and inclusive.
12. In response to Decision 11:
- a. DOES NOT SUPPORT the re-establishment of the City of Perth's Reconciliation Action Plan and the establishment of a RAP Working Group.
  - b. NOTES that this position is not an opposition to reconciliation. Rather, it reflects a position guided by our Elders Advisory Group to develop our own Reconciliation Plan or Strategy, rather than follow Reconciliation Australia's RAP template. As advocated by our Elders, this will provide greater flexibility and allow stronger emphasis on truth-telling, content and actions tailored to the City of Perth's history and context.
13. In response to Decision 12:
- a. REQUESTS that the Administration consider the incorporation of the investigations of Ozone Reserve as part of the annual review of the 4-year Corporate Business Plan, with a view to such work commencing no earlier than the 2027/28 financial year. The investigations to include drainage, soil conditions, lighting requirements and event infrastructure with a report outlining findings, implementation costs and recommended next steps.
-

## Background

1. The City of Perth Electors' General Meeting (EGM) was held on 27 January 2026. Decisions made at Electors' meetings are not binding on the Council however Council is required to consider them.
2. Section 5.33(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 requires that all decisions made at an EGM are to be considered at the next Ordinary Council Meeting or, if that is not practicable, at the first Ordinary Council Meeting after that meeting or at a Special Council Meeting called for that purpose, whichever occurs first.
3. For the purposes of Section 5.27(3) the first decision made (motion discussed and accepted), at the EGM was the 2024/25 Annual Report incorporating the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the City of Perth.
4. Eleven (11) additional motions were submitted by Electors and the following motions were carried at the EGM.

## Discussion

5. Further information is provided below in response to the 12 decisions carried at the EGM, including the 11 motions raised by electors and carried at the EGM.

6. **Motion/decision 1 – Acceptance of the 2024/25 Annual Report**

7. The *Local Government Act 1995* calls for the first matter discussed at an EGM is to be the Annual Report for the previous financial year.

8. The Annual Report was accepted at the EGM, incorporating the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report.

9. **Motion/decision 2 – Fair Rates & Active City Framework**

*“That the City of Perth:*

*Investigate and report to Council on establishing a “Fair Rates & Active City Framework” to promote fairness, safety, and community activation by:*

*Introducing a Vacant Building Differential Rate under Section 6.33 of the Local Government Act 1995 (WA), applying a higher rate to residential and commercial properties left intentionally unoccupied for 12 months or more without evidence of active use, redevelopment, or genuine attempts to lease or sell the property.*

*Allocating additional revenue generated through this differential rate to initiatives that improve community safety and activation, including increased ranger patrols, CCTV coverage, community safety programs, and local activation grants.*

*Establishing a Vacant Property Transparency Register requiring property owners to declare unoccupied buildings exceeding 12 months of inactivity, verified through owner declaration or utility-use data.*

*Defining clear exemptions for property owners facing legitimate barriers such as heritage restrictions, structural repairs, approved redevelopment works, or demonstrable and ongoing efforts to lease, sell, or activate their property - ensuring the framework distinguishes intentional vacancy from good-faith circumstances.”*

10. Local government rating activity occurs in a highly regulated environment, and local governments are expected to levy rates in full compliance with the legislation, and in addition, reflecting the principles of:

- i. Objectivity
  - ii. Fairness & Equity
  - iii. Consistency
  - iv. Transparency
  - v. Administrative Efficiency
11. These five principles supplemented by a full suite of 15 best practice rating principles have been 'codified' into the City of Perth's Rating Methodology Statement. This statement which is used to guide the City's rating activities each year, has been independently assessed as reflecting industry best practice for local government rating.
  12. Local government rating principles require that differential rates must be levied according to the purpose for which the land is held or used. The City currently uses six differential rating classifications: Residential, Office, Commercial, Retail, Hotel, or Vacant Land.
  13. The City's Statement of Objects and Reasons clearly articulates the objective of, and reasons for, each of the City's six differential rating categories for rateable land within the district.
  14. The use of differential rates in local government is intended to be a fair and equitable mechanism for apportioning each property owner's contribution to the costs of delivering services and projects.
  15. Whether the building is occupied or not, is not a relevant consideration for rating purposes and any attempt to try to introduce differential rates simply based on occupancy status is likely to be contested and successfully overturned in the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT).
  16. In Minister for Local Government and City of Greater Geraldton [2014] WASAT 116, the Minister for Local Government applied to quash differential rates imposed by the City of Greater Geraldton and the City of Fremantle. The Cities had imposed a higher rate on derelict properties and the Minister argued that the basis used for the imposition of that rate was invalid.
  17. The Cities of Geraldton and Fremantle submitted, in part that *section 6.33(1)(b) should be construed on the bases that –*
    - (d) *a purpose for which land is held or used may be to leave the land unoccupied, or to ensure that it is unoccupiable. This may be in furtherance of a longer term purpose, such as to hold the land for future development purposes; and*
    - (e) *property may be held –*
      - (i) *for a current purpose of being vacant (in the case of land with no buildings), or for a current purpose of being unoccupied or unoccupiable (in the case of land with one or more buildings); and*
      - (ii) *for a longer term purpose of being available for future development.*
  18. The Tribunal rejected those submissions, and determined that the basis on which the rates were imposed was invalid and that the rates should be quashed.
  19. In relation to the suggested Vacant Property Register, it is important to note that local government does not have any power to compel property owners to disclose the occupancy status of their property. Without this, maintaining an up-to-date register has the potential to become labour intensive, without a clear understanding of the value to the community.
  20. The long-term vacancy of buildings, including vacant ground floors is undesirable for the City. The challenge is that local government cannot require a landowner to develop their land or to lease their

property. Matters of commercial confidentiality also come into play as to what information a landowner is willing to share. The City's approach is to work with landowners to understand barriers to the activation of buildings. By working with landowners, the City can understand the risks, appreciate the issues around feasibility and logistics, and work together to find solutions, which is often a multi-faceted approach, dependent on the circumstances of the building and its location.

21. Proactively engaging with owners of vacant buildings, the City seeks to ensure these buildings are maintained in a secure and tidy state, and discusses opportunities to improve these sites, including visual amenity. The City currently provides a range of financial incentives to support building owners and businesses, including:
  - vi. Through our City Living program, the City provides financial incentives through waiving planning and building fees for proposals incorporating residential development, including student housing, in the Central Perth neighborhood. This has been well received by the development industry, with new student housing being approved along Wellington and Stirling Streets.
  - vii. Through our Business Relocation Grants program, the City supports small to medium sized businesses to relocate into the City. This helps connect businesses with landowners looking for options to better activate their buildings.
  - viii. Through our Business Improvement Grants, which are provided to support works that enhance the activation and interface with the public realm.
22. The City's draft Local Planning Scheme No. 3 includes planning incentives to support landowners in redeveloping their properties and deliver strategic and community benefits for the City. The draft Scheme also looks to increase the potential land uses that can be accommodated at ground floor. This will provide landowners and businesses more options for filling vacancies.
23. The City is currently investigating the adaptive reuse of buildings, considering barriers and opportunities for the future. Initial findings from this work are anticipated to be presented to Elected Members in 2026/27.

24. **Motion/decision 3 – Fixed & Mobile CCTV Network**

*“Request the CEO to undertake a review of the City of Perth’s fixed & mobile CCTV camera network across all neighbourhoods.*

*The review is to report on:*

- *The performance & effectiveness of the fixed decibel monitors installed at Wellington Square in 2025.*
- *The performance & effectiveness of the mobile CCTV Camera Stations installed in 2025.*
- *Fixed CCTV Camera network coverage gaps across the city with particular focus on West Perth, Nedlands & Crawley*
- *Areas of known temporary/seasonal antisocial behaviour that is best monitored using the Mobile CCTV Camera Stations.*
- *Recommendations for additional fixed CCTV Cameras & fixed Decibel Monitors in locations to rectify coverage gaps identified in the report.*
- *Recommendations for additional mobile CCTV Camera Stations to be situated in known short term anti-social hotspots*

- *Budget cost & timeframe to purchase & install the additional equipment identified in the report recommendations.*
- *The report & equipment purchase recommendations are to be presented at the earliest available Ordinary Council Meeting that would allow funding to be included in the 2027/28 Budget setting process.*

***The following amendments to the motion were agreed to by the mover and the seconder:***

- *That the City work with main roads, as part of the two-way strategy for Hay Street, to put in the electrical assets now so that in the future when we need cameras or lights, the electricity is already in place.*
- *That the report include promoting the service to the community as a positive service they can use to make themselves safer and feel safer in the City.”*

*The performance & effectiveness of the fixed decibel monitors installed at Wellington Square in 2025*

25. The decibel monitors installed at Wellington Square in late 2025 are operational and fully integrated with CityWatch Operations, providing near real-time alerts. Early results indicate improved situational awareness and positive operational responses. However, the system is still in its early operational phase, and there is currently insufficient data to draw reliable conclusions about long-term performance or effectiveness.

