



SPECIAL MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, 6 August 2024

TIME: 5.00pm

VENUE: Council Chambers, Lowood
Road, Mount Barker WA 6324


Julian Murphy
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Resolution numbers: 059/24 to 064/24

SPECIAL BUSINESS

The purpose of this meeting was to consider the adoption of the
2024/2025 Annual Budget.

Please Note: Council Meetings are recorded for accuracy of minute taking.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS	1
2	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED).....	1
3	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (RELATING TO SPECIAL BUSINESS ONLY) ...	1
3.1	RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE	1
4	PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS (RELATING TO SPECIAL BUSINESS ONLY)	2
5	DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST	2
6	SPECIAL BUSINESS	3
6.1	BUDGET ADOPTION – ELECTED MEMBER ATTENDANCE FEES AND ALLOWANCES	3
6.2	BUDGET ADOPTION – LIST OF FEES & CHARGES 2024/2025	7
6.3	BUDGET ADOPTION – PROPERTY RATES 2024/2025	10
6.4	BUDGET ADOPTION – 2024/2025 ANNUAL BUDGET	15
7	CLOSURE OF MEETING	22

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

5.00pm The Presiding Member declared the meeting open.

The Presiding Member acknowledged 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, present and emerging.

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

Members Present:

Cr L Handasyde	President (Presiding Member)
Cr K Clements	Councillor
Cr B Bell	Councillor
Cr R Brown	Councillor
Cr S Etherington	Councillor
Cr A Fraser	Councillor (joined via Teams)
Cr J Liebeck	Councillor
Cr W Sheard	Councillor

In Attendance:

Mr Julian Murphy	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Anthony Middleton	Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services
Mr Kevin Hemmings	Executive Manager Infrastructure and Assets
Mr André Pinto	Executive Manager Development and Regulatory Services
Ms Nolene Wake	Executive Officer

Previously Approved Leave of Absence:

Cr J Oldfield	Councillor
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3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (RELATING TO SPECIAL BUSINESS ONLY)

Section 5.24 Local Government Act 1995

Nil

3.1 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

4 PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS (RELATING TO SPECIAL BUSINESS ONLY)

Nil

5 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Part 5 Division 6 Local Government Act 1995

Cr J Liebeck

Item: 6.1.4 Budget Adoption

Type: Proximity pursuant to Schedule 5.60B of the Local Government Act 1995.

Nature: Road Construction Program - Martin Street - Reseal - \$8,564

Extent: Owns property on that section of road. Will be leaving the meeting.

6 SPECIAL BUSINESS

6.1 BUDGET ADOPTION – ELECTED MEMBER ATTENDANCE FEES AND ALLOWANCES

File Ref: N64223

Responsible Officer: Julian Murphy
Chief Executive Officer

Author: Julian Murphy
Chief Executive Officer

Proposed Meeting Date: 6 August 2024

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider the Elected Members attendance fees and allowances for 2024-2025.

BACKGROUND

Local Government Elected Member fees and allowances are set in accordance with sections 5.98, 5.98A, 5.99 and 5.99A of the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* and within the following determinations for Band 3 as per the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination of 5 April 2024.

For a council member other than the mayor or president

Band	Minimum	Maximum
3	\$8,320	\$17,711

For a council member who holds the office of mayor or president

Band	Minimum	Maximum
3	\$8,320	\$27,425

Annual allowance for a mayor or president of a local government

Band	Minimum	Maximum
3	\$1,113	\$39,988

Annual allowance for a deputy mayor, deputy president or deputy chair

The percentage determined for the purposes of section 5.98A(1) of the LG Act is 25 per cent.

ICT (information and communications technology) expenses

For the purposes of section 5.99A(b) of the LG Act, the minimum annual allowance for ICT expenses is \$500 and the maximum annual allowance for ICT expenses is \$3,500.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

No external consultation has occurred in relation to this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

- *Local Government Act 1995 sections 5.98, 5.98A, 5.99 and 5.99A*
- *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*
- *Western Australia Salaries and Allowances Act 1975 - Determination of The Salaries and Allowances Tribunal for Local Government Chief Executive Officers and Elected Members Pursuant to Section 7A and 7B 5 April 2024*

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The *Shire of Plantagenet Elected Member Expenses to Be Reimbursed Policy* provides for the reimbursement of expenses for Councillors attending meetings, conferences and training opportunities ensuring that individuals are not financially disadvantaged in doing so.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The adoption of the Elected Members attendance fees and allowances for 2024-2025 enable the decision-making function of the Council to continue effectively in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995*.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The following budget provisions are made for Elected Members attendance fees and allowances for 2024-2025:

- For a council member other than the mayor or president \$15,054.35
- For a council member who holds the office of mayor or president \$23,311.25
- Annual allowance for a mayor or president of a local government \$33,989.80
- Annual allowance for a deputy mayor or deputy president \$8,497.45
- Annual allowance for ICT expenses \$2,000.00

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 2022/23 – 2025/26 provides:

At Outcome 4 Performance & Leadership the following Strategies:

Strategy 4.1.1:

‘A Shire that listens and considers the needs of each community.’

