

26 November 2026

MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

Date: Wednesday 25 November 2026
Time: 3:00pm
Venue: Nhill Council Chamber,
92 Nelson Street, Nhill

Council:
Cr Rosie Barker – Mayor
Cr Chan Uoy – Deputy Mayor
Cr Roger Aitken
Cr James Barry
Cr Tony Clark
Cr Ron Ismay

Officers:
Monica Revell – Chief Executive Officer
Petra Croot – Director Corporate & Community Services
Ram Upadhyaya – Director Infrastructure Services

Public Access: This meeting is open to the public and can be attended in-person or viewed online via Live Stream at https://www.youtube.com/@hindmarshshirecouncil.



Cr Rosie Barker – Mayor
West Ward



Cr Chan Uoy – Deputy Mayor
East Ward



Cr Roger Aitken
North Ward



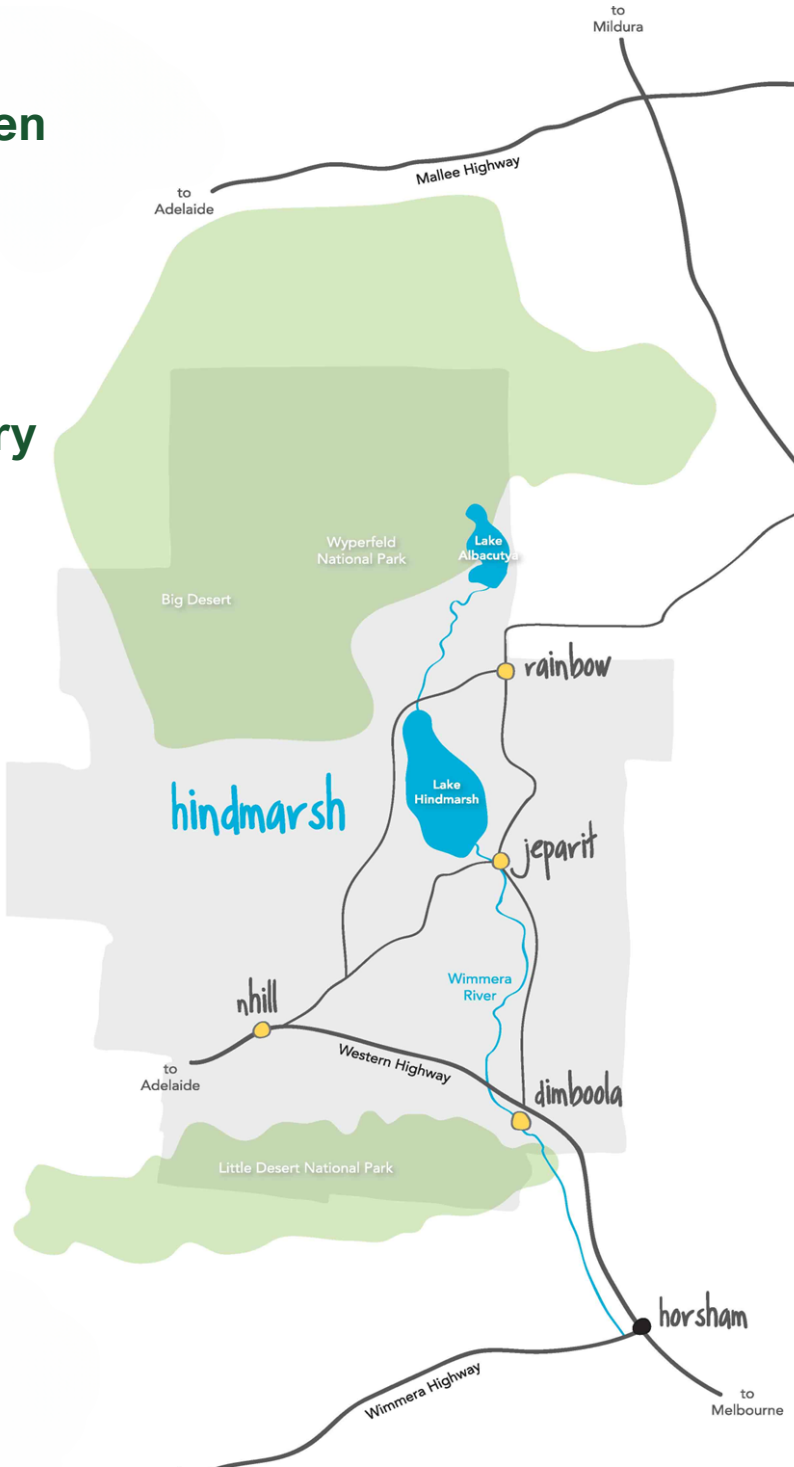
Cr James Barry
East Ward



Cr Tony Clark
North Ward



Cr Ron Ismay
West Ward



Councillor Statement of Values

Our commitment is to come prepared to every meeting, fostering a respectful and inclusive environment where accountability and approachability are at the core of our actions. We value and encourage innovation, collaboration, and open communication, always keeping in mind the well-being and needs of our community. Together, we stand united as one, working towards shared goals with mutual respect and consideration.

Our Vision

Working together to welcome new possibilities and create vibrant towns, connected communities and opportunities for all.

Our Values

We value:

- Engaging, listening and meeting people where they are at
- Doing the best we can with the people and funding that we have
- Showing respect and embracing diversity
- Taking pride in our community and achievements
- Being bold, creative and ambitious

Our Mission

Our mission is to be leaders in creating:

- Positive change
- A safe environment where everyone feels heard and appreciated
- Inclusive consultation

Purpose of Council Meetings

Council conducts its formal decision-making process through Ordinary Meetings of Council and Special Meetings of Council.

Ordinary meetings are held regularly to conduct the ongoing business of the Council and Special meetings are held from time to time for specific purposes.

Council adopts a schedule for its Ordinary Council Meetings annually. This schedule can be found on Council's website www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/Council-meetings.

From time to time the Mayor and Councillors may call a Special Meeting of Council to deal with urgent items. These meetings are generally held at the Council Chambers at the specified time and date advertised in the public notices in local newspapers and on Council's website.

Meetings, or parts of meetings, are only closed to the public when topics of a confidential nature are discussed, such as an individual's personal or financial circumstances, contractual or legal matters. Grounds for closing the meeting are defined in more detail within Section 3(1) and Section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

Before each Ordinary or Special Council Meeting an Agenda is prepared by the Chief Executive Officer detailing the items that are to be presented to the meeting for Council's consideration and decision.

Copies of agendas are available at Council offices and on Council's website. The decisions of Council become resolutions of Council and are recorded in the official Council Minutes. Except for matters classified as confidential, all Agenda reports, Minutes and recordings of meetings are available on Council's website.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION 7
1.1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY 7
1.2 LIVE STREAMING STATEMENT 7
1.3 STATEMENT OF VALUES 7
2 APOLOGIES 7
3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS 8
4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING 9
4.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES 9
4.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES 10
5 PUBLIC QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME 13
6 ACTIVITY REPORTS 14
6.1 CR ROSIE BARKER, MAYOR 14
6.2 CR CHAN UOY, DEPUTY MAYOR 16
6.3 CR ROGER AITKEN 17
6.4 CR JAMES BARRY 18
6.5 CR TONY CLARK 19
6.6 CR RON ISMAY 20
6.7 MONICA REVELL, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 21
7 CORRESPONDENCE 24
8 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLOR RECORDS 25
9 PLANNING PERMITS 25
10 REPORTS REQUIRING A DECISION 26
10.1 2027 COUNCIL MEETING DATES 26
10.2 LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026-2036 29
10.3 POLICY UPDATES 36
10.4 RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT 42
10.5 REALLOCATION OF 2026/2027 PLANT REPLACEMENT BUDGET 46

11 COUNCIL COMMITTEES 51

11.1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE 51

11.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEES 52

11.3 COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES 54

12 LATE REPORTS 56

13 NOTICES OF MOTION 56

14 OTHER BUSINESS 56

15 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS 57

16 LATE CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS 58

17 MEETING CLOSE 58

In Attendance:

Councillors:
Cr Rosie Barker (Mayor), Cr Chan Uoy (Deputy Mayor), Cr Roger Aitken, Cr James Barry, Cr Tony Clark and Cr Ron Ismay.

Officers:
Ms Monica Revell (Chief Executive Officer) all items excluding 15.1 and 15.2, Ms Petra Croot (Director Corporate and Community Services), Mr Ram Upadhyaya (Director Infrastructure Services) and Ms Mary-Ann Speakman (Customer Service and Councillor Support Officer).

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Cr Rosie Barker, Mayor, opened the meeting at 3:00pm and read the Acknowledgement of Country.

1.2 LIVE STREAMING STATEMENT

Cr Rosie Barker read the Live Streaming Statement.

1.3 STATEMENT OF VALUES

Cr Ron Ismay read the Councillor Statement of Values.

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2 APOLOGIES

No apologies.

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3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

A Councillor or Officer with a conflict of interest in an item on the Agenda must indicate that they have a conflict of interest by clearly stating:

- the item for which they have a conflict of interest;
- whether their conflict is ***general*** or ***material***; and
- the circumstances that give rise to the conflict of interest.

Declaration of material or general conflict of interest must also be advised by Councillors and Officers at the commencement of discussion of the specific item.

Monica Revell declared a material conflict of interest in item 15.1 as it relates to her employment.

Monica Revell declared a general conflict of interest in item 15.2 as one of the tenderers may have a family connection to her brother-in-law.