*The performance & effectiveness of the mobile CCTV Camera Stations installed in 2025.*

26. Two relocatable CCTV towers were deployed in October 2025 and are operating as intended. Footage captured has been used for evidential purposes, and the trial has been assessed as successful. Based on performance to date, the City is already progressing the expansion of this model. As such, a further review is not required at this time.

*Fixed CCTV Camera network coverage gaps across the city with particular focus on West Perth, Nedlands & Crawley*

27. The City regularly reviews CCTV coverage across all neighbourhoods. Rather than relying solely on fixed infrastructure, the City is adopting an agile approach that supplements fixed cameras with mobile CCTV units to respond to operational demands. The City will continue to assess coverage requirements, emerging issues, and best-practice approaches, including options that provide flexibility and value for money.

*Areas of known temporary/seasonal antisocial behaviour that is best monitored using the Mobile CCTV Camera Stations.*

28. Seasonal increases in antisocial behaviour are observed in areas including Wellington Square, Victoria Gardens, Queens Gardens, Harold Boas Gardens and Russell Square, particularly during summer months. While these locations already have fixed CCTV coverage, mobile CCTV units are deployed to enhance monitoring and deterrence during peak periods to enhance the City's 24/7 CCTV monitoring. Deployment decisions are reviewed proactively and are informed by operational data, ongoing engagement with WA Police, and feedback from the community.

*Recommendations for additional fixed CCTV Cameras & fixed Decibel Monitors in locations to rectify coverage gaps identified in the report.*

29. The City is prioritising mobile and relocatable solutions that provide greater flexibility and value for money. Mobile solutions allow the City to respond more effectively and cost-efficiently to emerging issues.

30. Any future investment in fixed decibel monitoring will be guided by performance data of the current decibel monitors. As noted in response to point (a), the decibel monitoring system is still in its early operational phase, and there is currently insufficient data to draw reliable conclusions about long-term performance or effectiveness.

*Recommendations for additional mobile CCTV Camera Stations to be situated in known short term anti-social hotspots*

31. The City is currently considering the acquisition of additional mobile CCTV towers across the 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years. Subject to approval, this expansion would build on the proven effectiveness and flexibility of the deployable model and further enhance the City's ability to respond to short-term, seasonal and emerging hotspot activity in a targeted and scalable way.

*Budget cost & timeframe to purchase & install the additional equipment identified in the report recommendations.*

32. If approved in the annual budget process, additional mobile CCTV towers can be procured and operational within approximately three to six months.

*The report & equipment purchase recommendations are to be presented at the earliest available Ordinary Council Meeting that would allow funding to be included in the 2027/28 Budget setting process.*

33. Funding for additional mobile CCTV towers is already being progressed through existing budget processes. In parallel, a broader assessment of the City's safety assets is currently underway. As a result, a separate report for the purposes of the 2027/28 budget process is not required.

34. The following amendments to the motion were agreed to by the mover and the seconder:

*That the City work with main roads, as part of the two-way strategy for Hay Street, to put in the electrical assets now so that in the future when we need cameras or lights, the electricity is already in place.*

35. Main Roads Western Australia's involvement in the Hay Street two way project is limited to statutory approvals related to traffic signal phasing and traffic operations. Intersection lighting will be upgraded where required to support the revised traffic configuration. The delivery of electrical and CCTV infrastructure is the City's responsibility. Installing additional electrical capacity for potential future CCTV or lighting is outside the scope of the current project and would require separate assessment and Council approval for additional funding.

*That the report include promoting the service to the community as a positive service they can use to make themselves safer and feel safer in the City.*

36. The City already promotes CityWatch as a central 24/7 operational and community safety service. This includes reinforcing clear reporting pathways and increasing awareness of CityWatch as a point of contact for safety concerns. The City's approach focuses on empowering residents, businesses and visitors to report issues appropriately. Independent market research has found there is strong community recall of the City's campaign that encourages community reporting.

37. **Motion/decision 4 – Procedural Motions and Standing Orders**

*“That the Electors’ Meeting:*

1. *Notes community concern regarding the frequent use of the procedural motion commonly referred to as “put the motion”, which has the effect of closing debate on substantive matters; and*
2. *Affirms that robust debate between elected members is a fundamental element of good governance, transparency, and informed decision-making; and*

3. *Requests Council to consider initiating a review of the frequency, circumstances, and governance impact of the use of “put the motion” at Council meetings since October 2025; and*
4. *Requests that Council consider whether any amendments to standing procedures, meeting practices, or governance frameworks are warranted to ensure debate is not unreasonably curtailed while maintaining orderly meetings.*

***The following amendment to the motion was agreed to by the mover and the seconder:***

5. *Request Council to undertake a review of the City’s Standing Orders.*
38. Debate is a fundamental feature of Australia’s system of representative and responsible government, as established by the Constitution.
  39. When the current *Standing Orders Local Law 2009* (the Standing Orders) was first adopted in 2009, it was intended that the purpose and effect of the Standing Orders would lead to:
    - i. better decision making at meetings;
    - ii. the orderly and efficient conduct of meetings; and
    - iii. greater community understanding of the business of the Council.
  40. In accordance with Section 18 of the *Interpretation Act 1984*, a provision of written law should be utilised in a way that promotes the purpose or object underlying the written law.
  41. Where these procedural motions are used for a purpose contrary to the above, it has the ability to contradict the above purpose and effect of the Standing Orders.
  42. At its Ordinary Council Meeting on 9 December 2025, Council approved a review of the Standing Orders. There will be multiple future opportunities for public consultation and the ability to provide submissions to the Policy, Legislation and Governance Committee at each stage of the local law review process.
  43. It is proposed that the examination of the use of these procedural motions would form part of any amendments arising from the public consultation process.
  44. It should be noted though, that the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (DLGIRS) is currently drafting standardised meeting procedure regulations which will have the effect of superseding the current Standing Orders.
  45. **Motion/decision 5 – Preparation and Participation in Governance Processes by Elected Members**

*“That the Electors’ Meeting:*

    1. *Notes that effective local government relies on informed, prepared, and engaged elected members; and*
    2. *Affirms that the role of councillors and presiding members includes participation in governance processes beyond Ordinary Council Meetings; and*
    3. *Requests Council to consider the preparation of a governance guidance paper outlining best practice expectations for councillors and presiding members, including:*
      - *participation in Agenda Briefing Meetings and committee meetings;*
      - *engagement in governance, conduct, and professional development training; and*
      - *principles for presiding members in managing debate impartially and applying standing orders consistently; and*

4. *Requests that any such guidance, if prepared, be reported to Council and made publicly available.”*
46. The administration supports the active engagement of elected members at elected member agenda briefing meetings, professional development training and the impartial management of debate and applying standing orders consistently.
47. Notably, Section 2.10 of the *Local Government Act 1995* has recently been amended to clarify the role of Councillors, and now expressly includes the requirement that Councillors maintain and develop the requisite skills to effectively perform their role.
48. The City provides significant professional development opportunities for elected members including, but not limited to:
- i. Comprehensive new Councillor inductions including online modules and face to face learning
  - ii. Year-round access to the WALGA Council Member Essentials modules
  - iii. A reimbursement for completion of the AICD Company Directors Course
  - iv. Work, Health and Safety Training to assist in elected members understanding their obligations
  - v. Additional training to assist elected members in undertaking their roles including public speaking and media training
  - vi. Regular refresher training on elected member obligations
49. The City maintains and publishes a quarterly register of professional development undertaken by elected members on the City’s website [here](#).
50. Most recently, the City published a comprehensive register of professional development as it relates to each elected member for the past three financial years [here](#).
51. The administration also provides access to a secure elected members portal containing a comprehensive range of resources and tools to support elected members in undertaking their role.
52. Key resources for elected members on this platform include:
- i. A protocol on gift disclosures to assist elected members in meeting their legislative obligations
  - ii. A protocol on communications to ensure timely advice is given on all council related communications, including proposed amendments, and notices of motion
  - iii. A protocol on interest disclosure to assist elected members in meeting their legislative obligations.
53. The City also provides multiple opportunities for feedback and collaboration with elected members through Briefing Notes, Agenda Briefing Sessions, Elected Member Engagement Sessions, workshops and Chief Executive Meetings. As a result, items presented to Council are typically visible to elected members on multiple occasions prior to decisions being made.
54. The effectiveness of these processes and resources are dependent on elected member participation in order to fully realise the intended outcomes and learning opportunities.
55. **Motion/decision 6 – Public Question Time**
- “That the Electors’ Meeting:*
1. *Notes that Public Question Time is a fundamental mechanism for community engagement, transparency, and accountability; and*

