TheBarossaCouncil

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BAROSSA COUNCIL
held on Tuesday 21 April 2026 commencing at 5:30pm
in the Council Chambers, 43-51 Tanunda Road, Nuriootpa.

M I N U T E S

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country by Mayor Bim Lange who declared the meeting open at 5:30pm.

1. ATTENDANCE RECORD

1.1 Members Present

Mayor Bim Lange, Crs John Angas, Don Barrett, David de Vries, Tony Hurn, Kathryn Schilling, Jane Evans, Bruce Preece, Rick Lane and Heidi Thompson

Apologies

Crs Cathy Troup and Jess Greatwich

Not Present

Nil

Leave of Absence

Nil

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of previous meetings – for confirmation:

MOVED Cr de Vries

That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 17 March 2026 at 5:30pm and the Special Council meeting held on Wednesday 1 April 2026 at 5:15 PM, as circulated, be confirmed as true and correct records of the proceedings of those meetings.

SECONDED Cr Barrett **CARRIED 2022-26/943**

2.2 Matters arising from previous minutes

Nil

3. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

3.1 Petitions

Nil

3.2 Deputations/Visitors to the meeting

3.2.1 Mayor Lange welcomed Community Transport Program Volunteer Driver - Sue Martin, to the meeting.

The Mayor acknowledged her volunteer services of 28 Years as a Community Transport Program Volunteer Driver

Sue really enjoyed taking long drives, especially when she could discover a cozy coffee shop or explore a shopping centre. Our consumers always gave great feedback about her adventures. She loved to chat and connect with new people while on the road. Sue has dedicated more than 2,388 hours of time.

3.3 Notice of Motion

Nil

3.4 Questions with Notice

Nil

4. MAYOR

4.1 Mayor's Report

MOVED Cr de Vries

That the Mayor's report be received.

SECONDED Cr Hurn **CARRIED 2022-26/944**

5. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Nil

6. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

6.1 Northern and Yorke Local Government Association Minutes of 6 March 2026 and Proposal for Commissioner for Agriculture

6.2 Proposed Northern and Yorke Regional Landscape Levy for 2026-27

7. DEBATE REPORTS

7.1 Office of the Mayor and CEO

7.1.1 FUTURE OF THE SISTER CITY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BAROSSA COUNCIL AND KUMENAN TOWN, JAPAN
26/19864

MOVED Cr Angas

That the Council endorse the ceasing of the Sister City agreement between The Barossa Council and Kumenan Twon, Japan and formalise the end of the arrangement.

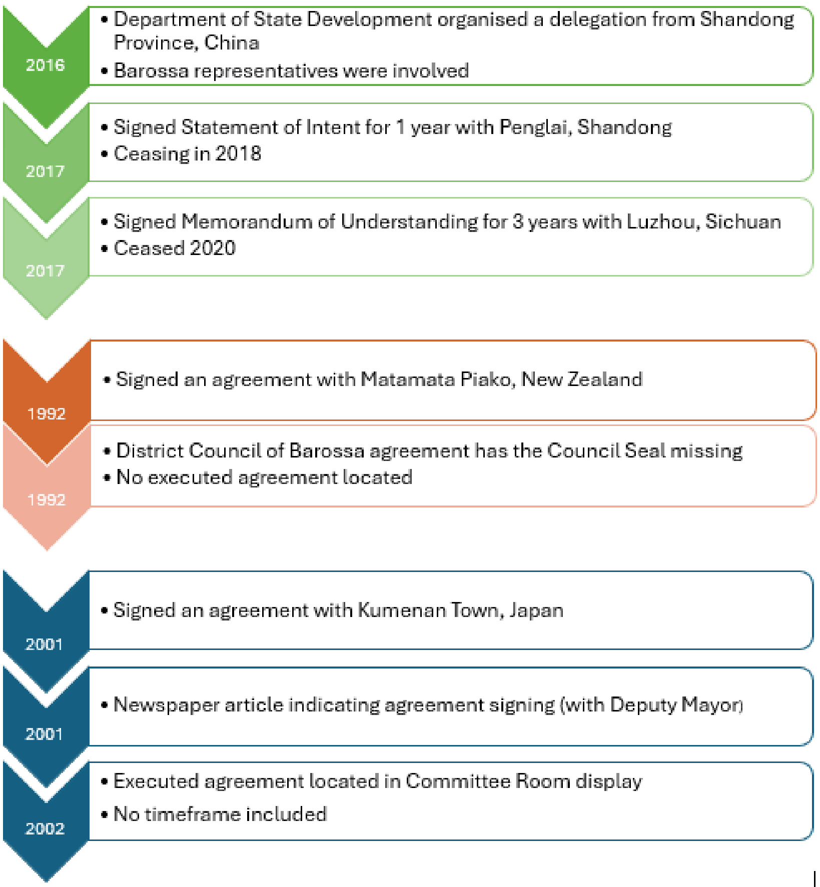
SECONDED Cr Preece **CARRIED 2022-26/945**

PURPOSE

To provide an update on Council's Sister City arrangements and seek the support of Council to cease the Sister City Agreement with Kumenan Town, Japan.

REPORT

Introduction
In undertaking research on The Barossa Council's Sister City arrangements, it is confirmed that the following relationships have taken place:



Background
Sister cities, or twin towns as it is also known in other countries, is an agreement to foster strong cultural and commercial ties between two cities or regions. These long term, formal agreements facilitate a wide range of opportunities for both cities to participate in international educational, community, cultural, technical and business exchanges.

Kumenan is a town located in Kume District, Okayama Prefecture, Japan with an estimated population of approximately 4483 and is known as the birthplace of Honen, the founder of the Jodo sect of Buddhism. The temple where he was born stands in Kumenan Town and is called Tanjoji. The temple has a massive and stunning ginkgo tree, a symbol for the town.

There are few flatlands, and most of the town consists of mountains, forests, and plateaus with the main industry in the area being agriculture. Crops include rice, fruit trees such as pears and grapes, leaf tobacco, and poultry farming.

Kumenan Town in Okayama in Japan entered into a Sister City relationship with The Barossa Council in 2002 by formally singing an agreement that did not stipulate a time period or end date of the agreement.

The relationship initially fostered a mutual understanding and friendship between citizens of the two Councils contributing to good relations between Australia and Japan. The relationship has seen student exchanges (Faith Lutheran College) in the early 2000's between the two towns, involving the sharing of cultures, education, sport, tourism, and economics.

Delegates, students and teachers from Kumenan, Japan visited the Barossa in 2006 and again in 2008.

Correspondence since then has been sparse and involved a Christmas greeting but nothing of substance until 2017, where we received a letter highlighting that it had been over 6 years with no contact and a suspension on the student exchange program.

According to a letter received from a representative from Kumenan Town late 2024 the homestay exchange program of the international sister-city relationship has been suspended since 2011 due in part to the decreasing number of students attending the three elementary schools and one junior high school in the town. Their wish is to have an international exchange project with cultures in the form of school textbooks/picture books between Barossa and Kumenan. No records show that this indeed took place.

Further to this, there has been no correspondence other than an annual Christmas Card greeting.

Discussion
The Barossa Council has now entered into another Sister City relationship with the City of Grapevine, Texas which was formalised in September 2023 and has seen a Section 41 Committee be established with members of the community, industry leaders and staff develop the relationship with a successful Study Tour and community benefits seeing the objectives of the agreement coming to fruition.

Acknowledging that fostering an international relationship and developing on ground benefits requires the Committee and in turn, the Council to commit to resourcing and planning, and as such, we are now seeking the Councils endorsement to cease the Sister City relationship with Kumenan Town, Japan, understanding that the relationship is no longer be producing outcomes for our community.

Summary and Conclusion
The Council is asked that the Sister City relationship with Kumenan Town, Japan be ceased.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references
Sister-City-Relationships-and-Engagement-Policy.pdf

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

CS10 Economic Development - Facilitating the economic well-being and quality of life of the local businesses and the community

BS7 Governance - Provision of governance advice and support in the discharge of legislative responsibilities for policy development, delegations and authorisations, internal review of Council decisions, delegations and authorisations, Native Title claims

Legislative Requirements
Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
   Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

   Nil

2. **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT**
   Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

   Nil

3. **FINANCIAL**
Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

Nil

4. **PEOPLE**
Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

Nil

5. **REPUTATION**
Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

As the arrangement has not been active since 2017, there is no risk to reputation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement has been made with Barossa Australia, Regional Development Australia Barossa Gawler Light Adelaide Plains and Faith Lutheran College confirming no current communications or arrangements are being conducted. (Faith Lutheran College currently participate in Students Exchanges with Salesio Gakuin High School (Japan) and Charlotte-Paulsen-Gymnasium school (Hamburg, Germany).

7.1.2 UPDATED APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SISTER CITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
26/20001

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council:

(1) Appoints Lorna Schiller and Milly Hoffmann as community representatives to the Sister Cities Advisory Committee as per the Terms of Reference.

(2) Endorse the updated the Sister Cities Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference as per Attachment 1.

SECONDED Cr Lane **CARRIED 2022-26/946**

PURPOSE

For Council to endorse the update of the representatives on the Sister Cities Advisory Committee.

REPORT

Background
On 21 November 2023, pursuant to Section 41 of the *Local Government Act 1999,* Council endorsed the establishment of the Sister Cities Advisory Committee including adoption of the Committee's Terms of Reference for the legislative operation of the Committee and its members.

Pursuant to Clause 1.2 of the ToR:

The Committee, in partnership with Council, industry and community, is established to support Council's strategic commitment to the development and maintenance of effective international relations via Sister City and Friendship City relationships and provide a framework for entering into, maintaining and assessing such relationships to ensure that maximum benefits can be realised by both parties.

Council then appointed member representatives to the Sister Cities Advisory Committee on 20 February 2024 and then endorsed the update of member representatives on 17 June 2025:

MOVED Cr Barrett

That Council:

(1) Endorse the updated Sister Cities Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference (ToR), as per Attachment 1.

(2) Appoints the following representatives to the Sister Cities Advisory Committee as per the updated Terms of Reference:

a. Council staff as nominated by the Chief Executive Officer of The Barossa Council pursuant to Clause 3.1.2 of the ToR.

b. Community representatives pursuant to Clause 3.1.3 of the ToR being Vanessa Lambert, Ingrid Day, Carol Dadds and Louise Hickinbotham.

c. Organisational representatives pursuant to Clause 3.1.4 of the ToR being Scott Hazeldine, Barossa Australia; Rolf Binder, RDA Barossa, Gawler, Light and Adelaide Plains; Sandie Simons, Rotary Club of Barossa Valley; Milly Hoffmann and Rick Lane, Nuriootpa High School, noting that if for any reason the Organisational representative is no longer available to sit on the committee, then the organisation will nominate a replacement for the remainder of the appointees term upon approval of the Sister Cities Advisory Committee.

SECONDED Cr Evans **CARRIED 2022-26/731**

Discussion
Members of the Committee were appointed by Council on 20 February 2024 and updated on 17 June 2025 to reflect changes due to representation resignation and/or requested changes from the CEO and Organisational Representative Members. Due

to representative resignations and/or requested changes from Organisational Representative Members, further changes are required as outlined below:

Committee Member	Who	Changes
Chairperson	Mayor	Remains unchanged
Council Staff	As appointed by the CEO	Limited to up to 4 Council Staff – includes the Sister City Program Manager
Community Members	• Vanesa Lambert • Louise Hickinbotham • Milly Hoffmann	Ingrid Day resigned. Carol Dadds resigned. Due to Milly Hoffmann's recent move from Nuriootpa High School, Milly has self-nominated as a Community Member. All other members remain unchanged
Organisational Members	• Scott Hazeldine – Barossa Australia • Rolf Binder - RDA, BGLAP • Sandie Simons - Rotary Club of Barossa Valley • Rick Lane - Nuriootpa High School	Remove Milly Hoffmann from Organisation Member and change to Community Member. All other members remain unchanged.

Summary and Conclusion
Council is asked to endorse the appointment of Sister Cities Advisory Committee membership as outlined in the recommendation.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references
Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

BS4 Council and Committees - Provision of support to Council and Committees through the provision of required information, agendas, and minutes. Council and Committees are provided with support to enable informed decisions

Legislative Requirements
Local Government Act 1999

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
   Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

   Nil

2. **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT**
   Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

   Nil

3. **FINANCIAL**
   Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

   Nil

4. **PEOPLE**
   Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

   Nil

5. **REPUTATION**
   Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

   By appointing current working members on the Committee demonstrates legislative compliance and transparency and allows the Committee to operate within the parameters of the meeting procedures as outlined.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not required.

7.1.3 REVIEW OF THE POLICY GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK
26/19868

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council:

(1) Endorse the Policy Governance Framework as per Attachment 1; and

(2) Revoke the Policy and Process Development and Review Guidelines as per Attachment 2 as they have now been superseded.

SECONDED Cr Schilling **CARRIED 2022-26/947**

PURPOSE

To seek Council endorsement for the Policy Governance Framework ensuring structured policy development protocols and guidance on the processes, references and plans to maintain a high quality, relevant policy suite for the organisation. As such Council is also asked to revoke the Policy and Process Development and Review Guidelines as they are now superseded by endorsing the Framework.

REPORT

Background
The reviewed Policy and Process Development and Review Guidelines as per Attachment 2 were endorsed on 28 July 2022 with the review cycle set for it to be reviewed by 28 July 2026.

Introduction
The Barossa Council is committed to ensuring all Policies and Processes, including any associated Policy documents, are contemporary, consistent and relevant to the organisation.

This Policy Governance Framework outlines the process for all stages of a policy lifecycle that guide the development of effective policies. Creation, approval, dissemination, revocation and review are key stages in the policy lifecycle. The framework provides guidance to ensure the following objectives are achieved:

- Transparent and evidence-based decision making
- Clarity of responsibility and acceptance of accountability
- Adherence to policy, with non-negotiable compliance paramount
- High quality policies that are to be critiqued, consistent and contemporary

All policies reviewed by the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) prior to final approval and endorsement by either the ELT or Council, ensures that all policies reflect Executive and Council expectations.

Discussion
The purpose of the Policy Governance Framework as per Attachment 1, is to provide structured policy development protocols and guidance on the processes, tools, systems, templates, references and plans to deliver a high quality, relevant policy suite for the organisation.

The Policy Governance Framework serves as the central repository for all policy management references to ensure that:

- Policies and processes meet the definitions
- Policies and processes are developed, reviewed and revoked in line with the fundamental criteria.
- Policy and processes stages proceed through the required quality assurance checks.
- Policies and processes are approved through the mandatory approval mechanisms.
- Consultation and implementation are pre-planned and delivered appropriately.
- Policy management using RelianSys Compliance and Monitor automated modules.
- Reporting compliance data to the Executive Leadership Team, Audit & Risk Committee and Council.
- Formal adherence to all policies and processes.

Summary and Conclusion
Council is asked to endorse the Policy Governance Framework and in doing so, revokes the Policy and Process Development and Review Guidelines, supporting the ongoing development of effective policies and processes, ensuring that they are relevant and easy to understand. This will assist in providing an environment where there is little ambiguity and assists those who have an obligation to adhere to the content.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Policy Governance Framework
Attachment 2 Policy and Process Development and Review Guidelines

Supporting references
Public Consultation Policy

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

BS7 Governance - Provision of governance advice and support in the discharge of legislative responsibilities for policy development, delegations and authorisations, internal review of Council decisions, delegations and authorisations, Native Title claims

Legislative Requirements
Local Government Act 1999, Section 59 –
(1) The role of a member of council is -
(vi) to keep the council's objectives and policies under review to ensure that they are appropriate and effective.

Local Government Act 1999, Section 99 -
(1) The functions of the chief executive officer include—
(a) to ensure that the policies and lawful decisions of the council are implemented in a timely and efficient manner.
South Australia Work Health and Safety Act 2012

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
   Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

   A Policy framework ensures legislative compliance and that the policies and lawful decisions of the council are implemented in a timely and efficient manner.

2. **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT**
   Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

   Nil

3. **FINANCIAL**
   Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

   Nil

4. **PEOPLE**
   Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

   Provides Council and Workers with the ability and direction to make decisions that are consistent with law and administrative practice. They also provide detail on the way Council undertakes, or requires others to undertake, certain works or activities.

5. **REPUTATION**
   Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

   Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not required.

7.1.4 VARIATION TO DELEGATIONS REGISTER - UPDATES TO LEGISLATION
26/23188

MOVED Cr Evans

That Council in exercise of the power contained in section 44 of the *Local Government Act 1999* and section 100 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*, hereby delegates the powers and functions under the following Acts and specified in the proposed Instrument of Delegation contained at Attachment 1 to the position of Chief Executive Officer:

(1) Dog and Cat Management Act 1995
(2) Local Government Act 1999
(3) Local Government (Elections) Act 1999
(4) Local Government (Members Allowances and Benefits) Regulations 2025
(5) Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016

SECONDED Cr Barrett **CARRIED 2022-26/948**

PURPOSE

To provide Council with the opportunity to consider updated and new provisions identified through legislative amendments for delegation to the Chief Executive Officer under various legislation.

REPORT

Background
Council has powers and functions that must be performed under a range of legislation. In most cases, the relevant Acts grant these powers and functions directly to Council. The ways in which Council may exercise its powers and functions are:

- when the Council itself exercises the power or function at a formally constituted meeting; and

- where the legislation enables it, a power or function may be delegated to a Council employee, in most cases being the Chief Executive Officer.

Delegations enable Council to delegate its powers and functions to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who in turn may sub-delegate to Council staff who have the relevant expertise and experience to improve the efficiency and timeliness of carrying out Council's decisions.

From time to time, legislation upon which Council's delegations are based change, requiring Council to review its relevant delegations on a periodic basis. Council may review its delegations at any time.

Introduction
In early 2020, the Local Government Association (LGA) advised councils it was undertaking a comprehensive review of the delegations' templates and revised its approach to the service offered to councils. The resulting framework established a simpler and contemporary approach that will improve ease of use, reduce legal risk, and enhance flexibility for Council.

Each power and function now consist of a short description only, replacing the historic approach which substantially replicated the text of the legislation. This framework also expands the number of delegable provisions across Acts that were not previously included as part of the delegations.

Discussion
The statutory power of delegation under section 44 of the *Local Government Act 1999* enables the delegation of the statutory powers and functions vested or conferred on a council. Other statutory delegation powers permit the delegation of powers or functions vested in a council in a particular capacity (e.g. as a relevant authority under the *Safe Drinking Water Act 2011* or an enforcement agency under the *Food Act 2001*). A column providing for the capacity in which the Council is acting is included in the tables of delegable statutory powers and functions. This is to assist Governance Officers to identify the powers and functions which are relevant to the Council and which the Council wants to delegate. It will also assist Council in ensuring the correct powers of delegation are referenced in the instrument of delegation.

The framework is not intended to provide a compliance manual for delegates exercising statutory functions and powers. Providing guidance as to the legal requirements for the valid exercise of that delegated power or function is not the purpose of an instrument of delegation or sub-delegation. The purpose is to record formally the delegation of statutory functions or powers. The delegate or sub-delegate is responsible for exercising the delegated power or function lawfully. This requires compliance with:

- any conditions or limitations on the delegation;
- any statutory requirements which apply to the exercise of the power or function; and
- relevant principles of administrative law.

Updates
Periodic updates to legislation are facilitated by the LGA and their legal partners at Norman Waterhouse Lawyers.

In this periodic update of delegations there have been changes to five pieces of legislation being:

Dog and Cat Management Act 1999
New
- Power to notify the Dog and Cat Management Board of preparing or amending a management plan.
- Grants authorised officers powers to recover expenses.
- Sharing of information between Council, the Board or Department.

Deleted
- Power to amend a management plan and present to the Dog and Cat Management Board.

Local Government Act 1999
New
- Community Engagement Charter provisions are now active.

- Public consultation required for land management plans and planting of vegetation

Changed

- Minor wording edits to align with new Community Engagement Charter.

Deleted

- Removal of former public consultation provisions.

Local Government (Elections) Act 1999

New

- Requirement to conduct a public meeting for candidates unless otherwise stated in Council's caretaker policy.

Changed

- Inform electors to be enrolled in line with the Community Engagement Charter.

Deleted

- Nomination and removal of a deputy returning officer.
- Provision of voters roll to a candidate (not delegable – this is a candidate entitlement)

Local Government (Members Allowances and Benefits) Regulations 2025

Changed

- Updated from 2010 legislation to 2025. This is the only delegation under this instrument.

***Planning Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* – Instrument A**

New

- Initiation of a scheme relating to a declared project area or designated growth area.
- Make a submission on a variation to a basic infrastructure scheme.
- Consultation regarding funding arrangements for infrastructure frameworks.
- In regard to a Local Area Plan:
    - Prepare a plan
    - Consult on the plan
    - Supply to the Minister for approval
    - Request an exemption
    - Publish a plan
- Allow a land owner access to plans, drawings etc, where not in contravention of other laws.

Changed

- Amendment under the regulations to adhere to building compliance.
- Renaming of tree canopy scheme.

Deleted

- Requirement to seek Commission authorisation for
    - civil penalties
    - enforceable voluntary undertakings

Summary and Conclusion

Council is now asked to review and endorse the delegations as at Attachment 1.

The delegations within this report do not detail the entirety of the delegation framework, only those provisions that have been recently amended via legislative change.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Amendment to the Delegations Register - April 2026

Supporting references
No further supporting references.

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

BS7 Governance - Provision of governance advice and support in the discharge of legislative responsibilities for policy development, delegations and authorisations, internal review of Council decisions, delegations and authorisations, Native Title claims

Legislative Requirements
Council may delegate a power or function vested or conferred under a range of legislation, it may be made to any employee of Council, a Council Committee or an authorised person.

In this report, powers are being delegated under powers of the Local Government Act 1999 and Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016.

The delegation register is available on Council's website

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
   Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

   Effective delegations enable staff to align finances to its vision and strategy for ongoing financial sustainability.

2. **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT**
   Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

   Effective delegations enable staff to align finances to its vision and strategy for ongoing financial sustainability.

3. **FINANCIAL**
   Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

Effective delegations enable staff to align finances to its vision and strategy for ongoing financial sustainability.

4. **PEOPLE**
Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

Effective delegations enable staff to align finances to its vision and strategy for ongoing financial sustainability.

5. **REPUTATION**
Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

Effective delegations enable staff to align finances to its vision and strategy for ongoing financial sustainability.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Employees are informed through established internal procedures of any variation to instruments of delegations that affect their position.

Council's Register of Delegations is made available to the public via Council's website www.barossa.sa.gov.au as required by the *Local Government Act 1999*.

7.1.5 EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM PERFORMANCE REVIEW FRAMEWORK
26/24121

MOVED Cr Preece

That Council:

(1) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to continue to manage the Executive Leadership Team Performance Review Framework pursuant to Section 120(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1999*.
(2) Endorses the Executive Leadership Team Performance Review Framework as presented at Attachment 1.

SECONDED Cr de Vries **CARRIED 2022-26/949**

PURPOSE

To review and endorse the Framework for Executive Staff that form the Executive Leadership Team (ELT).

REPORT

Background
Council adopted a open and transparent framework for the management and review of executive level staff at its meeting of 21 February 2023.

The framework as is good practice has been updated and is tabled for review and endorsement.

Introduction
The Executive Leadership Team undertook a program in 2025, concluding late in 2025 on our leadership and what and how we will strive to improve and manage the organisation administratively for the foreseeable future.

Discussion
The Executive Leadership Team undertook a program in 2025, concluding late in 2025 on our leadership and what and how we will strive to improve and manage the organisation administratively for the foreseeable future.

This has led to a raft of future thinking and resetting our internal purpose, values and value proposition statements. In essence the lens in which we as the administrative leaders will view decision making, organisational culture, continuous improvement and drive the organisation forward as we continue to grow and grow at a rapid rate in the next decade. As part of implementation we have undertaken the following to date:

- Embedded this model into updated job role specifications.
- Updated the performance review framework.
- Communicated it to staff.
- Updated the performance review data collection processes (used for the first time for the Chief Executive Officers 2025-26 performance review).

Further work is planned to update visual displays and also realign our internal ELT monthly agenda. As internal planning documents are updated like the Corporate Plan the new purpose values and value propositions will be embedded.

Whilst there is no legislative need for a formal policy on an Executive Leadership Team Performance Review Framework this initiative is striving for open and transparent governance and striving for best practice human resources outcomes and processes. It is also sound practice to ensure the executive performance review processes are tailor to the needs of the organisation and strategic direction.

How performance review processes occur in the organisation is for the determination of the Chief Executive Officer, however as the Framework proposes alignment to the Chief Executive Officer review process it is appropriate for Council to review and approve the Framework rather than having two separate (but practically identical) documents.

The Framework has been determined and consulted upon with relevant staff and utilises existing processes in place to gather information and data. Further the policy aligns to the Local Government Act as they apply to the review of the Chief Executive Officer's performance.

The Framework is at Attachment 1.

Any such framework clearly applies to the me, as Chief Executive Officer, however IO am required to manage this framework. My performance review is conducted in accordance with eh Local Government Act and this framework (which applies, in my view, a high-level test of accountability in any case), therefore I seek Council approval to ensure I can continue to manage this framework pursuant to Section

Summary and Conclusion
With the framework updated and align to recent thinking and purpose and values of the team, it is presented for endorsement.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Executive Leadership Team Performance Review Framework

Supporting references
Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

BS7 Governance - Provision of governance advice and support in the discharge of legislative responsibilities for policy development, delegations and authorisations, internal review of Council decisions, delegations and authorisations, Native Title claims

BS10 People and Culture - Support to Managers and employees across the full employee lifecycle, including attraction, recruitment and selection, induction and on-boarding, training and performance development, performance management and offboarding.

BS13 Strategic/Legislative Planning and Reporting - Provision of organisational performance report (outcomes), activity report (outputs), a range of statutory reporting (e.g. public health, tax, superannuation), financial reporting. Transparency and accountability regarding Council activity and expenditure provided

Legislative Requirements
Sections 102A, 107, and 120 of the Local Government Act 1999.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
   Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

The ELT is responsible for translating Council policy and strategy to service delivery outcomes, the best practice management of performance is critical to service outcomes.

2. **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT**

Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

The ELT is responsible for translating Council policy and strategy to service delivery outcomes, the best practice management of performance is critical to service outcomes.

3. **FINANCIAL**

Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

The ELT is responsible for translating Council policy and strategy to service delivery outcomes, the best practice management of performance is critical to financial sustainability.

4. **PEOPLE**

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

The ELT is responsible for translating Council policy and strategy to service delivery outcomes, the best practice management of performance is critical to a management of our human resources.

5. **REPUTATION**

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

The ELT is responsible for translating Council policy and strategy to service delivery outcomes, the best practice management of performance is critical to a management of our reputation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil required or recommended this is an internal human resource policy, but as it has application to the Chief Executive Officer an executive team it is best practice to ensure Council is overseeing and approving the framework.

Pursuant to Section 73 of the Local Government Act 1999, Cr Preece disclosed an actual Conflict of Interest in the matter Item number 7.1.6 South Australian Civil And Administrative Tribunal Disciplinary Action Against Councillor Preece – as it pertains to him personally and advised the Chamber he would leave the meeting.

Cr Preece left the meeting at 5:44pm.

7.1.6 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST COUNCILLOR PREECE
26/24126

MOVED Cr Schilling

That Council having reviewed the Grounds of Complaint at Attachment 1 endorse the orders sought and instruct the Chief Executive Officer to provide ongoing update reports to Council on progress and outcomes as the matter proceeds.

SECONDED Cr Evans **CARRIED 2022-26/950**

PURPOSE

To receive, note and endorse the orders sought from the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal pertaining to breaches of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

REPORT

Background
This matter is well known to members and encases:

1. Six complaints determined in May 2025 against Cr Preece by Council requiring various actions be undertaken including training and apologies.
2. A further finding against Cr Preece by the independent Behavioural Standards Panel (BSP) requiring reimbursement of costs and a further apology.

Discussion
As part of Council's consideration of the BSP report the Council resolved, inter alia, to note my legal requirement to lodge an action against Cr Preece on Council's behalf if the actions stipulated by the BSP and Council where not completed within two ordinary meetings of the BSP report. The two meetings post the findings of where the January and February 2026 ordinary meetings.

Council Resolution of 27 January 2026

MOVED *Cr de Vries*

That Council, having received the Final Report of the Behavioural Standards Panel into the behaviour of Cr Preece:

(1) Censure Cr Preece in accordance with the findings and orders of the Panel under s 262W(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act).

(2) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to provide written confirmation to the Panel's as to the completion or otherwise of the Orders.

(3) Note that if Cr Preece does not comply with the Behaviour Standards Panels' Orders, including Council directions of 20 May 2025, the Chief Executive Officer will refer the matter pursuant to Section 262W(4) of the Act to South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal as required by the Act.

SECONDED *Cr Greatwich* ***CARRIED 2022-26/890***

The Grounds of Complaint is provided at Attachment 1 and is supported by an extensive affidavit which reflects the past 2 years of activity pertaining to the complaints. The affidavit does not provide anything new, but should any member wish to review it, it will be forwarded, noting however that it is a 20-page document supported with over 800 pages of evidence.

The orders sought from the Tribunal are outlined in the complaint and are those established through legal advice and consultation with Mayor Lange OAM.

The lodgement was delayed due to the State Election process -until the election was concluded for the seat of Schubert, the documents could not be lodged.

The documents were fully lodged and served during week concluding 10 April 2026 and we now await dates for hearings.

Summary and Conclusion
With the State Election now resolved and as noted in Council's resolution of 27 January 2026, the necessary Grounds of Complaint and Affidavit have been lodged and are tabled for Council information and endorsement of the orders sought.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Grounds of Complaint

Supporting references
Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Community Plan

Our Council

We strive to be a leader in regional Local Government and are committed to delivering effective, efficient, and valued services to the community.

Strategic Outcome
- We have a safe, healthy, and resilient workforce.

Corporate Plan

BS5 Enterprise Risk and Safety - The management of Council's Enterprise Risk profile including strategic and operational risk assessment, control and monitoring; internal control and audit; business continuity and disaster recovery planning; organisational emergency management; insurance portfolio management; and Work Health Safety system coordination

BS7 Governance - Provision of governance advice and support in the discharge of legislative responsibilities for policy development, delegations and authorisations, internal review of Council decisions, delegations and authorisations, Native Title claims

BS10 People and Culture - Support to Managers and employees across the full employee lifecycle, including attraction, recruitment and selection, induction and on-boarding, training and performance development, performance management and offboarding.

<u>Legislative Requirements</u>
Section 264 of the Local Government Act 1999

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
   Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

   Impacts delivery due to utilisation of resources and funds that can be devoted to higher productivity uses.

2. **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT**
   Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

   Nil

3. **FINANCIAL**
   Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

   Impacts financial outcomes due to utilisation of resources and funds that can be devoted to higher productivity uses.

4. **PEOPLE**
   Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

   Has had real impacts on individuals, clubs and groups who have felt compelled to report behavioural matters to the Mayor.

5. **REPUTATION**
Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

Has had real impacts on reputation due to the media and community exposure.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil required or recommended, this is a legal matter now with the Tribunal.

Cr Preece returned to the meeting at 5:48pm.

7.1.7 DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
26/24618

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council having reviewed the Draft Letter and Memorandum of Understanding:

(1) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to proceed to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Department for Education as per Attachment 1.

(2) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make immaterial and grammatical amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding.

(3) Note the information provided regarding ongoing engagement with the Department for Education and its consultant groups.

SECONDED Cr Preece **CARRIED 2022-26/951**

PURPOSE

To review and approve the execution of the Draft Memorandum of Understanding between The Barossa Council and The Department for Education pertaining to the Concordia Growth Area and accompanying correspondence.

REPORT

Background
As previously briefed and as per the reports to Council on 16 December 2025 and 1 April 2026, Council is aware of Concordia Growth Area development and its opportunities and challenges.

Introduction
Department for Education executives were invited to attend a meeting to discuss future opportunities for collaboration and conduct a site visit of Concordia Growth Area on 19 February 2026. The meeting was positively received with ongoing

conversations leading to the drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as per Attachment 1, which was drafted by Norman Waterhouse lawyers.

Discussion

A formal letter has been drafted from the Chief Executive Officer of The Barossa Council to the Executive Director Infrastructure Division, Bill Glasgow, as per Attachment 2, to accompany the MoU. The MoU has been reviewed and approved by the Department for Education and the Department for Housing and Urban Development executive teams.

The MoU captures the intent to share information and pursue strategic opportunities for collocation of education facilities and council social infrastructure. The MoU operates as a statement of intent and is thereby non-binding. However, it does send a strong, positive signal to stakeholders and establishes the framework and intent for ongoing collaboration. The objective is to pursue positive planning and infrastructure outcomes for education, social infrastructure and open space provision for the benefit of the Concordia Growth Area and the Barossa community more broadly.

Further, through ongoing relationship building, Council staff have been invited to be a stakeholder in engagement sessions for the development of the business case for education provision for Concordia and potentially broader northern growth corridors. Key Council staff will participate in workshops later this month to be facilitated by KPMG as the Department's nominated consultant. Staff will be consulted on opportunities for coordination on land use, servicing and access to support timely delivery of new schools, as well as local development context, including local demand insights and community expectations for education infrastructure. Representatives include Natasha Weedon - Senior Strategy Advisor, Aaron Curtis – Senior Manager Development Services, and Tom Marshall – Senior Growth and Strategic Planner.

Summary and Conclusion

With progress made on negotiation of the Concordia Social Infrastructure Deed and related agreements, progressing opportunities with critical stakeholders such as the Department for Education may improve the position upon which a new community can be built, with appropriate levels of infrastructure and within a financially sustainable way.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Final Draft Memorandum of Understanding Dept for Education

Attachment 2 Letter to Department for Education re MoU Concordia

Supporting references

Nil.

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Community Plan

Our Community

Creating a safe and connected community where people have access to sustainable services and service levels and infrastructure they need and feel a sense of belonging.

Strategic Outcome

- We support and advocate for sound planning and community outcomes in the implementation of the Concordia development in alignment with Councils vision, mission and principles for this development.

Our Economy

Implementing economic development strategies to support future growth opportunities and a diversified and resilient economy showcasing the Barossa rural and regional character.

Strategic Outcome

- We look to maximize community economic return.

Our Places

Our places and spaces enhance the liveability, retain rural and regional character and diversity of our communities.

Strategic Outcome

- We plan for and deliver infrastructure to enhance our places.

Corporate Plan

CS3 Assets - Planning, construction, maintenance and operation of Council's assets (Transport, Bridges, Community Wastewater Management System, Community, Cultural, Recreation and Stormwater)

Legislative Requirements
Nil.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

Relates to collaboration and arrangements for the planning and servicing of the Concordia Growth Area development.

2. **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT**
Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

As above.

3. FINANCIAL

Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

Relates to the financial modelling, principles and arrangements for servicing of the Concordia Growth Area development as captured in the Social Infrastructure Deed and related financial modelling.

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

The proper planning and engagement of staff and qualified consultants and contractors is critical to the management of people risk.

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

The proper management of the new development is critical to the management of reputation risk.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not required or recommended at this stage due to the nature of the matter.

7.2 Corporate Services, Strategy and Innovation

7.2.1 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2026
26/23050

MOVED Cr Angas

That Council receives and notes the monthly finance update report as at 31 March 2026, as provided at Attachment 1.