Strategy 4.1.3:

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

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

RISK MITIGATION IMPLICATIONS

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Plantagenet's Risk Assessment and Acceptance Criteria. The 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 recommendation includes the setting of meeting attendance fees and allowances for Elected Members at 85% of the maximum Salary and Allowances Tribunal determination amount. The annual allowance for ICT expenses is set at \$2,000.00.

Claims such as travel may be submitted as required.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL DECISION

Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr K Clements:

That Council adopts:

1. Pursuant to section 5.99 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 34 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, that elected members be paid 85% of the maximum Salaries and Allowances Tribunal allowance in lieu of individual meeting attendance fees.
2. Pursuant to section 5.99A of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulations 34A and 34AA of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, an ICT Allowance of \$2,000.00 for elected members.
3. Pursuant to section 5.98(5) of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 33 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, an annual local government allowance of 85% of the maximum Salaries and Allowances Tribunal allowance be paid to the Shire President in addition to the annual meeting allowance.
4. Pursuant to section 5.98A of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulations 33A of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, an annual local government allowance of 85% of the maximum Salaries and Allowances Tribunal allowance be paid to the Deputy Shire President in addition of the annual meeting allowance.

CARRIED (8/0)

NO. 059/24

For: Crs Handasyde, Clements, Bell, Brown, Etherington,
Fraser, Liebeck and Sheard
Against: Nil

Absolute Majority

6.2 BUDGET ADOPTION – LIST OF FEES & CHARGES 2024/2025

File Ref: N64225
Attachment: List of Fees and Charges 2024/2025
Responsible Officer: Julian Murphy
Chief Executive Officer
Author: Anthony Middleton
Executive Manager – Corporate & Community
Proposed Meeting Date: 6 August 2024

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to adopt the list of fees and charges for the 2024/2025 financial year.

BACKGROUND

The Council is required by the *Local Government Act 1995* to adopt a list of fees and charges annually. The draft list of fees and charges has undergone a review from all staff and two Council Forums.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Nil.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Section 6.15 to 6.19 of the *Local Government Act 1995* legislates the imposition of fees and charges for a local government. Section 6.19 of this Act requires a local government to advertise the imposition of fees and charges that are not included in the annual budget. This item is being completed in conjunction with the adoption of the annual budget and therefore advertising is not required.

Some fees are adopted under, or provided by, other legislation, such as:

- *Dog Act 1976*
- *Public Health Act 2016*
- *Cemeteries Act 1986*
- *Waste Avoidance and Resources Recovery Act 2007*
- *Building Act 2011*

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The list of fees and charges, when adopted, sets the level of many revenue items contained within the budget. Significant consideration needs to be given when setting each fee and charge and the effect that it will have on the usage of that facility and therefore the total revenue level obtained. For example, simply doubling a fee may not double the revenue, as the number of 'sales' may be affected by increased prices.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

This item is integral in the adoption of the 2024/2025 Annual Budget.

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 2022/23 – 2025/26 provides:

At Outcome 4 Performance & Leadership the following Strategies:

Strategy 4.1.3:

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

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

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

Inadequate income from Fees and Charges and Rent affects the budget position regarding building maintenance and renewal as costs are continually increasing. This will in turn affect the Shire’s ability to continue with any planned maintenance or upgrades to the facilities the income would have supported.

A thorough and complete list of fees and charges assists with legislative compliance and ensures the generation of adequate revenue.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

Comparative figures are shown in the list of fees and charges with the previous financial year to enable changes to be easily highlighted.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION 1/COUNCIL DECISION**Moved Cr K Clements, seconded Cr S Etherington:****That Council adopts the list of fees and charges, as amended.****CARRIED (8/0)****NO. 060/24**

**For: Crs Handasyde, Clements, Bell, Brown, Etherington,
Fraser, Liebeck and Sheard
Against: Nil**

Absolute Majority**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION 2/COUNCIL DECISION****Moved Cr J Liebeck, seconded Cr R Brown:****That Council, pursuant to section 66 of the *Waste Avoidance and Resources Recovery Act 2007*, adopts the following waste rate for the provision of waste services for 2024/2025:****General Rate**

a) Rural Townsites (GRV)	0.01 cents in the dollar
b) Rural (GRV)	0.01 cents in the dollar
c) Mount Barker Townsite (GRV)	0.01 cents in the dollar
d) Strata Titles (GRV)	0.01 cents in the dollar
e) Rural (UV)	0.00055 cents in the dollar