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4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28 October 2026 and the Annual Statutory Meeting held on Wednesday 18 November 2026 at the Nhill Council Chamber, 92 Nelson Street, Nhill, as circulated to Councillors be taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: Cr T Clark/Cr R Aitken

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28 October 2026 and the Annual Statutory Meeting held on Wednesday 18 November 2026 at the Nhill Council Chamber, 92 Nelson Street, Nhill, as circulated to Councillors be taken as read and confirmed.

CARRIED

Attachments:

1. CONFIDENTIAL - 2026 10 28 Council Minutes [**4.1.1**]
2. MEDIA - 2026 10 28 Council Minutes [**4.1.2**]
3. MEDIA - 2026 11 18 Annual Statutory Minutes [**4.1.3**]

4.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Council Meeting	Recommendation Action	Action Taken	Complete / In Progress / Delayed
01 April 2026 Item 10.1	Council officers to engage a suitable consultant to prepare the Investment Attraction Prospectus and develop investor-ready materials.	Council officers are reviewing the project plan for the Investment Attraction Prospectus in line with submitted RFQs and planning considerations.	In Progress
30 September 2026 Item 10.2	The draft Long Term Financial Plan is being presented to Council for adoption at the 25 November 2026 Council meeting.	The draft Long Term Financial Plan was published on Council's 'Have Your Say Hindmarsh' page for community consultation from 1 October 2026 to 30 October 2026. The draft Long Term Financial Plan is being presented to Council for adoption at the 25 November 2026 Council meeting.	Complete
30 September 2026 Item 10.7	Council officers to prepare signage for installation at the Nhill Customer Service Centre.	Signage has been delivered and installed at the Nhill Customer Service Centre and key sites within the Shire.	Complete
28 October 2026 Item 10.1	The Annual Report 2025/2026 to be published on Council's website, with communications prepared for newspapers, social media and newsletters. Copies to be made publicly available in each Customer Service and Library Centre.	The Annual Report has been published on Council's website with communications published on Council's website, newspapers, social media and newsletters. Copies have been printed for each Customer Service Centre Library.	Complete
28 October 2026 Item 10.2	The Quarterly Performance Report for Q1 2026/2027 to be published on Council's website as a media release and communications for newsletter and social media prepared.	The Quarterly Performance Report for Q1 2026/2027 has been published on Council's website and communications have been circulated in Council's newsletters and on Council's social media.	Complete
28 October 2026 Item 10.3	The draft Privacy and Data Protection Policy to be made	The draft Privacy and Data Protection Policy	In Progress

Council Meeting	Recommendation Action	Action Taken	Complete / In Progress / Delayed
	available for community feedback on Council's 'Have Your Say Hindmarsh' page.	has been published on Council's 'Have Your Say Hindmarsh' submission platform with consultation ending on 27 November 2026.	
28 October 2026 Item 10.6	The signed delegation (S11A) to be provided to MPP for actioning. Council officers to update the Instrument of Delegations Summary on Council's website.	Signed delegation provided to Manager People and Performance and actioned. Delegations Summary updated on Council's website.	Complete
28 October 2026 Item 10.7	Council officers to submit an application for a Raised Pedestrian Crossing at Ellerman Street Dimboola to SLRSP.	Council officers have submitted the application.	Complete
28 October 2026 Item 10.8	The disposal of surplus lands and buildings to be made available for community feedback on Council's 'Have Your Say Hindmarsh' page.	The disposal of surplus lands and buildings consultation opportunities have been published on Council's 'Have Your Say Hindmarsh' submission platform with consultation closing on 27 November 2026.	In Progress
28 October 2026 Item 10.9	The revised Building and Management Plant and Asset Management Policy to be made available for community consultation on Council's 'Have Your Say Hindmarsh' page.	The draft Building and Management Plan and revised Asset Management Policy have been published on Council's 'Have Your Say Hindmarsh' submission platform with consultation closing on 26 November 2026.	In Progress
28 October 2026 Item 10.10	Council officers to submit an application to the Department of Transport and Planning for a seasonal speed reduction on the Western Highway, Nhill.	Council officers have submitted the application and it is currently being assessed.	Complete
28 October 2026 Item 10.11	Council officers to advertise approved changes and service levels for Hindmarsh Pools for the 2026/2027 season.	Service levels for Hindmarsh Outdoor Pools for the 2026/2027 season have been advertised on Council's website and on Council's social media.	Complete

Council Meeting	Recommendation Action	Action Taken	Complete / In Progress / Delayed
28 October 2026 Item 10.12	Council officers to submit applications under Flexible Local Transport Solution Program (FLTSP) for: • Church Street and James Street Footpath Connection project, Nhill • Pedestrian Crossovers Ramp Upgrade project, Rainbow	Council officers currently in discussion with FLTSP regarding the submission of applications.	In Progress
28 October 2026 Item 11.1	Council officers to publish minutes for the following Advisory Committees on Council's website: • Hindmarsh Pride • Nhill Township • Jeparit Township Prepare letters to each nominee for the Hindmarsh Shire Community Panel.	Minutes for the Advisory Committees have been published on Council's website. Letters have been prepared and sent to the nominees regarding their nomination to join the Hindmarsh Pride Community Panel.	Complete
28 October 2026 Item 10.12	Council officers to prepare a letter to Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum regarding their outcome to allocate funds.	Correspondence has been sent to Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum regarding the outcome of their request to allocate funds.	Complete

5 PUBLIC QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

Community members wishing to ask questions at council meetings may do so, in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the council meeting. Both the question and answer will be read out at the meeting. Questions may be submitted by mail, email info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au or delivered in person to a council customer centre but are limited to two questions and 100 words including any pre-amble. Offensive, trivial and repetitive questions, questions which have been recently answered, or questions that may contain defamatory comments, may be excluded at the discretion of the Mayor.

The question must be accompanied by a name and the locality where the questioner resides or works, which will be read out at the meeting. By submitting a question, the questioner gives consent to this information being read out in public. Anonymous questions will not be answered.

No public questions or submissions received.

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6 ACTIVITY REPORTS

COUNCILLOR ACTIVITIES: 20 October 2026 to 16 November 2026

6.1 CR ROSIE BARKER, MAYOR

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
20/10/2026	National Party Funding Announcement	Nhill	Emma Kealy announcement to contribute to the Nhill Sporting Club new clubrooms.
20/10/2026	National Party Funding Announcement	Jeparit	Emma Kealy announcement to contribute and advocate for an On-site Kindergarten at the Jeparit Primary School to use excess classrooms that aren't being utilised presently.
20/10/2026	Citizenship Ceremony	Nhill	Welcoming a number of new citizens to the area.
20/10/2026	Farmers Consultation – Jeparit	Jeparit	Great to meet all the farmers from the region and hear their concerns.
23/10/2026	Mentoring Session	Online	Met with Karen Foster, Mentor.
23/10/2026	Dimboola Ski Club Event	Dimboola	Celebration to recognise life members and volunteers that contribute to the Dimboola Ski Club.
24/10/2026	Hopeful Diamond Caper	Rainbow	Enjoyed this fabulous play presented by the 2026 Rainbow Players.
25/10/2026	Nhill Lions Garden Walk	Nhill	Wonderful presentation of local gardens, small market and wonderful Devonshire Tea in the Lions Den along with the Nhill Button Accordion Band.
26/10/2026	National Party Funding Announcement	Horsham	Emma Kealy announcing $30 million for local Mental Health, this is per the advocacy that we have been working on to reflect the Royal Commission promises – no matter your postcode.
28/10/2026	Meeting with CEO and Mayor	Nhill	Review and discussion for the October Council meeting.
28/10/2026	Meeting with Director Infrastructure Services	Nhill	Review and discussion for the October Council meeting.
28/10/2026	Council Briefing	Nhill	Discussions around decisions for future Council meetings.
28/10/2026	Council Meeting	Nhill	Noted the Annual Report for 2025/2026 and the first quarterly report for 2026/2027. Items were adopted for community consultation included policies, disposal of assets and vacant land surplus to Council's needs.

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
29/10/2026	Rural Councils Victoria AGM	Online	Review and vote on the presentation of the RCV Financial and Management reports.
30/10/2026	Stereogrind Café	Dimboola	Visit and celebrate the opening of the new café in Dimboola, very retro and fun.
02/11/2026	ALGWA Victoria Executive Meeting	Online	Review and discuss forward plans for the association.
03/11/2026	Nhill Town Committee	Nhill	Meeting with committee members to make decisions about future community events, funding and plans.
04/11/2026	Meeting with CEO	Nhill	Discussion about future planning for Hindmarsh Shire Council.
05/11/2026	ALGWA Victoria Committee Meeting	Online	Committee meeting to organise future plans to support women in Local Government.
06/11/2026	Channel 7 Documentary on Helen of Nhill	Nhill	Met media at the Nhill Train Station to help Helen of Nhill to promote our community.
07/11/2026	Dame Agatha's Greatest Case	Nhill	Nhill Piggery Lane Players put on a wonderful engaging performance.
09/11/2026	Wimmera Southern Mallee Region Health Department	Online	Mental Health advocacy.
09/11/2026	Nhill and District Sporting Club AGM	Nhill	Review of the year including financial insight and noting management changes for the club.
11/11/2026	Audit and Risk Committee	Online	Review and discussion of current risk levels, finances and governance concerns with auditors and committee members.
11/11/2026	Presentation at Nhill Lutheran College	Nhill	CEO, Monica Revell and I, met with Grade 4, 5 and 6 students to discuss Local Government and it's role in the community.
11/11/2026	Māori/New Zealand Cultural Input	Nhill	Meeting with Nan Da San to discuss Māori/New Zealand Cultural Significance for the development of the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Calendar.
13/11/2026	Local Leaders Series	Online	Discuss Leadership challenges with a focus on community and collaboration.
15/11/2026	Nhill Lions Market	Nhill	Met with community members and utilised the 'Out and About' van, which was a great talking point.

6.2 CR CHAN UOY, DEPUTY MAYOR

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
23/10/2026	Uniting Church Sale Fundraiser	Jeparit	Photoshoot with local newspaper to promote the community fundraising efforts to buy the church.
23/10/2026	Dimboola Ski Club's 52nd Anniversary	Dimboola	Celebrated life members and volunteers as well as the founding of the Dimboola Ski Club.
24/10/2026	The Hopeful Diamond Caper	Rainbow	It was great to see Cr Tony Clark as the captain of the ship.
26/10/2026	Mentoring with Karen Foster	Online	What makes a good Mayor: Governance Knowledge, Poclitical Intelligence & Emotional Intelligence.
28/10/2026	CEO Employment Remuneration Committee Meeting	Nhill	
28/10/2026	Council Briefing	Nhill	
28/10/2026	Council Meeting	Nhill	
28/10/2026	Hindmarsh Pride Meeting	Online	So Last Century event planning.
04/11/2026	Cambodian Cultural Input	Nhill	Meeting with Nan Da San to discuss Cambodian Cultural Significance for the development of the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CLAD) calendar. There are many overlapping celebrations across Cambodia, Thailand and Myanmar.
05/11/2026	Ready Together: Connecting Communities before Emergencies	Horsham	Hosted by Sara Barron from WSMD, this forum covered five Shires and it's about assisting multicultural communities to be ready together for the fire season.
06/11/2026	Channel 7 News Filming at Nhill Train Station	Nhill	Helen of Nhill and Hindmarsh Shire greeted reporter, Alex Cullan and his family at the Nhill Train Station, for an upcoming news story on Nhill.
10/11/2026	Presentation on Dimboola at GWMT	Melbourne	Updated the marketing team on Dimboola's transformation.
11/11/2026	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting	Online	Understanding the Risk Management Framework, Business Continuity Plan and AI usage.
11/11/2026	Hindmarsh Pride Committee	Online	So Last Century event planning.

6.3 CR ROGER AITKEN

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
20/10/2026	Rainbow Archive and Historical Society and Museum Open Day	Rainbow	
20/10/2026	Jeparit Primary School Funding Announcement	Jeparit	
20/10/2026	Farmer Consultation – Jeparit	Jeparit	
20/10/2026	Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum	Jeparit	
23/10/2026	Community Information Morning – Sale of St Andrews Uniting Church	Jeparit	
26/10/2026	RSL Meeting	Rainbow	
28/10/2026	Rainbow Neighbourhood House AGM	Rainbow	Thank you to the outgoing committee members for all of your efforts over the last 12 months. Congratulations to the new committee members for taking on their roles.
28/10/2026	Briefing Meeting	Nhill	
28/10/2026	Council Meeting	Nhill	
09/11/2026	Jeparit Town Committee BBQ and members.	Jeparit	
11/11/2026	Remembrance Day	Rainbow	I would like to extend a special thank you to Rainbow P-12 College and the wider Rainbow community for coming together to commemorate Remembrance Day. It was a moving service, and the respect and support shown to honour those who served and those who gave their lives, is greatly appreciated and wonderful to see. Lest we forget.
16/10/2026	Rainbow Town Committee Meeting	Rainbow	

6.4 CR JAMES BARRY

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
21/10/2026	Men's Bus Tour	Natimuk, Horsham and Murtoa	A wonderful day to have the Seniors bus tour organised by Hindmarsh Shire Council and funded by Seniors Victoria. It's great to see events like this that keep our elderly community connected. Visited Natimuk, Horsham and Murtoa.
28/10/2026	Council Briefing	Nhill	
28/10/2026	Council Meeting	Nhill	
05/11/2026	CFA Fire Information Safety Session	Antwerp	Attended by close to 40 farmers, Russell Hunter ran this session aimed at all people on the ground when fire breaks out (farm workers, truck drivers, chaser operators, family members etc) about fire safety. It was an excellent presentation/demonstration on fire safety and the importance of working as a team in a fire event.
05/11/2026	Dimboola Bendigo Bank AGM	Dimboola	Good attendance, Dimboola is lucky to have this banking resource in town.
11/11/2026	Dimboola RSL Remembrance Day Service	Dimboola	
14/11/2026	Dimboola Regatta	Dimboola	

6.5 CR TONY CLARK

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
20/10/2026	Farmer Consultation – Jeparit	Jeparit	
26/10/2026	Friends of Rainbow RSL	Rainbow	
28/10/2026	CEO Employee Remuneration Committee Meeting	Nhill	
28/10/2026	Council Briefing	Nhill	
28/10/2026	Council Meeting	Nhill	
09/11/2026	Jeparit Town Committee Meeting	Jeparit	

6.6 CR RON ISMAY

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
20/10/2026	Emma Kealy Funding Announcement for Davis Park, Nhill	Nhill	Great news as Emma Kealy pledges $3 million for facilities at Davis Park, Nhill.
20/10/2026	Emma Kealy Funding Announcement for Jeparit Primary School	Jeparit	A $300,000 pledge to create a kindergarten at the Jeparit school.
20/10/2026	Citizenship Ceremonies	Nhill	Welcomed six new residents to Hindmarsh Shire.
20/10/2026	Farmer Consultation – Jeparit	Jeparit	Good attendance from local farmers.
22/10/2026	MAV Councillor Service Awards	Melbourne	Received 20 Years of Service Award.
23/10/2026	MAV State Council	Melbourne	
24/10/2026	The Hopeful Diamond Caper	Rainbow	Cr Tony Clark did a magnificent portrayal of a Captain, great performances by all.
26/10/2026	Meeting with Emma Kealy for Mental Health Facilities	Horsham	
28/10/2026	Meeting with CEO	Nhill	
28/10/2026	Briefing Meeting	Nhill	
28/10/2026	Council Meeting	Nhill	
30/10/2026	WSM RTG Meeting	Horsham	
30/10/2026	Tractor Pull / Sand Drags Street Display	Rainbow	
01/11/2026	Sand Drags Event	Rainbow	
03/11/2026	Nhill Town Committee Meeting	Nhill	
06/11/2026	Met with Alex Cullan from Channel 7 at Nhill Train Station	Nhill	
09/11/2026	Nhill Sporting Club AGM	Nhill	
12/11/2026	Mayors Lunch	Horsham	
12/11/2026	WSMCA CEO and Mayors Meeting	Horsham	

6.7 MONICA REVELL, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
20/10/2026	Davis Park Election Announcement	Nhill	Joined Cr Barker, Cr Ismay, NDSC representatives and Emma Kealy MP for an announcement of $3 million funding to upgrade the Clubrooms should the Coalition form government following the November 2026 election.
20/10/2026	Jeparit Primary School Election Announcement	Jeparit	Joined Cr Barker, Cr Ismay, Cr Aitken, Jeparit Primary School Principal, parent representatives and Emma Kealy MP for an announcement of $300k funding to upgrade a room at Jeparit Primary School to establish Kinder within the School should the Coalition form government following the November 2026 election.
20/10/2026	Citizenship Ceremony	Nhill	Congratulations to those awarded their citizenship.
20/10/2026	Jeparit Farmer Consultation Session	Jeparit	A well attended consultation session with valuable discussions held.
21/10/2026	Joint State / Local Government CEO Forum	Online	The last Department of Government Services / Local Government CEO forum for 2026.
22/10/2026	Local Government Renewable Energy Transition Forum	Online	A briefing from VicGrid.
22/10/2026	MAV Councillor Awards Ceremony	Melbourne	Congratulations to Cr Ismay on receiving his 20 year service award.
23/10/2026	MAV State Council	Melbourne	Council's motion regarding advocating for improved mental health services, including a Mental Health Local, was successful with 83% support.
26/10/2026	Mental Health Local Announcement	Horsham	Joined Cr Rosie Barker, Cr Ron Ismay, representatives from neighbouring Shires, representatives from Grampians Community Health, and Emma Kealy MP for an announcement of funding towards the establishment of a Mental Health Local in Horsham should the Coalition form government following the November 2026 election.
27/10/2026	Leadership Team Meeting	Nhill	
28/10/2026	Mayor, Deputy Mayor & CEO Meeting	Nhill	Monthly catch up with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
28/10/2026	CEO Mid-year Review	Nhill	
28/10/2026	Council Briefing and Council Meeting	Nhill	
29/10/2026	Staff Meeting	Nhill	Hybrid Staff meeting providing an update on 28 October Council meeting.
29/10/2026	Meeting with Acting Director Corporate & Community Services	Nhill	
29/10/2026	Meeting with Regional Development Victoria	Nhill	Met with Sarah Henderson to discuss RDV activities and Hindmarsh challenges / opportunities.
29/10/2026	Rural Councils Victoria AGM	Online	Annual General Meeting of Rural Councils Victoria.
30/10/2026 to 3/11/2026	Annual Leave and Public Holiday		
4/11/2026	Meeting with Director Infrastructure Services	Nhill	
4/11/2026	Meeting with Director Corporate & Community Services	Nhill	
4/11/2026	Meeting with Deputy Mayor	Online	
6/11/2026	Land Use Activity Agreement Experience	Online	Wimmera Southern Mallee Council Alliance CEOs and executive meeting with Bendigo City Council on their experience regarding LUAA.
6/11/2026	Overland Train Welcome	Nhill	Joined Cr Ismay and Cr Barker welcoming Alex Cullum (journalist) to Nhill on the Overland Train.
9/11/2026	Meeting with Department of Health	Online	Joined by Cr Barker to discuss regarding Mental Health Services in the Wimmera Southern Mallee.
9/11/2026	Nhill and District Sporting Club AGM	Nhill	Joined Cr Ismay and Cr Barker at the NDSC AGM.
10/11/2026	Meeting with Customer Service & Councillor Support Officer	Nhill	
10/11/2026	Leadership Team Meeting	Nhill	

