

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

NOTICE OF MEETING

To: Mayor Jan-Claire Wisdom

Councillor Kirrilee Boyd
Councillor Adrian Cheater
Councillor Nathan Daniell
Councillor Chris Grant
Councillor Malcolm Herrmann
Councillor Lucy Huxter
Councillor Leith Mudge
Councillor Mark Osterstock
Councillor Kirsty Parkin
Vacant
Vacant
Vacant

Notice is given pursuant to the provisions under Section 83 of the *Local Government Act 1999* that the next meeting of the Council will be held on:

Tuesday 9 September 2025 6.30pm 63 Mt Barker Road Stirling

A copy of the Agenda for this meeting is supplied under Section 83 of the Act.

Meetings of the Council are open to the public and members of the community are welcome to attend. Public notice of the Agenda for this meeting is supplied under Section 84 of the Act.

Greg Georgopoulos Chief Executive Officer



ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA FOR MEETING Tuesday 9 September 2025 6.30pm 63 Mt Barker Road Stirling

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. COMMENCEMENT

2. OPENING STATEMENT

2.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Council acknowledges that we meet on the traditional Country of the Peramangk and Kaurna people. We pay our respects to Ancestors and Elders past and present as the Custodians of this ancient and beautiful land.

2.2. Together we will care for this place for the generations to come and in this context the decisions we make should be guided by the principle that nothing we do should decrease our children's ability to live on this land.

3. APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- 3.1. Apology Apologies were received from Kirrilee Boyd.
- 3.2. Leave of Absence
- 3.2.1. Mayor Jan-Claire Wisdom 11 March 2025 to 10 September 2025 approved 11 March 2025
- 3.3. Absent

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Council Meeting – 26 August 2025

That the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 26 August 2025 as supplied, be confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

5. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

6. MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS



7. QUESTIONS ADJOURNED/LYING ON THE TABLE

- 7.1. Questions Adjourned
- 7.2. Questions Lying on the Table Nil

8. PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PUBLIC FORUM

- 8.1. Petitions
- 8.2. Deputations
- 8.3. Public Forum
- 9. PRESENTATIONS (by exception)

Nil

10. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

- 10.1. Behavioural Standards Investigation Mayor WISDOM (Cr Mark Osterstock)
 - 1. As at the 9th day of September 2025, has Mayor WISDOM complied with the following requirements of Council resolution 430/24 Behavioural Standards Complaint Determination of Action Mayor WISDOM. [Appendix 1]
 - 3 [d]. That the Mayor is required to make an unconditional (and unreserved) public apology to the Council, the CEO, and the Administration at the next ordinary meeting of Council or by 10 December 2024 expressly apologising for the breaches identified in the Final Investigation Report, including explicitly her non-compliance with the Mayor Seeking Legal Advice Policy, and in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor?
 - 3 [e]. That the Mayor is required to make a private written apology to the identified victim or victims of bullying in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor by the 10 December 2024?
 - 3 [f]. That the Mayor is required to attend a program of training and education (organised by the Administration) directed towards:
 - i. re-building the working relationship between the Mayor, elected members, the CEO and the Administration?
 - ii. workplace bullying and harassment?
 - iii. conflict of interest and the roles and responsibilities of elected members

with such training and education to be completed before 31 March 2025?

3 [g] That the Mayor provide written confirmation to the Deputy Mayor by 10 December 2024 that she will attend the training outlined in part 3(f) of the resolution?



As of 2 September 2025, Mayor Wisdom has not complied with the requirements of Council resolution 430/24 set out in the question. The table below provides details for each requirement:

3d	The Mayor has not made an approved, unreserved public apology. The Mayor did make a statement at the 26 November 2024 Council meeting, but this was not in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor.
3e	The Mayor has not provided a private, written apology to the identified victim or victims of bullying in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor.
3f	The Mayor has not attended a program of training. The Administration has been unable to progress this requirement due to non-compliance with 3g and the Mayor's extended leave of absence.
3g	The Mayor has not provided written confirmation to the Deputy Mayor of her intention to attend training.

- 2. Item 3 [j] of the resolution requested that the Mayor repay Council for the costs of the investigation and report into this behavioural matter as soon as possible, but in any event by 31 January 2025.
 - a. What were the legal costs the Council and the Adelaide Hills community incurred associated with the independent inquiry into Mayor WISDOM's multiple breaches of the Behavioural Standards for Council Members as a result of the Mayor's multiple wrongdoings?
 - b. As at the 9th day of September 2025, has Mayor WISDOM repaid these legal costs in accordance with Councils request?

The legal costs incurred for the independent investigation into the behavioural complaint against the Mayor amounts to \$52,813 (excluding GST).

As at 2 September 2025, the Mayor has not repaid these legal costs.

11. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

12. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS – DECISION ITEMS

- 12.1. Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy
 - 1. That the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy report be received and noted.
 - 2. That the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy review be rescheduled to occur prior to 30 June 2026.
 - 3. That the review of the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy consider outcomes from the transition of township properties within the Tuesday



collection area to weekly Food Organic Garden Organic and fortnightly waste kerbside bin services.

- 12.2. End of Financial Year Update 2024-25
 - 1. That the End of Financial Year Update 2024-25 report be received and noted.
 - 2. Notes the 2024-25 preliminary financial position:
 - 1.1 Total operating income of \$63.784m (budget \$61.698m)
 - 1.2 Total operating expenditure of \$62.989m (budget \$64.551m)
 - 1.3 An operating surplus of \$795k (budget \$2.853m deficit)
 - 1.3.1 That this represents an operating surplus ratio of 1.25% (noting the target ratio of 0-10%)
 - 1.4 Capital works program expenditure of \$16.108 (budget of \$19.350m)
 - 3. Notes the results presented are subject to external audit review and are subject to change.
 - 4. That the 2025-26 operating budget be amended to include the carried forwards amounts set out in Appendix 1.
 - 5. That the 2025-26 capital budget be amended to include the carried forwards amounts set out in Appendix 2.

13. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS – INFORMATION ITEMS

- 13.1. Representation Review Update
 - 1. That the Elector Representation Review update report be received and noted.
 - 2. To note resolution 108/25 at the 25 March 2025 Council meeting.
 - 3. To note that the Final Representation Report to the Electoral Commissioner was provided to the Electoral Commission in April 2025.
 - To note that the Electoral Commission have advised that the Commission's ward structure numbering does not align with the numbering in the Elector Representation Review report.
 - 5. To note that under the Electoral Commission's ward numbering system the proposed wards will be referred to as:
 - i. Ward 1 South Ward
 - ii. Ward 2 Central Ward
 - iii. Ward 3 North Ward



6. To note that there is no substantive change to the boundaries and location of the proposed wards described in the Final Representation Report to the Electoral Commissioner.

14. CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING

- 14.1. Local Government Association Preferential Voting
- 14.2. Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants
- 14.3. Letter from Minister Szakacs re: GRFMA
- 14.4. Letter to Minister Szakacs re: GRFMA
- 14.5. AHRWMA Certification of Auditor Independence

15. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

16. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

17. REPORTS

- 17.1. Council Member Function or Activity on the Business of Council
- 17.2. Reports of Members/Officers as Council Representatives on External Organisations
- 17.3. CEO Report

18. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- 18.1. Council Assessment Panel
 Nil
- 18.2. Audit Committee Nil
- 18.3. CEO Performance Review Panel *At confidential items.*
- 18.4. Boundary Change Committee At confidential items.

19. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

- 19.1. 27 August 2025 CEO Performance Review Panel Minutes
- 19.2. 2 September 2025 Boundary Change Committee Minutes
- 19.3. Trans Tasman Energy Group Matter
- 19.4. CEO 2025 Remuneration Review
- 19.5. Workplace Matter verbal report

20. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 23 September 2025, 6.30pm, 63 Mt Barker Road, Stirling



21. CLOSE MEETING

Council Meetings, Information and Briefing Sessions, CAP and Committee Meetings for 2025

DATE	ТҮРЕ	LOCATION	MINUTE TAKER	
	JANUARY 2025			
Wednesday 15 January	CAP	Stirling	TBA	
Tuesday 28 January	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Skye Ludzay	
	FEBRUARY 2025			
Monday 3 February	Workshop	Woodside	N/A	
Tuesday 11 February	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Rebekah Lyons	
Wednesday 12 February	CAP	Stirling	TBA	
Monday 17 February	Audit Committee	Stirling	Lauren Jak	
Tuesday 18 February	Professional Development	Stirling	N/A	
Tuesday 25 February	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Skye Ludzay	
	MARCH 2025			
Monday 3 March	Workshop	Woodside	N/A	
Tuesday 11 March	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Rebekah Lyons	
Wednesday 12 March	CAP	Stirling	TBA	
Tuesday 18 March	Professional Development	Stirling	N/A	
Saturday 22 March	Workshop	Stirling	N/A	
Tuesday 25 March	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Skye Ludzay	
Wednesday 26 March	CEO PRP	Stirling	Zoë Gill	
	APRIL 2025			
Wednesday 2 April	CEO PRP	Stirling	Zoë Gill	
Monday 7 April	Workshop	Woodside	N/A	
Tuesday 8 April	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Rebekah Lyons	
Wednesday 9 April	CAP	Stirling	TBA	
Monday 14 April	Audit Committee	Stirling	Lauren Jak	
Tuesday 15 April	Professional Development	Stirling	N/A	
Tuesday 15 April	Boundary Change Committee	Stirling	Georgie McKeon	
Wednesday 16 April	CEO PRP	Stirling	Zoë Gill	
Tuesday 22 April	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Skye Ludzay	
	MAY 2025			
Monday 5 May	Workshop	Woodside	N/A	
Tuesday 13 May	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Skye Ludzay	
Wednesday 14 May	CAP	Stirling	TBA	
Monday 19 May	Audit Committee	Stirling	Lauren Jak	
Tuesday 20 May	Professional Development	Stirling	N/A	
Tuesday 27 May	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Brittany Priwer	
	JUNE 2025			
Monday 2 June	Workshop	Woodside	N/A	
Tuesday 10 June	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Skye Ludzay	
Wednesday 11 June	CAP	Stirling	TBA	
Tuesday 17 June	Professional Development	Stirling	N/A	
Tuesday 24 June	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Brittany Priwer	
Wednesday 25 June	CEO PRP	Stirling	Zoë Gill	

DATE	ТҮРЕ	LOCATION	MINUTE TAKER
	JULY 2025		
Monday 7 July	Workshop	Woodside	N/A
Tuesday 8 July	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Skye Ludzay
Wednesday 9 July	CAP	Stirling	TBA
Tuesday 15 July	Professional Development	Stirling	N/A
Tuesday 22 July	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Skye Ludzay
	AUGUST 202	5	
Monday 4 August	Workshop	Woodside	N/A
Tuesday 12 August	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Georgie McKeon
Wednesday 13 August	CAP	Stirling	TBA
Monday 18 August	Audit Committee	Stirling	Lauren Jak
Tuesday 19 August	Professional Development	Stirling	N/A
Tuesday 26 August	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Georgie McKeon
Wednesday 27 August	CEO PRP	Stirling	Zoë Gill
	SEPTEMBER 20	25	
Monday 1 September	Workshop	Woodside	N/A
Tuesday 9 September	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Skye Ludzay
Wednesday 10 September	CAP	Stirling	TBA
Tuesday 16 September	Professional Development	Stirling	N/A
Tuesday 23 September	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Georgie McKeon
	OCTOBER 202	25	
Tuesday 7 October (Public Holiday)	Workshop	Woodside	N/A
Wednesday 8 October	CAP	Stirling	ТВА
Tuesday 14 October	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Georgie McKeon
Wednesday 15 October	CEO PRP	Stirling	Zoë Gill
Monday 20 October	Audit Committee	Stirling	Lauren Jak
Tuesday 21 October	Professional Development	Stirling	N/A
Tuesday 28 October	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Lauren Jak
	NOVEMBER 20	25	
Monday 3 November	Workshop	Woodside	N/A
Tuesday 11 November	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Skye Ludzay
Wednesday 12 November	CAP	Stirling	TBA
Monday 17 November	Audit Committee	Stirling	Lauren Jak
Tuesday 18 November	Professional Development	Stirling	N/A
Tuesday 25 November	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Georgie McKeon
	DECEMBER 202	25	
Monday 1 December	Workshop	Woodside	N/A
Tuesday 9 December	Ordinary Council	Stirling	Lauren Jak
Wednesday 10 December	CAP	Stirling	TBA

Meetings are subject to change, please check agendas for times and venues. All meetings (except Council Member Professional Development) are open to the public.

Council Member Attendance 2025

Information or Briefing Sessions

Meeting Date	Mayor Jan-Claire Wisdom	Cr Kirrilee Boyd	Cr Adrian Cheater	Cr Nathan Daniell	Cr Leith Mudge	Cr Louise Pascale	Cr Mark Osterstock	Cr Kirsty Parkin	Cr Pauline Gill	Cr Chris Grant	Cr Malcolm Herrmann	Cr Lucy Huxter	Cr Melanie Selwood
3 Feb 25 (WS)	F	AP	F	F	AP	F	AP	F	F	F	F	AP	F
18 Feb 25 (WS)	Р	AP	F	F	F	Р	АР	F	LOA	F	F	F	F
3 Mar 25 (WS)	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	AP	AP	F	F	AP	F
11 Mar 25 (WS)	LOA	F	F	F	LOA	Α	F	F	AP	AP	Р	F	F
18 Mar 25 (WS)	LOA	F	F	F	LOA	F	AP	F	Р	F	F	F	F
22 Mar 25 (WS)	LOA	F	F	F	LOA	F	AP	F	F	F	F	F	F
7 Apr 25 (WS)	LOA	AP	F	F	F	F	F	F	AP	F	F	AP	F
15 Apr 25 (WS)	LOA	F	F	F	AP	F	AP	F	Α	F	F	F	F
5 May 25 (WS)	LOA	F	F	F	Р	Р	AP	Α	AP	F	F	Р	F
20 May 25 (WS)	LOA	AP	F	F	F	Α	F	F	Α	F	F	Р	F
02 June 25 (WS)	LOA	F	F	Р	F		AP	F		AP	F	AP	
17 June 25 (WS)	LOA	AP	F	F	F		F	F		AP	F	F	
7 July 25 (WS)	LOA	LOA	F	F	AP		AP	Α		F	F	Р	
15 July 25 (PD)	LOA	LOA	F	F	F		АР	F		F	F	АР	

4 Aug 25 (WS)	LOA	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	LOA	
19 Aug 25 (WS)	LOA	LOA	F	F	F	F	AP	F	F	F	
1 Sep 25 (WS)	LOA	AP	F	F	F	АР	AP	F	F	AP	

Council Member Attendance 2025

Council Meetings (including Special Council Meetings)

Meeting Date	Mayor Jan-Claire Wisdom	Cr Kirrilee Boyd	Cr Adrian Cheater	Cr Nathan Daniell	Cr Leith Mudge	Cr Louise Pascale	Cr Mark Osterstock	Cr Kirsty Parkin	Cr Pauline Gill	Cr Chris Grant	Cr Malcolm Herrmann	Cr Lucy Huxter	Cr Melanie Selwood
28 Jan 25	AP	F	AP	AP	F	LOA	F	AP	F	F	F	F	F
11 Feb 25	F	AP	LOA	F	F	F	F	F	AP	F	F	F	LOA
25 Feb 25	AP	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	LOA	F	F	LOA	F
11 Mar 25	LOA	F	F	F	LOA	F	F	F	AP	AP	F	F	F
25 Mar 25	LOA	F	F	F	LOA	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F
8 Apr 25	LOA	LOA	F	F	F	F	F	F	AP	F	F	F	F
22 Apr 25	LOA	LOA	F	F	F	F	F	LOA	AP	F	F	AP	F
13 May 25	LOA	AP	F	F	F	F	F	AP	LOA	F	F	F	LOA
27 May 25	LOA	LOA	F	F	F		F	F		F	F	AP	F
10 Jun 25	LOA	F	F	F	F		F	F		F	F	F	
17 Jun 25	LOA	AP	F	F	F		F	F		AP	F	F	
30 Jun 25	LOA	LOA	F	F	F		F	F		AP	F	F	
8 Jul 25	LOA	LOA	F	F	F		AP	AP		F	F	F	
22 Jul 25	LOA	LOA	F	F	F		AP	F		F	F	F	
4 Aug 25	LOA	F	F	F	F		F	F		F	F	LOA	
12 Aug 25	LOA	LOA	F	F	F		F	F		F	F	F	
26 Aug 25	LOA	LOA	F	F	F		F	F		F	F	F	

Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form



CONFLICTS MUST BE DECLARED VERBALLY DURING MEETINGS

		Date:
Meeting Name (please tick one))	
Ordinary Council		Audit Committee
Special Council		Boundary Change Committee
CEO Performance Review Panel		Other:
Item No Item Name:		
	(Only one cor	nflict of interest entry per form)
I, Mayor / Cr		have identified a conflict of interest as:
GENER	RAL □	MATERIAL □
interests might result in the Member ac MATERIAL In considering a Material Conflict of Interest.	cting in a manner erest (COI), a me	npartial, fair-minded person might consider that the Council Member's private r that is contrary to their public duty. ember of a council has a material conflict of interest in a matter to be discussed in s75(1)(a-1) in the Act would gain a benefit, or suffer a loss, (whether
directly or indirectly and whether of a p the meeting. The nature of my conflict of interesting the conflict of interesting the conflict of t		niary nature) depending on the outcome of the consideration of the matter at
(Describe the nature of the interest, in	ncluding whethe	er the interest is direct or indirect and personal or pecuniary)
•		n the following transparent and accountable way:
☐ I intend to stay in the meet	·	
·		et under s75A (please complete details below)
☐ I intend to leave the meeting	ng (mandator	ry if you intend to declare a Material conflict of interest)
The reason I intend to stay in th	e meeting an	d consider this matter is as follows:

(This section must be completed and ensure sufficient detail is recorded of the specific circumstances of your interest.)

Office use only: ${\tt Council}$ Member voted FOR / AGAINST the motion.

8. DEPUTATIONS

For full details, see Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures on www.ahc.sa.gov.au

- 1. A request to make a deputation should be made by submitting a Deputation Request Form, (available on Council's website and at Service and Community Centres) to the CEO seven clear days prior to the Council meeting for inclusion in the agenda.
- 2. Each deputation is to be no longer than ten (10) minutes, excluding questions from Members.
- 3. Deputations will be limited to a maximum of two per meeting.
- 4. In determining whether a deputation is allowed, the following considerations will be taken into account:
 - the number of deputations that have already been granted for the meeting
 - the subject matter of the proposed deputation
 - relevance to the Council agenda nominated and if not, relevance to the Council's powers or purpose
 - the integrity of the request (i.e. whether it is considered to be frivolous and/or vexatious)
 - the size and extent of the agenda for the particular meeting and
 - the number of times the deputee has addressed Council (either in a deputation or public forum) on the subject matter or a similar subject matter.

8.3 PUBLIC FORUM

For full details, see Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures on www.ahc.sa.gov.au

- 1. The public may be permitted to address or ask questions of the Council on a relevant and/or timely topic.
- 2. The Presiding Member will determine if an answer is to be provided.
- 3. People wishing to speak in the public forum must advise the Presiding Member of their intention at the beginning of this section of the meeting.
- 4. Each presentation in the Public Forum is to be no longer than five (5) minutes (including questions), except with leave from the Council.
- 5. The total time allocation for the Public Forum will be ten (10) minutes, except with leave from the Council.
- 6. If a large number of presentations have been requested, with leave from the Council, the time allocation of five (5) minutes may be reduced.
- 7. Any comments that may amount to a criticism of individual Council Members or staff must not be made. As identified in the Deputation Conduct section above, the normal laws of defamation will apply to statements made during the Public Forum.
- 8. Members may ask questions of all persons appearing relating to the subject of their presentation.



ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday 9 September 2025 AGENDA BUSINESS ITEM

Item: 10.1 Question on Notice

Originating from: Cr Mark Osterstock

Subject: Behavioural Standards Investigation – Mayor

WISDOM

1. QUESTION

- As at the 9th day of September 2025, has Mayor WISDOM complied with the following requirements of Council resolution 430/24 - Behavioural Standards Complaint – Determination of Action – Mayor WISDOM. [Appendix 1]
 - 3 [d]. That the Mayor is required to make an unconditional (and unreserved) public apology to the Council, the CEO, and the Administration at the next ordinary meeting of Council or by 10 December 2024 expressly apologising for the breaches identified in the Final Investigation Report, including explicitly her non-compliance with the Mayor Seeking Legal Advice Policy, and in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor?
 - 3 [e]. That the Mayor is required to make a private written apology to the identified victim or victims of bullying in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor by the 10 December 2024?
 - 3 [f]. That the Mayor is required to attend a program of training and education (organised by the Administration) directed towards:
 - i. re-building the working relationship between the Mayor, elected members, the CEO and the Administration?
 - ii. workplace bullying and harassment?
 - iii. conflict of interest and the roles and responsibilities of elected members

with such training and education to be completed before 31 March 2025?

- 3 [g] That the Mayor provide written confirmation to the Deputy Mayor by 10 December 2024 that she will attend the training outlined in part 3(f) of the resolution?
- Item 3 [j] of the resolution requested that the Mayor repay Council for the costs of the investigation and report into this behavioural matter as soon as possible, but in any event by 31 January 2025.
 - a. What were the legal costs the Council and the Adelaide Hills community incurred associated with the independent inquiry into Mayor WISDOM's multiple breaches of the Behavioural Standards for Council Members as a result of the Mayor's multiple wrongdoings?

b. As at the 9th day of September 2025, has Mayor WISDOM repaid these legal costs in accordance with Councils request?

2. BACKGROUND

On the 26th day of November 2024, Council considered item 19.1, Behavioural Standards Complaint (Mayor WISDOM), resolution 430/24 [Appendix 1]. A complaint was made against Mayor WISDOM alleging multiple breaches of the Behavioural Standards for Council Members.

This complaint was (independently) inquired into in accordance with the processes set out in Council's *Behavioural Management Policy*. In accordance with s4.5.4 of the Policy, a report was prepared summarising the matter and setting out findings, conclusions and recommendations. Procedural fairness was provided to all parties during this process. The report found that Mayor WISDOM had breached a number of the behavioural standards. Pursuant to s4.5.4 of the Policy, the relevant parties to the complaint were contacted to test whether they could agree to a path for resolution in relation to the breach of the behavioural standards. The parties failed to reach agreement as to the resolution of the matter. That section of the Policy provides:

Where the finding is that a breach of the behavioural requirements has occurred and the parties to the complaint have failed to reach agreement as to the resolution of the matter a final report should be presented to Council for determination.

Accordingly, consistent with the report's recommendations and findings, Council determined a variety of sanctions, requirements and requests commensurate with the Mayor's multiple wrongdoings.

Specifically, including yet not limited to: [Appendix 1]

3. That the Mayor's series of inappropriate behaviour and conduct and the findings of multiple breaches warrant the making of the following determinations pursuant to section 262C of the Local Government Act 1999:

••••

- d. That the Mayor is required to make an unconditional (and unreserved) public apology to the Council, the CEO, and the Administration at the next ordinary meeting of Council or by 10 December 2024 expressly apologising for the breaches identified in the Final Investigation Report, including explicitly her non-compliance with the Mayor Seeking Legal Advice Policy, and in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor.
- e. That the Mayor is required to make a private written apology to the identified victim or victims of bullying in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor by the 10 December 2024.
- f. That the Mayor is required to attend a program of training and education (organised by the Administration) directed towards:
 - i. re-building the working relationship between the Mayor, elected members, the CEO and the Administration,
 - ii. workplace bullying and harassment,
 - iii. conflict of interest and the roles and responsibilities of elected members with such training and education to be completed before 31 March 2025.

g. That the Mayor provide written confirmation to the Deputy Mayor by 10 December 2024 that she will attend the training outlined in part 3(f) of the resolution.