SECONDED Cr de Vries **CARRIED 2022-26/952**

PURPOSE

The monthly finance report update as at 31 March 2026 provides information on the financial position and performance of the Council, including notes on material trends and transactions.

REPORT

Background
The monthly finance report as at 31 March 2026 is at Attachment 1. This report has been prepared comparing the year-to-date actuals at the end of the period, to the original adopted 2025-26 budget and updated Q2 budget, as approved at the February 2026 Council meeting.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Monthly Finance Report Council March 2026

Supporting references

Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

BS6 Finance - Provision of financial and budgetary accounting services, treasury and investment services, management reporting, reconciliation and taxation services, asset accounting, internal control, accounts payable and receivable services

Legislative Requirements
Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
   Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

   Monthly monitoring of financial performance ensures Council is in a position to ensure budget and expenditure are aligned to meet approved levels of service.

2. **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT**
   Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

   Nil

3. FINANCIAL

Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

To enable Council to make effective and strategic decisions, a high-level monthly finance report is provided for Council's noting.

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

Nil

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community consultation was undertaken as part of the original budget adoption process for 2025-26, as required by the relevant legislation. This report is advising Council of the monthly finance position compared to that budget.

7.2.2 TANUNDA HERITAGE TRAIL
26/24011

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council approve utilisation of Tanunda Town Reserve Funds as per the budget provided in this report for the renewal and expansion of the Tanunda Heritage Trail to meet contemporary interpretive signage standards.

SECONDED Cr Lane **CARRIED 2022-26/953**

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council approval to proceed with renewal of the Tanunda Heritage Trail Markers, as requested by the former Section 41 Tanunda Town Committee representatives, utilising funds retained in the Tanunda Town Reserve Fund.

REPORT

Background
At the April 2025 Council meeting Council considered a request from Patsy Biscoe on behalf of the now defunct Tanunda Town Committee to allocate funds from Tanunda Town Reserve Fund to the renewal of the Tanunda Heritage Trail markers.

This request is consistent with the desire of Council to distribute funding from town reserves and close the accounts.

7.1.3 REQUEST FUNDS FROM TANUNDA TOWN RESERVE - RSL SIGNAGE
25/25507

MOVED Cr Hurn

That Council:

(1) Approve the allocation of $1,000 from the Tanunda Town Reserve as requested at Attachment 1, to be invoiced to Council by the Tanunda RSL.

(2) Support the investigation into the replacement and repair of the Tanunda Heritage Trail markers to be funded from the Tanunda Town Reserve, pending final approval from Council in due course.

SECONDED Cr Lane **CARRIED 2022-26/666**

Since this request was made, $5000 from the Town Reserve was allocated to the 2025 Tanunda Christmas Parade, leaving a balance of $94,684 in the Fund.

Council is now in receipt of indicative quotes, and Officers seek approval to proceed with the refresh of the Tanunda Heritage Trail markers.

Introduction
The Tanunda Heritage Trail was an initiative of the former Tanunda Town Committee in 2010. The trail features six markers located at intervals along Murray Street and at Goat Square and is the only substantive example of interpretive signage in the town centre.

It is widely acknowledged that many of the current markers on the Tanunda Heritage Trail are dated and/or in a state of disrepair, creating a less than desirable visitor experience.

Whilst the existing markers are largely focused on European settlement and early pioneer life, Officers see an opportunity to elevate the trail and create a more engaging cultural tourism experience. The introduction of contemporary stories, photography and digital content via integration with the new Barossa Creative Industries Centre (BCIC) Storybank, Barossa Heritage Trails App and Barossa.com website, can extend accessibility, reach, engagement and visitor dispersal, repositioning the Trail as a significant tourism asset.

Discussion
While the markers remain an excellent example of interpretive signage, user expectations of trail signage have changed considerably in 15 years with the introduction of digital storytelling, use of QR codes and other digital integrations.

This project presents an exciting opportunity to restructure and redevelop the content to move beyond European settlement and architecture, providing a more contemporary representation of Tanunda identity and lifestyle. Themes have loosely been identified around food culture, events and festivals and contemporary local landmarks. The positioning of the markers should also be reviewed to create a more logical pedestrian route and provide cues to surrounding attractions and improve wayfinding.

Separately, Council has received SA History Fund funding of $17,250 for additional markers depicting First Nations (Ngadjuri) heritage, recognising the importance of indigenous storytelling to the Barossa Story. This will be carried out concurrently to achieve efficiencies and this grant funding will offset expenditure of Tanunda Town Reserve funds for this element of the project.

Subject to finalisation of budget, new markers may be located at Barossa Visitor Centre, Barossa Creative Industries Centre and/or Tanunda Recreation Park. The Barossa Visitor Centre, which attracts approximately 55,000 visitors annually, presents a strong opportunity as a key starting point, noting that it does not currently have a dedicated marker. A refresh and reprint of the existing Town Walk of Tanunda brochure, which complements the trail, is also desirable.

The timing of the project is strategically aligned with the delivery of the Barossa Creative Industries Centre to create a precinct that supports visitor wayfinding and cultural storytelling. Council's engagement of an Aboriginal consultant will be critical in supporting the integrity of content. The Barossa Storybank within the BCIC will also provide new opportunities for audio storytelling that can be linked to the markers through the use of QR codes.

Internal advice indicates the markers are considered street furniture and therefore development approval is not required. Costings provided below are based on quotes but subject to price variations based on final detailed requirements. While Director Infrastructure and Environmental Services has given in-principle support for in-kind installation, provision has been made in the budget for civil works associated with excavating and remediating the surface treatment. This is indicative only and subject to a formalised quote.

Item	**Cost (ex GST)**
Research and content development – internal fixed term contract (Level 3, 128 hours))	$6,313
Graphic design	$9,000
Editing (x 10 hours)	$1,250
3 x frames	$1,756
Fabrication of panels	$51,750
Civil works	$10,000
Brochure design & printing (print run 2000)	$2,141
Heritage Trail App updates	$2,000
Sub total	$84,210
Contingency 10%	$8,421
Total	**$92,631**

The project will be carried out by an internal working group and the work of the former Tanunda Town Centre Committee will be acknowledged.

Any unspent funds will remain in the Tanunda Town Reserve Fund for future projects aligned with the purpose and intent of the former town group.

Summary and Conclusion

This project represents an opportunity to not only refresh existing content on the Tanunda Heritage Trail but create a more engaging visitor experience through the integration of contemporary new content, digital integrations, improved wayfinding and inclusion of First Nations storytelling.

The refresh aligns with new opportunities at the Barossa Creative Industries Centre to uplift the heritage tourism experience and strengthen the cultural depth of this Heritage Trail.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references

Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

CS10 Economic Development - Facilitating the economic well-being and quality of life of the local businesses and the community

CS21 Tourism - Provision of a range of tourism services, including; managing the nationally accredited Barossa Visitor Centre, development and maintenance of tourism resources both digital and printed, customer service delivery encouraging longer stays, dispersal throughout the region, and maximising visitor yield and investment in our region, Tourism Business Support, capacity building, training, product development, marketing and events.

Legislative Requirements

Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**

   Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

Nil

2. **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT**
Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

Nil

3. **FINANCIAL**
Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

The project can be funded within Tanunda Town Reserve Funds and the SA History Fund grant. This reserve is already a provision on Council Statement of Financial Position. The utilisation of the reserve will impact the net financial liabilities increasing it from 80.1% to 80.3% but will not impact the operating statement as it a asset investment. The asset renewal funding ratio with increase from 104.8% to 105.7%. All financial indicators remaining with the target ranges.

4. **PEOPLE**
Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

Nil

5. **REPUTATION**
Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.
Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement is required, however stakeholder engagement will occur with representatives of the former Tanunda Town Committee as the original instigator of the project.

7.3 Infrastructure and Environmental Services

7.3.1 THE REX - LEVEL 2 - CONDITION REPORT
26/18792

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council endorses approves the engagement to undertake a level 2 services condition audit to investigate the current asset condition and assist in the strategic planning and ongoing management of The Rex – Barossa Aquatic and Fitness Centre being a condition audit totalling $102,000 ex GST, includes specialist service engineering only, includes 10% project contingency with the budget adjustments outlined in the report to the 2025-26 financial year.

SECONDED Cr Schilling **CARRIED 2022-26/954**

PURPOSE

The Rex - Barossa Aquatic and Fitness Centre expansion works were completed in 2013 and has seen a considerable uptake in community utilisation since this major upgrade was completed (15,000 users to over 200,000 per year). With the building and services approaching lifecycle milestones a level 2 building condition audit (building and services) is required to investigate the current asset condition and assist in the strategic planning and ongoing management for this facility now and into the future.

REPORT

Background
The Rex - Barossa Aquatic and Fitness Centre expansion works were completed in 2013 and has seen a considerable uptake in community utilisation since this major upgrade was completed (15,000 users to over 200,000 per year).

Introduction
With the building and services approaching lifecycle milestones a level 2 building condition audit (building and services) is required to investigate the current asset condition and assist in the strategic planning and ongoing management for this facility now and into the future.

Discussion
A level 2 building condition audit is a detailed inspection and assessment of a buildings structure, fabric and services to determine their current condition, remaining life, risks and maintenance requirements.

This level of audit is commonly used in asset management, facility planning, capital works forecasting and due diligence. This type of review is especially linked to the nature of this building given its complexity and cost to ensure the most efficient and best use of long term financial resources to ensure the appropriate service levels are maintained It includes a systematic on-site inspection of all accessible areas of the building and services, plant and equipment including; electrical, energy efficiency and sustainability, fire, hydraulic, mechanical and asset management renewal recommendations.

Experienced services engineers, Lucid Consulting was recently engaged in 2022/23 for the pool water heater replacement engineering services at The Rex facility. Having an existing knowledge of the site and systems creates efficiencies in delivering a services review scope of works. Lucid offers a complete level of services engineering that Council requires and have demonstrated confidence with Council as they have been the lead services engineers in many of the recently completed projects including – Barossa Park at Lyndoch, Barossa Rugby Precinct in Tanunda and Barossa United Football Club in Nuriootpa Centennial Park.

A fee proposal was received from Lucid Consulting Group totals $92,600 ex GST to undertake the services audit.

DASH Architects were the architects that were involved in the design and construction of the expansion works completed in 2013. With that previous relationship there is understood efficiencies with plans and building specifications/records at their disposal which creates cost efficiencies.

A fee proposal received from Dash Architects totals $42,000 ex GST, to undertake the building condition audit.

In addition to the condition audit, Officers are also seeking to investigate some future expansion planning incorporating the existing building, plant and equipment that quietly explores opportunities and the viability of increasing capacity and services at this facility. Since the major upgrade, utilisation has jumped significantly from 15,000 annually to 200,000 so there is real demand for expansion. Fee proposal received from DASH Architects totals $6,000 ex GST for this service.

The recommendation proposed will undertake the review of the services and not the buildings structure as that considered exposes Council to the greater service and cost risk. Should Council wish to undertake a full audit, an alternative resolution is:

That Council endorses approves the engagement to undertake a level 2 building and service condition audit to investigate the current asset condition and assist in the strategic planning and ongoing management of The Rex – Barossa Aquatic and Fitness Centre being a condition audit totalling $135,000 ex GST, includes specialist service engineering only, includes 10% project contingency with the budget adjustments outlined in the report to the 2025-26 financial year.

2025-26	Budget	Estimate	Budget Amendment
Service Audit	$52,540	$102,000	$49,460
Full Audit	$52,540	$135,000	$88,460

<u>*Summary and Conclusion*</u>
The Rex – Barossa Aquatic and Fitness Centre provides an essential service. Undertaking a Level 2 Services Condition audit will investigate the current asset condition and assist in the strategic planning and ongoing management of the services within the facility whilst aligning required future capital expenditure with the Long Term Financial Plan.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references
Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

CS3 Assets - Planning, construction, maintenance and operation of Council's assets (Transport, Bridges, Community Wastewater Management System, Community, Cultural, Recreation and Stormwater)

Legislative Requirements
Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. SERVICE DELIVERY
Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

The Rex – Barossa Aquatic and Fitness Centre is an important asset servicing the community, any significant critical failure of key plant and equipment will have an impact to service delivery. Understanding how the asset condition is tracking against its lifecycle enables ongoing reliability and maintained service delivery. There is no expected impact to existing users while the condition audit is undertaken.

2. SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT
Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

The existing equipment and plant is approaching lifecycle milestones and end of use, this condition audit will identify opportunities for improved energy efficiency and sustainability enabling Council to plan and operate the facility responsibly and with confidence.

3. FINANCIAL
Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

Undertaking a detailed audit of The Rex will confirm the current asset condition and assist in the strategic planning, ongoing management and alignment for this facility with the Long Term Financial Plan.

Council will use the remaining existing operating budgets within the 4275-61140 and 4275-61165 with additional budget of $49,460 will be required to be added to the budget.

Should the alternative resolution be preferred an additional $88,460 will be required to be added to the budget.

Service Audit impact on the budget based in the quarter 1 budget review:

- Operating surplus over 3 year rolling period from (2.05%) to (2.09%).
- Net financial liabilities from 80.13% to 80.22%.
- No change to the asset renewal ratio remains at 104.8%.
- The results are minor in nature, with operating surplus being marginally outside the indicator of (2%).

Full Audit impact on the budget based in the quarter 1 budget review:

- Operating surplus over 3 year rolling period from (2.05%) to (2.11%).
- Net financial liabilities from 80.13% to 80.30%.
- No change to the asset renewal ratio remains at 104.8%.
- The results are minor in nature, with operating surplus being marginally outside the indicator of (2%).

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

The performance and management of the existing services, plant and equipment at The Rex has a direct and immediate impact on the wellbeing and safety of all users, employees and volunteers.

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

There is significant reputational risk with lifecycle management of critical service infrastructure that supports the regular everyday activities and services that the community utilise at The Rex. Identifying the asset risks and upgrade requirements enable informed capital planning and expenditure.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The has been no community consultation undertaken thus far, however discussions with existing key stakeholders and community may be required moving forward.

Pursuant to Section 73 of the Local Government Act 1999, Cr Schilling disclosed an general Conflict of Interest in the matter Item number 7.3.2 – Kreig Road Lyndoch – Request to seal part of the Road as her brother in-law is employed by St Jakobi and declared she would leave the meeting.

Cr Schilling left the meeting at 6:00 pm.

7.3.2 KRIEG ROAD LYNDOCH - REQUEST TO SEAL PART OF ROAD
26/22009

MOVED Cr Preece

That Council approves that an unsealed section of Krieg Road, Lyndoch, for a distance of approximately 350 metres west of St Jakobi Primary School, be treated with the structural treatment product as a regional trial, with a capital cost of $80,000 funded from the 26/27 Road Resheet Program

SECONDED Cr Hurn **CARRIED 2022-26/955**

PURPOSE

To seek Council's consideration and approval for the upgrade of Krieg Road, Lyndoch.

REPORT

Background
Numerous requests to upgrade an unsealed section of Krieg Road past the St. Jakobi Primary School at Lyndoch with a bitumen sealed surface have been received from various representatives of the St Jakobi Lutheran School community over the years, the most recent being:

- Letter to Council from Mr Ken Semmler, dated 25 January 2025 – *refer attached,*
- Letter to Council from the St Jakobi School Principal, Ms Petrea Booth, dated 17 March 2025 – *refer attached,*
- Deputation by the St Jakobi School Business Manager, Mr Graeme Ruwoldt, to the 18 November 2025 Council Meeting.

Introduction
The first 80 metre section of Krieg Road, from Lyndoch Valley Road to the first creek culvert crossing adjacent the St Jakobi School is already a Sealed Rural Road. The section west of this to Pimpala Road is an Unsealed Rural Road.

The Barossa Council "Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (IAMP), Transport" outlines service level classifications for all roads across the Council area, defined in terms of Community Levels of Service and Technical Levels of Service. The maintenance interventions of Council roads are determined from the rated score on the measures of road assessment:

- Road Commercial Priority
- Road Social Priority

- Road Tourist Priority
- Road Hierarchy

Council's road asset management database currently identifies the section of Krieg Road as a rural unsealed road with:

- No Commercial Priority
- Medium/High Social Priority
- No Tourist Priority.

The road's existing Medium/High Social Priority is because of its access function to the adjacent Primary school precinct. Any change to the existing road asset classification or level of service requires approval of the Elected Members.

<u>Discussion</u>
The unsealed section of Krieg Road is currently graded as required to maintain a road surface that provides a safe operational Level of Service in accordance with Councils Transport Infrastructure Asset Management Plan.

The various requests from the school community have all been in terms of upgrading the unsealed section of Kreig Road with a bitumen sealed surface. A notional distance of 350 metres has been suggested, from the existing seal end at the first creek culvert to the second creek culvert crossing. Refer <u>*attached*</u> general locality plan.

The reasons outlined for the road upgrade include the perceived low level of service provided by the unsealed road as a result of the dust issues, including:

- the impact on health and well-being of students and staff, particularly those with respiratory conditions,
- the impact on outside learning areas,
- the compromised amenity,
- the high level of air conditioner maintenance required,
- the negative environmental impact.

Council records indicate that Krieg Road was last re-sheeted with compacted rubble in 2007, with numerous grading maintenance interventions since, and its current condition recorded as Fair.

Council measured traffic counts on Krieg Road near Lyndoch Valley Road in September 2025 has the following data recorded:

Average Daily Traffic Count	September 2025
• 5 day (Monday to Friday)	81 vehicles
• 7 day	66 vehicles
• Morning peak – 8am – 9am	16 vehicles
• Afternoon peak – 3pm – 4pm	13 vehicles

Over the past 3 years (since 2023) the Average Daily Traffic Count has remained relatively stable with similar traffic numbers. The overall traffic count is considered very low.