2. *Affirms that members of the public are entitled to ask questions in a respectful environment; and*
  3. *Requests Council to consider a review of the current arrangements for Public Question Time, including:*
    - *time allocation;*
    - *procedural limits; and*
    - *the role of the presiding member in facilitating questions impartially; and*
  4. *Requests that any outcomes of such a review be reported to Council for consideration.”*
56. The administration recognises the importance of public question time to:
- i. assist the public to be better informed about the governing of their district.
  - ii. to assist the City in identifying issues of importance in their community.
57. In accordance with Section 5.24 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, local governments are required to allocate time for questions to be raised by members of the public at every ordinary meeting of Council and other prescribed meetings of councils or committees.
58. The legislation requires members of the public be provided with an ‘equal and fair opportunity to ask the question and receive a response.’
59. The Act provides that the **presiding member is responsible for determining the procedure** for the asking of and responding to questions raised.
60. While procedural authority rests with the presiding member, the Act also recognises Council’s collective governance role through the ability for a majority of council members at a meeting of council to determine the procedure for public question time, if they disagree with the person presiding.
61. The Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (DLGIRS) is currently drafting standardised meeting procedure regulations which will have the effect of superseding the current Standing Orders and may impact Public Question Time.
62. **Motion/decision 7 – Acceptance of Public Questions and Deputations**  
*“That the Electors Meeting:*  
  
*Notes that any public question or deputation submitted for an Annual Electors Meeting, Agenda Briefing Meeting, Special Council Meeting, or Ordinary Council Meeting that has been rejected, refused inclusion, or deemed inadmissible, must be accompanied by written reasons, provided to the submitter within a reasonable timeframe, and that such reasons clearly identify:*
1. *The specific Standing Order, policy, or legislative provision relied upon;*
  2. *The position or role responsible for making the decision; and*
  3. *Whether the decision was made independently by Governance or following consultation with any Elected Member.”*
63. The administration supports the timely advice to members of the public where their requests for deputations or public question time submissions are declined or deemed out of order.

64. The authority for the acceptance of deputation requests **lies with the Presiding Member** in accordance with the Standing Orders.
65. The presiding member also has the ability to reject public questions that may be deemed offensive towards or reflect adversely upon the character and/or actions, of any member of the Council or employee of the City.
66. Currently, deputation requests are accepted up until midday on the day of the relevant meeting where deputations are being held.
67. It is proposed, that to allow for enough time to seek approval from the presiding member and provide timely advice back to members of the public, that deputation requests be due by 5:00pm on the day before the relevant meeting where the deputation is proposed to be held.
68. At its Ordinary Council Meeting on 9 December 2025, Council approved a review of the Standing Orders. There will be multiple future opportunities for public consultation and the ability to provide submissions to the Policy, Legislation and Governance Committee at each stage of the local law review process.
69. It should be noted though, that the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (DLGIRS) is currently drafting standardised meeting procedure regulations which will have the effect of superseding the current Standing Orders.
70. **Motion/decision 8 – Confidentiality and Decision-Making**

*“That the Electors’ Meeting:*

1. *Notes the importance of transparency and open decision-making; and*
2. *Notes community interest in understanding the use of confidential agenda items; and*
3. *Requests Council to consider a governance review into:*
  - *the frequency and categories of confidential items;*
  - *the legislative basis for confidentiality determinations; and*
  - *opportunities to maximise disclosure while remaining compliant with legislation; and*
4. *Requests that the findings of any such review be reported to Council for consideration.”*

71. the *Local Government Amendment Act 2024 Commencement Proclamation (No. 4) 2025* was published on 17 December 2025. This proclamation brought additional provisions of the *Local Government Amendment Act 2024* (the Amendment Act) into effect from 1 January 2026.
72. Section 44 of the Amendment Act amends Section 5.23 of the *Local Government Act 1995* imposing new requirements relating to confidentiality at council and committee meetings.
73. A table of these new provisions is provided at **Attachment A**.
74. As these confidentiality provisions have only recently commenced, any report assessing the City’s compliance with the legislative provisions should be undertaken following an appropriate period of implementation and operational use.
75. **Motion/decision 9 – Naming and Signposting of Public Open Space/Park**

*“That the City of Perth:*

1. *Supports the formal naming and signposting of the public open space/park located north of Wellington Square (Moort-ak Waadiny) between 139 Royal Street and 94 Wittenoom Street, East Perth (the Park).*
  2. *Undertakes a park/reserve naming process for the Park in accordance with Landgate's Policies and Standards for the Geographical Naming of Western Australia, including consultation with Whadjuk Noongar Traditional Owners and relevant local stakeholders/residents, and consideration of dual naming where appropriate.*
  3. *Following consultation, endorses a preferred name (and at least one alternative) and advocates to Landgate for the City's proposal to be progressed, including submission of a park/reserve name application and supporting documentation/plan, for consideration and recommendation by the Geographic Names Committee.*
  4. *Reports the outcome of the process (including consultation undertaken and the status of the submission) to Council within six months, and upon approval updates City mapping/wayfinding information and installs signage reflecting the official name."*
76. The Park outlined as part of the above Notice of Motion is officially addressed as 137 Royal Street East Perth.
77. The Park is owned by the State Government and is a C Class Reserve , meaning it is set aside for a public purpose under the Land Administration Act 1997. It is the lowest level of reserve protection and can be amended or cancelled by the Minister relatively easily compared with A or B class reserves. This will need to be investigated further with the State Government before embarking any potential naming process.
78. Local Planning Scheme 26 (Normalised Area) policy 2.17 "East Perth Primary School" identified it as Public Open Space (POS) but is not reserved as a POS in either the current Local Planning Scheme No. 26 or draft Local Planning Scheme No. 3.
79. The area has both an Aboriginal and colonial heritage that could inform future naming. Any change would require research, stakeholder engagement, planning and formal approvals.
80. Historically, Tea Tree Lagoon (Weitch Rutta) appears to have fed into Claisebrook Cove (Goongoongup), which may provide cultural and historical context for consideration.
81. City officers have commenced preliminary work exploring potential dual naming for Claisebrook as part of broader wayfinding updates (separate to, but concurrent with, the Claisebrook Cove project). This work is not yet funded and is currently focused on options and process mapping. Coordination would be advisable.
82. Landgate is responsible for the approval of local park and recreation reserve names with the Policies and Standards for Geographical Naming in Western Australia (the standards) setting out the relevant criteria and process.
83. To ensure a successful naming proposal:
- i. Multiple name options will need to be provided
  - ii. Clear historical and cultural relevance must be demonstrated
  - iii. Supporting documentation included; and
  - iv. Consultation evidenced

84. This investigation would require approximately 6-12 months to complete, having regard to existing City commitments. A report outlining findings, and the recommended proposal could be presented to Elected Members by December 2026.
85. **Motion/decision 10 – Birak Concert**  
*“The AGM of electors supports that Council reinstates the Birak Concert for 26th of January 2027, delivering the program through co-design with the Elders Advisory Group, in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and in line with City of Perth’s continued commitment to reconciliation and truth-telling.”*
86. “The AGM of electors supports that Council reinstates the Birak Concert for 26th of January 2027, delivering the program through co-design with the Elders Advisory Group, in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and in line with City of Perth’s continued commitment to reconciliation and truth-telling.”
87. The Events Plan 2025/26 was carried unopposed (7/0) by Council at the 25 March 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting. This Plan did not include a standalone Birak Concert, and specific reference was made to this change in the report to Council on the matter.
88. The March 2025 Council minutes also note that consideration would continue to be given to delivering Aboriginal cultural outcomes through alternative programming, formats or dates. The City remains committed to continuous support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural programming in a way that is safe, sustainable and broadly inclusive.
89. The decision to adopt an alternative means of delivering such programming followed after consultation with stakeholders including Elected Members, the City’s Elders Advisory Group, and contractors previously involved in delivering Birak.
90. Attendance at Birak had significantly declined from 10,000 in 2023 to 3,500 attendees in 2025. Feedback to the City indicated that holding an event such as Birak on 26 January was not universally supported by the Aboriginal community.
91. Further, feedback advised that anti-social behaviour had significantly affected community engagement in Birak. Contractors engaged in delivering the event also expressed concern about participation in the event.
92. Consistent with the feedback, (and reflected within the adopted Plan) the City delivered the inaugural Perth Multicultural Festival in November 2025 at Elizabeth Quay. The event saw 27,000 people attend over the two-day celebration.
93. At the heart of this event was a conscious recognition of First Nations’ identity and resilience, along with an explicit celebration of our diverse community and the road we walk together.
94. An Aboriginal-owned and operated business curated programming for the entire event; Ernie Dingo presented as host across both days; the event opened with a performance by Dr Richard Walley, featuring a smoking ceremony and Noongar dancers; it concluded with a fireworks finale accompanied by an original soundtrack composed by Noongar artist Phil Walley-Stack.
95. The event was a success and the City is proud to have brought our community together in this way.
96. However, our City and community have been deeply affected by the terrorism incident in Forrest Place on 26 January this year. This has led a reflection on how we best recognise that 26 January provides an opportunity for truth telling, reconciliation and celebration of cultural strength.