Minimum Rate

a) Rural Townsites (GRV)	\$66.00
b) Rural (GRV)	\$66.00
c) Mount Barker Townsite (GRV)	\$66.00
d) Strata Titles (GRV)	\$66.00
e) Rural (UV)	\$66.00

CARRIED (8/0)**NO. 061/24**

**For: Crs Handasyde, Clements, Bell, Brown, Etherington,
Fraser, Liebeck and Sheard
Against: Nil**

Absolute Majority

6.3 BUDGET ADOPTION – PROPERTY RATES 2024/2025

File Ref: N64223
Responsible Officer: Julian Murphy
Chief Executive Officer
Author: Anthony Middleton
Executive Manager – Corporate & Community
Proposed Meeting Date: 6 August 2024

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to set the property rates and associated conditions for the 2024/2025 financial year.

BACKGROUND

Property rates are the primary income source for most local governments in WA. This agenda item sets the rating levels and associated parameters based on the *Local Government Act 1995* ('the Act') and the Shire's previous practices. All recommendations contained within this report are consistent with previous year's practices

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Nil.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Section 6.25 to 6.82 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulations 52 to 78 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations* relate to property rating requirements and procedures.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy A/PA/8 Rating – Rate Incentive Prize applies.

Policy F/FM/12 Budget Preparation applies.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The property rates proposed have been established on the basis of delivering a balanced budget with a 4.5% increase on 2023/2024 rate revenue raised.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

This item is integral in the adoption of the 2024/2025 Annual Budget.

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 2022/23 – 2025/26 provides:

At Outcome 4 Performance & Leadership the following Strategies:

Strategy 4.1.3:

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

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

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
<i>Reputational</i> That Council does not receive the financial activity statements as required by S6.4 of the LG Act 1995	<i>Rare</i>	<i>Insignificant</i>	<i>Low</i>	That Council receives the financial activity statements as required by legislation.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

Level of Rates/Calculation

There are several different methods available for rating within local government in WA. These include:

- General – based on valuation type;
- Differential - based on different land uses or zoning;
- Specified Area rates – definable area for facilities such as sewerage rates;
- Service Charges – As defined by the Act; or
- Voluntary levies – such as a land care levy

The Shire of Plantagenet rates are based on the first dot point, general rates, and a rate in the dollar is set for both valuation types. In the 2023/2024 financial year, 29% of rates raised were from properties on a gross rental valuation (GRV) (predominately within townsites), and 71% unimproved valuation (UV)(rural).

In line with the Budget Preparation Council policy, consideration has been given to economic growth and likely Shire wage growth over the next two years to assist the Council in determining the annual percentage rate increase.

WALGA's economic briefing states that *'The Local Government Cost Index (LGCI) increased 3.3% in the last year. Looking forward, LGCI growth is forecast to ease to 3.1% in 2024/25. The LGCI is now being driven by wages growth as the growth in construction costs slows.'*

Given the current levels of CPI and LGCI, in order to keep pace with the provision of modern local government services, a property rate increase of 4.5% is recommended.

The general minimum rates are recommended to increase by approximately 4.5% to \$1,066 (for GRV properties) and \$1,097 (UV properties). Last financial year was the first time the Council adopted a different minimum for the two rating types, to resolve an anomaly with the level of rates raised on properties with acreage (i.e. the lifestyle lots between 1 hectare and 40 hectares).

Discount

Section 6.12 (1)(a) permits a local government to grant a discount or incentive for the early payment of money which is owed to the Council. As in previous years, it is recommended that no discount be offered, and no allowance has been made for any early payment discount to reflect this.

Incentive

The Council has previously offered incentive prizes to encourage the early payment of rates. Only ratepayers who have paid their rates in full and by 24 September 2024 will be entered into the draw. Prizes will be offered in line with Council Policy No A/PA/8 – Rate Incentive Prize.

Instalments

It is recommended that the following three payment options be offered as in previous years:

- (1) To pay the total rates and charges included on the rate notice in full by the 35th day after the date of issue of the rates notice; or
- (2) Two equal instalments. The first instalment will be due on the 35th day after the date of issue of the rates notice and the second instalment four calendar months after this date.
- (3) Four equal instalments. The first instalment will be due on the 35th day after the date of issue of the rates notice and the remainder at two calendar month intervals after this date.