3. OFFICER'S RESPONSE – Zoë Gill, Executive Governance Officer

- 1. As at the 9th day of September 2025, has Mayor WISDOM complied with the following requirements of Council resolution 430/24 Behavioural Standards Complaint Determination of Action Mayor WISDOM. [Appendix 1]
 - 3 [d]. That the Mayor is required to make an unconditional (and unreserved) public apology to the Council, the CEO, and the Administration at the next ordinary meeting of Council or by 10 December 2024 expressly apologising for the breaches identified in the Final Investigation Report, including explicitly her non-compliance with the Mayor Seeking Legal Advice Policy, and in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor?
 - 3 [e]. That the Mayor is required to make a private written apology to the identified victim or victims of bullying in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor by the 10 December 2024?
 - 3 [f]. That the Mayor is required to attend a program of training and education (organised by the Administration) directed towards:
 - iv. re-building the working relationship between the Mayor, elected members, the CEO and the Administration?
 - v. workplace bullying and harassment?
 - vi. conflict of interest and the roles and responsibilities of elected members

with such training and education to be completed before 31 March 2025?

3 [g] That the Mayor provide written confirmation to the Deputy Mayor by 10 December 2024 that she will attend the training outlined in part 3(f) of the resolution?

As of 2 September 2025, Mayor Wisdom has not complied with the requirements of Council resolution 430/24 set out in the question. The table below provides details for each requirement:

3d	The Mayor has not made an approved, unreserved public apology. The Mayor did make a statement at the 26 November 2024 Council meeting, but this was not in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor.
3e	The Mayor has not provided a private, written apology to the identified victim or victims of bullying in a form approved by the Deputy Mayor.
3f	The Mayor has not attended a program of training. The Administration has been unable to progress this requirement due to non-compliance with 3g and the Mayor's extended leave of absence.
3g	The Mayor has not provided written confirmation to the Deputy Mayor of her intention to attend training.

- 2. Item 3 [j] of the resolution requested that the Mayor repay Council for the costs of the investigation and report into this behavioural matter as soon as possible, but in any event by 31 January 2025.
 - a. What were the legal costs the Council and the Adelaide Hills community incurred associated with the independent inquiry into Mayor WISDOM's multiple breaches of the Behavioural Standards for Council Members as a result of the Mayor's multiple wrongdoings?
 - b. As at the 9th day of September 2025, has Mayor WISDOM repaid these legal costs in accordance with Councils request?

The legal costs incurred for the independent investigation into the behavioural complaint against the Mayor amounts to \$52,813 (excluding GST).

As at 2 September 2025, the Mayor has not repaid these legal costs.

4. APPENDIX

Nil



ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday 9 September 2025 AGENDA BUSINESS ITEM

Item: 12.1

Responsible Officer: Jade Ballantine

Director Environment and Infrastructure

Environment and Infrastructure

Subject: Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy

For: Decision

SUMMARY

In August 2022 Council adopted the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy (refer *Appendix 1*). The *Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy* (the Policy) outlines waste and resource recovery services provided to the community through the kerbside bin service and hard waste collections.

The Policy was scheduled for review in August 2025. A key outcome of the Policy review was to update the kerbside bin service provision in response to the transition of kerbside bin services provided in townships to weekly Food Organic Garden Organic (FOGO) and fortnightly waste collection.

The transition of township properties to the new sustainable service of weekly FOGO and fortnightly waste will be staged, commencing with townships within the Tuesday collection area. This first stage, an extended trial, will confirm decision making regarding a broader rollout of the sustainable service to remaining township properties. It is proposed to review the Policy once the first stage is complete, and the Policy can be reviewed with certainty regarding kerbside waste and resource recovery service provision.

RECOMMENDATION

Council resolves:

- 1. That the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy report be received and noted.
- 2. That the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy review be rescheduled to occur prior to 30 June 2026.
- 3. That the review of the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy consider outcomes from the transition of township properties within the Tuesday collection area to weekly Food Organic Garden Organic and fortnightly waste kerbside bin services.

1. BACKGROUND

The Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy was initially developed and adopted in 2018 and defines waste and resource recovery services with the aim of supporting reduced waste to landfill by maximising recycling and reuse. The Policy also provided clarity to the community on waste and recycling services available from Council. In 2022, the Policy was reviewed, and a revised version was adopted by Council at the 23 August Council meeting as follows:

12.10 Policy Review – Waste & Resource Recovery Services

Moved Cr Linda Green S/- Cr John Kemp

216/22

Council resolves:

- That the report be received and noted
- With an effective date of 7 September 2022, to revoke the 27 March 2018 Waste & Resource Recovery Service Policy and to adopt the 23 August 2022 Waste & Resource Recovery Services Policy as per Appendix 1.
- That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to make any formatting, nomenclature or other minor changes to the 23 August 2022 Waste & Resource Recovery Services Policy as per Appendix 1 during the period of currency.

Carried unanimously
curried unuminously

The Policy is scheduled for review by 23 August 2025, or as required by legislation or changed circumstances. In October 2024, Council Members resolved to undertake a review of the Policy in response to a resolution to change the default kerbside bin collection service in all townships to weekly FOGO and fortnightly waste. The intent of this review was to ensure the Policy aligned with the new township kerbside service of weekly FOGO and fortnightly waste, which is not currently accounted for in the current version of the Policy. The resolution (368/24) passed at the October 2024 Ordinary Council included the following:

 A review of the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy be undertaken prior to August 2025 which includes the necessary changes to ensure the Policy aligns with the new kerbside bin collection model within townships and urban areas.

Due to the length of the full resolution of Council from the October 2024 meeting it has not been provided above but has been included in *Appendix 2* of this report for information.

Since the resolution of Council from October 2024, further information has been provided by East Waste regarding costs to transition all township properties to the new sustainable service. This new information needs to be substantiated in 'real world' conditions to provide more certainty and confidence and therefore a staged transition of changes to the township kerbside bin service is planned with the first stage considered an extended trial. This staged transition will commence with townships in the Tuesday collection area of Balhannah, Oakbank, Woodside, Charleston and Lobethal.

Given the rollout of weekly FOGO and fortnightly waste to all township properties is dependent upon the outcome of the extended trial Tuesday transition it is proposed not to review the Waste and Resource Recovery Policy at this time.

2. ANALYSIS

> Strategic Management Plan/Functional Strategy/Council Policy Alignment

Strategic Plan 2024 – Your Place, Your Space Goal 1 Natural Environment

Objective NE2 Support the community and businesses to decarbonise and transition to

sustainable lifestyle practices (green communities)

Priority NE2.2 Continue to promote the highest principles in the waste management

hierarchy - avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle - through education

programs, services and by example.

Rescheduling the Policy review to accurately define waste and resource recovery services ensures the community are provided with the most accurate account of Council's waste and resource recovery services.

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications from rescheduling the Policy review.

Risk Management Implications

Rescheduling the review of the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy will assist in mitigating the risk of:

Reviewing the Waste and Resource Recovery Policy prematurely leading to potential for inaccurate waste and resource recovery service information being provided to the community.

Inherent Risk	Residual Risk	Target Risk
Extreme (5A)	Low (1E)	Low (1E)

Adoption of the report recommendation will result in review of the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy by 30 June 2026.

Budget, Financial and Resource Implications

Rescheduling the review of the Policy does not result in any financial or resource implications.

Customer Service and Community/Cultural Implications

The current Policy is suitable for defining Council's waste and resource recovery services to the community. Accordingly, there are no customer service or community implications from rescheduling the review of the Policy.

Sustainability Implications

Not applicable.

Engagement/Consultation conducted in the development of the report

Consultation on the development of this report was as follows:

Council Committees: Not Applicable

Council Workshops: 1 September 2025 Workshop

Advisory Groups: Not Applicable External Agencies: Not Applicable Community: Not Applicable

Additional Analysis

It is proposed not to review the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy at this time for the following reasons:

- The transition of township properties within the Tuesday collection area will provide
 additional information and data regarding community uptake and acceptance of the
 new sustainable service. This additional information and data can be used to inform
 review of the Policy and therefore result in better policy outcomes.
- A broader rollout of the new sustainable services is dependent upon outcomes of the extended trial of transition of township properties within the Tuesday collection area. Accordingly, if Council were to adopt a policy now, which includes weekly FOGO and fortnightly waste as the township service provision, and then this service change ultimately does not proceed, the Policy will not be accurate. This outcome would lead to confusion in the community regarding kerbside waste and resource recovery services provided by Council.
- The current Policy, whilst requiring minor administrative amendments, is still suitable and does not require any urgent changes to be made.

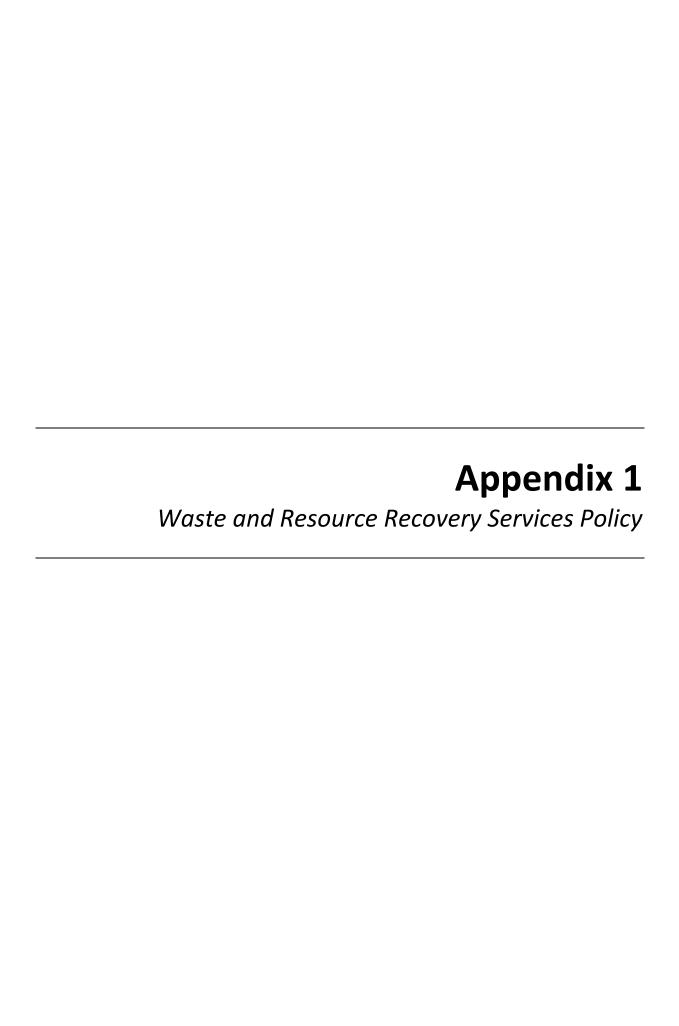
1 OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

- I. To reschedule the review of the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy to occur no later than 30 June 2026. This option is recommended as the Policy review will be based on outcomes of the extended trial of township properties within the Tuesday collection area to the sustainable service.
- II. To review the Policy ahead of the transition of township properties within the Tuesday collection area to the sustainable service. This option is not recommended as the Policy adopted may not reflect actual service provision in place following the extended trial of township properties within the Tuesday collection area to the sustainable service.

2 APPENDICES

- (1) Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy
- (2) Kerbside Bin System Trial Results Resolution of Council from 15 October 2024





Council Policy

Waste & Resource Recovery Services



COUNCIL POLICY



WASTE & RESOURCE RECOVERY SERVICES

Policy Number:	ENV-05
Responsible Department(s):	Sustainability, Waste & Emergency Management
Relevant Delegations:	As per the Delegations Register and as detailed in this Policy
Other Relevant Policies:	NIL
Relevant Procedure(s):	NilL
Relevant Legislation:	Local Government Act, 1999 Environment Protection Act 1993 Environment Protection Regulations 2009 Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010
Policies and Procedures Superseded by this policy on its Adoption:	Nil
Adoption Authority:	Council
Date of Adoption:	23 August 2022
Effective From:	07 September 2022
Minute Reference for Adoption:	Item 12.10, 216/22
Next Review:	No later than 23 August 2025 or as required by legislation or changed circumstances

Version Control

Version No.	Date of Effect	Description of Change(s)	Approval
1.0	27/03/18	New Policy.	Council - Res 71/18
2.0	07/09/22	Policy Review with minor changes. Added Hard Waste Collection, Commercial and Industrial Property and Green Organic Days.	Council – Res 216/22

WASTE & RESOURCE RECOVERY SERVICES POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

The Adelaide Hills Council provides numerous waste and recycling services to the community. These services aim to reduce the volume of material consigned to landfill by maximising recycling and reuse. The Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy will assist to meet this aim and also provide for the provision of cost effective, sustainable and efficient waste management services for the community. The Policy also provides clarity to the community on what waste and recycling services are available.

2. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of this policy are:
 - Waste, recycling and green organic bins (including kerbside, community groups, sporting facilities and event waste).
 - Street litter bins.
 - Kerbside hard waste collections.
 - Emergency event waste management.
 - Green organic drop off days.
- 2.2 The Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy outlines the obligations for both Council and the community in providing these services. The kerbside service defined within this policy applies to each occupied rateable assessment within the Adelaide Hills Council area, excluding properties that have been assessed as vacant land.

3. **DEFINITIONS**

"Community group" means a not-for-profit community-based organisation with objectives relating primarily to the social, economic, environmental and cultural needs of the Adelaide Hills community.

"Community shop" is a retail facility e.g. 'not for profit/opportunity shop' or similar, operated by a community group to raise funds for the betterment of the Adelaide Hills Council community.

"Council" is the Adelaide Hills Council.

"Council owned" is properties owned by Adelaide Hills Council.

"Designated collection area" is the area defined by Council for green organics kerbside collection.

"Domestic quantities" means kerbside bin of 140L and 240L in size.

"Kerbside waste/recycling collection" is a bin presented on the verge for collection of waste by Council's waste management contractors.

"Kitchen Caddy" is a small container for collection of green organics material.

"MGB" is a Mobile Garbage Bin, either 140L or 240L.

"Occupant" is the person who resides at the property.

"Occupied/residential" is any property that has a home that is not vacant.

"Property or Properties" is occupied residential, commercial, industrial, primary production (must have occupied residence), or other property (other property includes Churches, Schools, Kindergartens, Sporting clubs, Cemeteries and Local Government).

"Property Owner" is a person who owns the property.

"Religious / Public Worship Site" is land containing a church or other building used for public worship (and any grounds), or land solely used for religious purposes.

"Solely" means the religious purpose must be the only and exclusive use.

4. SCOPE

The Policy applies to kerbside waste and recycling, hard waste collections, event waste, community groups, sporting facilities, street litter waste bins, not for profit community/opportunity shops, green organic drop off days, hospital and nursing homes, and the Heathfield Resource Recovery Centre and emergency event waste management.

