

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2026



COUNCIL GRANTS PROGRAMS – OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

Applications for Council's grants programs are open from Monday 6 July 2026 and **close 11:59pm on Monday 31 August 2026**.

For more information about these grants, to read their guidelines or to apply, scan the QR codes below.

BUSINESS BOOST GRANTS

The **Business Boost Grants Program** (previously *Business Assistance Grants program*) provides financial assistance to support local businesses to establish, grow and improve their contribution to Hindmarsh Shire's town centres and local economy.

This program has two funding streams:

- **Focus on Facade:** provides funding up to \$3,000 (1:2 co-contribution) to help businesses and landlords improve shopfronts and building façades.
- **Start and Grow:** provides funding up to \$2,000 (1:2 co-contribution) to support a wide range of business types, including home-based businesses, agricultural and rural enterprises, and other non-retail or emerging sectors.

Contact us: (03) 5391 4444 or business@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au



APPLY NOW

Scan the QR code for more information



CONNECTED COMMUNITIES GRANTS

The **Connected Communities Grants Program** (previously *Community Action Grants Program*) aims to strengthen community wellbeing, inclusion and participation by supporting local groups to deliver activities, programs and events that bring people together.

This program has four funding streams:

- **Active Communities:** provides funding up to \$1,500 to support sports and recreation initiatives that align with Council's plans, strategies and Fair Access Principles.
- **Social Communities:** provides funding up to \$2,000 to support events and activities that bring people together.
- **Creative Communities:** provides funding up to \$1,500 to support arts and culture and projects, programs or activities that celebrate creativity.
- **Resourced Communities:** provides funding up to \$500 to support community groups that require resources to enable meaningful community activities.

Contact us: (03) 5391 4444 or community@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au



APPLY NOW

Scan the QR code for more information

REGIONAL EVENTS SPONSORSHIP

The **Regional Events Sponsorship Framework** (previously *Regional Community Events Grant Program*) supports high-quality events that attract visitors, stimulate local economic activity and showcase the unique character of Hindmarsh Shire.

The Program has one funding stream:

- **Event sponsorship** of up to \$7,500 to assist event organisers in delivering regionally significant events that enhance tourism, strengthen community pride and contribute to the vibrancy of our towns. The total amount requested through the grant process must not be more than half of the total event cost.

Contact us: (03) 5391 4444 or tourism@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au



APPLY NOW

Scan the QR code for more information



HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL 2026/2027 BUDGET ADOPTED

At the meeting held on Wednesday 24 June 2026, Hindmarsh Shire Council adopted its Annual Budget, incorporating the Revenue and Rating Plan, for the 2026/2027 financial year.

The **total amount to be raised by general rates and charges in 2026/2027 is \$10.63m** which is an increase of \$0.285m from 2025/2026.

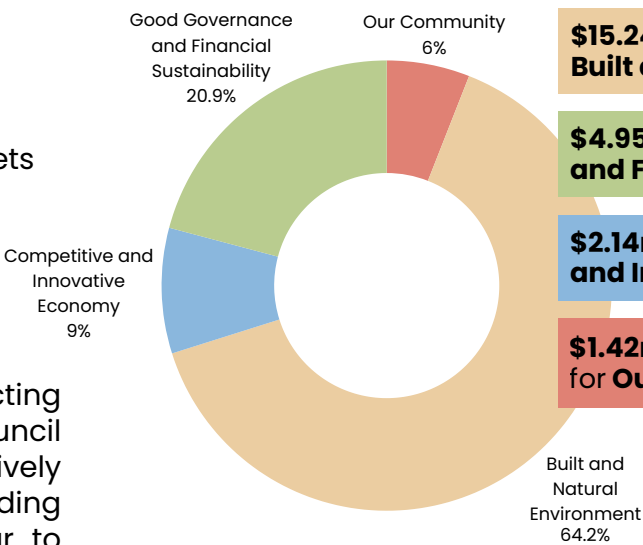
One of the key focuses of this annual budget – shaped significantly by community consultation – is addressing the priorities identified by our residents. **The community has told us that roads and pedestrian infrastructure are the highest priority**, so Council is **investing \$4.41m** in road construction, resheets, reseals and final seals, kerb and channel, and footpaths (capital works).

The 2026/2027 Annual Budget includes **total capital works expenditure of \$6.435m**. The proposed key initiatives for the 2026/2027 financial year are outlined below.