97. Whilst the Birak Concert, in its previous form, will not be revived, the City has initiated an ongoing dialogue with a cross-section of the Aboriginal community as to what role the City can play in a safe, strong and inclusive 26 January event.
98. Facilitated by Danny Ford of Kambarang Services, the first session in this dialogue brought together the City of Perth Elders' Advisory Group, other Aboriginal community leaders, younger community members as well as Aboriginal artists, with a view to enabling a sharing of diverse perspectives.
99. The person who moved the Notice of Motion at the Annual General Meeting of Electors was invited, but was not in attendance.
100. Key themes arising from this dialogue included:
- i. recognition of the importance of a community led, meaningful cultural gathering for the First Nations community in Perth on 26 January.
  - ii. that story telling and truth telling needs to be at the centre of any event.
  - iii. that the event provides an opportunity to showcase and share culture, language, dance and music, and ensure younger generations can celebrate and learn through participation.
101. This dialogue provides the City with a genuine opportunity to work in partnership with the Aboriginal community to consider, first, an appropriate community-led event for 26 January 2027.
102. Beyond that, however, is the very real opportunity to bring an honest reflection on our shared past, our multiple stories, and our aspirations for the future, as we move towards 2029 and the milestone of two hundred years since the establishment of the Swan River Colony on the banks of the Derbarl Yerrigan.
103. Further dialogue outcomes will be presented to Elected Members for consideration.
104. **Motion/decision 11 – Reconciliation Action Plan**
- “The AGM of electors supports the re-establishment of the City of Perth’s Reconciliation Action Plan and the establishment of a RAP Working Group. The Reconciliation Action Plan will ensure accountability from the City, and also ensure the City is able to reach commitments listed in the Cultural Development Plan 2019-2029, the Working Group will also support the Aboriginal Elders Advisory Group and ensure sustainable facilitation of the Birak Concert and other cultural initiatives taken by the City.”*
105. The City’s position, informed by the City’s Elders Advisory Group, is to develop our own Reconciliation Plan or Strategy rather than follow Reconciliation Australia’s RAP template. As advocated by our Elders, this will provide greater flexibility and allow stronger emphasis on truth-telling, content and actions tailored to the City of Perth’s history and context.
106. The City’s existing framework, Yacker Danjoo Ngala Bidi (Working Together Our Way), a formal agreement made between the City’s Elders and the City of Perth, continues to guide respectful partnerships, shared decision-making and meaningful engagement with Aboriginal people, ensuring Aboriginal voices, histories and cultural identities are embedded across the city.
107. Several other Western Australian local governments have also moved away from the RAP framework in favour of locally designed reconciliation strategies better suited to their communities.
108. As acknowledged in the Notice of Motion, the City has an Elders Advisory Group comprising of external community members. Further, the City is a member of the Perth District Leadership Group (DLG). Key participants include senior representatives including those from WA Police and the Departments of Communities, Education, Justice, and Health. The DLG provides coordinated, place-based leadership supporting implementation of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.
109. **Motion/decision 12 – Ozone Reserve Precinct Upgrades**

*"EPCG Requests the Council to investigate and present a report on engineering and infrastructure options to upgrade the Ozone Reserve Precinct. The report should identify costed solutions to achieve "Year-Round Usability" and "Smart City Safety Standards," specifically addressing:*

- *Drainage & Soil Integrity: An investigation into the root causes of persistent ground saturation and waterlogging, specifically assessing:*
  - *The integrity of the Lake Vasto retention and pumping network.*
  - *The impact of heavy vehicle compaction on soil drainage versus natural water table levels.*
- *Adaptive Safety Lighting: An assessment of modern, motion-activated and fauna-friendly (warm spectrum) lighting technologies for the internal footpaths to resolve pedestrian blind spots while mitigating environmental impact.*
- *Event Infrastructure Capacity: A feasibility study on installing permanent 3-Phase Power outlets to support community activation and eliminate pollution and cost of temporary diesel generators.*

110. Ozone Reserve, including Lake Vasto, was constructed in 2000 as an irrigation water storage body to supply the City's parks and gardens. The reserve was designed to perform a functional infrastructure role rather than to support high-intensity recreation or event-based uses.
111. The site's drainage and soil integrity challenges are largely attributable to the underlying ground conditions and its historic function as a water storage body. As a result, the reserve was not designed to accommodate increased event activity or the associated infrastructure loading.
112. Since construction of the lake, additional elements have been introduced including the Vasto memorial, public toilets and playground. These facilities are largely inward facing with limited passive surveillance from surrounding streets.
113. Recent investment in Ozone Reserve has included:
- i. Dog park and associated lighting (completed 2021)
  - ii. Wayfinding signage installation (2024/25)
  - iii. Pedestrian boardwalk renewal (2024/25)
114. A draft masterplan has been prepared for a future Sports and Recreation Hub fronting onto Plain Street, which includes elements that extend into Ozone Reserve. This has implications for the timing, scope and coordination of any works within the reserve. The masterplan has yet to be finally considered by the Council.
115. In addition, a significant Water Corporation service runs through Ozone Reserve and is scheduled for upgrade in 2028. Any major redevelopment of the reserve would need to accommodate, protect or relocate this infrastructure, which may constrain timing and delivery.
116. It should also be noted that East Perth has the highest provision of open green space of all City neighbourhoods. The City's Open Space Program identifies Ozone Reserve for future upgrade as part of a broader transformation noting its proximity to the riverfront, rather than as a standalone project.
117. Should Elected Members wish to pursue substantial upgrades to Ozone Reserve ahead of this broader program, it is recommended that the City first undertake a detailed investigation to understand:
- i. Subsurface drainage capacity and overflow management

- ii. Soil conditions and rehabilitation requirements
  - iii. Turf reinforcement systems to support event bump-in and bump-out
  - iv. Additional lighting requirements
  - v. Event infrastructure needs (noting that ground condition upgrades would be required prior to supporting increased event activity)
118. This investigation would require an allocation of \$120,000 and approximately 12 months to complete, having regard to existing City project commitments. . If pursued in 2026/27 careful consideration will need to be given to the capacity of deliver, as it will involve multiple units, and likely involve reprioritising other planned work to later years. This is important to ensure that work can be delivered to a high standard without increasing City resources.
119. The preference is that the timing of this project work is considered as part of annual review of the 4-year Corporate Business Plan, with the allocation of resources and funding be considered at the earliest as part of the 2027/28 financial year.

## Stakeholder Engagement

Nil

## Decision Implications

120. Various decision implications relating to legislative and budgetary considerations as included in the information for consideration of each individual motion.

## Strategic, Legislative and Policy Implications

Strategy	
Strategic Pillar (Objective)	Liveable
Related Documents (Issue Specific Strategies and Plans):	Strategic Community Plan

Legislation, Delegation of Authority and Policy	
Legislation:	Section 5.33 of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> describes the manner in which decisions made at an electors' meeting are to be considered by the Council.
Authority of Council/CEO:	Council must consider decisions made at elector's meetings however are not bound by them.
Policy:	Nil.

## Financial Implications

121. Various financial implications have been observed and advice provided in response to the relevant motion about consideration being given through the normal budgeting processes for the City.

## Further Information

122. Questions and Responses forming part of the Agenda Briefing Session on 24 March 2026 are as follows:

	Question	Response
1.	Has any funding been allocated for delivery of a First Nations-led Birak event on or around 26 January?	<p>The 2026/27 Events Plan was unanimously adopted by Council in February 2026.</p> <p>The City is continuing engagement with Aboriginal community representatives to explore the development of a community-led initiative. Any future funding proposals arising from this engagement will be brought to Council for consideration consistent with appropriate decision-making processes.</p>
2.	If Council does not allocate funding through this item, would Administration be able to deliver an event for January?	The key message to the City through its engagement with the Aboriginal community representatives is that any event should be community-led. See responses to question 1 and 3.
3.	What is the latest date a decision and budget allocation must be made to enable delivery?	To enable appropriate planning and delivery of a community-led event on or around 26 January 2027, Council would need to determine the City's role and any associated funding by mid-2026 as part of the 2026/27 budget process.
4.	Were the movers and seconders of the Birak Concert motion at the electors meeting invited to the consultation undertaken on 16th March?	<p>The City engaged an Aboriginal consultant to deliver an engagement workshop (yarning), including inviting Aboriginal participants identified as key stakeholders in the local First Nations community, with a mix of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Perth Elders;</li> <li>• Community Elders;</li> <li>• Artists/entertainers;</li> <li>• LGBTQIA+; and</li> <li>• Young people.</li> </ul> <p>to ensure broad representation and informed community perspectives.</p> <p>Invitations were issued on this basis. The City relied on advice from the consultant regarding appropriate participants.</p> <p>It is noted that the mover and seconder of the Birak motion at the electors meeting were Jazmin Lacey and Steve Wellard. The invitees to the yarning workshop were First Nations people.</p>
5.	I previously asked why council was only informed of the consultation after the fact - can I please have an	The workshop was intentionally structured as a culturally safe, community-led engagement with Aboriginal participants and was not a

	answer? Does this diminish the statutory roles of duties of elected members.	governance forum. There was not a role for Elected Members in this forum.
6.	If Council does not support a RAP, what formal framework will replace it for governance and public reporting?	<p>The City has our “Yacker Danjoo Ngala Bidi (Working Together Our Way)” which is signed by our Elders and is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Transparent</li> <li>· Accountable</li> <li>· Frames actions</li> </ul> <p>This approach is informed by the City’s Elders.</p> <p>Officers have reviewed reconciliation frameworks used by WA local governments. Based on the Reconciliation Australia “Who has a RAP?” register, filtered by Sector: Local Government and State: WA, <b>7 of WA’s 139 local governments (approx. 5%) currently have a Reconciliation Australia endorsed RAP as at 25/02/2026:</b> the Cities of Armadale, Cockburn, Fremantle, Greater Geraldton, Nedlands, Stirling and Wanneroo.</p> <p><b>A number of WA local governments have adopted alternative, locally tailored reconciliation frameworks rather than an endorsed RAP,</b> including the Cities of Belmont, Canning, Gosnells and South Perth.</p> <p>These bespoke approaches are increasingly used across the sector and reflect a preference by some councils and Aboriginal stakeholders for reconciliation frameworks that are <b>locally designed, flexible, and more closely aligned with local history, governance responsibilities and community expectations.</b></p> <p>The City believes our approach, as guided by our Elders, is more appropriate.</p> <p>Further, it is noted that Reconciliation Australia (RA) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation. While Commonwealth Government agencies work with RA through the voluntary RAP program and RA receives some government funding, RA is not a Commonwealth body, does not operate under government direction, and does not exercise any statutory or policy-making authority on behalf of the Australian Government.</p>
7.	Without a RAP or equivalent framework, is there any requirement for structured public reporting on reconciliation actions?	Under the Local Government Act 1995 and associated regulations, all WA local governments are required to provide an Annual Report. This report includes reporting in relation

		to our equity, inclusion, and reconciliation actions.
8.	Is there any barrier to delivering a locally tailored reconciliation plan within a RAP framework?	Yes, there are constraints as the RAP framework is Reconciliation Australia’s intellectual property. RAPs require use of Reconciliation Australia’s prescribed templates and actions, and adherence to a two-year timeframe for each RAP.
9.	Given that electors’ motions represent direct community input, what specific frameworks has Administration applied to determine when to not support a motion?	While electors’ motions are a vital expression of community input, the administration’s role is to provide <b>advice to Council</b> through established statutory and governance frameworks. In doing so, the administration assesses each motion on its legal compliance, evidentiary merit, financial and resourcing implications, strategic alignment, and operational feasibility. Where a motion does not meet these requirements, or presents material legal, financial or implementation risks, the administration may recommend that it not be supported, while ensuring the matter is properly considered and determined by Council.
10.	Why has Administration recommended not supporting a Vacant Building Differential Rate outright, rather than presenting a structured options paper outlining feasibility, risks, and potential revenue impacts for Council and alternative models to determine?	The City Administration believes the Vincent model may be unlawful, for the reasons outlined in paragraphs 12 to 18 of Item 17.1 for the March OCM, and CIBN dated 24 March 2025 (Ref. 56152-26).
11.	Has any modelling been undertaken on the scale of vacancy in the CBD and the potential activation or revenue outcomes of alternate options that could meet similar outcomes?	<p>As stated at <b>paragraph 20 of Item 17.1</b> for the March OCM, the City’s approach is to work with landowners to understand barriers to the activation of buildings, and <b>work together to find solutions</b>, which is often a multi-faceted approach, dependent on the circumstances of the building and its location.</p> <p>Rates modelling has not been undertaken, for the reason given in response to question 10. <b>Financial incentives</b> provided by the City to support building owners and businesses are outlined at paragraphs 20 to 22 of Item 17.1 for the March OCM.</p> <p>In terms of the scale of vacancy for commercial properties in the LGA – retail / hospitality properties are tracking at approximately 15% across the City, and office vacancies remain elevated at 16.9% (as at Feb. 2026). However, Premium office space is performing relatively well at 11.1% vacancy. (Refer CIBN dated 27/02/2026 for additional information).</p>

12.	How does rejecting this proposal align with Council’s broader objectives around city activation, economic vibrancy, and safety?	<p>The proposal is not supported by the Administration due to concerns around the legalities and mechanical complexity in administering such a rating category.</p> <p>However, the intent of the proposal is consistent with the City’s broader objectives, especially when applied to commercial properties. Specifically, the Economic Development Strategy 2025-28 objective of “Being even more engaging and appealing to existing and prospective City businesses, investors and people.”</p> <p>As stated in the response to the Notice of Motion, the City provides a range of services to address this issue for commercial properties, including a number of grants and sponsorship pathways, and regular, direct and tailored contact with owners and leasing agents.</p>
13.	What is the rationale for not supporting a review of CCTV coverage, particularly where electors have raised community safety concerns?	<p>In 2024/25, an independently conducted, comprehensive “<b>Community Safety Review</b>” was undertaken as one of the deliverables under the <i>Corporate Business Plan 2024/25 - 2027/28</i>. The findings of the review and next steps were reported at the Elected Members Engagement Session on 30 June 2025. Recommendations from the review have been rolled out over 2025/26 and beyond.</p> <p>One new initiative prompted by the review has been the enhancement of the CCTV network and adding flexibility to support the community by expanding our mobile CCTV capability. This approach enables the City to respond in a more agile and targeted manner to operational demands, including safety concerns raised by the community, reporting, operational data, incident and crime trends, and inter-agency intelligence. Rather than undertaking a static review of fixed coverage, the current focus of expanding our mobile CCTV capability supports flexible deployment to areas of emerging or heightened need.</p>
14.	When was the last comprehensive review of the City’s CCTV network undertaken, and will that be made available to Council?	<p>In 2024/25, an independently conducted, comprehensive “<b>Community Safety Review</b>” was undertaken. Initially commencing with a scope focused on the City’s CCTV system, in recognition of the significant operational and technology integration between CCTV, surveillance, community reporting and the City’s Community Safety functions, the scope of the</p>

		<p>review was expanded to encompass all Community Safety functions.</p> <p><b>The findings of this independent review and next steps were presented at the Elected Members Engagement Session on 30 June 2025.</b></p>
15.	How does Administration assess whether current safety measures are sufficient without undertaking periodic independent review?	<p>The City’s safety measures are informed by a comprehensive, independent “Community Safety Review” undertaken across 2024–2025 and reported at the <b>Elected Members Engagement Session on 30 June 2025.</b></p> <p>Recommendations are being implemented in a staged and risk-based manner. In addition, ongoing assessment is informed by operational data, incident and crime trends, inter-agency intelligence, and regular internal reviews. Together, these mechanisms ensure that the City’s safety measures remain appropriate, responsive, and aligned with emerging risks.</p>
16.	Given that Council has the authority to determine procedures for Public Question Time, why has Administration limited its response to acknowledging the current framework rather than presenting options for reform?	<p>The legislated and regulatory framework provides that procedures are determined by the Lord Mayor (as presiding member). Regulations state that each member of the public must be afforded an equal and fair opportunity to ask a question and receive a response. Any reform or alternative procedural approach is ultimately a matter for the Lord Mayor.</p>
17.	Will Administration commit to providing Council with options that improve transparency, access, and fairness in Public Question Time, including time allocation and procedural limits?	<p>The legislated and regulatory framework provides that procedures are determined by the Lord Mayor (as presiding member). If requested, the administration can provide advice.</p>
18.	How does the City ensure that the current approach does not discourage legitimate public participation?	<p>The legislated and regulatory framework provides that procedures are determined by the Lord Mayor (as presiding member). Elected members are encouraged to discuss with one another whether there are concerns with the current procedure and where requested, the administration can provide advice or options.</p>
19.	What current steps are being taken to ensure elected members are meaningfully involved in community led policy development, rather than primarily responding to officer-led proposals?	<p>The administration provides a range of opportunities for elected member engagement and for community-led policy development to be considered. Including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elected Member Engagement Sessions</li> <li>• Workshops</li> <li>• Community consultation and feedback processes</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elected member-led community consultation, consistent with the functions of their role</li> <li>• CEO briefing sessions</li> <li>• The Chief Executive Inbox</li> <li>• Notices of Motion</li> </ul>
20.	<p>Across multiple elector motions, Administration has recommended not supporting rather than presenting options - can Administration explain how this approach aligns with Council's role to determine policy under section 2.7 of the Act and whether further consideration of these issues should be considered by the newly established Policy, Legislation and Governance Committee?</p>	<p>The administration's role is to provide professional advice and recommendations to assist Council in making informed decisions, including where, based on evidence, resourcing, financial or statutory considerations, Administration does not support a motion. This approach does not fetter Council's role under section 2.7 of the Local Government Act 1995 to determine policy; Council retains full discretion to accept, amend or reject Administration's recommendation.</p> <p>Noting this ability, the administration <b>does not</b> consider that further referral of these matters to the Policy, Legislation and Governance Committee is required at this time, noting that the motions are still, and must be, under consideration by Council at this meeting.</p>
21.	<p>Whether, and how, the City has engaged with the Whadjuk Aboriginal Corporation (as the relevant traditional owner representative under the South West Native Title Settlement), and what steps have been taken to ensure appropriate engagement.</p>	<p>The City has met with the Chief Executive Officer and staff of the Whadjuk Aboriginal Corporation. The City will continue to engage with WAC as a key stakeholder and in line with their role as the prescribed Noongar Regional Corporation under the Settlement agreement.</p>









17.2 Amending the Terms of Reference for Council Committee Meetings - recordings of meetings

Responsible Officer	Michelle Reynolds – Chief Executive Officer
Voting Requirements	Simple Majority
Attachments	Nil.