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
10/11/2026	Meeting with Seymour Heritage Rail	Online	Debrief on the recent Shiraz and Jazz Train visit to the region.
11/11/2026	Audit & Risk Committee	Nhill	
11/11/2026	Wimmera Lutheran School – Nhill Campus	Nhill	Joined Cr Barker to present on Local Government roles and responsibilities to the year 3 and 4 students.
11/11/2026	Nhill Learning Centre AGM	Nhill	
12/11/2026	Meeting regarding Housing in Hindmarsh	Online	Discussion regarding opportunities to facilitate housing development across Hindmarsh Shire.
12/11/2026	Wimmera Southern Mallee Council Alliance CEO Meeting with DEECA Regional Director	Horsham	
12/11/2026	Wimmera Southern Mallee Council Alliance Mayor & CEO Meeting	Horsham	
12/11/2026	Lifeguard Induction	Dimboola	Welcomed the new and returning 2026 Hindmarsh Outdoor Pools lifeguards to the team.
13/11/2026	Rail Freight Alliance Meeting	Online	
13/11/2026	GWM Tourism Interviews	Online	Joined GWM Tourism CEO and Board Chair on interview panel for the Wimmera Mallee Industry Lead position.
13/11/2026	Resource Ready CEO Briefing	Online	Online briefing on the Resource Ready Transport Study procurement scope

7 CORRESPONDENCE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Introduction:
The following correspondence is attached for noting by Council.

Inwards:

- 2026/10/19 - Michaela Settle MP to Council re Jeparit Weir Feasibility Study - (Attachment Number: 7.1.1)
- 2026/10/27 - Wendy Werner to Council re Expenditure of Funds for Firearms Display – WMPM – (Attachment Number: 7.1.2)

Outwards:

- 2026/10/30 - Council to WMPM re Request to Allocate Funds – (Attachment Number: 7.1.3)
- 2026/11/04 - Council to Angela Stewart re Expression of Interest – Community Panel – (Attachment Number: 7.1.4)
- 2026/11/04 - Council to Graham Nuske re Expression of Interest – Community Panel – (Attachment Number: 7.1.5)
- 2026/11/04 - Council to Natalia Aguirre re Expression of Interest – Community Panel – (Attachment Number: 7.1.6)
- 2026/11/19 - Council to Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN re Committee of Management – Withdrawal of Membership – (Attachment Number: 7.1.7)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the attached correspondence.

MOVED: Cr R Aitken/Cr R Ismay

That Council notes the attached correspondence.

CARRIED

8 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLOR RECORDS

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments:

1. 2026 10 28 Assembly of Councillors Record - CEO ERC [**8.1.1**]
2. 2026 10 28 Assembly of Councillors Record [**8.1.2**]
3. 2026 11 18 Assembly of Councillors Record [**8.1.3**]

Introduction:

As required under Section 33(9) of Hindmarsh Shire Council's Governance Rules, the attached Assembly of Councillors Records are presented as attachments to the Council Agenda for the information of Councillors.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the Assembly of Councillor Records as presented.

MOVED: Cr J Barry/Cr C Uoy

That Council notes the Assembly of Councillor Records as presented.

CARRIED

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9 PLANNING PERMITS

No planning permits.

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10 REPORTS REQUIRING A DECISION

10.1 2027 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
Councillor Portfolio: All Councillors
Attachments:
Nil

Executive Summary:
This report seeks Council approval regarding the setting of dates for meetings of Hindmarsh Shire Council in 2027.

Discussion:
Each year, Council advertises the meeting dates for the upcoming 12 months in local newspapers. The advertised dates are for the Council meetings and the Annual Statutory meeting, the latter of which was designated at the 2026 Annual Statutory meeting held on 18 November 2026. It is proposed that Council hold one (1) meeting per month commencing at 3:00pm, except for June where there will be two (2) meetings due to legislative requirements to advertise and adopt the annual budget. The proposed dates are as follows:

- 3 February 2027
- 3 March 2027
- 7 April 2027
- 5 May 2027
- 2 June 2027
- 30 June 2027
- 28 July 2027
- 25 August 2027
- 29 September 2027
- 27 October 2027
- 24 November 2027
- 15 December 2027

Council will continue to livestream Council meetings throughout 2027, which will require that all meetings be held in Nhill. It is proposed that in keeping with practice of other Councils around the state, that Council does not meet in January 2027.

It is recommended that Briefing meetings be held twice per month, two (2) weeks prior to the Council meeting at a time to be determined, and prior to the Ordinary Council meetings, commencing at 12:00pm, or as notified.

Link to Council Plan:
Theme Four: Good Governance and Financial Sustainability

4.1 We are a transparent and responsive organisation.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications for Council regarding setting dates for the meetings of Hindmarsh Shire Council in 2027.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Governance	This decision supports the holding of Council meetings and the making of Council decisions in a manner compliant with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Hindmarsh Shire Council Governance Rules.

Relevant Legislation:

Local Government Act 2020

Community Engagement:

Council will continue to livestream meetings to allow community members who are unable to attend in person the opportunity to view Council meetings.

Gender Equality Implications:

Council has previously completed a Gender Impact Assessment regarding the holding of Council meetings and ensuring that participation in Council meetings is considered against common barriers to participation and access. No updates have been made.

Confidential Declaration:

Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest:

Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Monica Revell, Chief Executive Officer
In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Mary-Ann Speakman, Customer Service and Councillor Support Officer
In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

Council meeting dates will be published in local newspapers, on Council's website and on Council's social media platforms.

Next Steps:

Council Officers to prepare advert and social media posts.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council holds Council meetings at the Hindmarsh Shire Council Chambers, 92 Nelson Street, Nhill, and sets the following times and dates for 2027:

- ***3 February 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***3 March 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***7 April 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***5 May 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***2 June 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***30 June 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***28 July 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***25 August 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***29 September 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***27 October 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***24 November 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***15 December 2027 at 3:00pm***

MOVED: Cr R Ismay/Cr T Clark

That Council holds Council meetings at the Hindmarsh Shire Council Chambers, 92 Nelson Street, Nhill, and sets the following times and dates for 2027:

- ***3 February 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***3 March 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***7 April 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***5 May 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***2 June 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***30 June 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***28 July 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***25 August 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***29 September 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***27 October 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***24 November 2027 at 3:00pm***
- ***15 December 2027 at 3:00pm***

CARRIED

10.2 LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026-2036

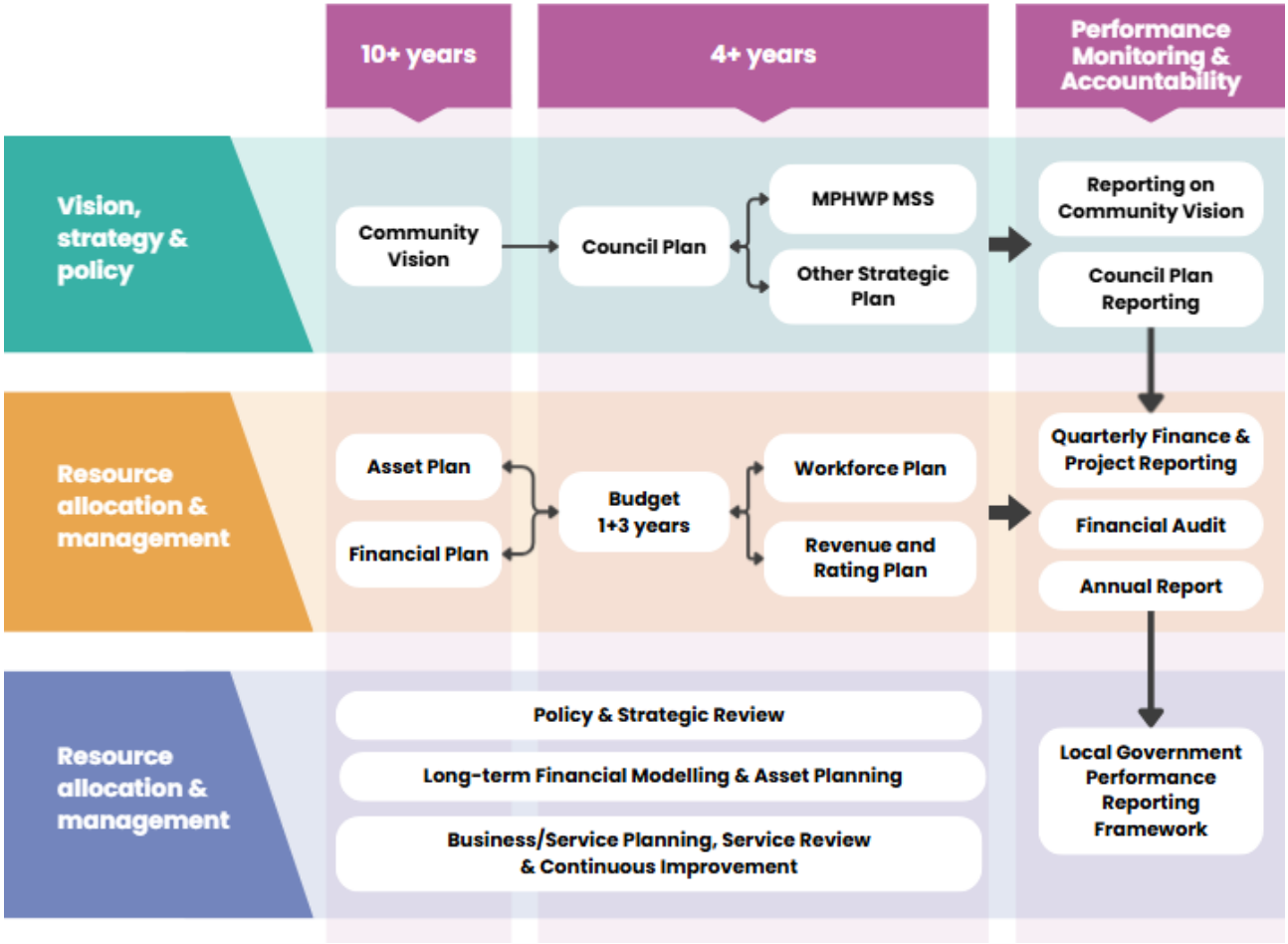
Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services
Councillor Portfolio: Cr Barker
Attachments:
1. DRAFT - Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2036 [**10.2.1**]

Executive Summary:
This report presents the Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2036 (Financial Plan) for adoption following completion of community consultation. The consultation period ran from 1 October 2026 to 30 October 2026 and two responses were received, both of which are set out in the discussion section of the report along with corresponding officer responses. The Financial Plan projects Council's expected income, costs and asset needs over the next ten years and supports responsible financial decisions, service delivery and maintenance of community assets.

The review of the Financial Plan has used the latest financial information, updated asset information and revised depreciation figures. It shows that Council will continue to face financial pressures, including the cost of renewing roads, buildings and other assets, limits on how much rates can increase, and the rising cost of delivering services.

Council will continue to monitor its financial position and take practical steps to support long-term financial sustainability. It is recommended that Council consider the community feedback and officer responses outlined in this report and adopt the Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2036.

Discussion:
Council is required under the *Local Government Act 2020* to prepare and keep a Long Term Financial Plan that sets out how it will manage its finances over at least the next ten years. Long term financial planning is part of all Victorian Local Governments' integrated planning and reporting framework.



The revised Financial Plan has been prepared following a comprehensive review of Council's long-term financial position, incorporating updated financial statements incorporated in the last stages of the 2025/2026 financial audit, revised depreciation calculations, updated asset information and an assessment of future financial sustainability. The review identified several significant challenges facing Council, including increasing depreciation costs, growing asset renewal requirements, rate capping constraints and broader economic pressures affecting operating expenditure. These challenges are consistent with those being experienced across the Victorian local government sector and highlight the need for a proactive and disciplined approach to long-term financial management.

Three scenarios were assessed as part of the development of the Financial Plan.

- Base Case: The current service provision is maintained, and asset renewal outlays are in accordance with the Asset Plan.
- Scenario 1: As for the Base Case but with service provision reduced to a minimum, that meets the community's needs, to achieve a breakeven or better cash result from 2028 onwards.
- Scenario 2: As for the Base Case but with service provision reduced to a minimum, that meets the community's needs, to achieve a breakeven or better underlying result from 2028 onwards.

Based on the financial analysis, the preferred option is Scenario 1, which supports long-term financial sustainability on a cash basis while noting that underlying deficits are still projected in each year. To achieve this outcome, cost savings, revenue increases or a mix thereof will be required to realise $1.8 million of net savings in nominal dollars ongoing over the projection period (i.e., $200,000 per year from 2027/2028 onwards). A debt free position has been maintained over the life of the Financial Plan and asset renewal is in accordance with the Asset Plan but less than depreciation.

The Financial Plan identifies a range of potential financial sustainability opportunities to support this outcome, including service prioritisation, revenue optimisation, operational efficiencies, digital transformation initiatives, asset rationalisation and improvements in asset management practices. Many of these initiatives are already underway and align with Council's broader strategic planning.

While the Financial Plan provides a credible pathway to maintaining financial viability, it also notes that further review will be required following completion of updated asset valuations, condition assessments and a revised Asset Plan. Given the potential for future increases in renewal requirements and depreciation, ongoing monitoring of key financial indicators and regular review of the Financial Plan will be critical to ensuring Council remains financially sustainable and able to continue delivering essential services and infrastructure to the community.

Council officers will use the Financial Plan to inform ongoing financial sustainability planning, including consideration of approaches used by other councils across the sector. This will help translate the Financial Plan's findings into practical efficiency measures and support continued improvement in Council's long-term financial position.

Community consultation outcomes

Community consultation on the draft Financial Plan was undertaken through Have Your Say Hindmarsh from 1 October 2026 to 30 October 2026. The consultation period has concluded and two responses were received. The table below summarises the feedback and Council officer's response:

Community Feedback	Response and Actions
The respondent would like Council to focus on strengthening Jeparit through improved streetscapes, investment in the town's appearance and initiatives that encourage local businesses and community pride. They favoured providing fewer services at a higher standard, while also opposing increased user-pays arrangements for community facilities, noting the importance of keeping facilities affordable and accessible. The respondent does not support the sale of Council assets and	The feedback is acknowledged and highlights the importance of balancing Council's long-term financial sustainability with community access to services, facilities and infrastructure. Decisions regarding service levels, fees and charges, asset renewal, disposal or repurposing need to consider both financial implications and broader community benefit. The suggestions relating to Jeparit's streetscape, facilities and local economic development are valuable considerations

Community Feedback	Response and Actions
instead favours maintaining and repurposing them for future generations. Their vision for 2036 is a strong, healthy community that attracts people to Jeparit and builds local pride.	for future Council planning and investment decisions. The Financial Plan provides a long-term financial framework based on current assumptions and does not determine individual future decisions about service levels, fees, asset disposal or specific capital projects. Accordingly, **no amendment to the Financial Plan is proposed as a result of this submission**. The feedback can instead inform future annual budgets and relevant service, asset and project planning processes.
The respondent provided extensive feedback focused on securing a sustainable and prosperous future for Jeparit. Suggestions included supporting economic development and tourism, improving streetscapes and town entrances, progressing the Jeparit Weir, enhancing the river environment and Wimmera River Discovery Trail, improving the Holiday Park, considering innovative housing opportunities and working with the community to find sustainable uses for Council-owned assets. The respondent expressed strong concern about increased user-pays approaches given socioeconomic disadvantage and advocated for affordable access to facilities and services. They also emphasised meaningful community involvement before decisions are made about the future of Council assets. The respondent's longer-term vision focuses on increasing and diversifying Council revenue through economic development, tourism, housing and business growth, while creating stronger and more inclusive communities. They also raised concerns about future construction cost escalation, inflation, supply-chain pressures, Council's reliance on grant funding, energy and fuel costs, and the currency of asset information underpinning long-term projections. They suggested sustainability initiatives, electric vehicles and greater use of automation as potential	The submission raises a range of strategic issues relevant to Council's future financial sustainability, particularly the importance of revenue diversification, economic and population growth, effective asset management and managing future expenditure pressures. The feedback also highlights that decisions regarding community assets should consider social, community and economic value alongside financial costs and should involve affected communities where appropriate. The concerns regarding inflation, construction costs, grants, fuel and energy expenditure and asset requirements demonstrate the uncertainty inherent in long-term financial forecasting. The Financial Plan is necessarily based on assumptions available at the time it is prepared. These assumptions and Council's actual financial position will continue to be considered through future budgets and subsequent reviews of the Financial Plan. The respondent's suggestions regarding economic development, tourism, housing, community assets, sustainability and technology are broader strategic and operational matters rather than matters requiring amendment to the current Financial Plan. **No change to the Financial Plan is therefore proposed in response to the submission.** Instead, the feedback should be retained to inform future planning, advocacy, investment and budget decisions.

Community Feedback	Response and Actions
opportunities to reduce costs and improve efficiency.	

No subsequent changes have been made to the Financial Plan following consultation, with the officer recommendation being that Council adopted the Financial Plan as attached.

Link to Council Plan:
Theme Four: Good Governance and Financial Sustainability
4.1 We are a transparent and responsive organisation.
4.3 We manage our resources responsibly and strategically.

Financial Implications:
The Financial Plan provides Council with a long-term financial framework to support the delivery of services, infrastructure and strategic objectives over the next ten years. The preferred scenario will require the achievement of ongoing savings, additional revenue, or a combination of both to maintain financial sustainability and preserve Council's financial capacity into the future. The Financial Plan will continue to be reviewed and updated as financial assumptions, asset renewal requirements and operational priorities evolve.

The cost to develop the Financial Plan was within the adopted 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 budgets.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Financial Sustainability	The Financial Plan helps mitigates Council's strategic financial sustainability risk by establishing a ten-year framework to monitor financial performance, identify future financial pressures and guide decisions on service levels, revenue, expenditure and asset investment. The Financial Plan supports proactive financial management and informed decision-making to maintain Council's long-term financial viability.

Relevant Legislation:
Local Government Act 2020
Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020
Local Government Act 1989

Community Engagement:
Community consultation on the draft Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2036 was completed through Have Your Say Hindmarsh from 1 October 2026 to 30 October 2026. Two responses were received. The feedback and corresponding officer responses are addressed in the

Discussion section of this report. No subsequent changes have been made to the Financial Plan.

Gender Equality Implications:
Gender Impact Assessments are required by the *Gender Equality Act 2020* when the project, policy or plan subject to Council decision has a direct and significant impact on the community.

A Gender Impact Assessment is not required as the project does not have a direct and significant impact on the community.

Conflict of Interest:
Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Petra Croot, Director Corporate and Community Services
In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Petra Croot, Director Corporate and Community Services
In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:
Following adoption, the Financial Plan will be published on Council's website and the consultation outcome will be communicated through Have Your Say Hindmarsh. Council's decision and the availability of the adopted Plan will be promoted through Council's communication channels, including social media, newsletters and local media where appropriate.

Next Steps:
Following Council's consideration of the two consultation responses and adoption of the Financial Plan, officers will publish the adopted Plan and communicate the consultation outcome. The Financial Plan will guide ongoing financial sustainability planning, budget preparation and asset management, with financial assumptions and key indicators monitored and reviewed as updated information becomes available.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopts the Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2036 and thanks community members who contributed during the consultation period.