5. POLICY STATEMENT

Kerbside Waste and Recycling Collection Service

- 5.1 Each property is entitled to:
 - One weekly 140L blue lidded MGB kerbside waste collection.
 - One fortnightly 240L yellow lidded MGB kerbside recycling collection.
- 5.2 Council is required under the *Environment Protection (Waste Resources) Policy 2010* to provide a weekly general waste collection service to residential properties.
- 5.3 Bins will be collected from the kerbside verge area unless specified by Council. Where it is deemed that a kerbside service is not practical or reasonable, an alternative service provision may be considered in consultation with affected properties.
- 5.4 In addition to the above, each occupied property within the designated green organics service collection area is entitled to the above-mentioned service plus one fortnightly 240L lime green lidded MGB kerbside green organics collection. A property may request a green organics service using the green organics request form, which will only be approved if they are on route and the truck is collecting from the street and neighbouring properties. Green bins will not be approved or provided where it is deemed by Council administration that an extension of service area is required.

Commercial and Industrial Property Kerbside Waste and Recycling Collection Service

- 5.5 Each commercial, industrial and primary production property is entitled to:
 - One weekly 140L blue lidded MGB kerbside waste collection.
 - One fortnightly 240L yellow lidded MGB kerbside recycling collection.
- 5.6 Based upon application, commercial or industrial businesses, within the designated green organics service collection area, may apply for a kerbside 240L green organics service. The service will only be provided upon written request, using the request form, and is subject to demonstrated domestic quantities. Commercial or industrial businesses provided with a kerbside organic service will not be eligible for vouchers or additional organic bins.
- 5.7 Kerbside services are provided within this policy to encourage correct disposal and recycling of domestic quantities of waste and recycling material generated through business activities. It is not Council's responsibility to collect business waste generated by the activities of industrial or commercial businesses.
- 5.8 Where it is deemed that a kerbside service is not practical or reasonable, an alternative service provision may be considered in consultation with affected properties.

<u>Council Owned Property Kerbside Waste and Recycling Collection Service (Excluding ovals and sporting facilities)</u>

- 5.9 Unless otherwise specified in a lease, licence, management agreement or any other agreement with Council, Council owned properties are entitled to:
 - One weekly 140L blue lidded MGB kerbside waste collection.
 - One fortnightly 240L MGB yellow lidded kerbside recycling collection.
- 5.10 In addition to the above, each Council owned property within the designated service collection area may access one fortnightly 240L lime green lidded MGB kerbside green organics collection service. This service will only be provided upon written request, using the request form, and is subject to demonstrated need.
- 5.11 Additional bins may be provided upon request, at Council's discretion.

Sports Facilities Waste and Recycling Collection Service

- 5.12 MGB's at sporting facilities are of various sizes and lid colours. They are positioned around the sporting areas in a variety of ways e.g. on stands, stand alone, in sheds etc. Progressively, they will be replaced with 140L red lidded MGB's on lockable stands or locked with a cable and locks. This policy intends to bring the number of bins at sporting facilities into line with provisions of this policy progressively over time.
- 5.13 Each oval is entitled to the following:
 - Up to 10, 140L red lidded MGB's to be located around the oval perimeter attached to security poles or secured with a cable and locks.
 - Additional MGB's may be applied for in writing on a case-by-case basis.
- 5.14 Each clubroom is entitled to:
 - Up to five weekly 140L blue lidded MGB's kerbside waste collections. Bins must be presented at the kerbside for collection.

- Up to five fortnightly 240L yellow lidded MGB's kerbside recycling collections. Bins must be presented at the kerbside for collection.
- Where the facility is within the designated green organics service collection area, up to five fortnightly 240L green lidded MGB's may be provided upon request.
- Additional blue lidded waste, yellow and green (if in the designated green organics collection area) lidded recycling MGB's may be applied for. An annual service fee, per bin, will apply as per Council's Fees and Charges Register.

5.15 Other sporting facilities:

- Assessment of waste requirements to be made for each individual facility.
- Recycling of waste to be encouraged at all times.
- Requests for additional services must be made in writing using the request form.

Schools/Kindergartens and Child Care Facilities Kerbside Waste and Recycling Collection Service

- 5.16 Each school/kindergarten and childcare facility is entitled to:
 - One weekly 140L blue lidded MGB kerbside waste collection.
 - One fortnightly 240L yellow lidded MGB recycling collection.
 - One fortnightly 240L lime green lidded MGB green organics collection, upon request if within the designated green organics collection area.
 - Requests for additional services must be made in writing using the request form.
 An annual service fee, per bin, will apply as per Council's Fees and Charges Register.

Religious/Public Worship Site Kerbside Waste and Recycling Collection Service

- 5.17 Each Religious / Public Worship Site is entitled to:
 - One weekly 140L blue lidded MGB kerbside waste collection.
 - One fortnightly 240L yellow lidded MGB kerbside recycling collection.
 - One fortnightly 240L lime green lidded MGB green organics collection, upon request, if within the designated green organics collection area.
 - Requests for additional services must be made in writing using the request form.
 An annual service fee, per bin, will apply as per Council's Fees and Charges Register.

Community Event Waste and Recycling Collection Service

5.18 Requests for event waste services are to be made in writing using the Event Application form. Applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Once the assessment has been completed the applicant will be advised of the outcome.

Bin Provision Including New and Additional Services

5.19 All MGB's are the property of Adelaide Hills Council and shall remain with the premises at which the bin(s) is issued should a change of occupancy or ownership occur.

5.20 New service:

- Property Owners may apply for a new waste, recycling or green organics service using the request form.
- MGB's will only be provided to new homes or businesses two weeks prior to occupancy.
- Approval for a green organics service will be dependent on the designated collection area.

5.21 Additional service:

- Where a service already exists a Property Owner or Occupant may receive additional bins. Additional bins must be applied for using the request form. An annual service fee, per bin, paid in advanced is required prior to delivery of bins. The annual service fee will apply as per Council's Register of Fees and Charges.
- An additional bin sticker indicating payment has been made will be provided to residents to affix to the said additional bin.
- Additional waste, recycling and green organics MGB's will only be issued if the Property Owner/Agent (not tenants) of the property applies for the service using the request form.

5.22 Cancelling an additional service:

- Requests for the cancellation of an additional MGB must be completed in writing.
- The MGB must be presented on the verge area, empty of waste, for Council to collect.

Bin Replacement – Lost, Stolen or Damaged Bins

5.23 Council will be responsible for repair and maintenance of MGB's (e.g. replacement of wheels and lids).

5.24 Damaged bins:

- Damaged MGB's will be repaired and/or replaced by Council at no cost to the ratepayer, unless it is deemed by Council to be deliberate damage or misuse. A fee for each bin will then apply, as per Council's Fees and Charges Register.
- Damaged MGB's must be left on the verge area for repairs where normal waste collection occurs.
- Where a bin is unsuitable for repairs and must be replaced, the damaged bin must be presented on the verge, empty of waste, for the contractor to collect.

5.25 Stolen bins:

- Stolen MGB's will be replaced by Council at no charge to the Property Owner or Occupant.
- Requests for replacement of stolen MGB's must be in writing using the request form. At Council's discretion satisfactory evidence of bin theft may be requested.

Green Organic Disposal Vouchers

- 5.26 Occupied residential properties that are not eligible to receive a fortnightly 240L lime green lidded MGB organics service will be provided with up to two disposal vouchers per financial year upon request.
- 5.27 Each voucher entitles the Property Owner or Occupant to take up to a maximum of one caged 7x5 trailer load of domestic green organics to the Heathfield Resource Recovery Centre free of charge. Loads larger than this will incur fees, to be paid by the voucher holder.
- 5.28 Based on application, commercial or industrial businesses outside of the green organics collection area may be entitled to green organics vouchers. The vouchers will be only provided where it is demonstrated that a domestic quantity of green organic disposal is shown. Commercial operations providing green organic services will not be eligible for vouchers.

Not for Profit Community / Opportunity Shop Vouchers

- 5.29 Upon written request, a maximum of twelve (12) waste disposal vouchers may be provided per financial year.
- 5.30 Vouchers will be issued if the following criteria are met:
 - Waste disposal arises out of operating a Community Shop and the group is a notfor-profit entity which provides some service or benefit to the Adelaide Hills Council community.
 - Loads must be equivalent to or less than a 7x5, (2.1m x 1.5m), caged trailer of hard waste. Loads above this size will incur fees to be paid for by the entity.
 - Vouchers will only be redeemable at the Heathfield Resource Recovery Centre.
 - Items not accepted will be listed on the vouchers.