**Purpose**

To seek council approval to update the Terms of Reference for Council Committees, to support the administration in efficient Minute taking and production, by allowing the recording of Committee Meetings.

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**Recommendation**

That Council APPROVE the following statement to be included in the Terms of Reference for each Council Committee:

*Meetings may be recorded for minute taking purposes only.*

*The use of Microsoft CoPilot (or similar program) to support minute taking is intended to support, and does not replace, formal governance processes or the responsibility of the minute taker and Chief Executive Officer.*

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## Background

1. The administration has recently begun to record Elected Member Engagement Sessions and Budget Workshops. Using Microsoft CoPilot to support this process has significantly improved efficiency and enhanced the team's capacity.
2. Going forward the administration would like to implement this improvement in minute taking efficiency to council's committee meeting processes.
3. Preparing accurate minutes for these meetings is a labour-intensive process and for significant meetings, this can require substantial effort from Governance staff. Recent difficulties, in the attraction and retention of governance staff, is presenting a significant risk to business continuity for the City.
4. As the Council Governance team is currently experiencing resource constraints the use of recording and Microsoft CoPilot (or similar program) for council committee meetings will further support the team's efficiency.
5. It is intended that the administration will use Microsoft CoPilot (or similar program) to record and support minute taking at Committee Meetings.
6. Microsoft Copilot is an AI assisted capability within the Microsoft 365 environment that can support this process by recording and summarising meeting content while not replacing formal governance controls or human accountability.
7. If approved the proposed statement will be included in all of council's Committee Terms of Reference:
  - a. Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
  - b. Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Committee
  - c. Policy, Legislation and Governance Committee

## Discussion

8. The use of Microsoft CoPilot (or similar program) is intended to support, and does not replace, formal governance processes or the responsibility of the minute taker and Chief Executive Officer.
9. The use of CoPilot (or similar program) does not change the existing governance model for committee minutes. Instead, it supports it.
10. The following oversight layers remain in place:
  - a. Minute Taker (Governance Officer)
    - i. Copilot outputs are treated as draft working material only
    - ii. The minute taker:
      - Reviews transcripts and Copilot summaries
      - Validates wording, accuracy, and intent
      - Ensures compliance with legislative and policy requirements
  - b. Manager Governance Review
    - i. Governance management reviews draft minutes
    - ii. Confirms:

- Appropriate level of detail
  - Consistency with meeting conventions
  - Correct handling of confidential or sensitive matters
- c. Executive Director (ED) Oversight
- i. Relevant ED reviews minutes relating to their portfolio
  - ii. Ensures:
    - Decisions and actions reflect agreed outcomes
    - No material misinterpretation of discussion
- d. CEO Oversight
- i. CEO review and endorsement remains unchanged
  - ii. Confirms organisational and strategic alignment
- e. Council Hub / EM Publication
- i. Only approved and endorsed minutes are uploaded to Council Hub
  - ii. CoPilot-generated content is never published directly.
- f. Records Management
- i. The City is required by the State Records Act to ensure that records of meetings are stored and retained appropriately.
  - ii.

## Consultation

11. Elected Members were consulted on the use of Microsoft CoPilot for Elected Member Engagement Sessions via Current Issues Briefing Note on 5 February 2026.

## Decision Implications

12. If council supports the recommendation the Terms of Reference for each council committee will be updated and the administration will use Microsoft CoPilot to record and support minute taking at committee meetings going forward.

## Strategic, Legislative and Policy Implications

Strategy	
Strategic Pillar (Objective)	A Well-Governed City
Related Documents (Issue Specific Strategies and Plans):	

Legislation, Delegation of Authority and Policy	
Legislation:	Nil.

Authority of Council/CEO:	Council
Policy:	Nil.

Financial Implications

13. Nil.

Further Information

14. Nil.

17.3 Mitigating City Legal Risk Exposure

Responsible Officer	Wendy Attenborough – Executive Director Governance and Strategy
Voting Requirements	Simple Majority
Attachments	Confidential Attachment 17.3A – Draft Letter to Deputy Lord Mayor David Goncalves

Purpose

This paper proposes Council, as the employer of the Chief Executive Officer, requests the Administration to write, on its behalf, to Councillor David Goncalves regarding statements made at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 24 February 2026.

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Recommendation

That Council REQUESTS that the Administration, on behalf of Council, send the letter at **Confidential Attachment A** to Councillor David Goncalves.

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## Background

1. At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 24 February 2026 Cr David Goncalves made an impartiality declaration in relation to Agenda Items 17.6 and 20.1. In that declaration Cr Goncalves stated:  
*"... I need to declare an impartiality interest in 17.6 and 20.1 as I previously made a referral to WorkSafe in relation to matters involving the CEO and the administration. Um on the Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> I've been advised that matter is now subject to formal investigation ..."*
2. Agenda Items 17.6 and 20.1 were both about the Psychosocial Risk Assessment commissioned by the CEO pursuant to her responsibilities under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020*.

## Discussion

3. Subsequent to the Ordinary Council Meeting the WorkSafe Commissioner advised City Administration that there is no current investigation in relation to the City of Perth and no person has been advised to the contrary.
4. The City has sought legal advice regarding the risks arising from these circumstances given that:
  - (a) Councillor Goncalves' statement was made in a public forum, identified the CEO, and conveyed that a formal regulatory investigation was underway when this was not the case;
  - (b) The statement creates a nexus between the CEO, the commissioning of the Psychosocial Risk Assessment, and an alleged regulatory investigation;
  - (c) The information provided by the WorkSafe Commissioner suggests that the content of Councillor Goncalves' statement (in that a formal regulatory investigation is alleged to be underway) is not accurate and may be considered misleading; and
  - (d) Council as a whole is the employer of the CEO, and the Lord Mayor holds a statutory function to liaise with the CEO on the local government's affairs.
5. Councillor Goncalves' statement gives rise to substantial legal, governance and reputational risks for the City. Those risks have been discussed with the Monitor, the Lord Mayor and with the City's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee. These risks may escalate if the issue is not addressed promptly.
6. The Administration has endeavoured to obtain further information from Councillor Goncalves regarding his statement. No further information has been provided as at the date of completion of this Report.

## Mitigation

7. The most effective means of mitigating the legal, governance and reputational risks is for the City to act promptly and transparently. To date the Administration has:
  - Communicated with the WorkSafe Commissioner, both verbally and in written form, to confirm the advice that there is no open investigation into the City of Perth and the Commissioner is not aware of any communications to the contrary to any person
  - Placed a clarifying statement on its website which reflects the above advice from the WorkSafe Commissioner
  - Proposed to the Lord Mayor that he, acting in accordance with his functions as set out in s2.8 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, engage constructively with Councillor Goncalves and the CEO regarding an acceptable resolution.

8. At s2.7(5) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council must have regard to the need to support an organisational culture for the local government that promotes the respectful and fair treatment of the local government’s employees. At s2.10(1)(d) Councillors are required to facilitate and maintain good working relationships with other councillors, the mayor and the CEO.
9. Consistent with the above statutory functions of Council, confidential attachment A provides draft correspondence to Councillor Goncalves, to be provided by Council, should it decide to do so. This is proposed as a mitigating step to potential action against the City and as an action to promote respectful treatment of the CEO and the Administration.

## Consultation

10. Administration has sought advice on this matter from the Monitor, Lord Mayor and the City’s Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee. Administration has also communicated with Councillor Goncalves regarding his statement, including providing information regarding the issues of concern to the City, and inviting any correction or clarification that he may wish to make.

## Decision Implications

11. Provision of Council Correspondence to Councillor Goncalves regarding this matter is an action Council may take to potentially mitigate risk to the City. It would also demonstrate actions consistent with relevant sections of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

## Strategic, Legislative and Policy Implications

Strategy	
Strategic Pillar (Objective)	A Well-Governed City
Related Documents (Issue Specific Strategies and Plans):	Nil.