Instalment Fee

It is recommended that an instalment fee of \$7.50 be charged for each instalment reminder issued after the first instalment is paid. It is recommended that a special payment arrangement administration charge of \$28.00 (excluding pensioners) will again apply, for those people who wish to pay rates through an instalment plan, but do not qualify for a standard instalment plan, due to late payment or other circumstances.

This is the same amount as that charged in recent years.

Interest on Instalments

It is recommended that the maximum interest rate of 5.5% per annum be applied to instalment payments. Again, this is consistent with the previous year's charge and statutory requirements.

Late Payment Penalty Interest

It is recommended that late payment penalty interest be charged at 7% per annum, consistent with the previous years. It is proposed that late payment penalty interest will apply to rates that remain unpaid where no election was made to pay the rate by

instalments and on overdue instalment payments where an election was made to pay by instalments.

Revaluation of Unimproved Value properties

A revaluation of unimproved value properties is undertaken every financial year. The movement is as follows.

	2023/2024	2024/2025	Increase
Total UV Valuation	\$908,316,900	\$1,100,497,529	21%

As always, individual UV properties are likely to receive a greater variance (both increased and decreased) than the 21% average shown above, creating unavoidable inequities between properties. For example, in the south of the Shire UV's have increased substantially. This is beyond the Shire's control and anyone in this situation is encouraged by Shire staff to contact the Valuer General's Office.

A GRV revaluation is currently being undertaken by the Valuer General's Office and will be effective from 1 July 2025. GRV revaluations are undertaken every five (5) years.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL DECISION

Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr J Liebeck:

That Council:

- 1. Adopts the following rate levels for the 2024/2025 financial year:**
 - a) For all rateable properties where Gross Rental Valuations are applied, a rate of 11.8658 cents in the dollar with a Minimum Rate of \$1,066;**
 - b) For all rateable properties where Unimproved Valuations are applied, a rate of 0.4992 cents in the dollar with a Minimum Rate of \$1,097 is to apply.**
- 2. Offer the following rate instalment payment options:**

Option 1 - Payment in full - Total amount of rates and charges included on the rate notice to be paid in full by 24 September 2024.

Option 2 - Payments to be made by two (2) instalments as detailed on the rates notice, with the following due dates:

First Instalment 24 September 2024

Second Instalment 28 January 2025

Option 3 - Payments to be made by four (4) instalments, as detailed on the rate notice, with the following due dates:

First Instalment 24 September 2024

Second Instalment 25 November 2024

Third Instalment 28 January 2025

Fourth Instalment 28 March 2025.

3. Imposes an administration charge of \$7.50 for each instalment (after the first instalment) where payments are elected to be made by instalments.
4. Imposes interest on instalments at 5.5% p.a. calculated daily from the date the first instalment is due until the date each subsequent instalment is due, where payments are elected to be made by instalments.
5. Not offer a discount for the early payment of property rates;
6. Adopts, pursuant to section 6.16(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, a special payment arrangement administration charge of \$28.00 (excluding pensioners) where the owner wishes to pay rates through an instalment plan, but does not qualify for a standard instalment plan, as detailed in point 2 above.
7. Imposes penalty interest at a rate of seven percent (7%) per annum, pursuant to section 6.51(1) and subject to section 6.51(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Regulation 70 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, on outstanding general rates, Waste Rate, rubbish charges, instalment administration charge and costs of proceedings to recover such charges. Outstanding interest will commence accruing daily (simple interest calculation) from the due date on the rate notice, which will be not less than 35 days after the rate notice issue date. Pensioners who are registered in accordance with the *Rates Rebates and Deferments Act 1993* are to be exempt from this provision.
8. Imposes penalty interest at a rate of seven percent (7%) per annum, pursuant to section 6.13 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, for rubbish collection charges that remain unpaid after becoming due and payable. Outstanding interest to be calculated on a daily basis (simple interest calculation).

CARRIED (8/0)

NO. 062/24

For: Crs Handasyde, Clements, Bell, Brown, Etherington,
Fraser, Liebeck and Sheard
Against: Nil

Absolute Majority

6.4 BUDGET ADOPTION – 2024/2025 ANNUAL BUDGETCr J Liebeck

Item: 6.1.4 Budget Adoption

Type: Proximity pursuant to Schedule 5.60B of the Local Government Act 1995.

Nature: Road Construction Program: Martin Street - Reseal - \$8,564

Extent: Will be living on that section of road. Will be leaving the meeting.

5.08pm Cr Liebeck left the meeting

File Ref: N64226**Attachment:** Annual Budget 2024/2025**Responsible Officer:** Julian Murphy
Chief Executive Officer**Author:** Anthony Middleton
Executive Manager – Corporate & Community**Proposed Meeting Date:** 6 August 2024

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider adopting the 2024/2025 Annual Budget, with or without modification.

BACKGROUND

The *Local Government Act 1995* requires each Local Government to prepare a budget each financial year. The form, manner and content of the budget are prescribed in the Act and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*. The Council must adopt its budget by an Absolute Majority no later than 31 August in the budget year unless the Minister for Local Government has granted an extension.

The Council and staff have been working on the components of the 2024/2025 Annual Budget since March, including the consideration of the plant replacement program, road construction program and fees and charges. The Council budget briefing session on 23 July enabled a detailed analysis of the draft budget by staff and elected members.

The previous items in this agenda have dealt with the major items in the budget and have been adopted individually to simplify the requirements of the Local Government Act 1995. These included the Property Rates and List of Fees & Charges.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* requires a local government to prepare and adopt, by absolute majority, an annual budget prior to 31 August in each year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The adopted budget of the Shire sets the financial direction for the proceeding financial year and is prepared following consideration of the Corporate Business Plan, Long Term Financial Plan and all other informing documents and strategies. The adoption

of the budget enables the operations of the Council to continue effectively and issue rates in a timely manner to assist with income generation and cash flow.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

This report enables the adoption of the budget for 2024/2025.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The budget was framed in line with Council Policy F/FM/12 – Budget Preparation.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications for this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The 2024/2025 budget makes provision for numerous new asset purchases, asset renewal and upgrades and major maintenance items for the coming financial year.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

There are no strategic implications for this report.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications for the adoption of the budget, apart from minimizing exposure to risks (particularly financial) through a thoroughly prepared and legislative compliant annual budget process.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

The attached annual budget comprises total expenditure (net of depreciation) of \$27.7m, including a very healthy investment in capital expenditure of \$12.6m, as can be seen in the three-year budget summary below:

	2022/2023 Budget	2023/2024 Budget	2024/2025 DRAFT
Operating Revenue	\$13.5m	\$12.5m	\$13.1m
New Loans	\$0.35m	\$3.5m	\$3.2m
Capital Grants	\$3.59m	\$3.2m	\$4.4m
Sale of Assets	\$0.74m	\$0.2m	\$0.35m
Transfers from Reserves/Restricted Cash	\$1.4m	\$1.8m	\$2.35m
Opening Balance	\$3.3m	\$4.3m	\$4.3m
	\$22.88m	\$25.5m	\$27.7m

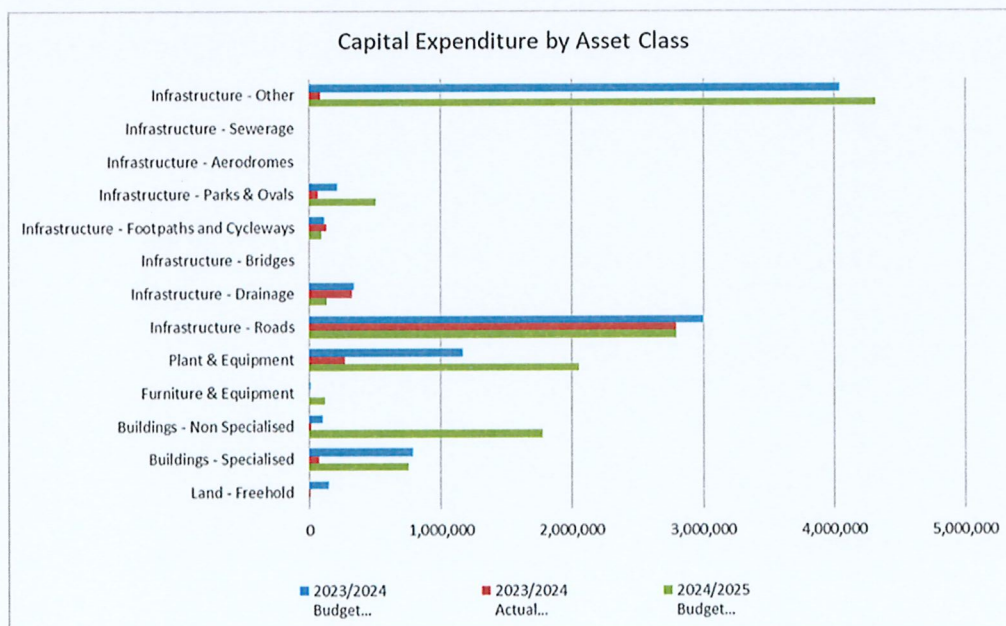
Operating Expenditure	\$19.04m	\$20.7m	\$29.7m
(less Depreciation)	(\$6.1m)	(\$6.8m)	(\$16.2m)
Capital Expenditure	\$7.6m	\$9.9m	\$12.6m
Transfers to Reserves	\$1.84m	\$1.3m	\$1.2m
Loan Repayments	\$0.5m	\$0.4m	\$0.4m
	\$22.88m	\$25.5m	\$27.7m

Capital Expenditure

This substantial capital expenditure program includes the following major components:

- Stage 1b of the Mount Barker Swimming Pool redevelopment - \$3.75m
- Road Construction Program – \$3m
- Two new Fire Sheds and two new fire units – \$2.35m
- Plant Replacement Program - \$1.17m

When broken down into the different types of asset classes, this investment in capital can be shown as follows:



Specifically, this capital expenditure includes:

Law Order & Public Safety

- Two New Fire Units - \$811,300
- New Rocky Gully Bush Fire Brigade Shed - \$772,500
- New Woogenellup Bush Fire Brigade Shed - \$772,500
- State Emergency Service Building - \$286,350

Education & Welfare

- Empowering Plantagenet Seniors Kitchen Upgrade - \$40,000

Housing

- Shire Depot Staff House Demolition - \$30,000

Community Amenities

- Waste Facility Upgrades – Various - \$50,000
 - O'Neill Rd - Power (Solar Panels)
 - Kendenup - Power (Solar Panels)
 - Porongurup - Bin Lifter Replacement x 1
 - Kendenup - Bin Lifter Replacement x 1
 - Kendenup - Security Fencing
- Cemetery Improvements (all four Cemeteries) - \$86,700
- Bus Shelter – Kendenup x 2 - \$25,050

Recreation & Culture

- Sounness Park – Reticulation - \$84,000 (Replace Solenoids & Controllers – Both Ovals)
- Sounness Park – LED Lighting Upgrade - \$269,264
- Sounness Park – Limestone Wall - \$48,144
- Porongurup Hall and Toilet Upgrade - \$62,495 (Carry over for detailed designs and to seek grant funds)
- Kendenup Community Grounds – 400kL Water Tank - \$96,678
- Relocate Marmion Cottage to Museum Site - \$30,000
- Pwackenbak Trails Infrastructure - \$366,346
- Wilson Park – Youth Precinct - \$150,000 (Carry over – Detailed design and seek funding)
- Swimming Pool Redevelopment – Stage 1B - \$3.75m
- Gym Equipment - \$31,000

Transport

- Road Construction Program \$2.95m (last year \$2.99m)
 - Narpund Road - Upgrade drainage kerb and reseal - \$30,000
 - Carbarup Rd - Upgrade - \$390,357
 - Settlement Rd - Reseal & Various Rutting Stab. - \$314,763
 - Yellanup Rd - Upgrade to Type 5 Standard Rd - \$364,871
 - Woogenellup Rd North - Various Gravel Resheet - \$208,385
 - Lake Matilda Rd – Pavement upgrade & asphalt - \$16,705
 - Eulup-Manurup Rd Slk - Reseal - \$219,780
 - Millinup Rd - Gravel Resheet - \$167,245
 - Smutts Rd - Gravel Resheet - \$33,120
 - Jellicoe Rd - Gravel Resheet - \$36,270
 - Jutland Rd - Gravel Resheet - \$76,270
 - Austin Street - Reseal - \$63,998
 - Repair Woogenellup Road Failures - \$85,467
 - Bunker Road - Gravel Road Construction - \$167,825

- Knights Road - Floodway Upgrade \$22,888
- Knights Road - Floodway Upgrade \$22,768
- Knights Road - Floodway Upgrade \$27,892
- Martin Street - Reseal - \$8,564
- Bunker Street - Reseal and New Kerbing \$8,560
- Marmion Street - Reseal - \$10,248
- Seventh Avenue - 2nd Coat Seal - \$7,564
- Jutland Rd - Gravel Resheet - \$76,270
- Austin Street - Reseal - \$63,998
- Repair Woogenellup Road Failures - \$85,467
- Bunker Road - Gravel Road Construction - \$167,825
- Knights Road - Floodway Upgrade \$22,888
- Knights Road - Floodway Upgrade \$22,768
- Knights Road - Floodway Upgrade \$27,892
- Martin Street - Reseal - \$8,564
- Bunker Street - Reseal and New Kerbing \$8,560
- Marmion Street - Reseal - \$10,248
- Seventh Avenue - 2nd Coat Seal - \$7,564
- Drainage:
 - Osborne St - Sub-Surface Drainage - \$60,000
- Footpaths:
 - Ingoldby Street (0 to 0.63km) Cycle Lane - \$13,450
 - Narpund Rd (0 to 0.5km) Cycle Lane Construction - \$9,840
 - Pathway Renewal Visitor Centre - \$70,275
- Plant Replacement - \$1,168m
 - Utes & Passenger Vehicles - \$338,000
 - 12M Grader - \$480,000
 - Multi-Tyred Roller - \$220,000
 - Tractor - \$105,000
 - Mower - \$15,000
 - Traffic Lights - \$10,000