- **Community Infrastructure**
 - \$430,000 on the Dimboola Pool
- **Infrastructure**
 - \$602,000 on unsealed road construction
 - \$363,000 on shoulder resheets
 - \$2,416,000 on sealed road construction
 - \$572,000 on reseals
 - \$134,000 on drainage
 - \$225,000 on kerb & channel

Despite funding constraints affecting rural councils, Hindmarsh Shire Council remains committed to actively pursuing State and Federal funding opportunities throughout the year to support Council investment in infrastructure, community facilities and economic development initiatives.

Where the money is budgeted to be spent:



\$15.24m on our **Built and Natural Environment**

\$4.95m on **Good Governance and Financial Sustainability**

\$2.14m on creating a **Competitive and Innovative Economy**

\$1.42m on wellbeing services for **Our Community**

VIEW BUDGET
Scan the QR code to view Council's Budget



How does Hindmarsh Compare to other Councils?

	Hindmarsh	Horsham	Ballarat	City of Port Phillip
Revenue	\$22.204m	\$67.44m (25/26)	\$296.45m (25/26)	\$318.88m
Rates and Charges	\$10.630m	\$34.88m (25/26)	\$167.11m (25/26)	\$165.594m
Assets (Infrastructure) per Head of Population*	\$51,354	\$32,709	\$16,731	\$8,796
Average Rates per Assessment*	\$1,660	\$2,228	\$2,086	\$1,764
Kilometres of Road	598 (sealed) 2,590 (unsealed)	1,059 (sealed) 1,924 (unsealed)	1,093 (sealed) 382 (unsealed)	over 300km
Population per Km	1.81	6.81	79.25	418.84
Area (km2)	7,527	4,267	739	20.7

FREE GREEN WASTE MONTH THIS OCTOBER

Hindmarsh Shire Council is excited to announce **free green waste disposal** at all Transfer Stations during October 2026! **From 1 October 2026 to 31 October 2026**, bring your branches, leaves, and grass clippings to Hindmarsh transfer stations to help clear your property and reduce fire risks before we head into the fire season. This is a great chance to tidy up, enhance our towns, and keep everyone safer!

For more information, please contact Council at (03) 5391 4444 or email info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE

The Infrastructure Services team has been actively delivering on Council's priorities, with a strong focus on completing the 2025/26 Capital Works Program and maintaining our road network to ensure safe and reliable access for our residents.

Looking ahead to the next three months, Council is preparing to commence a number of key infrastructure projects.

A series of **unsealed road resheets** will commence early in the new financial year to improve surface condition, safety and driveability on key rural routes, including:

- **Oak Road**
- **Patterson Road**
- **Gierke Road**
- **Teakles Road**

Council will also begin construction of the **Park Street shared footpath** in Nhill, improving connectivity and providing a safer and more accessible option for pedestrians and cyclists.

The team will continue progressing their work on **Lloyd Street's drainage works** in Dimboola.

A **raised pedestrian crossing and footpath work on Whitehead Avenue** in Nhill is also likely to commence in the next quarter.

COMMUNITY MEETING – DIMBOOLA SWIMMING POOL UPDATE

Hindmarsh Shire Council invites all community members to attend an information session to receive an **update on the Dimboola Swimming Pool Upgrade Project**.

This important project aims to improve the condition, accessibility and long-term sustainability of the Dimboola Swimming Pool for the benefit of the whole community.

Date: Monday 20 July 2026
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Dimboola Library, 101 Lloyd Street

What to Expect

- Project update and current progress
- Key challenges and next steps
- Opportunity to ask questions
- Open discussion with Council representatives

Council is committed to keeping the community informed and engaged as the project progresses, and your input is valued. **All welcome.**

COUNCIL PLAN ACTIONS 26/27

Council adopts a set of annual actions that help us achieve the goals of the Council Plan 2025–2029. Council is due to consider the 2026/2027 (financial year) actions in July 2026.

To access current and past actions and the Council Plan 2025–2029, visit
www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/council-plan

Some of the **proposed actions for 2026/2027** include:

- Implementation of a Playground Strategy;
- Improving engagement with 18–25 year olds;
- Trial community pop-ups to promote Council consultations and projects; and
- Collaborate with community groups to support events for farmers.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Council regularly seeks community feedback on policies, community projects, plans and other Council related matters through community consultations and surveys. Visit:

www.haveyoursay.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

GLASS BIN COLLECTIONS & DROP-OFF POINTS

All purple glass bins within Hindmarsh Shire will be collected on:

- **Friday 25 September 2026**
- **Friday 18 December 2026**

Please put your bins out the night before to ensure collection.