Legislation, Delegation of Authority and Policy	
Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i> <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2020</i>
Authority of Council/CEO:	At s2.7(5) of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> , Council must have regard to the need to support an organisational culture for the local government that promotes the respectful and fair treatment of the local government’s employees.  At s2.10(1)(d) Councillors are required to facilitate and maintain good working relationships with other councillors, the mayor and the CEO.
Policy:	Nil.

## Financial Implications

Nil.

## Further Information

12. Nil.

## 18. Committee Reports

Nil.

## 19. Motions of which Previous Notice has been Given

### 19.1 Notice of Motion - LifeVac Airway Clearance Devices in City- Managed Facilities

The following Notice of Motion was submitted in accordance with clause 4.12 of the *Standing Orders Local Law 2009*.

<b>Councillor</b>	Councillor Lisa Ma
<b>Date Received</b>	11 March 2026
<b>Motion</b>	<p>That Council <u>REQUESTS</u> the CEO to prepare a report examining the costs, benefits and operational considerations of installing LifeVac airway clearance devices in City-managed facilities (including but not limited to community centres, and City of Perth Library).</p> <p>The report is to include, where practicable, but is not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Estimated capital, ongoing procurement, replacement and maintenance costs;</li> <li>2. Evidence relating to safety, efficacy and regulatory status, including listing on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG);</li> <li>3. Alignment with existing first aid procedures and emergency response protocols;</li> <li>4. Risk management and insurance considerations;</li> <li>5. Indicative list of WA local governments that have considered similar devices, based on Council meeting items; and</li> <li>6. Implementation options</li> </ol>
<b>Reasons Provided</b>	<p>Severe airway obstruction can lead to irreversible brain injury within 4–6 minutes, yet ambulance response targets in WA allow up to 15 minutes for priority one incidents. This means that in a critical choking emergency, the opportunity to prevent serious harm may arise before emergency services are able to attend.</p> <p>LifeVac is listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) as a Class I medical device and has been reported in published case data as highly successful when used as a secondary emergency response tool after standard first aid measures have failed.</p> <p>Several WA councils including the City of Joondalup, City of Wanneroo, City of Vincent and the City of Stirling have already approved or installed LifeVac devices in community facilities as a precautionary safety measure.</p> <p>This motion seeks a balanced and evidence-based assessment to determine whether the installation of such devices would enhance emergency preparedness and public safety in City-managed facilities.</p>

## Administration Response to Notice of Motion

Responsible Officer	Tracey Hirst – Alliance Manager Community Services
Voting Requirements	Simple Majority
Attachments	Nil.

### Discussion

1. The Administration supports the investigation and provision of the requested report to Council.
2. Preparation of the report is consistent with the City’s obligations under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* (WA) and associated regulations to provide appropriate first aid arrangements.

### Decision Implications

3. If Council supports the recommendation, the Administration will prepare a report for Council consideration addressing the matters outlined in the Notice of Motion.
4. If Council does not support the recommendation, no further work will be undertaken in relation to this matter.

### Strategic, Legislative and Policy Implications

Strategic Community Plan	
Strategic Pillar (Objective)	Liveable
Related Documents (Issue Specific Strategies and Plans):	Strategic Community Plan 2022 – 2032 Goal 2.1 The City of Perth local government is a high performing organisation.

Legislation, Delegation of Authority and Policy	
Legislation:	<p><i>Work Health and Safety Act 2020</i> (WA) Section 19 places a duty on a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU), including local governments, to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health and safety of workers and other persons at the workplace.</p> <p><i>Work Health and Safety (General) Regulations 2022</i> (WA). The Regulation requires PCBUs to provide first aid equipment, access to first aid facilities, and trained personnel, having regard to the nature of the workplace and associated risks.</p> <p><i>Therapeutic Goods Act 1989</i> (Cth) Regulates the supply and use of medical devices in Australia, including inclusion on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.</p>
Authority of Council/CEO:	In accordance with sections 2.7 and 5.41 of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> (WA), Council has the authority to request advice and reports from the Chief Executive Officer to inform Council decision-making.

<b>Policy:</b>	<p>Council Policy 2.14 – Risk Management This policy supports an effective risk management culture and applying a logical and systematic method for identifying, assessing, treating, and monitoring risks.</p> <p>Operational Policy 15 – Work Health and Safety The Work Health and Safety Policy outlines the City’s commitment to providing a safe working environment.</p>
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## Financial Implications

5. The preparation of the report will be undertaken using existing internal resources and has no immediate financial implications.
6. Any potential capital or operating costs associated with the matters examined will be identified and considered as part of the report presented to Council.

## Further Information

7. **Questions and Responses forming part of the Agenda Briefing Session on 24 March 2026 are as follows:**

	Question	Response
1.	Are city client facing staff members (eg: rangers, customer service persons) trained in Basic First Aid?	<p>Basic First Aid training is provided for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· All staff who are required to hold a security licence, which includes Rangers; and</li> <li>· Staff who are nominated First Aiders.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, Basic First Aid training is offered for its other community facing roles, such as City’s car park attendants.</p>
2.	Is this regularly renewed and kept up to date?	<p>Yes, City Administration maintains a Training Register, which is monitored to ensure training obligations are met.</p> <p>Basic First Aid training must be renewed every three years, and CPR training must be renewed annually.</p>
3.	Which company does the city use to train its staff in Basic First Aid?	<p>The City uses two providers for Basic First Aid training:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. RTS Group</li> <li>2. ET Services.</li> </ol>
4.	Can administration confirm whether my original request regarding LifeVac devices was formally captured and recorded at the time it was raised?	<p>The original request has not been located. The Administration has asked Cr Doshi to provide a copy.</p>
5.	What action, if any, has been taken by the City in the 13 months since this request was made?	<p>An investigation regarding the LifeVac device was undertaken in early 2025.</p>

		Based on the findings, it was determined that the City would not install LifeVacs at that time. Therefore, no further action was required other than a watching brief.
6.	What would be the priority areas within City managed facilities where LifeVac devices would be most beneficial?	Should this Notice of Motion be approved by Council, the recommended City managed facilities will be determined as part of an investigation, and best placement of the devices.

## 19.2 Notice of Motion - Appointment of Additional Members to the CEO Performance Review Committee

The following Notice of Motion was submitted in accordance with clause 4.12 of the *Standing Orders Local Law 2009*.

<b>Councillor</b>	Councillor Raj Doshi	
<b>Date Received</b>	23 February 2026	
<b>Motion</b>	That Council <u>APPOINT</u> the following additional members to the CEO Performance Review Committee:	
	<b>Member Name</b>	<b>Appointment Expiry</b>
	Cr Catherine Lezer	16 October 2027
	Cr Raj Doshi	16 October 2027
	Chief People Officer	16 October 2027
<b>Reasons Provided</b>	<p>The CEO Performance Review Committee is established to oversee the annual performance review of the Chief Executive Officer fairly and in accordance with statutory obligations under the Local Government Act 1995 (WA).</p> <p>Expanding the Committee to include Councillors Lezer and myself ensures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broader representation of Council in the CEO review process;</li> <li>• Transparency and accountability consistent with governance principles;</li> <li>• Compliance with City of Perth policies and the Local Government Act 1995.</li> <li>• I was on this committee for two years with 100% attendance to all meetings and workshops.</li> <li>• WALGA notes there is no reason the Head of Human Resources could not also be a member of the CEO Performance Review Committee (CEOPR), recognising the value of HR expertise in the review process.</li> </ul>	

## Administration Response to Notice of Motion

Responsible Officer	Michelle Reynolds – Chief Executive Officer
Voting Requirements	Absolute Majority
Attachments	Nil.

### Discussion

1. The administration **supports** this Notice of Motion as it is:
  - a. Supported by an entitlement under the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act)
  - b. Meets the requirements of the Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination
  - c. Supported by findings arising from the Report of the Inquiry into the City of Perth (the Inquiry).
  - d. Supported by the Psychosocial Risk Assessment Report (the Report) Findings received by Council on 24/25 February 2026.

#### Entitlement under the *Local Government Act 1995*

2. Section 5.9 of the Act permits Council to establish committees comprising of council members and employees and therefore an appointment of the Chief People Officer to the CEO Performance Review Committee is permitted.
3. Section 5.10(2) of the Act provides that each Council Member is entitled to membership on at least one committee comprising either Council Members only, or Council Members and employees, for which they have nominated.
4. Councillors Doshi and Lezer are not currently members of such a committee and are therefore entitled to appointment. Appointing them to this Committee would represent a risk-averse approach and ensure compliance with the Act.

#### The Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination

5. Council adopted the Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination on 25 May 2021.
6. The Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination provide that:
  - a. A review of the performance of the CEO by the local government must be carried out in an impartial and transparent manner.
  - b. The local government must —
    - i. collect evidence regarding the CEO's performance in respect of the contractual performance criteria and any additional performance criteria in a thorough and comprehensive manner; and
    - ii. review the CEO's performance against the contractual performance criteria and any additional performance criteria, based on that evidence.
7. These requirements align with established people management principles. The involvement of a Chief People Officer supports Council's awareness and application of these principles and assists in ensuring the CEO performance review process is conducted fairly, consistently, and impartially.