Economic Services

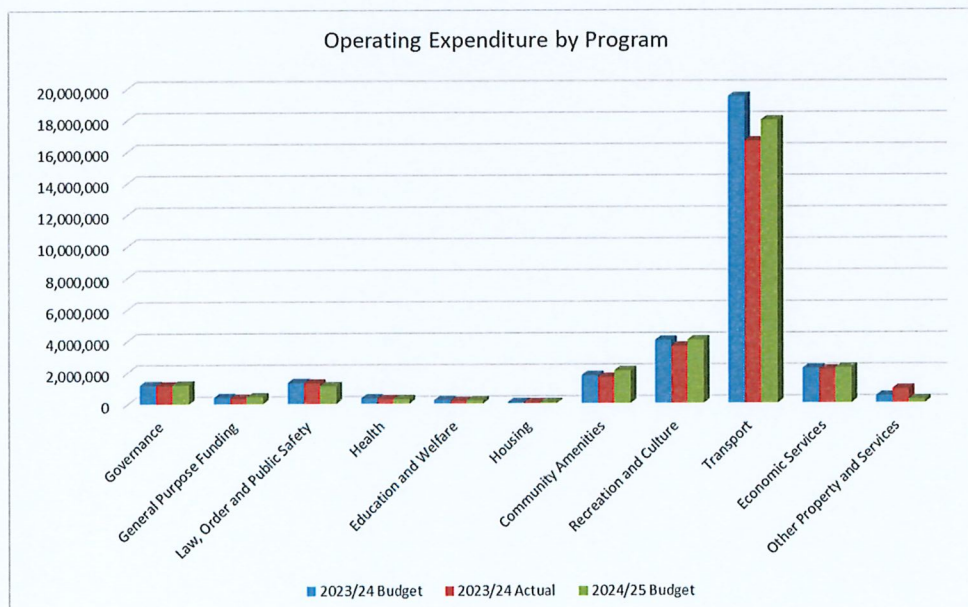
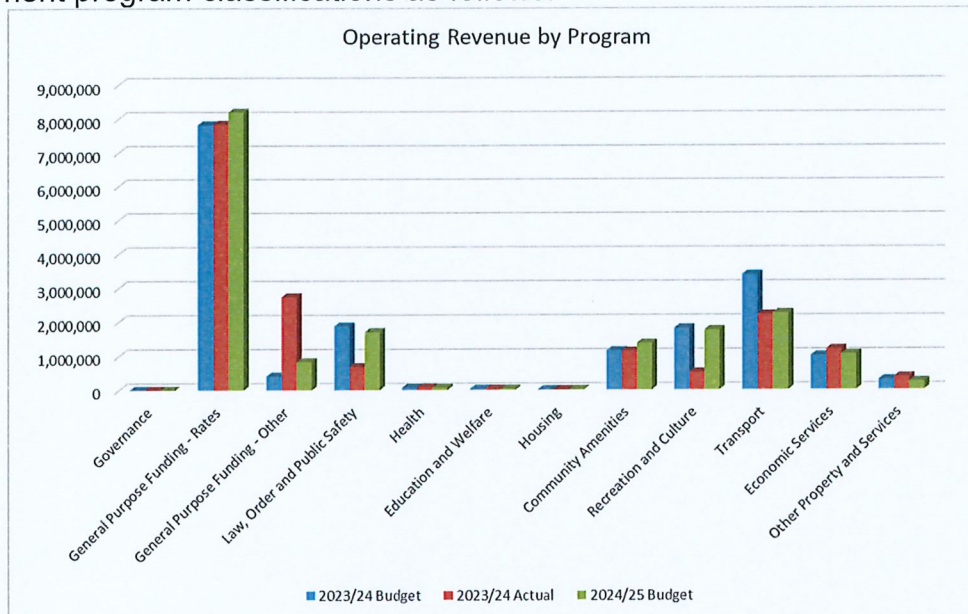
- EV Charger Installation at
 - Visitors Centre - \$22,862 (Grant \$6,431)
 - Community Centre - \$22,706 (Grant \$6,353)
- Standpipe Upgrades x 4 - \$30,500
- Train Mural Wall Repairs (carry-over) - \$10,070
- Saleyards - \$199,379
 - Bitumen Repairs - \$50,000
 - Roof Extension (Between Buildings) - \$22,000
 - Animal Welfare Sure-Foot-Matting - \$60,000
 - New Hay Storage Shed - \$40,000