Glass can also be dropped off for FREE at any Hindmarsh Shire Transfer Station or at the following drop-off locations:

- **Antwerp:** Antwerp–Warracknabeal Road, across the road from the CFA shed
- **Kiata:** Off Reserve Road (Bush Track)
- **Netherby:** Corner of School Street and Netherby–Baker Road
- **Yanac:** On Maude Street, opposite CFA



CHANGES TO SUPPORTED PLAYGROUP SESSIONS

As of Term 3, Council has made some changes to how it runs its Supported Playgroup Sessions.

For more information about this, visit
www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/early-years

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIMBOOLA GLOW – A TOWER PARK POP-UP EVENT

Tower Park Dimboola will host the first Winter Glow pop-up event of 2026. Bring your family and friends to a fun community event at a community-owned park.

Enjoy an afternoon and evening of live music from Levi Mellington, food trucks, free glow sticks, kids' activities, a winter fire pit, and late-night shopping at key local retailers.

Saturday 25 July 2026

3:30pm – 7:00pm

Dimboola Tower Park,
116 Lloyd Street, Dimboola

Contact Chan Uoy for more information on 0425 705 591.

THE WIMMERA SHIRAZ AND JAZZ RAIL JOURNEY

Join the Seymour Rail Heritage Centre during **9–12 October 2026** as they bring fully restored locomotives and carriages to the Wimmera Mallee.

The rail journey commences in Seymour and will be traveling through Southern Cross, North Shore, Great Western, Murtoa, Horsham, Dimboola, Nhill, Arkona, Jeparit and Rainbow.

You can book for the whole journey or jump onboard for day trips. Scan the QR codes for more information or to book now!



BOOK NOW



BROCHURE



NHILL CLASSIC MOVIES

Join us at the Nhill Cinema for a classic movie!

Time: Morning tea at 10:00am
Movie at 10:30am

Location: Nhill Memorial Community Centre,
77–79 Nelson Street, Nhill

Cost: Gold coin donation

BEACH PARTY (1963)

Tuesday 21 July 2026

Rated G

LIFE OF PI (2012)

Tuesday 18 August 2026

Rated PG

THE SMALLEST SHOW ON EARTH (1957)

Tuesday 15 September 2026

Rated G

RED DOG (2011)

Victorian Seniors Festival

Tuesday 13 October 2026

Rated PG

YESTERDAY (2019)

Victorian Seniors Festival

Tuesday 27 October 2026

Rated M

MOONSTRUCK (1987)

Tuesday 17 November 2026

Rated PG

NATIVITY (2009)

Tuesday 8 December 2026

Rated G

WOORAK HALL CENTENARY CELEBRATION

You're invited to join in celebrating a remarkable milestone as we commemorate 100 years of the Woorak Hall.

Saturday 8 August 2026

1:00pm – 6:00pm

Woorak Hall,
983 Nhill-Jeparit Road Nhill
Gold coin donation

Afternoon tea provided

Everyone is welcome

Contact Wendy Crowhurst for more information on 0428 387 193

SAVE THE DATE 2026 SENIORS CONCERT

Council is excited to be hosting another Seniors Concert this year as part of the 2026 Seniors Festival!

Be sure to note this event into your calendar.

Thursday 8 October 2026

11:00am–12:00pm

Nhill Memorial Community Centre,
77–79 Nelson Street, Nhill

Stay tuned for more information!

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Hindmarsh Shire Libraries hold a variety of ongoing free activities in their library spaces in Nhill, Dimboola, Rainbow and Jeparit.

Some of these include:

- Nhill Kids Craft Club
- Nhill Writing Hour
- Weekly Cuppa Connections
- Rainbow Crochet Corner
- Story Time in Dimboola & Nhill
- Dimboola Creation Station
- Nhill Get Creative

For more information about these activities, call (03) 5391 4444 or visit your local library.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Hindmarsh Shire Council Meetings are open to members of the public or can be watched live on Council's YouTube channel.

Council meetings will be held at the Nhill Council Chambers, 92 Nelson Street Nhill, from 3pm on the following days:

Wednesday 29 July 2026

Wednesday 26 August 2026

Wednesday 30 September 2026

Wednesday 28 October 2026

For more information, visit:

[www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/
council-meetings](http://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/council-meetings)

For more details, scan the QR code:

