



Shire of
Plantagenet

Mount Barker • Kendenup • Narrikup
Porongurup • Rocky Gully

ORDINARY AGENDA

An Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at the
Shire of Plantagenet Council Chambers, Mount Barker
at 5:00pm on Tuesday 27 October 2026

Garry Bird
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS	3
2	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED).....	3
3	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	3
3.1	RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE.....	3
3.2	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - SECTION 5.24 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995	3
4	PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS	3
5	DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST	3
6	APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE	4
7	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.....	5
7.1	ORDINARY MINUTES OF COUNCIL HELD 22 OCTOBER 2026	5
8	ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION	5
9	REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS	6
9.1	DEVELOPMENT & REGULATORY SERVICES REPORTS	6
9.1.1	DRAFT LOCAL PLANNING POLICY NO. 9 – BUILDING ENVELOPES.....	6
9.1.2	SECTION 9.5 OBJECTION TO COUNCIL DECISION FOR ROOSTERS AT 136 SIXTH AVENUE KENDENUP	11
9.2	INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS REPORTS	16
9.3	CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORTS	17
9.3.1	FINANCIAL REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2026.....	17
9.3.2	LIST OF ACCOUNTS – SEPTEMBER 2026	20
9.3.3	FREEDOM OF INFORMATION STATEMENT 2026.....	23
9.3.4	FROST AND SOUNNESS PARK MASTER PLANS 2026 - ADOPTION.....	25

9.3.5	COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM 2026/2027 – CATEGORY 3, ROUND 1 APPLICATIONS.....	28
9.3.6	LEASE - RESERVE 23086 & LOT 1 ALBANY HIGHWAY, THE FORMER NARPANUP GOLF COURSE SITE	35
9.4	EXECUTIVE SERVICES REPORTS.....	40
9.4.1	NEW COUNCIL POLICY – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	40
9.4.2	NEW COUNCIL POLICY – COUNCIL, COMMITTEE’S AND COUNCIL FORUM MEETINGS SCHEDULE.....	42
10	MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN	45
11	NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE MEETING.....	45
12	CONFIDENTIAL	46
12.1.1	TENDER C01-2627 AGRN 1208 STORMS AND ASSOCIATED FLOODING GREAT SOUTHERN 13-14 MARCH 2025 – ESSENTIAL PUBLIC ASSET RECONSTRUCTION WORKS (EPAR).....	46
12.1.2	TENDER C02-2627 AGRN 1208 STORMS AND ASSOCIATED FLOODING GREAT SOUTHERN 13-14 MARCH 2025 - ESSENTIAL PUBLIC ASSET RECONSTRUCTION WORKS (EPAR) – PROJECT MANAGEMENT	47
12.1.3	TENDER C03-2627 WOOGENELLUP ROAD PAVEMENT STABILISATION WORKS (SECTIONS).....	48
12.1.4	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2026/27	49
13	THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE PRESIDING MEMBER CLOSED THE MEETING AT X.XXPM.....	49

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Member will declare the meeting open.

Welcome to this Ordinary Meeting of Council, of Tuesday the 27 October 2020, commencing at 5:00pm. This meeting is being audio-recorded, in accordance with Regulation 14I of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996.

I also point you to the Disclaimer and Emergency Procedures on the lead in pages of this document for this building.

The Shire of Plantagenet acknowledges the traditional custodians of our area and their continuing connection to the land and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Menang Noongar community and their culture; and to Elders past and present.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)

Members Present:

In Attendance:

Apologies:

Members of the Public Present:

Previously Approved Leave of Absence:

3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

3.1 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

3.2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - SECTION 5.24 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995

4 PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS

5 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Part 5 Division 6 Local Government Act 1995

6 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Section 5.25 Local Government Act 1995

Nil

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 ORDINARY MINUTES OF COUNCIL HELD 22 OCTOBER 2026

Minutes, as circulated, of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shire of Plantagenet, held on 22 September 2026.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Shire of Plantagenet, held on 22 September 2026, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

8 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION

9 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS

9.1 DEVELOPMENT & REGULATORY SERVICES REPORTS

9.1.1 DRAFT LOCAL PLANNING POLICY NO. 9 – BUILDING ENVELOPES

Synergy Ref:	LP/120/36
Attachment:	<u>Attachment 1 – Draft Local Planning Policy No. 9 – Building Envelopes</u>
Responsible Officer:	André Pinto Executive Manager Development & Regulatory Services
Author:	Lia Roberts Senior Planner
Proprietor/Applicant:	N/A
Proposed Meeting Date:	27 October 2026

PURPOSE

To seek Council's endorsement to advertise draft Local Planning Policy No. 9 – Building Envelopes (LPP 9) for public comment. The Policy establishes clear and consistent guidance for the nomination and modification of building envelopes, and for the consideration of minor development outside a building envelope.

BACKGROUND

A building envelope is the area of land within which all buildings and effluent disposal facilities (such as septic tanks and leach drains) on a lot must be contained. They help consolidate development in appropriate locations, protect environmental and landscape values, and manage impacts on amenity, access and servicing, and exposure to hazards such as bushfire and flooding.

Building envelopes may be established through a range of planning instruments and approvals, including structure plans, local development plans, and subdivision and development approvals. While Local Planning Scheme No.5 (LPS 5) contains a definition of a building envelope, the Shire does not currently have a local planning policy providing guidance on the nomination and modification of existing building envelopes, or circumstances where minor development would be considered outside of a building envelope.

Given the Shire's predominantly rural character, environmental constraints, bushfire-prone land and valued landscapes, together with the increasing emphasis within the Western Australian planning framework on site-responsive design, natural hazard management and environmental protection, a consistent policy framework for building envelopes is considered appropriate.

The draft policy forms part of the Shire's ongoing local planning policy review. It is intended to complement LPS 5 and assist applicants, landowners and decision makers by providing greater clarity and consistency in the assessment process.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

The draft Policy will be advertised for public comment in accordance with Schedule 2, clauses 4 and 87 of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*.

Subject to Council's resolution, the draft Policy will be advertised for a minimum of 21 days after the notice is first published. Consultation will include:

- Publication of a notice and the draft Policy on the Shire's website and available for public inspection.
- A notice on the Shire's social media.
- A notice in the *Plantagenet News*.

The draft Policy, submissions and recommended modifications (if required) will then be referred to Council for consideration.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Schedule 2, clause 3 of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* enables the preparation of local planning policies. Clause 4 sets out the procedure for advertising and adoption.

The draft Policy guides available discretion under LPS 5. Where there is an inconsistency, the Local Planning Scheme prevails. The Policy does not override statutory requirements or authorise variations where no discretion exists.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The draft Policy applies throughout the Shire to the nomination and modification of building envelopes and proposals for development outside an approved building envelope. It applies across all zones where an envelope is established, required or proposed under the applicable planning framework.

Building envelopes are particularly relevant to larger lots with rural and rural-residential characteristics, and other land where site-specific constraints require careful siting of development.

The Policy establishes assessment criteria that address matters including site characteristics, environmental values, natural hazards, land use compatibility, landscape considerations, and access and servicing requirements.

If Council resolves to proceed with the Policy, LPP 9 will provide guidance for assessing envelope proposals and development outside envelopes. Adoption takes effect on publication of the required notice.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no significant financial implications arising from this report.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Advertising and administrative costs associated with public consultation will be met through existing operating budget allocations.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

See Statutory Environment.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications as no assets are being created or acquired.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2025 – 2029 provides:

At Key Pillar 3 – Develop Our Economy the following:

Strategy 3.5 – Lead and encourage development via a structured planning vision

Corporate Action 3.5.2 – Local Planning Scheme No.5 (2021) review (constant ongoing minor reviews)

At Key Pillar 4 – Performance & Leadership the following:

Strategy 4.3 – Commitment to continuous improvement in service delivery

Corporate Action 4.3.1 – Implement review processes in service delivery on a regular basis and as needed

The draft Policy supports these actions by improving the clarity and consistency of planning guidance and decision-making processes.

RISK MITIGATION IMPLICATIONSLow Risk

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Plantagenet Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be “Low” risk and can be managed by routine procedures and with currently available resources.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional strategic risk implications identified. The draft Policy supports coordinated siting of development and consideration of environmental values, compatibility with surrounding land uses, access and servicing, and hazard-related risks.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

The Shire does not currently have clear and consistent guidance regarding the requirement, nomination and modification of building envelopes, or the assessment of development proposed outside them. Draft LPP 9 has been prepared to address this gap and establish a consistent approach to these matters.

The Policy also supports the Shire's review of expired and expiring structure plans, undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 and direction from the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH). As part of this review process, the Shire is assessing which provisions of the structure plans and Local Planning Scheme No. 5 (LPS 5) remain necessary and how they should be incorporated into the local planning framework, including through local planning policies and amendments to LPS 5.

Many of the Shire's structure plans identify building envelopes. Where these structure plans expire, the Policy will provide guidance on the nomination, modification and assessment of building envelopes across the Shire. This will help ensure a consistent approach is maintained within the local planning framework and provide greater clarity for applicants.

The key objective of LPP No. 9 is to consolidate development in suitable locations while protecting environmental values, landscape character and amenity; minimising exposure to natural hazards and land use conflict, while ensuring appropriate access and servicing. The Policy also outlines circumstances where limited development outside a nominated building envelope may be considered.

The Policy establishes assessment criteria relating to site characteristics, environmental protection, natural hazards, land use compatibility and amenity, landscape and heritage, access and servicing, and infrastructure constraints. These criteria are intended to support a consistent and site-responsive approach to decision-making.

A justified variation to the Policy may be supported where its objectives are achieved, the relevant planning considerations have been satisfactorily addressed, and statutory discretion exists.

This Policy applies across all zones within the Shire's LPS 5 where a building envelope exists, is proposed or is required, including where the Shire considers a building envelope necessary.

Proposed building envelopes are to be nominated by the landowner or applicant. Modifications may be supported where an approved envelope does not adequately respond to site conditions, the proposed modification maintains the purpose of the building envelope and achieves an appropriate planning outcome.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Pursuant to Schedule 2, clause 3 of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*, adopts draft Local Planning Policy No. 9 – Building Envelopes, as contained in Attachment 1, for the purpose of public advertising.
2. Resolves to advertise the draft Local Planning Policy No. 9 – Building Envelopes for public comment for at least 21 days after the notice is first published, in accordance with *Schedule 2, clauses 4 and 87 of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*.

9.1.2 SECTION 9.5 OBJECTION TO COUNCIL DECISION FOR ROOSTERS AT 136 SIXTH AVENUE KENDENUP

Synergy Ref:	I151418
Attachment:	Local Government Act 1995 Section 9.5 Objection
Responsible Officer:	André Pinto Executive Manager Development & Regulatory Services
Author:	André Pinto Executive Manager Development & Regulatory Services
Proprietor/Applicant:	Margaret Fraser
Proposed Meeting Date:	27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to determine an objection lodged by Ms Margaret Fraser under section 9.5 of *the Local Government Act 1995* against condition 4 of Resolution 105/26, which does not permit roosters to be kept at 136 Sixth Avenue, Kendenup. The recommendation is to allow the objection to be lodged out of time and dismiss it, leaving Resolution 105/26 unchanged.

BACKGROUND

On 25 August 2026, Council considered an application to keep excess poultry and roosters at 136 Sixth Avenue, Kendenup. Through Resolution 105/26, Council granted a personal and non-transferable approval for a maximum of 15 hens, subject to conditions, but did not permit roosters on the property.

The relevant history recorded in the public report is:

20 December 2017 - Ms Fraser submitted an application to keep roosters at 132 Sixth Avenue, Kendenup.

22 January 2018 - Council refused that application and a refusal letter was issued.

6 October 2025 - The Shire received a complaint about roosters being kept at 136 Sixth Avenue, Kendenup.

10 October 2025 - A Ranger attended the property and advised that the roosters were to be removed within seven days.

23 October 2025 - The Shire wrote to Ms Fraser about the Health Local Law 2008 and the earlier Council refusal, allowing a further 14 days to remove the roosters or discuss alternative arrangements.

14 November 2025 - A neighbour advised that the roosters remained at the property.

20 November 2025 - A site inspection confirmed that the roosters remained. Ms Fraser was advised that she needed to apply for approval or remove them.

1 December 2025 - The Shire received a support letter from the Albany Poultry Club. No application had been received at that time.

- 4 February 2026** - A further inspection confirmed that the roosters remained. Ms Fraser advised that she intended to relocate them outside the townsite but was again advised that an application was required if she wished to keep them at the property.
- 24 April 2026** - Ms Fraser submitted an incomplete application and the Shire requested further information.
- 21 May 2026** - Ms Fraser submitted an amended application, which remained incomplete. The Shire nevertheless proceeded with an assessment, including a site inspection and consultation with neighbouring properties.
- 27 July 2026** - An inspection recorded 15 hens and at least three roosters. The poultry enclosure did not comply with clauses 5.4.3(a) and 5.4.3(e) of the Health Local Law 2008.
- 25 August 2026** - Council approved a maximum of 15 hens, several variations to Local Law requirements, and imposed a condition that no roosters were permitted at the property.
- 12 October 2026** - The Shire received Ms Fraser's Form 4 objection seeking approval to keep two bantam roosters.

The 2018 refusal concerned 132 Sixth Avenue and is separate from the current property. It remains relevant history because it involved the same applicant and the same requirement for approval to keep roosters within the Kendenup townsite.

At 136 Sixth Avenue, the public timeline records repeated inspections, written directions and opportunities to remove or relocate the roosters or seek approval before the application was brought to Council. The objection now relates only to Council's decision not to permit roosters.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Before Council made Resolution 105/26, the Shire consulted the four adjoining and nearest neighbouring properties. Two objected to the keeping of roosters. None objected to the proposal to keep more than the prescribed number of hens.

The objection includes three letters supporting the roosters from people connected with the same adjoining property, five additional statements of no objection and a broader petition seeking changes to the rules applying to small livestock in the Kendenup townsite. The material has been considered as Ms Fraser's submissions on the objection. Personal contact details and signatures are not reproduced in this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995, Part 9 Division 1. Section 9.5 permits an affected person to lodge an objection in the prescribed form within 28 days after the right of objection arose, or within further time allowed by the local government. Section 9.6 requires Council to determine an objection against a Council decision after giving the objector a reasonable opportunity to make submissions. Council may dismiss the objection, vary the decision or revoke the decision, with or without a substitute decision or referral. Written notice of the outcome and reasons must be given to the objector. Section 9.7 provides for review by the State Administrative Tribunal.

Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, regulation 33 and Schedule 1 Form 4 prescribe the form and manner for lodging an objection under section 9.5 of the Act.

Shire of Plantagenet Health Local Law 2008, clauses 5.4.1 to 5.4.4. Clause 5.4.2 requires approval to keep more than 12 poultry and pigeons on a townsite lot. Clause 5.4.3 sets conditions for keeping poultry. Clause 5.4.4 prohibits the keeping of a rooster within a townsite without written approval and permits Council to grant approval with or without conditions. An approval is personal to the occupier and may be revoked if the birds cause a nuisance or are injurious, offensive or dangerous to health.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implications do not apply for this report and further policy development is not required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for this report.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications for this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The objection was received on 12 October 2026, more than 28 days after Council made Resolution 105/26 on 25 August 2026. Council must first decide whether to allow further time for lodgement under section 9.5(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995*. Allowing further time will enable Council to determine the objection on its merits.

Council must give the objector a reasonable opportunity to make submissions, then provide written notice of its decision and reasons. A person dissatisfied with the decision on the objection may apply to the State Administrative Tribunal for review within the period prescribed by section 9.7.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications as no assets are being created or acquired.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2026 - 2030 provides:
At *Key Pillar 4 - Performance & Leadership* the following:

Strategy 4.1 - Listen and consider the needs of each community

4.1.1 Establish multiple points of access for consultation

Considering the objection and the material submitted supports this strategy while preserving Council's responsibility to apply the *Health Local Law 2008*.

RISK MITIGATION IMPLICATIONS

Medium Risk

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Plantagenet Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be Medium and can be managed by specific procedures, increased monitoring and the allocation of additional resources.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no strategic risk implications for this report.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

This objection does not require Council to reconsider the full poultry approval. The objection specifically concerns condition 4 of Resolution 105/26 and seeks approval to keep two bantam roosters. The approval for a maximum of 15 hens and the other conditions remain unless Council decides to vary or revoke them.

Although the objection was lodged outside the statutory 28-day period, allowing further time is recommended so Council can determine the merits after considering the objector's submissions. No prejudice to another party has been identified from determining the objection at this meeting.

The supporting material states that bantam roosters are quieter than standard roosters and proposes keeping them in a dark enclosure overnight and during the early morning, with one submission referring to release after 9.00am. The material also records support from some nearby residents and broader community support for changing the rules applying to small livestock in Kendenup.

The support must be weighed against the earlier consultation, in which two of the four adjoining and nearest properties objected specifically to roosters, and against the complaint that initiated the current compliance history. The objection does not include noise measurements, detailed acoustic information or construction details demonstrating that the proposed enclosure would reliably prevent noise from affecting surrounding residential properties. Overnight containment also does not address crowing or other noise after release during the day.

The three detailed support letters are associated with the same adjoining property. The broader petition advocates a townsite-wide policy change and is not site-specific evidence about likely impacts at 136 Sixth Avenue. That material is relevant to community views but does not resolve the amenity risk identified in the original assessment.

While the 2018 refusal at 132 Sixth Avenue provides relevant background, the current objection should be determined on its own merits, with primary regard to the amenity and nuisance considerations presently before Council. The past compliance history provides context but is not, by itself, a basis for dismissing the objection.

At the current property, the Shire gave repeated opportunities to remove or relocate the roosters or seek approval before the matter was determined by Council. Those

opportunities allowed the issue to be regularised but did not create an entitlement to approval.

Clause 5.4.4 allows Council to approve roosters within a townsite on a case-by-case basis. In a residential townsite, an exception should be supported by clear site-specific evidence that nuisance can be reliably prevented. The objection does not provide sufficient new evidence to displace Council's earlier assessment of residential amenity and potential ongoing nuisance.

Resolution 105/26 already reflects a proportionate distinction between the different parts of the application. It permits 15 hens, subject to conditions, while withholding approval for roosters. Maintaining that distinction provides reasonable flexibility for the applicant without introducing an avoidable noise risk in the residential area, does not set a precedent in a townsite for this allowance and is consistent with this ruling generally across the State.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. pursuant to section 9.5(2) of the Local Government Act 1995, allows further time for lodgement and accepts the objection received from Ms Margaret Fraser on 12 October 2026;**
- 2. pursuant to section 9.6(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1995, dismisses the objection to condition 4 of Resolution 105/26 and does not grant written approval for two bantam roosters to be kept at 136 Sixth Avenue, Kendenup;**
- 3. confirms that all other terms and conditions of Resolution 105/26 remain unchanged; and**
- 4. directs the Chief Executive Officer to give Ms Fraser written notice of Council's decision and reasons in accordance with section 9.6(5) of the Local Government Act 1995, including information about review rights under section 9.7.**

9.2 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS REPORTS

Nil

9.3 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORTS**9.3.1 FINANCIAL REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2026**

File Ref:	N68918
Attachment:	Monthly Financial Report – September 2026
Responsible Officer:	Anthony Middleton Executive Manager – Corporate & Community Services
Author:	Anthony Middleton Executive Manager – Corporate & Community Services
Proposed Meeting Date:	27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to note the Monthly Financial Statements for the period ending 30 September 2026.

BACKGROUND

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, regulation 34 states that a local government must prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the revenue and expenditure, as set out in the annual budget.

Variances between budgeted and actual expenditure including the required material variances (10% with a minimum value of \$20,000) are included in the variance report.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Nil.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Regulations 34 and 35 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* sets out the basic information which must be included in the monthly reports to Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implications do not apply for this report and it is the opinion of the author that policy development is not required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This item reports on the current financial position of the Shire. The recommendation does not in itself have a financial implication.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications for this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications for this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications as no assets are being created or acquired.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2026 – 2030 provides:

At Key Pillar 4 *Performance & Leadership* the following:

Strategy 4.2 - A Shire that is open and transparent with its community.

Corporate Action 4.2.3 - Develop effective reporting and communication tools relevant to the way our community access information.

Strategy 4.3 - Commitment to continuous improvement in service delivery.

Corporate Action 4.3.2 - Be transparent with our financial management by reporting regularly readable and meaningful financial data to the community.

Accordingly, the recommended outcome for this report aligns with the Corporate Business Plan.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONSLow Risk

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Plantagenet Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be “Low” risk and can be managed by routine procedures and with currently available resources.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

The attached Statement of Financial Activity for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 September 2026 represents three (3) months, or 25% of the year. The following items are worthy of noting:

- Closing surplus position of \$9.8m;
- Operating results:
 - 71% of budgeted operating revenue has been received; and
 - 16% of budgeted operating expenditure spent (does not include depreciation);
- Capital expenditure achieved 7% of budgeted projects (9% if excluding the SES Facility);
- Cash holdings of \$14.65m of which \$8.16m is held in cash backed reserve accounts;
- 68.6% of rates have been collected; and

- Page 9 of the statements detail major variations from year to date (amended) budgets.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the monthly financial statements for the period ending 30 September 2026, as presented.

9.3.2 LIST OF ACCOUNTS – SEPTEMBER 2026

File Ref:	N68894
Attachment:	<u>List of Accounts – September 2026</u>
Responsible Officer:	Anthony Middleton Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services
Author:	Debbie Evans Finance Officer - Creditors
Proposed Meeting Date:	27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present the list of payments that were made during the month of September 2026.

BACKGROUND

Accountability in local government encompasses various dimensions, as councils strive to fulfill a range of social, political, and financial objectives for the community's benefit.

These accountability principles are rooted in strong financial integrity, adherence to conflict of interest standards, and the expectation that local governments are fully responsible for community resources.

Council has delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer to make payments from the Shire's Municipal and Trust funds as required.

All payments are independently evaluated by the Manager of Finance to verify that expenditures are for the Shire of Plantagenet and comply with Council policies, procedures, the *Local Government Act 1995*, and relevant regulations. The review also ensures there is no misuse of corporate credit or fuel purchase cards.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

No external consultation has occurred in relation to this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

This information is provided to Council monthly in accordance with provisions of the *Local Government Act 1995* and *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

Regulation 12(1)(a) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* provides that payment may only be made from the municipal fund or trust fund if the Local Government has delegated the function to the Chief Executive Officer.

Regulation 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* provides that if the function of authorising payments is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, then a list of payments is to be presented to the Council at the next ordinary meeting and recorded in the minutes.

Regulation 13A of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* provides that a list of payments must be prepared and presented to Council each month for all credit, debit, or purchasing cards utilised by authorised employees during the month.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council Policy – Purchasing Policy

Council Policy – Corporate Credit Card Policy

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This item reports on the payments made from the shire bank accounts as allowed under Delegation 2.2 Payments from Municipal or Trust Funds. The recommendation does not in itself have a financial implication.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications for this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications for this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications as no assets are being created or acquired.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2026 - 2030 provides:

At Key Pillar 4 Performance & Leadership the following:

Strategy 4.2:

‘A Shire that is open and transparent with its community.’

Corporate Action 4.2.3 - Develop effective reporting and communication tools relevant to the way our community access information

Strategy 4.3:

‘Commitment to continuous improvement in service delivery.’

Corporate Action 4.3.2 - Be transparent with our financial management by reporting regularly readable and meaningful financial data to the community

Accordingly, the recommended outcome for this report aligns with the Corporate Business Plan.

RISK MITIGATION IMPLICATIONSLow Risk

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Plantagenet Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be “Low” risk and can be managed by routine procedures and with currently available resources.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no strategic risk implications for this report.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

There are no officer comments for this report.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the list of accounts paid during the month of September 2026 as per the attached Schedule of Payments, and as summarised below:

Municipal Account (inclusive of credit card and fuel card purchases)

Cheque Payments

EFT Payments	EFT10913 – EFT11081	\$1,440,015.18
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Direct Debit Payments		\$321,704.73.
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EFT Payroll Payments		\$544,339.43
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Total Municipal Account Payments		\$2,306,059.54
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Licensing Trust Account

Direct Debit Payments		\$118,808.40
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Total Licensing Trust Account Payments		\$118,808.40
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<i>TOTAL OF ALL ACCOUNTS</i>		<i>\$2,424,867.94</i>
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9.3.3 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION STATEMENT 2026

Synergy Ref:	N68919
Attachment:	<u>Information Statement 2026</u>
Responsible Officer:	Anthony Middleton Executive Manager - Corporate & Community
Author:	Alison Esler Customer Service Officer & Records
Proposed Meeting Date:	27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to review, prior to publishing, the Shire of Plantagenet's annual Information Statement.

BACKGROUND

Section 96(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 1992 requires each government agency, including local governments, to prepare and publish annually an information Statement.

The Information Statement must set out:

- The Agency's Mission Statement;
- Details of legislation administered;
- Details of the agency structure;
- Details of decision-making functions;
- Opportunities for public participation in the formulation of policy and performance of agency functions;
- Documents held by the agency; and
- The operation of Freedom of Information (FOI) in the agency.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

No external consultation has occurred in relation to this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Freedom of Information Act 1992.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Information Statement is similar to a Policy relating to the access to information under the Freedom of Information Act 1992 and is linked to the Records Management Policy and Recordkeeping Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for this report.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications for this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications as no assets are being created or acquired.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2026 – 2030 provides:

At Key Pillar 4 - Performance & Leadership the following:

Strategy 4.3 – Commitment to continuous improvement in service delivery

Corporate Action 4.3.1 - Implement review processes in service delivery on a regular basis and as needed.

Accordingly, the recommended outcome for this report aligns with the Corporate Business Plan.

RISK MITIGATION IMPLICATIONSLow Risk

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Plantagenet Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be “Low” risk and can be managed by routine procedures and with currently available resources.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

The Shire of Plantagenet’s Information Statement for 2026 is attached. The document complies with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 1992 and will be forwarded to the Information Commissioner as required under the Act and published on the Shire’s website.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Shire of Plantagenet Information Statement 2026, as presented.

9.3.4 FROST AND SOUNNESS PARK MASTER PLANS 2026 - ADOPTION

Synergy Ref:	N68898
Attachment:	<u>Shire of Plantagenet – Sounness Park and Frost Park Master Plans – Final Report (September 2026)</u>
Responsible Officer:	Anthony Middleton Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services
Author:	Nicole Selesnew Manager Community and Recreation Services
Proposed Meeting Date:	27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider adopting the Shire of Plantagenet – Sounness Park and Frost Park Master Plans – Final Report (September 2026).

BACKGROUND

Otium Planning Group was engaged in April 2025 to revise the Frost and Sounness Park Master Plans.

The planning process included facility and site inspections, reviews of Shire and stakeholder strategies and plans, consultation with user groups and stakeholders, a community survey, comparative studies of sport and recreation facilities in similar sized communities, reviews of State Sporting Association facility recommendations, preparation of concept plans with cost estimates, prioritising facility developments and identifying potential funding sources.

A Draft Frost and Sounness Park Precinct Master Plan Report was presented to user groups and key stakeholders in March and April 2026. A summary of the Draft Master Plan Report was presented to the Council in April 2026, including a presentation prior to the April Council Meeting by Otium consultant, Dave Lanfear.

Feedback from the presentations has been incorporated into the final documentation which is attached, titled Shire of Plantagenet – Sounness Park and Frost Park Master Plans – Final Report September 2026 (the Master Plans).

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Consultation has occurred with most organisations and clubs that use Frost and Sounness Park facilities, along with a broader community survey. State Sporting Associations and relevant industry groups were also consulted in the preparation of the Master Plans.

The Mount Barker Bulls Cricket Club did not provide direct input to the Plan, however, there has been consideration of Cricket's needs based on feedback from their State Sporting Association and other similar users.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

There is no statutory environment relevant for this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implications do not apply for this report and further policy development is not required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Master Plans recommend improvements across Frost and Sounness Parks, rationalising infrastructure where possible and aligning facility improvements and/or developments with a demonstrated need. Quantity Surveyor costings total \$26,376,821 for improvements at Frost Park and \$14,794,801 for improvements at Sounness Park.

The following items have been identified as priority projects over the next 5 – 10 years:

Frost Park	Sounness Park
Demolish and make good the existing toilet block area (brick building) - \$15,315	Clubhouse Rationalisation and Development - \$3,965,570
Replacement of the Exhibition Hall - \$3,557,609	Upgrade to the Changerooms / toilets \$749,450
Improvements to Frost and other Pavilions - \$2,527,929	LED lighting upgrade and signage - \$202,026
Replacement of the Sheep Pavilion - \$3,344,721	Road improvements, expansion of the road car parking and relocation of the gate hut - \$3,542,500
Internal site improvements (toilets, drainage / site levelling and services) - \$11,958,709	Western oval improvements (including floodlights)- \$2,628,507
Asphalt areas for carparking and servicing - \$2,563,338	Hockey improvements - \$946,045
	Tennis improvements - \$1,425,900

These projects provide the Council with a guide for future planning and development activities, noting that robust, evidence based business cases and financial planning will be required for substantial developments.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications for this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications for this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The Master Plans review current assets across Frost and Sounness Parks and propose to rationalise, renew or develop new facilities. The recommendations are based on level of use, asset condition, potential for colocation and future demands.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2026 – 2030 provides:

At *Key Pillar 1 - Community* the following:

Strategy 1.4 – Improve the health and activity levels of our Community

Corporate Action 1.4.8 – Finalise Frost / Sounness Master Plan

Accordingly, the recommended outcome for this report aligns with the Corporate Business Plan.

RISK MITIGATION IMPLICATIONSLow Risk

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Plantagenet Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be ‘Low’ risk and can be managed by routine procedures and with currently available resources.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no strategic risk implications for this report.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

The Final Master Plan distils the information gathered and researched over eighteen months to create a series of recommendations. These recommendations provide a clear direction for activities and investment at both Frost and Sounness Parks, to maximise the use of the assets and the longevity of the infrastructure at both sites.

The Report reviews potential funding sources and recommends a funding strategy, including the preparation of business cases to support funding applications.

Further, the Report recommends a series of development priorities and a system of recognising these priorities in the Corporate Business Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan, to support progress of the Plan recommendations.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Shire of Plantagenet – Sounness Park and Frost Park Master Plans – Final Report (September 2026), as attached.

9.3.5 COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM 2026/2027 – CATEGORY 3, ROUND 1 APPLICATIONS

Synergy Ref:	N68901
Attachment:	<u>Supplementary Information – Mt Barker Wildlife Hospital</u>
Responsible Officer:	Anthony Middleton Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services
Author:	Nicole Selesnew Manager Community and Recreation Services
Proposed Meeting Date:	27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider the Category 3, Round 1 grant applications received in the Shire's 2026/2027 Community Grant Program.

BACKGROUND

The Community Grant Program (CGP) aims to support projects that build community capacity, promote social participation and inclusion, and enhance community harmony.

Four (4) CGP categories are available:

1. CEO Donation (up to \$1,000)
2. Quick Response Grant (less than \$3,000)
3. Community Grant (more than \$3,000)
4. Industry Support (Triennium Community Grants)

There are two (2) funding rounds annually for Category 3 grants: Round 1 (August to September) and Round 2 (February to March).

Category 3 grants are open to incorporated not-for-profit organisations and charities, as well as unincorporated not-for-profit organisations applying through the auspice of an incorporated body. Applications must address the selection criteria outlined in the grant guidelines and include all required supporting documentation, such as budgets, receipts, quotes, and letters of support.

Three applications have been received:

1. Mt Barker Wildlife Hospital – Native Bird Pre-Release Flight Aviary;
2. West Plantagenet Pony Club – Arena Fencing Upgrade; and
3. Mount Barker Junior Football Club – Portable Dugouts / Storage Units

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Category 3, Round 1 of the CGP was promoted through local media. Consultation between Shire staff and applicants occurred as part of the application process.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

There is no statutory environment relevant for this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The revised Community Grant Program Guidelines were adopted as Council Policy on 24 February 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The adopted 2026/2027 Annual Budget allocates a total of \$40,000 for Category 1 -3 grants. To date, 14 applications have been supported with total funding of \$17,768, leaving \$22,232 in the budget allocation.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Applications submitted in this funding round will be assessed for inclusion in the 2026/2027 Community Grant Program budget. The applications, if successful, total \$26,174 which exceeds the \$40,000 allocation by \$3,942. It is recommended that the over-expenditure is addressed in the mid-year budget review.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications for this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications as no assets are being created or acquired.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2025 – 2029 provides:

At Key Pillar 1 - Community the following:

Strategy 1.9 - Encourage and support the retention and attraction of volunteers

Corporate Action 1.9.2 - Review the annual grants program to ensure its relevant to clubs and association needs

At Key Pillar 4 - Performance & Leadership the following:

Strategy 4.4 - A progressive Shire with diverse thinking

Corporate Action 4.4.2 - Community Grant Program - Establish a grant program to support local businesses and community groups in delivering place-based projects, public art, and events

Accordingly, the recommended outcome for this report aligns with the Corporate Business Plan.

RISK MITIGATION IMPLICATIONSLow Risk

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Plantagenet Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be “Low” risk and can be managed by routine procedures and with currently available resources.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no strategic risk implications for this report.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

The following provides a summary of Category 3 applications received for Round 1, along with the relevant officer recommendations and comments:

Applicant	Project Summary	\$'s Requested	\$'s Recommended	Officer Comment
Mt Barker Wildlife Hospital	Native Bird Pre-Release Flight Aviary	\$6,374	\$6,374	A \$6,374 contribution to a total project budget of \$10,074. The Flight Aviary will enable Wildlife carers to assess birds are capable of flight before release. The Flight Aviary is part of a broader animal care project, with a triage and treatment room and kennel housing area currently under construction. Birds represent 80% of the animals received at the Wildlife Hospital, with between 5 – 10 animals / birds delivered to the hospital daily. Please refer to the attached supplementary information. This project will support volunteer carer activities and Shire biodiversity. It will also build on the Mt Barker Wildlife Hospital capacity, generating employment and economic development opportunities. A well presented, strong application that meets the objectives of the CGP.

Applicant	Project Summary	\$'s Requested	\$'s Recommended	Officer Comment
West Plantagenet Pony Club	Arena Fencing Upgrade	\$9,800	\$9,800	A \$9,800 contribution to a total project budget of \$22,321.90 Installation of horse fencing around the club's training arenas and enclosing the main riding arena to improve safety and create a controlled environment. The Pony Club develops junior riders skills across a broad range of equine disciplines and teaches pony / horse care and management. A well presented, strong application that meets the objectives of the CGP.
Mount Barker Junior Football Club	Dugouts for the Western Oval	\$10,000	\$10,000	A \$10,000 contribution to a total project budget of \$21,000. Fabricate and install two mobile, lockable aluminium player dugouts for the Western oval. The dugouts will provide shelter / shade for home and away teams and provide secure storage for game day equipment. The dugouts will streamline game day setup for volunteers, provide a sheltered area for officials, players and spectators and create more storage options for the Club (junior and senior equipment exceeds storage capacity at present). The mobile design will enable the Club to move the dugouts around on game days, providing shelter for

Applicant	Project Summary	\$'s Requested	\$'s Recommended	Officer Comment
				the young junior games located on the western part of the West oval, before being relocated to the eastern side of the oval for other junior league matches. The dugouts will be available for use by Cricket over the summer months. Dugouts on the Western oval are noted in the Sounness Park Master Plan and this proposal will address the identified need. If the Shire / Clubs were to progress to fixed dugouts in the future, the mobile units could be relocated for use by the soccer club. A well presented, strong application that meets the objectives of the CGP.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the Community Grant Program Category 3, Round 1 applications as follows:

1. Mt Barker Wildlife Hospital - \$6,374.00
2. West Plantagenet Pony Club - \$9,800.00
3. Mount Barker Junior Football Club - \$10,000.00

9.3.6 LEASE - RESERVE 23086 & LOT 1 ALBANY HIGHWAY, THE FORMER NARPANUP GOLF COURSE SITE

Synergy Ref:	N68923
Attachment:	Letter - Request to Enter into a Lease Moortabiin at Narpanup Project Proposal
Responsible Officer:	Anthony Middleton Executive Manager - Corporate & Community
Author:	Anthony Middleton Executive Manager - Corporate & Community
Proposed Meeting Date:	27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider a request to lease Reserve 23086 and Lot 1 Albany Highway, being the former Narpanup Golf Course site.

BACKGROUND

The Narpanup Golf Club ceased operations and relinquished its lease of Reserve 23086 and Lot 1 Albany Highway in the middle of 2025. Following this closure, staff have been approached by Gorenang Moortabiin Aboriginal Corporation for possible use of the site. Numerous follow up meetings have occurred to develop a proposal and concept between the two organisations.

Gorenang Moortabiin Aboriginal Engagement and Community Development (GMAC) have written to the Shire and formally requested a five year peppercorn lease over Reserve 23086 and Lot 1 Albany Highway, the former Narpanup Golf Club site. GMAC is seeking exclusive use of the land to start delivering programs for community development, art, culture and recreation for the benefit of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents in the Shire.

Their request builds on the vision outlined in the 'Moortabiin at Narpanup' proposal (Attachment 2) which GMAC presented to Councillors at the 12 May Council Forum. A written report outlining the proposal and providing GMAC background was presented to the Council at the 14 April Council Forum, prior to the May presentation.

GMAC has been liaising with Shire staff regarding the potential to take over the management of Reserve 23086 since August 2025. The group made an application to the Regional Precincts Partnership Program to develop a Master Plan and business cases for their Moortabiin at Narpanup proposal. The grant application was unsuccessful, with lack of secure land tenure cited as an issue.

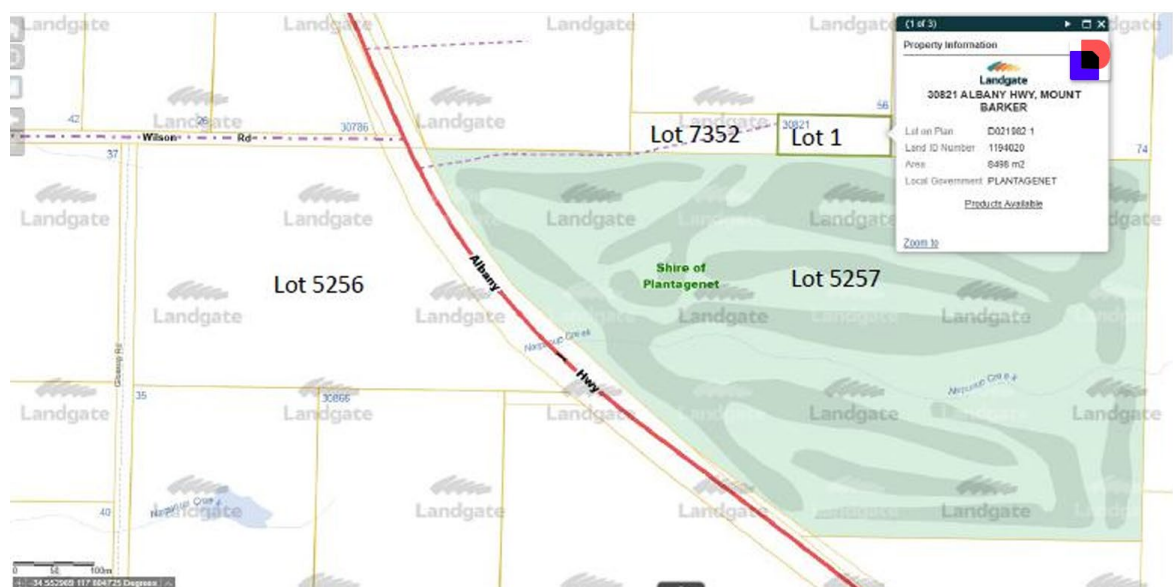
GMAC is keen to keep moving forwards with their proposal to further enhance their work in the Plantagenet community. The attached 'Request to Enter into a Lease' letter (Attachment 1) outlines their short, medium and long term vision for the site, with short term activities including:

- Youth engagement programs using the facility as a base for tours and excursions;

- Tutoring support, work-readiness and life skills training, behaviour management and decision-making skills development;
- Cultural arts programs and a gallery displaying local artist's works; and
- General land management (including fire risk mitigation and ecological presentation of the Reserve).

Longer term activities include the establishment of the Gorenang Moortabiin On-Country Training Hub, offering nationally accredited vocational qualifications, and developing a centre for art showcasing local artists to a broad audience including engagement with cultural tourism.

Reserve 23086 comprises Lots 5256, Lot 5257 and Lot 7352 with a Reserve Management Order issued to the Shire, including power to lease. Within the Reserve is Lot 1, a small Lot comprising the golf club house, which is owned by the Shire. A map showing the Reserve and Lot 1 is provided below.



GMAC's lease proposal includes Lot 5256, located on the western side of the Albany Highway, sought for its ecological values and training / land rehabilitation potential. GMAC is an Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisation which has been operating in the Great Southern since 2020. It is governed by a Board and employs a team of youth, research and cultural workers to deliver a range of programs. GMAC has experience with managing State and Federal government-funded programs and community assets.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

No external consultation has occurred beyond GMAC in relation to this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

There is no applicable legislation for this item.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implications do not apply for this report and further policy development is not required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

GMAC's proposal would see the land and associated assets maintained by the applicant, representing a considerable future saving for the Shire in building maintenance, fire hazard reduction and general upkeep.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications for this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The proposed lease will see asset management being completed by the applicant. This building is reaching the end of its useful life and will require significant investment to remain fit for purpose, a task out of reach of most community organisations. As such, it is recommended that this proposal be supported.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2026 – 2030 provides:

At Key Pillar 1 - Community the following:

Strategy 1.3 – Continue to build meaningful relationships with our First Nations and multicultural communities and share stories

Corporate Action 1.3.1 - Engage with and develop an understanding of the needs of First Nation and multicultural communities:

- Assist and encourage activation of the Mount Barker Aboriginal Community Centre
- Appropriate recognition of unmarked Noongar graves at the Mount Barker East Cemetery
- Appropriate recognition of local Noongar soldiers that fought during the major war campaigns
- Increase diversity of employment within the Shire staff
- Consult where necessary on major capital projects
- Investigate opportunities to highlight local Noongar culture and stories (such as Wilson Park promotional storyboard, Mount Barker Aboriginal Reserve digitisation project and Music Festival with an Aboriginal music feature)
- Dual naming opportunities

Corporate Action 1.3.2 - Commence formal Reconciliation Action Plan process

Corporate Action 1.3.3 - Partner with the First Nation community to host local events to recognise National Reconciliation and NAIDOC Week events

Accordingly, the recommended outcome for this report strongly aligns with the Corporate Business Plan.

RISK MITIGATION IMPLICATIONS

Low Risk

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Plantagenet Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be “Low” risk and can be managed by routine procedures and with currently available resources.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

The attached proposal from GMAC is aspirational and wide ranging in both its endeavour and outcomes. It is recommended that the proposal be supported for the following reasons:

- a) Increased youth engagement programs are needed within the Shire, especially those that connect culturally to participants and could develop into future tours and excursions;
- b) Improved tutoring support, work-readiness and life skills training supports local residents and reduces the requirement to leave the Shire to gain work skills;
- c) Increased cultural arts programs and/or a gallery displaying local artist’s works aligns with Council’s adopted strategic goals;
- d) Improved land management, including fire hazard reduction, and education of same removes the requirement for the Shire to complete this task;
- e) A training hub, delivering accredited qualifications, again reduces the requirement to leave the Shire when finishing schooling and will attract others into the area to complete training; and
- f) Asset management, building maintenance and the funding of such through external means removes the requirement for the Shire to undertake this task.

GMAC’s proposal includes many aspirational aspects that is acknowledged may take time to come to fruition. However, if successful, this proposal could develop into a significant and valuable asset for the wider community.

Councillors have expressed a desire to make this property available via an expression of interest process to all community groups and interested parties. This option is not recommended for the following reasons:

- 1) Most community and sporting groups benefit from collocation with other similar use organisations to maximise value and usage from Council assets;
- 2) Many community groups and not-for-profits are not capable of the asset management task required of a property this size;
- 3) GMAC’s proposal represents significant benefits or potential in the following areas:
 - a. Economic development;
 - b. Tourism;
 - c. Community wellbeing;
 - d. Youth development;
 - e. Arts & Culture;
 - f. Environmental management and education;
 - g. Increased partnerships between community and government; and

- h. Asset activation and renewal.
- 4) Significant external funding may be realised through the applicant and invested into the Shire.

Should the Council wish to pursue this path, an alternate motion to the Officer's Recommendation would be:

That the Council request the CEO to advertise for expressions of interest, the lease of the property located at Reserve 23086 and Lot 1 Albany Highway, being the former Narpanup Golf Course site under the following conditions:

- i. **Open to sporting and community organisations;**
- ii. **Proposed use to provide a benefit to the residents of the Shire; and**
- iii. **Lessee to undertake fire management requirements of the site, building maintenance and pay all outgoings.**

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Approves the proposed five (5) year lease over Reserve 23086 and Lot 1 Albany Highway, being the former Narpanup Golf Course site to Gorenang Moortabiin Aboriginal Corporation; and**
- 2. The CEO to negotiate a lease based on the following terms:**
 - a. Exclusive use of the land to deliver programs for community development, art, culture and recreation purposes;**
 - b. The lessee to undertake all fire management requirements, building maintenance and be responsible for the payment of all outgoings;**
 - c. Lease fee to be \$10 per annum**

9.4 EXECUTIVE SERVICES REPORTS**9.4.1 NEW COUNCIL POLICY – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

Synergy Ref:	N68924
Attachment:	Draft Council Policy – Artificial Intelligence
Responsible Officer:	Garry Bird Chief Executive Officer
Author:	
Proprietor/Applicant:	Nil
Proposed Meeting Date:	27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is review and approve the adoption of a new Council Policy that provides high level principles regarding the Shire of Plantagenet’s use of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies.

BACKGROUND

The draft policy has been prepared based on the WA Government Artificial Intelligence Policy.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

No external consultation has occurred in relation to this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995
Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Act
State Records act 2000
Freedom of Information Act 1992

All the above Acts have implications for how staff and councillors use artificial intelligence.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

It is recommended that a new policy be adopted by Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for this report.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications for this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications for this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications as no assets are being created or acquired.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2025 – 2029 provides:

At Key Pillar 4 - Performance & Leadership the following:

Strategy 4.3 – Commitment to continuous improvement in service delivery

Corporate Action 4.3.1 - Implement review processes in service delivery on a regular basis and as needed

The use of AI technologies provides efficiencies for the Shire and accordingly, the recommended outcome for this report aligns with the Corporate Business Plan.

RISK MITIGATION IMPLICATIONSMedium Risk

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Plantagenet Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be “Medium” and can be managed by specific procedures, increased monitoring and the allocation of additional resources.

If the draft policy is adopted by Council, staff training and resources will be developed to ensure the use of AI by staff in particular, is done in a way that manages this risk.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no strategic risk implications for this report.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

AI technologies have become increasingly common in recent years and are now considered a valuable business tool that can create significant savings in officer time.

The use of AI technology does create a level of risk for the Shire, including data privacy, accuracy of information and cyber security. The adoption of a policy that outlines how AI should be used is considered an important first step in managing this risk, which will be supported by the development of further staff resources and training, to ensure its use is consistent with these policy principles.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts a new policy “Artificial Intelligence”.

9.4.2 NEW COUNCIL POLICY – COUNCIL, COMMITTEE’S AND COUNCIL FORUM MEETINGS SCHEDULE

Synergy Ref:	N68925
Attachment:	Draft Council Policy – Council, Committee’s and Council Forum Meetings Schedule
Responsible Officer:	Garry Bird Chief Executive Officer
Author:	
Proprietor/Applicant:	Nil
Proposed Meeting Date:	26 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is review and approve the adoption of a new Council Policy that determines the annual schedule of meetings for Ordinary Council Meetings, Committee Meetings and Council Forums.