MOVED: Cr J Barry/Cr C Uoy

That Council adopts the Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2036 and thanks community members who contributed during the consultation period.

CARRIED

10.3 POLICY UPDATES

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services
Councillor Portfolio: Cr Barker and Cr Uoy
Attachments:

1. CONFIDENTIAL - HYS Detailed Survey Responses Report Draft Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy [**10.3.1**]
2. DRAFT Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy - 2026 Review [**10.3.2**]
3. DRAFT Human Rights Policy - 2026 Review [**10.3.3**]
4. DRAFT Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Council Meetings Policy - 2026 Review [**10.3.4**]

Executive Summary:
This report presents the *Human Rights Policy*, *Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy* and *Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Council Meetings Policy* for Council adoption following a period of community consultation in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy from 1 October 2026 to 30 October 2026.

The *Human Rights Policy* gives effect to Council's obligations under the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*. The *Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy* sets out Council's commitment to being a welcoming, fair and inclusive organisation and community, and has been further strengthened in section 5 in response to two community submissions. The *Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Council Meetings Policy* governs how Council meetings are live streamed and recorded, and has been updated to strengthen accessibility through closed captions and accessible formats where reasonably practicable.

Two (2) formal responses were received during the engagement period, both relating to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy. Details of the feedback received as well as Officer responses and any amendments to the policies are provided in the discussion section of this report.

Discussion:
This report presents three (3) Council policies for adoption after a period of community engagement.

<u>Human Rights Policy</u>
This Policy has been reviewed in accordance with its review schedule. This policy gives effect to Council's obligations under the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.* No substantial changes have been made to the content policy; however, it has been re-written and restructured to improve how the information flows.

No feedback was received in relation to this policy during the consultation period, and subsequently, no further changes have been made.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy outlines Hindmarsh Shire Council's commitment to being a welcoming, fair and inclusive organisation and community. As the level of government closest to residents, Council has an important role in ensuring everyone can participate in community life, access services, feel safe and be treated with respect. Diversity refers to the visible and invisible differences that make each person unique, including culture, language, ethnicity, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, socioeconomic background, religion and lived experience.

Development of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy was identified as a Council Plan action for 2025/26. The policy supports Council's obligations under the *Local Government Act 202*0 and other relevant legislation, including the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010*, *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*, and *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*. It provides a framework to guide Council's approach to promoting inclusion, addressing barriers to participation, and supporting equitable outcomes for all members of the community.

This draft Policy presents a first step and sets of foundational principles that can be socialised across the organisation and publicised to demonstrate to Council's diverse communities that Council is there to serve them.

Two responses were received during the consultation period, with officer responses and changes to the policy detailed below:

Community Feedback	**Response and Actions**
The respondent described an inclusive Hindmarsh Shire as one where everyone is welcomed and treated equally regardless of race, religion, age, socioeconomic circumstances or sexuality. They expressed concern that racism, sexism and fear of being judged or labelled can discourage people from participating in community life or speaking up. The respondent emphasised the importance of supporting cultural diversity and recommended that the Policy use simple, everyday language and be consistently demonstrated through the actions and behaviours of Council, Councillors and staff.	The Policy already establishes expectations regarding respect and dignity, reducing barriers to participation, cultural safety, staff capability and inclusive behaviour. It also specifically commits Council to providing information in clear, plain English and places responsibilities on Councillors, employees, managers and the Executive Team to support inclusive practices. However, the respondent's comments about ensuring the Policy is "lived" rather than simply stated are important. While these matters are substantially addressed through the Responsibilities section, the Policy could more clearly establish that Council will actively promote a workplace and community environment free from racism and other forms of discrimination. This would strengthen the connection

Community Feedback	Response and Actions
	between the Policy's principles and everyday Council practice. **Proposed Changes** Include a plain-English Policy summary that can be used to develop posters and communication materials (included below). Strengthening section 6, *Commitment*, with the following wording: *Council will actively promote respectful and inclusive behaviours and work to prevent and address racism, discrimination, harassment and exclusion within Council's workplace, services and community-facing activities.*
1 Policy Summary **Respect and dignity** ***Treat everyone with respect.*** Everyone should feel safe, valued and included. **Fair access and participation** ***Remove barriers.*** Make it easier for everyone to access services, jobs and community life. **Continuous improvement** ***Keep improving.*** Learn, adapt and improve as our community's needs change. **Evidence-informed practice** ***Make informed decisions.*** Use data, legislation, good practice and community feedback to guide our work. **Participation and collaboration** ***Work together.*** Partner with our community, organisations and government to create more inclusive outcomes.	
The respondent focused on physical accessibility for people with disability, older residents and people using wheelchairs, mobility scooters or walking aids. They identified barriers including steps into businesses, difficult kerbs and crossings, inaccessible gravel paths, insufficient accessible seating and picnic facilities, and gaps in footpath infrastructure. The respondent suggested that accessibility should be considered from the beginning of future Council projects and raised the potential for grants to encourage businesses to improve accessibility. They also requested clearer detail in the Policy	The feedback is acknowledged and highlights the practical importance of considering accessibility in Council infrastructure, public spaces, services and project planning. The draft Policy already identifies disability within its definition of diversity, commits Council to reducing barriers to participation, and requires community-facing activities to consider disability access. It also identifies the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* as relevant legislation. The submission nevertheless identifies an opportunity to make the Policy's commitment to disability inclusion more

Community Feedback	Response and Actions
about how Council will support people with disability and improve accessibility.	explicit. In particular, the current wording refers generally to identifying barriers and exploring improvements but does not clearly state that accessibility should be considered when Council plans or designs facilities, public spaces, services and projects. **Proposed Changes** Strengthening section 6, Commitment, with the following wording: *Council will consider accessibility and the needs of people with disability when planning and delivering services, facilities, public spaces, programs and projects, and will seek to identify and progressively reduce barriers to participation and access.*

The draft Policy has been updated with these changes and is provided as an attachment to this report for Council consideration.

Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Council Meetings Policy

The Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Council Meetings Policy has been reviewed in accordance with its review schedule. The policy has been updated to strengthen accessibility provisions, including the use of closed captions where available and a commitment to providing livestreams and recordings in accessible formats wherever reasonably practicable (s13). Minor spelling, grammar, and phrasing amendments have been made; however, the remainder of the content of the Policy remains relevant and comprehensive.

No feedback was received in relation to this policy during the consultation period, and subsequently, no further changes have been made.

Link to Council Plan:
Theme One: Our Community
1.2 Our towns are inclusive, welcoming and growing.

Financial Implications:
There are no direct financial implications associated with the adoption of the three policies.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Community Needs Governance	The policies mitigate the strategic risks of Community Needs and Governance by strengthening Council's ability to make fair, transparent and inclusive decisions that reflect the needs of the community. The Human Rights and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion policies support equitable access to services, reduce barriers to participation and help ensure Council meets its legislative and human rights obligations. The Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Council Meetings Policy further supports good governance by improving public access to Council decision-making, increasing transparency and strengthening community trust.

Relevant Legislation:
Local Government Act 2020
Equal Opportunity Act 2010
Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006
Disability Discrimination Act 1992
Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014

Community Engagement:
Community consultation on the draft Human Rights Policy, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy, and Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Council Meetings Policy was undertaken from 1 October 2026 to 30 October 2026 in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy. Two formal responses were received, both relating to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy. No responses were received in relation to the other two policies. The feedback, officer responses and resulting amendments to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy are detailed in the discussion section of this report.

Gender Equality Implications:
A Gender Impact Assessment has been completed in relation to this project, policy or plan.

Confidential Declaration:
Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest:
Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Petra Croot, Director Corporate and Community Services
In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Petra Croot, Director Corporate and Community Services
In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:
If adopted, the final policies will be published on Council's website and communicated through Council's usual communication channels, with information presented in a clear and accessible way. The plain-English summary of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy will support the development of posters and communication materials to promote awareness and understanding of Council's commitments.

Next Steps:
If adopted by Council, the final Human Rights Policy, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy, and Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Council Meetings Policy will be published on Council's website and communicated to Councillors, staff and the community.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. ***adopts the Human Rights Policy;***
2. ***adopts the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy; and***
3. ***adopts the Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Council Meetings Policy; and***
4. ***thanks community members who contributed during the consultation period.***

MOVED: Cr T Clark/Cr R Ismay

That Council:

1. ***adopts the Human Rights Policy;***
2. ***adopts the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy; and***
3. ***adopts the Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Council Meetings Policy; and***
4. ***thanks community members who contributed during the consultation period.***

CARRIED

10.4 RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services
Councillor Portfolio: Cr Barker and Cr Uoy
Attachments:
1. DRAFT Risk Appetite and Tolerance Statement - November 2026 Review [**10.4.1**]
2. DRAFT Risk Management Policy - November 2026 Review [**10.4.2**]
3. DRAFT Risk Management Framework - November 2026 Review [**10.4.3**]

Executive Summary:
This report presents the draft Risk Management Framework, Risk Management Policy and Risk Appetite and Tolerance Statement for Council's consideration and endorsement for community consultation from 26 November 2026 to 17 December 2026. The documents were reviewed and endorsed by Council's Audit and Risk Committee on 11 November 2026.

No amendments are proposed to the Risk Appetite and Tolerance Statement, which retains Council's 'cautious' approach to risk tolerance. The Risk Management Policy has been updated to reflect administrative changes in titles and to add volunteers to the scope of the policy. The Risk Management Framework has also been updated with administrative changes, and now notes that Leadership Team reporting of strategic risks will increase to quarterly.