### Findings arising from the Report of the Inquiry into the City of Perth (2020)

8. The Inquiry emphasised that the CEO performance assessment process should be managed appropriately and in accordance with sound people management principles and should be transparent and incorporate input from relevant stakeholders, including Council Members and the City's senior managers.
9. The Inquiry found that council members assessed the CEO's performance based on their subjective opinions and had regard to inappropriate considerations (Finding 2.3.1-1).
10. Including the Chief People Officer as a member of the Committee supports these principles by providing specialist people management expertise and assisting Council to ensure the process is fair, transparent, and appropriately managed.

### Recommendations of the Psychosocial Risk Assessment Report

11. Recommendation 3 of the Psychosocial Risk Assessment Report (the Report), received by Council on 24/25 February 2026, recommends that witness or support persons be available for relevant interactions between administrative staff and elected members.
12. As observed during the Chief Executive Officer Performance Review on 9 February 2026, the removal of staff members who are able to support the Chief Executive Officer (while permissible under the *Standing Orders Local Law 2009*) does not align with the outcomes and findings of the Psychosocial Risk Assessment Report.
13. The presence of the Chief People Officer during these meetings provides an appropriate witness to such interactions and is consistent with the policies and procedures implemented in response to the Psychosocial Risk Assessment Report.
14. Further, Recommendation 6 of the Report calls for mechanisms to ensure appropriate voice for all parties and timely intervention where proceedings become harmful. The Chief People Officer possesses the professional expertise to identify when such interventions are required and to support their appropriate application.

### Decision Implications

15. If Council support this Notice of Motion, there will be alignment with both the recommendations of the Psychosocial Risk Assessment Report and statutory committee membership entitlements under the Act.

### Strategic, Legislative and Policy Implications

Strategic Community Plan	
Strategic Pillar (Objective)	Well Governed
Related Documents (Issue Specific Strategies and Plans):	Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination Psychosocial Risk Assessment Report Report of the Inquiry into the City of Perth

Legislation, Delegation of Authority and Policy	
Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
Authority of Council/CEO:	Council
Policy:	Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination

Financial Implications

Nil.

Further Information

16. Nil.

### 19.3 Notice of Motion - Advocacy on Temporary Graduate (Subclass 485) Visa Fee Increase

The following Notice of Motion was submitted in accordance with clause 4.12 of the *Standing Orders Local Law 2009*.

<b>Councillor</b>	Councillor Lisa Ma
<b>Date Received</b>	13 March 2026
<b>Motion</b>	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>NOTES</u> that the Australian Government has increased the Temporary Graduate (Subclass 485) visa application charge from AUD \$2,300 to AUD \$4,600, effective 1 March 2026, with limited notice to affected cohorts and may create additional financial pressure for international graduates at the point of course completion and workforce transition.</li> <li>2. <u>ACKNOWLEDGES</u> the importance of international students and graduates to the City of Perth’s social, cultural and economic life, including their contribution to the vitality of the CBD, local businesses and the future workforce.</li> <li>3. <u>SUPPORTS</u> advocacy for the reversal of the Temporary Graduate (Subclass 485) visa application fee increase.</li> <li>4. <u>REQUESTS</u> the CEO to refer this matter through established local government advocacy channels, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the Council of Capital City Lord Mayors (CCCLM) and the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) for consideration as part of coordinated local government advocacy regarding international student policy settings; and</li> <li>b. the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) to determine whether the matter warrants national local government advocacy to the Commonwealth.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>Reasons Provided</b>	<p>The Temporary Graduate (Subclass 485) visa is a key post-study work pathway for international students who have completed their studies in Australia. The visa application charge has doubled from AUD \$2,300 to AUD \$4,600 effective 1 March 2026. For many students who have already invested significant time, effort and financial resources into studying here, such a sudden change can create uncertainty and place additional financial strain at a critical transition point in their lives.</p> <p>International students contribute greatly to Australia’s communities, not only economically, but also socially, culturally and academically. In our City of Perth, they form an important part of the vibrancy of our universities, local businesses and broader community life.</p> <p>A number of university student guilds and representative bodies across Australia have spoken out about the increase and advocated for its reconsideration, including student representatives at institutions such as the University of Western Australia, Curtin University, Murdoch University as well as the National Union of Students, the peak</p>

representative body for tertiary students nationwide (see attachment).

This motion enables Council to take a measured advocacy position consistent with the City's role as the capital city and a major destination for international students, recognising their contributions while advocating for fairness, consultation and policy stability.

## Administration Response to Notice of Motion

<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Kelly Townson – General Manager Engagement and Activation
<b>Voting Requirements</b>	Simple Majority
<b>Attachments</b>	Attachment 19.3A – Attachment to Notice of Motion - Cr Lisa Ma <a href="#">↓</a>

### Discussion

1. The Administration supports the recommendations of the Notice of Motion.
2. This issue is relevant to the City as it affects the performance of the City economy and achievement of objectives articulated in the current Strategic Community Plan and Economic Development Strategy. As the issue falls outside of the direct responsibilities of Local Government, it is appropriate for the Council to form an advocacy position.
3. City advocacy is expected to be most effective when delivered via established partners and/or Local Government advocacy channels such as CCCLM, ALGA and WALGA. These organisations regularly undertake coordinated advocacy to the Federal Government on national policy matters such as the matter raised in this Notice of Motion. Federal Government is more likely to respond positively to collective national advocacy rather than a single capital city council.

### Decision Implications

4. If Council supports the recommendation, the Administration will liaise with all relevant external bodies including ALGA, CCCLM and WALGA regarding the matters outlined in the Notice of Motion.
5. If Council does not support the recommendation, no further work will be undertaken in relation to this matter.

### Strategic, Legislative and Policy Implications

Strategic Community Plan	
<b>Strategic Pillar (Objective)</b>	Prosperous
<b>Related Documents (Issue Specific Strategies and Plans):</b>	Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032 Strategic goal P1 – A smart and innovative city on a strong growth path. Strategic goal P2 – Job rich with economic sector development and thriving small businesses.

Legislation, Delegation of Authority and Policy	
<b>Legislation:</b>	Nil.
<b>Authority of Council/CEO:</b>	Council
<b>Policy:</b>	Nil

## Financial Implications

Nil.

## Further Information

6. International education is a significant contributor to the development of the city economy, both in a short-term and longer-term sense: an international student adds an estimated \$40,000 per annum to the city economy.
7. In the longer-term (once their studies are complete), many international students remain in Australia (and in Perth), adding to the city's knowledge-based workforce and economic diversification objectives.
8. Increasingly, international students are studying and living in the city:
  - a. According to the Department of Education, there are an estimated 20,000 international students studying within the City of Perth boundaries.
  - b. There are between 5,000 and 5,500 student beds in the City's boundaries currently and more than 7,000 additional student beds in the development pipeline.
9. Question and response forming part of the Agenda Briefing Session on 24 March 2026 are as follows:

Question	Response
Please provide benchmarking of other VISA types and the change in fees	Please see table below.

VISA type	Current year fee	Last year fee	% change
Student visa (Subclass 500) – international students	\$2,000	\$1,600	+25%
<b>Temporary Graduate visa (Subclass 485) – post-study work</b>	<b>\$4,600</b>	<b>\$2,300</b>	<b>+100%</b>
Working Holiday (417/462) – youth mobility	\$670	\$650	+3.1%
Visitor visa (Subclass 600) – tourism/business visit	\$190	\$185	+2–3%
Skilled Independent (Subclass 189) – permanent skilled migration	\$4,765	\$4,640	+2–3%
Employer Sponsored (Subclass 482) – temporary skilled workers	\$1,455 - \$3,035	slightly lower	+2–3%
Partner visa (Subclass 820/801) – family migration	\$9,095	\$8,850	+2–3%
Parent visa (Subclass 143 – contributory)	\$48,500+	slightly lower	+2–3%
<b>Average (typical non-student visas)</b>	—	—	<b>+2–3%</b>

Average (including student + 485)	—	—	+15–25%
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10. Questions and Responses forming part of the Agenda Briefing Session on 24 March 2026 are as follows:

	Question	Response
1.	Whether one avenue of advocacy could be for Perth (as a regional area) to retain the lower visa fee or be treated as a separate zone for Subclass 485 visa purposes.	<p>Perth receiving differentiated treatment based on regional category status from the Federal Government is not unprecedented, given its currently recognised through several migration programs, including skilled points and visa concessions.</p> <p>However, introducing regional-specific visa fees could run against the Government’s current approach for simpler, more uniform national fee structures.</p> <p>The current motion provides a broad remit for the CEO to refer the matter to local government advocacy channels including CCCLM, WALGA and ALGA, with the DLM’s suggestion incorporated into those discussions. If Council decides to amend the current motion, it may likely be opposed by other Capital city delegates that do not share the same regional category status.</p>











20. Matters for which the meeting may be closed

Nil.

21. Urgent Business

22. Closure