BACKGROUND

The draft policy has been prepared to satisfy the requirements of the *Local Government Act Sections 5.4 and 5.25 1(g)* and provide transparency to members of the public in regards to the annual schedule.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

No external consultation has occurred in relation to this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995 - Section 5.4 Calling council meetings

An ordinary or a special meeting of a council is to be held —

- (a) if called for by either —*
 - (i) the mayor or president; or*
 - (ii) at least 1/3 of the councillors,*
in a notice to the CEO setting out the date and purpose of the proposed meeting; or
- (b) if so decided by the council.*

Local Government Act 1995 - 5.25 Regulations about council and committee meetings and committees

- (1) Without limiting the generality of section 9.59, regulations may make provision in relation to —**
 - (g) the giving of public notice of the date and agenda for council or committee meetings;**

Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 - Regulation 12 Publication of meeting details (s 5.25 (1) (g))

- (1) *In this regulation —
meeting details, for a meeting, means the date and time when, and the place where, the meeting is to be held.*
- (2) *The CEO must publish on the local government's official website the meeting details for the following meetings before the beginning of the year in which the meetings are to be held —*
 - (a) *ordinary council meetings;*
 - (b) *committee meetings.*

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

It is recommended that a new policy be adopted by Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for this report.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications for this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications for this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications as no assets are being created or acquired.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2025 – 2029 provides:

At Key Pillar 4 - Performance & Leadership the following:

Strategy 4.1 – Listen and consider the needs of each community

Corporate Action 4.1.1 – Establish multiple points of access for consultation

Council meetings are integral to the local government democratic process and promoting the meeting dates are both a statutory requirement and important way to inform members of the public of the meetings and that they can ask questions and make deputations and presentations to the meetings. Accordingly, the recommended outcome for this report aligns with the Corporate Business Plan.

RISK MITIGATION IMPLICATIONS

Low Risk

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Plantagenet Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The perceived level of risk is considered to be “Low” risk and can be managed by routine procedures and with currently available resources.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no strategic risk implications for this report.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

The adoption of a policy that prescribes meeting and forum dates is a transparent means of informing members of the public when meetings occur and provides members with the information they need to attend meetings. Further, it removes the requirement to present an annual report to Council to determine the following years meeting schedule so that it can be advertised to meet statutory requirements.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts a new policy “Council, Committee’s and Council Forum Meetings Schedule”.

10 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

**11 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF
THE MEETING**

12 CONFIDENTIAL**12.1.1 TENDER C01-2627 AGRN 1208 STORMS AND ASSOCIATED FLOODING GREAT SOUTHERN 13-14 MARCH 2025 – ESSENTIAL PUBLIC ASSET RECONSTRUCTION WORKS (EPAR)**

Synergy Ref: N68885

Attachment: Recommendation Report

Responsible Officer: Kevin Hemmings
Executive Manager, Infrastructure and Assets

Author: Amy Chadbourne
Senior Administration Officer, Infrastructure and Assets

Proposed Meeting Date: 27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider submissions received for Tender C01-2627 AGRN 1208 Storms and Associated Flooding Great Southern 13-14 March 2025 – Essential Public Asset Reconstruction Works (EPAR).

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

In accordance with Section 5.23 (2) of the Local Government Act 1995 the meeting is closed to members of the public with the following aspect(s) of the Act being applicable to this matter:

Section 5.23 (4)

- (c) information contained in a tender received by the local government for a contract to the extent that the information —
 - (i) is a tendered price; or
 - (ii) a tendered methodology for calculating a price;
- (d) information contained in a tender received by the local government for a contract to the extent that —
 - (i) the information discloses any technology, or any manufacturing, industrial or trade process, that the tenderer proposes to use in performing the contract; and
 - (ii) the information has not previously been made public; and
 - (iii) the making public of the information would be likely to have an adverse effect on the tenderer's business interests;

12.1.2 TENDER C02-2627 AGRN 1208 STORMS AND ASSOCIATED FLOODING GREAT SOUTHERN 13-14 MARCH 2025 - ESSENTIAL PUBLIC ASSET RECONSTRUCTION WORKS (EPAR) – PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Synergy Ref: N68886

Attachment: Recommendation Report

Responsible Officer: Kevin Hemmings
Executive Manager, Infrastructure and Assets

Author: Amy Chadbourne
Senior Administration Officer, Infrastructure and Assets

Proposed Meeting Date: 27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider submissions received for Tender C02-2627 AGRN 1208 Storms and Associated Flooding Great Southern 13-14 March 2025 - Essential Public Asset Reconstruction Works (EPAR) – Project Management .

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

In accordance with Section 5.23 (2) of the Local Government Act 1995 the meeting is closed to members of the public with the following aspect(s) of the Act being applicable to this matter:

Section 5.23 (4)

- (c) information contained in a tender received by the local government for a contract to the extent that the information —
 - (i) is a tendered price; or
 - (ii) a tendered methodology for calculating a price;
- (d) information contained in a tender received by the local government for a contract to the extent that —
 - (i) the information discloses any technology, or any manufacturing, industrial or trade process, that the tenderer proposes to use in performing the contract; and
 - (ii) the information has not previously been made public; and
 - (iii) the making public of the information would be likely to have an adverse effect on the tenderer's business interests;

12.1.3 TENDER C03-2627 WOOGENELLUP ROAD PAVEMENT STABILISATION WORKS (SECTIONS)

Synergy Ref: N68883

Responsible Officer: Kevin Hemmings
Executive Manager, Infrastructure and Assets

Author: Amy Chadbourne
Senior Administration Officer, Infrastructure and Assets

Proposed Meeting Date: 27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider submissions received for Tender C03-2627 Woogenellup Road Pavement Stabilisation Works (Sections).

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

In accordance with Section 5.23 (2) of the Local Government Act 1995 the meeting is closed to members of the public with the following aspect(s) of the Act being applicable to this matter:

Section 5.23 (4)

- (c) information contained in a tender received by the local government for a contract to the extent that the information —
 - (i) is a tendered price; or
 - (ii) a tendered methodology for calculating a price;
- (d) information contained in a tender received by the local government for a contract to the extent that —
 - (i) the information discloses any technology, or any manufacturing, industrial or trade process, that the tenderer proposes to use in performing the contract; and
 - (ii) the information has not previously been made public; and
 - (iii) the making public of the information would be likely to have an adverse effect on the tenderer's business interests;

12.1.4 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2026/27

Attachment:	1. CEO 3 Month KPI Setting Report 2. Shire of Plantagenet Model Standards for CEO Recruitment, Performance and Termination.
Responsible Officer:	Garry Bird Chief Executive Officer
Author:	
Proprietor/Applicant:	Nil
Proposed Meeting Date:	27 October 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider and approve the Chief Executive Officers Key Performance Indicators for the 2026/27 period, in accordance with the Employment Contract and relevant legislative requirements.

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

In accordance with Section 5.23 (2) of the Local Government Act 1995 the meeting is closed to members of the public with the following aspect(s) of the Act being applicable to this matter:

(2) Despite subsection (1), if any of the following matters is to be dealt with at a meeting, the council or committee must close the meeting to members of the public to the extent necessary to ensure that the matter is dealt with at the meeting on a confidential basis —

(b) a matter relating to the recruitment or employment of the CEO or a senior employee, including the following —

- (i) the termination of employment;
- (ii) a review of performance under section 5.38;

13 THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE PRESIDING MEMBER CLOSED THE MEETING AT X.XXPM.