Discussion:
Risk management is an essential part of Council's management and internal control framework. By identifying risks that Council may face, risk management processes aid in addressing the best ways minimise these risks - or the consequence should they occur - and supporting Council's judgement regarding acceptable and unacceptable risk – or 'risk appetite'.

Council (comprising elected Councillors) is responsible for the following risk management areas:

- Being satisfied that strategic risks are identified, controlled, and treated appropriately to achieve Council's strategic objectives.
- Appointing and resourcing the Audit and Risk Committee.
- Providing adequate budget for the financing of risk management including approved risk mitigation activities.
- Receiving reports from the Audit and Risk Committee to ensure that strategic risks are being adequately managed.

Council officers must include consideration of strategic risks in Council reports requiring a decision so that risk management is built in strategic decision-making and can inform Council's deliberation.

The three documents presented in this report have been reviewed by Council officers and endorsed by Council's Audit and Risk Committee on 11 November 2026.

Risk Appetite and Tolerance Statement

First developed in 2024, the Risk Appetite and Tolerance Statement (the Statement) describes how much risk Council is willing to accept in pursuit of our strategic goals. Council adopted this 'cautious' approach to risk tolerance which reflected the need for prudent and conservative planning in an environment where key variables are outside of Council's control, in balance with the need to utilise risk as an opportunity to explore innovative and progressive change to the benefit of our organisation and community.

This cautious approach to risk tolerance remains appropriate and prudent in the current environment within which Council operates. Throughout the review process, it was considered a readable document that clearly sets Councils approach to risk, and as such there are no amendments recommended.

Risk Management Policy

The purpose of the Risk Management Policy is to clearly document Hindmarsh Shire Council's approach to establishing and maintaining effective risk management culture across the organisation in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and the principles and Guidelines set out in the International Risk Management Standard AS ISO 31000:2018.

The Risk Management Policy has been updated to reflect administrative changes in titles along with the addition of volunteers as a specific group covered by the scope of the policy.

Risk Management Framework

The purpose of this Risk Management Framework (Framework) is to outline how Council will implement the process for incorporating organisational risk into Council's overall governance, strategy and planning, management, reporting processes, policies, values and culture. The Framework also expresses Council's overall commitment to developing and maintaining effective risk management strategies. The framework can be used throughout the life of the organisation and can be applied to any activity, including decision-making at all levels.

The framework has been reviewed and administrative changes to titles made. Other improvements include the change of Leadership Team reporting of Strategic Risks to be increased to quarterly to be a true reflection of risk management operation. This does not limit the raising of new risks or controls for discussion outside of these set periods.

Link to Council Plan:
Theme Four: Good Governance and Financial Sustainability
4.3 We manage our resources responsibly and strategically.

Financial Implications:
There are no direct financial implications regarding the endorsement of these policies for a period of community consultation. Risk management activities are funded through existing allocations in Council's adopted 2026/2027 budget.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Governance	Strong risk management policies and procedures ensure effective management of Council's risk environment. These documents ensure that Council is meeting its risk management obligations as a government entity, but also that it is best position to deliver on Council plans, strategies and services by reducing potential liabilities and adverse outcomes.

Relevant Legislation:
Local Government Act 2020

Community Engagement:
Following endorsement by Council, community consultation on the documents contained in this report will be undertaken from 26 November 2026 to 17 December 2026, in line with the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Gender Equality Implications:
Gender Impact Assessments are required by the *Gender Equality Act 2020* when the project, policy or plan subject to Council decision has a direct and significant impact on the community.

The documents do not have a direct and significant impact on the community, therefore a Gender Impact Assessment is not required.

Confidential Declaration:
Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest:
Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Petra Croot, Director Corporate and Community Services
In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Janelle Reichelt, Manager People and Performance
In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:
Following endorsement by Council, the documents will be made available for community consultation in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy on the Have Your Say Hindmarsh page. The draft documents will be promoted via advertisements in local newspapers and publishing the consultation opportunity on Council's Social Media pages.

Next Steps:
Following the community consultation period, a report presenting the feedback received and seeking adoption of the documents will be presented to a future Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorses:
1. ***the draft Risk Management Framework;***
2. ***the draft Risk Management Policy; and***
3. ***the draft Risk Appetite and Tolerance Statement;***

for the purpose of community consultation from 26 November 2026 to 17 December 2026.

MOVED: Cr C Uoy/Cr J Barry

That Council endorses:
1. ***the draft Risk Management Framework;***
2. ***the draft Risk Management Policy; and***
3. ***the draft Risk Appetite and Tolerance Statement;***

for the purpose of community consultation from 26 November 2026 to 17 December 2026.

CARRIED

10.5 REALLOCATION OF 2026/2027 PLANT REPLACEMENT BUDGET

Responsible Officer: Director Infrastructure Services
Councillor Portfolio: Cr Barker
Attachments:
Nil

Executive Summary:
This report seeks Council approval to reallocate $200,000 that is currently allocated for the purchase of a roller in the 2026/2027 Plant Replacement Program.

Operational testing showed that the tow-behind roller is not the most effective use of this funding, so it is proposed that the purchase does not proceed. Instead, $75,000 would be redirected to higher-priority plant requirements ($50,000 for grader equipment and $25,000 for minor plant replacement), and the remaining $125,000 would be retained as savings for the 2027/2028 Plant Replacement Program.

Discussion:
The adopted 2026/2027 Plant Replacement Program includes $200,000 allocated for the purchase of a roller. The original intention of the allocation was to purchase a tow-behind roller for use in conjunction with Council's grader during road construction and maintenance activities. Council has since hired and trialled a tow-behind roller under operational conditions to determine its suitability before committing to the purchase.

Operational testing found that the tow-behind roller did not provide the level of efficiency or ease of use that had been anticipated. Based on the practical experience gained through the trial, purchasing the tow-behind roller is no longer considered the most effective use of Council's plant replacement funding.

It is therefore proposed that the roller purchase does not proceed during 2026/2027 and that the existing $200,000 allocation be reallocated.

Proposed Reallocation

Proposed use	Amount
GPS/GNSS equipment for grader	$50,000
Allocation for minor plant replacement	$25,000
Savings towards 2027/2028 Plant Replacement Program	$125,000
Total	**$200,000**

Grader GPS/GNSS Equipment
Council's existing GPS machine-control system fitted to the grader has been found to be outdated and no longer suitable for continued operational use.

The GPS system is an important tool in Council's road construction activities. Machine-control technology provides the grader operator with design and level information during construction, assisting with the construction of road formations to the required levels, grades and profiles.

Replacing the existing system with current technology will assist in making Council's road construction activities easier, more accurate and more efficient, particularly during road reconstruction and capital works projects.

A budget allocation of $50,000 is proposed to provide adequate provision for the purchase and implementation of the replacement system.

Minor Plant Replacement
Additionally, it is also proposed that $25,000 of the existing roller allocation be transferred to Council's minor plant budget.

Council maintains a significant range of minor operational equipment used by Works and Operations staff. This includes items such as:

- chainsaws;
- whipper snippers;
- generators;
- traffic counters; and
- other similar small plant and operational equipment.

The additional allocation will allow ageing, unreliable or unserviceable minor plant to be progressively replaced during 2026/2027 as operational needs arise. This will assist Council in maintaining reliable equipment for day-to-day works and reduce disruption associated with ageing plant, breakdowns and equipment becoming uneconomical to repair.

Savings Towards 2027/2028 Plant Replacement Program
Following the proposed allocation of $50,000 for the grader GPS/GNSS equipment and $25,000 for minor plant, $125,000 will remain from the original $200,000 roller allocation.

Rather than redirecting the remaining funds to additional expenditure during 2026/2027, it is proposed that the $125,000 be referred to Council's 2027/2028 Plant Replacement Program.

Link to Council Plan:
Theme Four: Good Governance and Financial Sustainability
4.3 We manage our resources responsibly and strategically.

Financial Implications:
The proposal represents a reallocation of existing capital budget within the Plant Replacement Program and does not increase Council's overall 2026/2027 planned or actual expenditure.

2026/2027 Plant Budget	Current Allocation	Proposed Allocation
Tow-behind roller	$200,000	$0
Grader GPS/GNSS equipment	$0	$50,000
Minor plant	$0	$25,000
Savings towards 2027/2028 Plant Replacement Program	$0	$125,000
Total allocation accounted for	**$200,000**	**$200,000**

The reallocation therefore allows Council to address two immediate plant requirements while identifying $125,000 in savings towards the following year's Plant Replacement Program.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Asset Management	The proposed reallocation supports sound asset management by directing funding to operationally required and fit-for-purpose equipment. The decision not to proceed with the tow-behind roller follows hire and operational testing, reducing the risk of investing in plant that does not deliver the anticipated efficiency or usability benefits. Replacement of the outdated grader GPS/GNSS system reduces the risk of equipment failure, loss of functionality and construction inefficiencies. The additional $25,000 for minor plant will also support the timely replacement of ageing or unreliable equipment, helping to maintain operational capability and workplace safety. Retaining the remaining $125,000 as savings towards the 2027/2028 Plant Replacement Program supports responsible forward asset planning and reduces future funding pressure.

Relevant Legislation:
Local Government Act 2020
Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017
Road Management Act 2004
Road Management (Works and Infrastructure) Regulations 2026

Community Engagement:
Not applicable.

Gender Equality Implications:
Gender Impact Assessments are required by the *Gender Equality Act 2020* when the project, policy or plan subject to Council decision has a direct and significant impact on the community.

A Gender Impact Assessment is not required as this decision does not have a direct and significant impact on the community.

Confidential Declaration:
Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest:
Under Section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Ram Upadhyaya, Director Infrastructure Services
In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Daniel Griffiths, Manager Works and Operations
In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:
No external communications are required.