The State Government Location SA Map Viewer identifies road crash data from 2020 to end of 2024 on the State Roads. There are no road crashes recorded on Krieg Road.

In accordance with Council's Transport Infrastructure Asset Management Plan, the issue of dust, whilst noted on all of Council's unsealed road network, is not a determinant for asset management classification and has not, nor will be taken into account for any future requests for road upgrade.

Summary and Conclusion
With consideration to the above data, road hierarchy allocation and expected level of service, there is no identifiable warrant to upgrade Krieg Road with a bitumen sealed pavement surface.

Notwithstanding, it is recognised that dust generated from unsealed roads is an enduring issue across The Barossa Council region, with associated challenges for both the community and Council alike. Commercial dust suppression technology has come a long way in recent years, including the development of innovative non-corrosive, environmentally friendly and cost-effective dust suppression solutions such as the "MasterDust-S" product by "Hiway" and their research partners. This product works by drawing moisture from the air to bind fine soil particles to larger aggregates, dramatically reducing dust, and strengthening road surfaces in dry conditions. Trials to date have also demonstrated a reduction in the need for maintenance grading on roads treated with the product.

Mindful of Council's Asset Management Policy to not seal roads for only dust amenity reasons, it may however be appropriate to engage in a regional trial of the above mentioned "MasterDust-S" product on Krieg Road – for a distance of 350 metres from the end of seal to culvert crossing – as a maintenance intervention measure to reduce the costs associated with annual road grading on this section of road.

The treatment of approximately 350 metres of unsealed Krieg Road with "MasterDust-S" product will cost approximately $80,000. The majority of the cost would be required to resurface the road in any case for sealing.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Concerns – Sealing Krieg Road – Ken Semmler – 25 January 2025
Attachment 2 Deputation – Letter Support of Road Upgrade to council – St Jakobi Lutheran School
Attachment 3 Krieg Road Lyndoch – General Layout Plan

Supporting references
Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Legislative Requirements
Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. SERVICE DELIVERY

Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

Nil

2. SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

Nil

3. FINANCIAL

Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

The application of a road surface treatment to Krieg Road for a distance of approximately 350 metres will have an estimated road maintenance budget cost of approximately $80,000 and is to be funded from the 26/27 Road Resheeting Budget

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

Nil

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

Cr Schilling returned to the meeting at 6:01 pm.

7.3.3 TABOR CEMETERY COMMITTEE INC - REQUEST TO REINSTATE FUNDING AGREEMENT 26/22842

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council enters into agreement with Tabor Cemetery Inc stating:

(1) 3 Year Funding agreement from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2029 with an annual allocation of $4,000(excluding GST).

(2) Annual contributions to be indexed by the annual movement in the Adelaide Consumer Price Index (CPI) as at the 31 March for the preceding financial year.

(3) Funds provided being only used towards the on-ground maintenance and improvements at the Tabor Cemetery.

(4) Annual payment being made subject to receipt of a completed acquittal statement relating to the previous financial year's operations.

(5) If the financial operations statement review reports an increase in cash balance from the previous year the actual funding allocation may be reduced.

SECONDED Cr Angas **CARRIED 2022-26/956**

PURPOSE

To consider an application from the Tabor Cemetery Committee Inc (*attached*) to reinstate the funding agreement that expired 30 June 2024 with Tabor Cemetery Inc for Cemetery on ground maintenance and improvements at Tabor Cemetery.

REPORT

Background

Tabor Cemetery is a privately owned Cemetery located at 135 Murray Street, Tanunda.

Since 2005 Council has made 12 payments to the Tabor Cemetery Committee to provide funding towards the Cemetery costs to offset their maintenance costs while permitting the public access for burials, as there is no Council owned cemetery in Tanunda. The most recent agreement expired on 30 June 2024.

The previous agreement conditions were:-

- 3 Year Funding agreement from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2024 with an annual allocation of $4,000(excluding GST).
- Annual contributions to be indexed by the annual movement in the Adelaide Consumer Price Index (CPI) as at the 31 March for the preceding financial year.
- Funds provided being only used towards the on-ground maintenance and improvements at the Tabor Cemetery.
- Annual payment being made subject to receipt of a completed acquittal statement relating to the previous financial year's operations.
- If the financial operations statement review reports an increase in cash balance from the previous year the actual funding allocation may be reduced.

Summary and Conclusion
Tabor Cemetery is the only private Cemetery that Council makes any contribution towards its operating costs. Within the Council area there are a number of Cemeteries which are not Council owned and are privately managed.

Since 2002 there have been irregular 3 yearly funding agreements with the Tabor Cemetery Committee, the Committee have not claimed each year and there has been occasions when Council declined to contribute as the provided acquittal statements indicated an increase in cash balance from the previous year.

Since 2005 Council has made contributions to the Tabor Cemetery Committee totaling $44,397.30.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Tabor Cemetery Committee Inc - Funding Agreement - request for reinstatement

Supporting references
Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Legislative Requirements
Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

Nil

2. **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT**
Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

Nil

3. **FINANCIAL**
Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

Budget annually of $4,000 required. This will have no material impact on the financial operations and sustainability of Council.

4. **PEOPLE**
Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

Nil

5. **REPUTATION**
Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

7.4 Development and Community Services

7.4.1 <u>DOG REGISTRATION FEES - 2026-2027</u>
26/19215

MOVED Cr Preece

That Council:

Approves the proposed dog registration fees for the 2026/2027 financial year, as follows.

Non-Standard Dog (Not desexed and not Microchipped)	$94.00
Standard Dog	$47.00
Working Dog	$27.00
Racing Greyhound (Registered with Greyhound Racing SA)	$27.00
Assistance Dogs (No charge, per legislation)	Free
Late Registration Renewal fee (if paid after 31 August)	$27.00

Standard Dog Rebate	50%
Concession Rebate	50%
Puppy Training Rebate (first year of registration only)	10%
Partial Year Rebate (New Registrations - 1 January to 31 May)	50%

SECONDED Cr de Vries **CARRIED 2022-26/957**

PURPOSE

For Elected Members to consider and determine the annual dog registration fees for the 2026/2027 financial year.

REPORT

Introduction
Dog registration fees are set by Council, at its discretion, under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 (the Act)*. An annual review is undertaken to consider a schedule of dog registration fees, as part of the annual budget processes.

Discussion
In accordance with *the Act* all dogs in South Australia must be registered at 3 months of age in Dogs and Cats Online (DACO).

It is a requirement for Council to set dog registration fees as per *the Act*.

Legislation mandates all dogs to be microchipped by three months of age, and all dogs born after 1 July 2018 to be desexed by six months of age, unless the dog is eligible for an exemption.

To provide consistency across councils, the Dog and Cat Management Board introduced and adopted a 'standard' and a 'non-standard' registration category. This forms the basis of Council's registration fees.

Due to Council needing to continue to meet its requirement to administer *the Act*, and animal management in general, it is recommended that the fees for the 2026/27 financial year need to be increased. The proposed increase of 2.7% reflects CPI and is consistent with other fee increases that will be considered by Council.

It should be noted that all fees have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Proposed Dog Registration Fees, Rebates and Charges 2026/2027

Registration Category	Fee description	2024-2025	2025 – 2026	2026 - 2027
Non-Standard Dog	Not desexed and not microchipped	$88.00	$91.00	$94.00
Standard Dog	desexed and microchipped	$44.00	$45.50	$47.00
Working Dog	Working livestock dog	$25.00	$26.00	$27.00
Racing Greyhound	Greyhound registered with GRSA	$25.00	$26.00	$27.00
Assistance Dogs	Free per legislation	$0	$0	$0
Late Registration Renewal fee	If renewed after 31 August	$25.00	$26.00	$27.00

	Rebates
Standard dog (both desexed and microchipped)	50% - to the nearest dollar
Puppy Training (applies to first year registration only)	10% - to the nearest dollar
Concession	50% - to the nearest dollar
Partial year (1 January to 31 May)	50% - to the nearest dollar

Comparisons to neighbouring councils 2025-2026 dog registration fees tabled below.

	Non Standard Dog	Standard Dog
Adelaide Hills Council	$112.00	$56.00
Town of Gawler	$100.00	$54.00
The Barossa Council	**$91.00**	**$45.50**
City of Playford	$90.00	$45.00
Mid Murray Council	$86.00	$43.00
Light Regional Council	$81.00	$40.50

Standard Dog
Council is required to provide a rebate off of the 'non-standard' fee for a 'standard' dog registration. The Dog and Cat Management Board (the Board) recommends that this rebate be set at 50%.

A standard dog is a dog that is both desexed and microchipped. Councils are obliged to provide a percentage rebate (deducted from the non-standard dog fee) for a dog that is both desexed and microchipped.

Non-Standard Dog
A non-standard dog is a dog that is neither desexed or microchipped, or a dog that is only desexed (and not microchipped) or only microchipped (and not desexed) is classed as a non-standard dog. The full registration fee applies to this category.

The desexing requirement applies to new generations of dogs and does not apply to dog born before 1 July 2018.