Other Property & Services

- Replacement Building Store (Depot) - \$140,000

Operating Expenditure & Revenue

The day-to-day revenue and expenses of the Shire can be shown according to local government program classifications as follows:



These graphs clearly show the large portion of our operating revenue that comes from the imposition of property rates, while our expenditure is focused on roads and recreation and culture. Please note: the expenditure graph above includes \$16.2m in depreciation.

While it is not possible to outline every day-to-day operating expense in this budget summary, the following new and/or abnormal items are highlighted:

- Community Grant Program - \$138,734 allocated, up from \$118,154 last year
- Property rates budgeted to increase by 4.5%. A one percent rate increase is equal to \$78,369

- GRV Revaluation Expenses - \$52,000
- An 85% prepayment of Federal Government Financial Assistance Grants occurred in June 2024 - \$2.3m paid last financial year
- Refuse Collection Charges – 4.5% increase
- Waste Management Fee – 3.0% increase
- Planning Housing Grant of \$175,000 has been received to expedite development approvals and land releases associated with the housing shortage
- New Cemetery Software for staff and public use – \$20,000
- Narrikup Place Plan (Town Teams) - \$10,000
- Town Halls Building Maintenance
 - Nominal allocation for rising damp at EPS - \$10,000
 - Kendenup Ceiling Repairs - \$5,000
- Swimming Pool investigation report & progress detail designs - \$50,000
- Masterplan - Sounness & Frost Park - \$75,000
- Revegetation for Pwakkenbak Trails Clearing Permit - \$30,000
- Art Valuation & Storage Improvements - \$10,000
- Arts, Culture & Heritage Strategy - \$20,000
- Langton Road Streetscape planning - \$55,000
- Road Maintenance - \$3.81m (23/24 - \$3.53m)
 - Flood damage repairs nearly finalized (not included above)
- Subdivision Old Depot Site - \$105,000

Reserve Accounts:

Reserve accounts are established when a local government sets aside money for use in a future financial year. The summary of movement in reserve accounts in the attached draft budget is as follows:

- \$1.15m reduction in total reserve balance for 2024/2025, predominately due to a \$1.2m transfer from the Mount Barker Swimming Pool reserve account for the completion of stage 1b.
- \$2.35m total transfers out of reserve, \$1.2m transfers to reserves
- Opening Balance - \$6.05m, budgeted Closing Balance - \$4.9m

Loans:

Two new loans totalling \$3.2m are proposed in the attached draft 2024/2025 Annual Budget. Details are as follows:

- \$1.5m – Two new Bush Fire Brigade Sheds at Rocky Gully and Woogenellup. This loan is a self-supporting loan on behalf of DFES; and
- \$1.7m – Mount Barker Swimming Pool Development Stage 1b

Loan debt levels are currently very low, with an opening balance on 1 July 2024 of \$1.4m (of which \$322,000 are self-supporting loans). The budget estimates, following this year's loan repayments and the two new loans taken out, that the closing balance of loans at 30 June 2025 will be \$4.2m (of which \$1.8m will be self-supporting loans).

Loan 90, taken out for the construction of the Shire Administration Centre, will be repaid in full in this financial year.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That council adopts the 2024/2025 Annual Budget, as proposed.

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved Cr K Clements, seconded Cr B Bell:

That Council adopts the Martin Street Reseal as part of the Annual Budget 2024/2025 Road Construction Program, as proposed.

CARRIED (7/0)

NO. 063/24

**For: Crs Handasyde, Clements, Bell, Brown,
Etherington, Fraser and Sheard
Against: Nil**

Absolute Majority

Reason for Change

Cr Liebeck declared a Proximity of Interest in relation to the resealing of Martin Street. This allows for Cr Liebeck to be involved in voting on the remainder of the 2024/2025 Annual Budget.

5.09pm Cr Liebeck returned to the meeting.

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved Cr K Clements, seconded Cr B Bell:

That Council adopts the remainder of the 2024/2025 Annual Budget, as proposed.

CARRIED (8/0)

NO. 064/24

**For: Crs Handasyde, Clements, Bell, Brown, Etherington,
Fraser, Liebeck and Sheard
Against: Nil**

Absolute Majority

7 CLOSURE OF MEETING

5:10pm The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED: CHAIRPERSON_____DATE:____/____/____