Next Steps:
The approved budget reallocation will be communicated internally to relevant Finance and Works and Operations staff and reflected in Council's 2026/2027 and 2027/2028 planning.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approves the reallocation of the $200,000 originally allocated for the purchase of a roller in the 2026/2027 Plant Replacement Program as follows:

1. ***$50,000 to be reallocated to the replacement of the grader GPS/GNSS machine-control equipment;***
2. ***$25,000 to be reallocated to minor plant replacement; and***
3. ***that the remaining $125,000 be recognised as savings towards the 2027/2028 Plant Replacement Program.***

MOVED: Cr T Clark/Cr R Ismay

That Council approves the reallocation of the $200,000 originally allocated for the purchase of a roller in the 2026/2027 Plant Replacement Program as follows:

1. ***$50,000 to be reallocated to the replacement of the grader GPS/GNSS machine-control equipment;***
2. ***$25,000 to be reallocated to minor plant replacement; and***
3. ***that the remaining $125,000 be recognised as savings towards the 2027/2028 Plant Replacement Program.***

CARRIED

11 COUNCIL COMMITTEES

11.1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
Councillor Portfolio: Cr Barker and Cr Uoy
Attachments:
1. CONFIDENTIAL - 2026 11 11 Audit and Risk Committee Minutes [**11.1.1**]
2. CONFIDENTIAL - Audit and Risk Committee Applicant Resume [**11.1.2**]
3. CONFIDENTIAL - Audit and Risk Committee Applicant Expression of Interest [**11.1.3**]

Introduction:
The Audit and Risk Committee (Committee) is an independent advisory committee to Council established pursuant to Section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

An Expression of Interest (EOI) has been received for the vacant position on the Audit and Risk Committee. The EOI and resume for the applicant are included as confidential attachments for the consideration of Council.

The minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 11 November 2026 are also presented for noting by Council.

Next Steps:
Council Officers to prepare correspondence and notify the applicant of the outcome of their Expression of Interest.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:
1. ***declines the Expression of Interest as attached and does not appoint the applicant as the fourth external member of the Audit and Risk Committee; and***
2. ***notes the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 11 November 2026.***

MOVED: Cr J Barry/Cr R Aitken

That Council:
1. ***declines the Expression of Interest as attached and does not appoint the applicant as the fourth external member of the Audit and Risk Committee; and***
2. ***notes the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 11 November 2026.***

CARRIED

11.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
Councillor Portfolio: Cr Aitken
Attachments:

1. Rainbow Town Committee Minutes 19 October 2026 [**11.2.1**]
2. Hindmarsh Pride Committee Meeting Minutes 28 October 2026 [**11.2.2**]
3. Hindmarsh Pride Committee Minutes 11 November 2026 [**11.2.3**]
4. Nhill Town Committee Minutes 3 November 2026 [**11.2.4**]
5. Jeparit Town Committee Financial Report - October 2026 [**11.2.5**]
6. Nhill Town Committee Financial Report - October 2026 [**11.2.6**]
7. Rainbow Town Committee Financial Report - October 2026 [**11.2.7**]
8. CONFIDENTIAL - Community Panel Expressions of Interest - 12 October 2026 to 17 November 2026 [**11.2.8**]

Introduction:
The following Hindmarsh Advisory Committees held meetings on the following dates:

- **Rainbow Township Committee**
  General Meeting on 19 October 2026
- **Hindmarsh Pride Committee**
  General Meeting on 28 October 2026 and 11 November 2026
- **Nhill Township Committee**
  General meeting on 3 November 2026

A copy of the minutes for each of the meetings held are included as attachments for the information of Council.

A copy of the financial statements for the month of October for the following Advisory Committees have been included as attachments for the information of Council:

- Jeparit Township
- Nhill Township
- Rainbow Township

Council has received three (3) expressions of interest for the Hindmarsh Community Panel. The expressions of interest have been included as an attachment for the information of Council. The Hindmarsh Community Panel is made up of community members who will provide advice, generate ideas and priorities planned projects over the life of the Council Plan. The Community Panel is deliberative which will allow panel members the opportunity to learn about Council, ask questions of staff and Councillors, and debate opportunities, projects and policies that matter to Hindmarsh Shire Council.

Next Steps:
Council Officers to publish Advisory Committee minutes on Council's website. Council Officers prepare correspondence to each of the people who submitted an expression of interest to join the Hindmarsh Community Panel and advise them of the outcome.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. ***notes the minutes of the following Advisory Committees:***
   a) ***Rainbow Township meeting held on 19 October 2026;***
   b) ***Hindmarsh Pride meetings held on 28 October 2026 and 11 November 2026;***
   c) ***Nhill Township meeting held on 3 November 2026;***
2. ***endorses the following nominees to the Hindmarsh Shire Community Panel:***
   a) ***Casey Hiscock;***
   b) ***Michelle Connors; and***
   c) ***Susan Hedt.***

MOVED: Cr R Ismay/Cr R Aitken

That Council:

1. ***notes the minutes of the following Advisory Committees:***
   a) ***Rainbow Township meeting held on 19 October 2026;***
   b) ***Hindmarsh Pride meetings held on 28 October 2026 and 11 November 2026;***
   c) ***Nhill Township meeting held on 3 November 2026;***
2. ***endorses the following nominees to the Hindmarsh Shire Community Panel:***
   a) ***Casey Hiscock;***
   b) ***Michelle Connors; and***
   c) ***Susan Hedt.***

CARRIED

11.3 COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
Councillor Portfolio: Cr Aitken
Attachments:
1. Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Minutes - 20 October 2026 [**11.3.1**]
2. Yurunga Homestead Minutes - 22 October 2026 [**11.3.2**]
3. CONFIDENTIAL - Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Special Meeting - 20 October 2026 [**11.3.3**]

Introduction:
The following Hindmarsh Community Asset Committees held meetings on the following dates:

- **Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Committee**
  General meeting on 20 October 2026 and special meeting on 20 October 2026
- **Yurunga Homestead Committee**
  General meeting on 22 October 2026

A copy of the minutes for each of the meetings are included as attachments for the information of Council.

Next Steps:
Council Officer to prepare a letter to Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum regarding the outcome of the banking signatories request.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. ***notes the minutes of the following Community Asset Committees:***
   a) ***Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum general and special meetings held on 20 October 2026; and***
   b) ***Yurunga Homestead meeting held on 22 October 2026.***
2. ***endorses the following banking signatories for Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum:***
   a) ***Don Pedder;***
   b) ***Morgan Ninnes-Tidyman;***
   c) ***Natalia Aguirre;***
   d) ***Mary-Anne Paech;***
3. ***removes the following banking signatories for Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum:***
   a) ***Aaron McLean;***
   b) ***Babara Hunter;***
   c) ***Peter Pumpa;***
   d) ***Sharon Reilly;***

e) *Peter Hovey;*
f) *Myra Waters;*
g) *Peter Robson; and*
h) *Debbie Dryburgh.*

MOVED: Cr T Clark/Cr R Ismay

That Council:

1. ***notes the minutes of the following Community Asset Committees:***
   a) ***Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum general and special meetings held on 20 October 2026; and***
   b) ***Yurunga Homestead meeting held on 22 October 2026.***
2. ***endorses the following banking signatories for Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum:***
   a) ***Don Pedder;***
   b) ***Morgan Ninnes-Tidyman;***
   c) ***Natalia Aguirre;***
   d) ***Mary-Anne Paech;***
3. ***removes the following banking signatories for Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum:***
   a) ***Aaron McLean;***
   b) ***Babara Hunter;***
   c) ***Peter Pumpa;***
   d) ***Sharon Reilly;***
   e) ***Peter Hovey;***
   f) ***Myra Waters;***
   g) ***Peter Robson; and***
   h) ***Debbie Dryburgh.***

CARRIED

12 LATE REPORTS

No late reports.

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13 NOTICES OF MOTION

No notices of motion.

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14 OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

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15 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

In accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act* 2020, Council may close the meeting to the public to consider confidential information. Confidential information is defined by part IV of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, and by Section 3 of the *Local Government Act 2020* as being:

a) Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released;
b) security information, being information that if released is likely to endanger the security of Council property of the safety of any person;
c) land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values;
d) law enforcement information, being information which if released would be reasonably likely to prejudice the investigation into an alleged breach of the law or the fair trial or hearing of any person;
e) legal privileged information, being information to which legal professional privilege or client legal privilege applies;
f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs;
g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—
    i. i. relates to trade secrets; or
    ii. if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage;
h) confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under Section 66(2)(a);
i) internal arbitration information, being information specified in Section 145;
j) Councillor Conduct Panel confidential information, being information specified in Section 169;
k) information prescribed by the regulations to be confidential information for the purposes of this definition;
l) information that was confidential information for the purposes of Section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*

RECOMMENDATION:

That the meeting be closed in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, to consider reports that contain confidential information as defined by Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2020, and/or Part IV of the Freedom of Information Act 1982, and following consideration of items 15.1 to 15.2 close the Council meeting:

15.1 CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE - this report contains "personal information, being information which if released would result in the

unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs"; and

15.2 AWARD OF CONTRACT 2024-2025-42 SUPPLY OF GRAVEL AND CRUSHED ROCK MATERIALS – this report contains "Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released".

MOVED: Cr T Clark/Cr J Barry

That the meeting be closed in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, to consider reports that contain confidential information as defined by Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2020, and/or Part IV of the Freedom of Information Act 1982, and following consideration of items 15.1 to 15.2 close the Council meeting:

15.1 CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE - this report contains "personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs"; and

15.2 AWARD OF CONTRACT 2024-2025-42 SUPPLY OF GRAVEL AND CRUSHED ROCK MATERIALS – this report contains "Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released".

CARRIED

16 LATE CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

No late confidential reports.

17 MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business, Cr Rosie Barker declared the meeting closed at 4:14pm.