This is designed to encourage and incentivise dog owners to have their dogs desexed and microchipped in line with the requirements of the State Government.

Concession Card Holders
The Barossa Council have historically offered a further 50% reduction in fees to concession card holders. This rebate shall be applied after other rebates have been calculated as is the present case. DACO has the ability to verify the status of a concession instantly through an interface with Federal Government databases.

In line with the recommendations of the Board, the holder of the following concession cards will be eligible for the concession discount:

- Department of Veteran Affairs – Gold or White Card
- Pensioner Card
- Senior Health Care Card
- Health Care Card

All concessions, except the Health Care Card, will be a permanent concession. The Health Care Card is a temporary concession and will be required to be validated each registration year.

Training Rebate
The Board no longer provides a recommendation or guidance about the training rebate for dog registrations and has left it open for individual councils to consider. Traditionally, a training rebate has been provided to encourage responsible dog ownership via a 10% rebate off the dog registration fee to owners who train their dogs.

As in previous years, it is recommended that this remains to encourage dog owners to attend obedience training by providing a discount on the registration fee**.** The rebate is calculated as a percentage of the maximum fee.

To encourage attendance at puppy pre-school classes, it is proposed that Council will continue to provide a training rebate for the first year of registration to owners that have completed puppy pre-school.

A total of 178 dogs received this training rebate this financial year.

Working Livestock Dog
Working livestock dogs are those that are kept *primarily* for the purpose of herding, droving, protecting, tending or working stock. It is proposed to continue to provide a set fee for registering working livestock dogs. No other rebates apply.

Working Livestock Dogs are exempt from the desexing requirements. DACO provides a process to validate a working dog's status.

Partial Year Registration Rebate
A partial year rebate is currently offered for new registrations received after 1 January. This rebate acknowledges new ownership and provides incentive to new owners registering their recently acquired dogs during the second half of the registration year.

This rebate is applied after all other applicable rebates have been applied and is currently set at 50% of the fee otherwise payable. It is proposed that this rebate remains at 50% for 2026/27 and does not apply to registration renewals.

Late renewal fee
Currently a $26 late registration renewal fee per dog was applied mid-September, this fee is to cover costs associated with ensuring that all known dogs are registered in DACO and to encourage owners to register their dogs within the renewal period of July and August. Staff recommend this fee be increased to $27.00 for the 26/27 period.

Dog Management Fund
All South Australian councils are required to pay to the State Government, via The Board, a percentage of every dog registration received. For rural councils, which includes The Barossa Council, this contribution is set at 12%. The contribution is 24% for metropolitan councils.

Council's contribution to The Board to date is $29,099.

Exemptions
The legislation enables veterinarians to exempt a dog from microchipping or desexing requirements for reasons which relate to the health, well-being, growth and development of a dog. Council must accept these exemptions.

Other Revenue
Council collects revenue for expiation notices, fines recovered by Fines Enforcement and Recovery Unit and pound fees under the provisions of the Act. These are variable revenue sources and dependent on animals impounded and offences being committed.

Summary and Conclusion
It is recommended that the fees for dog registrations and associated activities be marginally increased to reflect the increase in costs for Council to conduct its business.

On average, the fees have increased by 2.7% which is considered to be appropriate in the current economic climate.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references
Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

CS1 Animals - Management of animal issues including attacks, harassment, complaints, lost companion animals, registration, cage hire and collection, wandering animals, breeders

Legislative Requirements
Dog and Cat Management Act 1995

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
   Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

   Nil

2. **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT**
   Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

   Nil

3. **FINANCIAL**
   Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

The table below highlights dog management revenue, expenditure and registration numbers since 2023-2024.

	2023-2024 Actual	**2024-2025 Actual**	**2025-2026** As at 19 March 2026
Registrations Numbers	5859	5793	5792
Registration Revenue (100%)	($273,090)	(272,792)	(267,344)
Other Revenue *(Dog Pound, expiations)*	($7,688)	(9,592)	(4,840)
Total Revenue	**($280,778)**	**(282,382)**	**(272,184)**

Operational Expenses	$389,392	$288,014	161,709.75
Net	**$108,614**	**$62,094**	**$101,475**
Included in above:			
State Government Contribution (12%)	$32,770	32,375	$29,099

Resourcing
Council's Community Safety team continues to receive animal related requests for service.

Risk Considerations
Increasing registration fees raises the risk of adding to financial hardship for some dog owners and an increased possibility of dog owners choosing too not renew their dog registration, this has potential for additional pressure on resources to follow up compliance, and therefore additional compliance costs.

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

Nil

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not required.

8. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

8.1 Infrastructure and Environmental Services

8.1.1 <u>THE REX POOL HEATER REPLACEMENT TENDER</u>
26/23824

There is strong public interest in enabling members of the public to observe Council's transparent and informed decision-making. This helps to ensure accountability, maintain transparency of public expenditure, facilitate public participation, assist public awareness and allow for the scrutiny of information. Attendance at a Council meeting is one means of satisfying this interest. The public will only be excluded from a Council meeting when the need for confidentiality pursuant to Section 90(2) of the Act outweighs the public interest of open decision-making.

In this matter, the reasons that receipt, consideration or discussion of the information or matter in a meeting open to the public would be contrary to the public interest are that it assessing tender outcomes

On balance, the above reason which supports the need for confidentiality pursuant to Section 90(2) of the Act outweighs the factors in favour of the public interest of open decision-making.

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council:

(1) Under the provisions of Section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, make an order that the public be excluded from the meeting with the exception of the Chief Executive Officer, Director Corporate Services, Strategy and Innovation, Director Development and Community Services, Director Infrastructure and Environmental Services and the Minute Secretary, in order to consider in confidence a report relating to being information that must be considered in confidence pursuant to:

<u>Section 90(3)(k) of the *Local Government Act 1999:*</u>

tenders for the supply of goods, the provision of services or the carrying out of works;

(2) Accordingly, on this basis, Council is satisfied that public interest in conducting meetings in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep the information and discussion confidential in order that it assessing tender outcomes

SECONDED Cr Hurn **CARRIED 2022-26/958**

The meeting moved into confidence at 6.03pm

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council:

(1) Council resolution

(2) Council resolution

(3) Having considered this matter in confidence under Sections 90(2) and 90(3)(k) of the *Local Government Act 1999,* makes an order pursuant to Section 91(7), that the minutes, agenda report and attachments other than the minutes relating to this confidentiality order of the Confidential Council Meeting held on 21 April 2026 in relation to item 8.1.1 The REX Pool Heater Replacement Tender be kept confidential and not available for public inspection and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to review and revoke the order.

SECONDED Cr Angas **CARRIED CO 2022-26/959**

Resumption of open council meeting at 6.05pm

8.1.2 TANUNDA KEGEL CLUBROOMS AND TOILET TENDER
26/23826

There is strong public interest in enabling members of the public to observe Council's transparent and informed decision-making. This helps to ensure accountability, maintain transparency of public expenditure, facilitate public participation, assist public awareness and allow for the scrutiny of information. Attendance at a Council meeting is one means of satisfying this interest. The public will only be excluded from a Council meeting when the need for confidentiality pursuant to Section 90(2) of the Act outweighs the public interest of open decision-making.

In this matter, the reasons that receipt, consideration or discussion of the information or matter in a meeting open to the public would be contrary to the public interest are that it is considering pricing and service information

On balance, the above reason which supports the need for confidentiality pursuant to Section 90(2) of the Act outweighs the factors in favour of the public interest of open decision-making.

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council:

(1) Under the provisions of Section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, make an order that the public be excluded from the meeting with the exception of the Chief Executive Officer, Director Corporate Services, Strategy and Innovation, Director Development and Community Services, Director Infrastructure and Environmental Services and the Minute Secretary, in order to consider in confidence a report relating to being information that must be considered in confidence pursuant to:

Section 90(3)(k) of the *Local Government Act 1999:*

tenders for the supply of goods, the provision of services or the carrying out of works;

(2) Accordingly, on this basis, Council is satisfied that public interest in conducting meetings in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep the information and discussion confidential in order that it is considering pricing and service information

SECONDED Cr Hurn **CARRIED 2022-26/960**

The meeting moved into confidence at 6.05pm

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council:

(1) Council resolution

(2) Having considered this matter in confidence under Sections 90(2) and 90(3)(k) of the *Local Government Act 1999,* makes an order pursuant to Section 91(7), that the minutes, agenda report and attachments other than the minutes relating to this confidentiality order of the Confidential Council Meeting held on 21 April 2026 in relation to item 8.1.2 Tanunda Kegel Clubrooms and Toilet Tender be kept confidential and not available for public inspection and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to review and revoke the order.

SECONDED Cr Preece **CARRIED CO 2022-26/961**

Resumption of open council meeting at 6.08pm

9. URGENT OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

10. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 19 May 2026 at 5:30pm

11. CLOSURE

Mayor Lange declared the meeting closed at 6.08pm.

Confirmed at Council Meeting on 19 May 2026

Date:……………………………… Mayor:…………………………………