Kitchen Caddies

- 5.31 Property Owners or Occupants who currently have access to a lime green lidded MGB organics service may access one kitchen caddy starter kit per property or a replacement caddy free of charge.
- 5.32 Properties that do not have access to a lime green lidded MGB organics service can obtain a kitchen caddy starter kit for free for use with home composting. Schools, kindergartens and childcare facilities can access kitchen caddy starter kits equivalent to the number of classrooms and lunch areas. Other locations will be considered on a case by case basis.
- 5.33 Kitchen caddy starter kits and replacements can be collected from Council's Service Centres for free. Additional compostable bags may be purchased at Council's Service Centres as per Council's Fees and Charges Register.

Tow Ball Hitches

5.34 Tow ball hitches assist Property Owners or Occupants to tow bins to the verge area. They are available at all Council Service Centres for a fee as per Council's Fees and Charges Register.

Fees and Charges

5.35 Where relevant, fees for services described by the Waste and Resource Recovery Service Policy will be determined by Council and declared in Council's Fees and Charges Register.

Service Requirements

- 5.36 Property Owners or Occupants receiving a kerbside waste, recycling or green organics collection service from Council will be responsible for the following:
 - Placement of the MGB on the kerbside the night before the bin is scheduled to be collected or by 6am on the day of collection with the lid opening facing towards the street.
 - Placement of the MGB where the contractor's collection vehicle can gain access to it.
 - Ensuring a clearance of at least 50cm around each MGB, one metre between MGB's and parked cars, trees, stobie poles, letter boxes or other obstacles to the collection vehicle.

- Pedestrian access must be maintained at all times.
- Ensure MGB lids are fully closed.
- Placement of correct material in each MGB.
- Total weight of the MGB does not exceed 50kg.
- Removing the MGB from the kerbside within 24 hours of it being emptied.
- Storing the MGB in a safe location on the property to which they are distributed.
- Maintaining the MGB in a clean condition so as not to impact on public health or amenity.
- All MGB's are owned by Adelaide Hills Council and must remain at the property to which they were allocated.
- 5.37 Where the collection vehicle is unable to access a MGB from a verge area, a suitable collection point will be organised at the discretion of Council and contractors. Unless otherwise specified in an agreement between the parties, MGB's will not be collected from within private property.
- 5.38 Bins will not be collected from other than a kerbside location unless prior arrangements have been made, including a signed agreement, indemnifying Council and the collection contractor against any claims for damages from the property owner or occupier.

Refusal of Service

- 5.39 Collection of a MGB may be refused to properties that:
 - Fail to use the approved waste collection container, the MGB must have the Adelaide Hills Council logo hot stamp.
 - Are late in placing their MGB out for collection.
 - Place prohibited waste out for collection.
 - Place an MGB out that weighs more than 50kg.
 - Overfill an MGB so that the lid does not close.
 - Place an MGB in a location that cannot be reached by the collection vehicle.
 - Place an MGB incorrectly with handles towards the road.
 - Fail to use a MGB correctly, leading to contamination of recyclables or organics.
 - Present additional bins over and above the levels stipulated in this policy.
- 5.40 Prior to any refusal of service Council will liaise with the property owner/occupant in the first instance to identify the issue and discuss remediation options for the property owner/occupant to implement.
- 5.41 If the contents of an MGB are not emptied for any of the reasons listed within this section, a notice may be placed on the affected bin indicating the reasons for refusal. Disposal of the waste will then be the responsibility of the resident.
- 5.42 Council reserves the right to cease a collection service when there is repeated misuse of an MGB, including continually leaving an MGB on the kerbside after collection (excluding MGB bin banks), unnecessarily interfering with other MGB's presented for collection or continually placing an MGB so they are inaccessible to the contractor's collection vehicles or contamination of recyclables.
- 5.43 In regards to any property, Council may deem that additional kerbside services are not appropriate, and properties/facilities would need to arrange their own additional alternative services.

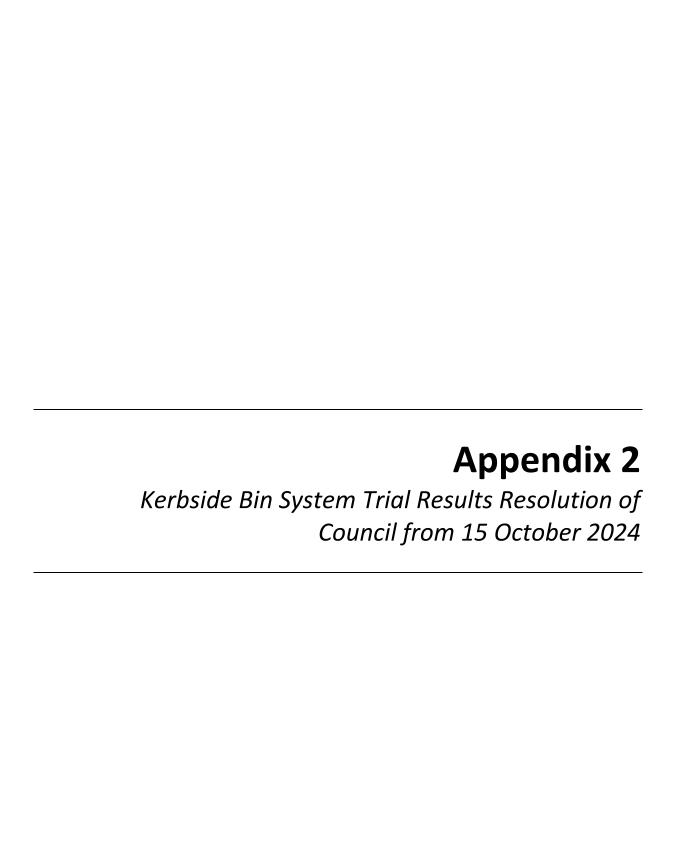
5.44 Council reserves the right to refuse service where it is impractical to collect, store or present bins or where, as part of planning approval conditions, responsibility for waste management is passed to the owner/occupier.

6. DELEGATION

- 6.1 The Chief Executive Officer has the delegation to:
 - Approve, amend and review any procedures that shall be consistent with this Policy; and
 - Make any legislative, formatting, nomenclature or other minor changes to the Policy during the period of its currency.

7. AVAILABILITY OF THE POLICY

7.1 This Policy will be available via the Council's website www.ahc.sa.gov.au.



Council resolves:

- 1. That the report be received and noted.
- 2. Notes the success of the Council's Food Organic Garden Organic trial in achieving:
 - (a) Significantly improved landfill diversion rates and reductions in the total amount of waste consigned to landfill
 - (b) Reduced landfill greenhouse gas emissions
 - (c) Reduced exposure to the SA solid waste levy
 - (d) Increased recycling of food waste
- Acknowledges the participation of Food Organic Garden Organic Trial participants, notes the feedback provided by participants and thanks them for their involvement and contribution.
- That the properties within the Woodside East and Tiers/Swamp Road trial areas return to the pre-trial service of weekly waste collection and fortnightly comingled recycling collection from 1 November 2024.
- That the properties within the Woodside Township trial area maintain a weekly food organic garden organic collection, fortnightly waste collection and fortnightly comingled recycling collection until 31 July 2025.
- 6. That subject to funding allocation in the 2025/26 budget, the township and urban areas default kerbside bin collection service change to weekly 240 litre Food Organic Garden Organic and fortnightly 140 litre waste collection commencing in a staged rollout from August 2025. This arrangement be accompanied by suitable arrangements for those property owners who wish to opt out of the new arrangement so as to receive weekly waste collection, as required under law, and those with special circumstances necessitating increased waste collection.
- Supports the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) applying for grant funding to support the change to township and urban areas bin collection if available and applicable at time of the proposed rollouts.
- A review of the Waste and Resource Recovery Services Policy be undertaken prior to August 2025 which includes the necessary changes to ensure the Policy aligns with the new kerbside bin collection model within townships and urban areas.
- That council consider the provision of a food organic garden organic collection service to rural areas once the South Australian Government's position on proposed legislative changes regarding the provision of kerbside bin services is known.
- 10. That the CEO write to the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, Hon Susan Close MP:
 - (a) Outlining the current legislative impediments to the roll out of a FOGO service in rural areas of the Council as outlined in the report,
 - (b) Proposing potential regulatory changes that could resolve this issue, and
 - (c) Requesting that these changes be implemented prior to or as part of a broader review of the Environmental Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010 and/or other relevant legislation not later than 30 June 2025.
- That the CEO prepare a draft submission to the current review of the Environmental Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010, for the Council's consideration prior to 20 December 2024, which includes the sentiment of Point 10.

ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday 9 September 2025 AGENDA BUSINESS ITEM

Item: 12.2

Responsible Officer: Gary Lewis

Director Corporate Services

Corporate Services

Subject: End of Financial Year Update – 2024-25

For: Decision

SUMMARY

This report provides Council with an update of Council's preliminary Operating Result for the 2024-25 financial year. It also includes an update on Capital Works and Borrowings as of 30 June 2025.

This is a preliminary report with all financial figures still to be audited by BDO which will commence Monday 8 September 2025.

The preliminary year end operating position for 2024-25 is an operating surplus of \$795k which is \$3.648m favourable compared to the budget of \$2.853m unfavourable.

This favourable variance consists of increased revenue of \$2.086m and reduced expenditure of \$1.562m.

Capital expenditure as of 30 June 2025 is \$16.108m which is \$3.242m less than the Q3 budget of \$19.350m. The adopted capital budget for 2024-25 was \$18.320m including carry forwards of \$1.768m (Aug 2024 BRO). There is a recommended carried forward capital budget of \$3.257m.

In addition, there is a recommended carried forward operational budget of \$674k.

It should be noted that further changes to Council's financial results will occur following the finalisation of Council's statutory accounts and subsequent audit. The finalisation of the accounts will address matters still outstanding which include the accounting for Council's subsidiaries' results, payroll capitalisation finalisation, landfill provisions and asset revaluation adjustments. However, these adjustments have already been considered in the preliminary numbers and are not expected to change materially the end of year operating position.

RECOMMENDATION

Council resolves:

- That the End of Financial Year Update 2024-25 report be received and noted.
- 2. Notes the 2024-25 preliminary financial position:

- 1.1 Total operating income of \$63.784m (budget \$61.698m)
- 1.2 Total operating expenditure of \$62.989m (budget \$64.551m)
- 1.3 An operating surplus of \$795k (budget \$2.853m deficit)
 - 1.3.1 That this represents an operating surplus ratio of 1.25% (noting the target ratio of 0-10%)
- 1.4 Capital works program expenditure of \$16.108 (budget of \$19.350m)
- 3. Notes the results presented are subject to external audit review and are subject to change.
- 4. That the 2025-26 operating budget be amended to include the carried forwards amounts set out in Appendix 1.
- 5. That the 2025-26 capital budget be amended to include the carried forwards amounts set out in Appendix 2.

1. BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a preliminary view of the actual financial performance compared to budget for the year ending 30 June 2025 and to seek approval to carry forward previously approved budget funding to the 2025-26 financial year.

Council's preliminary end of year result was presented to the Audit and Risk Committee ("Committee") at its 18 August 2025 meeting. At this meeting the Committee resolved as follows:

8.8 End of Financial Year Update

Moved Leith Mudge

Presiding Member_______ 20 October 2025

32

ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETING MONDAY 18 AUGUST 2025 63 MT BARKER ROAD STIRLING

S/- David Moffatt ARC45/25

The Audit and Risk Committee resolves:

 To note the 2024-25 preliminary financial position as presented (item 8.8, 18 August 2025, Audit and Risk Committee meeting). which include:

- 1.1 Total operating income of \$63.784m (budget \$61.698m)
- 1.2 Total operating expenditure of \$62.989m (budget \$64.551m)
- 1.3 An operating surplus of \$795k (budget \$2.853m deficit)
 - 1.3.1 That this represents an operating surplus ratio of 1.25% (noting the target ration of 1.5%)
- 1.4 Capital works program expenditure of \$16.108 (budget of \$19.350m)
- To note the results presented are subject to external audit review and are subject to change (item 8.8, 18 August 2025, Audit and Risk Committee meeting).
- To note the Strategic Initiatives carry forward update in Appendix 1 (item 8.8, 18 August 2025, Audit and Risk Committee meeting).
- To note the Capital Projects carry forwards (item 8.8, 18 August 2025, Audit and Risk Committee meeting).
- To note the operational carry forwards update in appendix 2 (item 8.8, 18 August 2025, Audit and Risk Committee meeting).

Carried Unanimously

2. ANALYSIS

> Strategic Management Plan/Functional Strategy/Council Policy Alignment

Strategic Plan 2024 – Your Place, Your Space

Goal 4 Organisation

Objective O2 Operate with integrity using best practice governance processes. Priority O2.1 Demonstrate accountable and transparent decision making.

The preparation of the Annual Financial Statements provides information regarding the financial performance of Council and forms a point of reference for decision making.

Legal Implications

Council is required to prepare audited annual Financial Statements in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999 (LGA), and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

Chapter 8, Part 3, Division 3 – Financial Statements and Division 4 – Audit, LGA 1999 and Part 4 – Financial Statements, *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

Risk Management Implications

Failure to complete the year end reporting process within an agreed timetable can result in increased financial, compliance and reputational risk.

The completion of the year end reporting and audit processes within the legislative timeframes will assist in mitigating the risk of:

Poor governance practices occur which lead to a loss of stakeholder (i.e. customer and regulator) confidence and/or legislative breaches.

Inherent Risk	Residual Risk	Target Risk
Extreme (5C)	Medium (3D)	Medium (3C)

Financial and Resource Implications

The end of year financial reporting process ensures the timely production of the Annual General Purpose Financial Reports. These are required for the Annual Report and can impact on Council's ability to secure future grant and loan funding.

Council's Operating Result for 2024-25 has been impacted by factors which are not reflective of Councils operating performance in 2024-25. These are explained below.

Federal Assistance Grants

Council had budgeted to receive \$1.710m in Federal Assistance Grants (\$904k) and Local Roads Grants (\$806k) during 2023-24. In the past, these funds have been paid to Council in advance in late June, however the monies were not received until July 2024. These funds have been accounted for at the date the monies were received which in this case is financial year 2024-25.

In late June 2025, Council received in advance \$1.057m in 2025-2026 Federal Assistance Grants (\$556k) and Local Roads Grants (\$501k) which have been accounted for upon receipt in 2024-25.

Depreciation

Asset values have been updated using the Producer Price Index for June 2024.

Additionally, an external valuation of sealed road infrastructure was undertaken. The outcomes of this valuation resulted in a significant uplift in the value of the road infrastructure, as well as an improvement in the average useful life. The combined effect of this is a depreciation expense which is \$704k above budget (\$13.441m).

The implementation of the asset improvement plan will assist Council in more accurate determination of useful life and associated depreciation going forward.

Capitalisation of Payroll

As a result of limitations in Councils payroll/finance systems the allocation of payroll costs to capital projects has been based on role specific assumptions. During 2023-24, analysis performed on prior years reports identified a likely over estimation of these costs.

Additional timesheets were introduced during 2024-25 which provided more specific information on the allocation of employee time worked on projects. Whilst there is still room for improvement and continued refinement of the process, the capitalisation of payroll costs is more accurately supported than in prior years.

The number of FTE to be capitalised as per the initial budget was originally 16.2 FTE. As more information came to light on the actual time spent on projects through the timesheet process noted above, this budget was adjusted downwards during the Budget Review processes. The end of year position based on the timesheet data is 8.6 FTE. This outcome demonstrates that the new timesheet process will support Council in more accurately forecasting those payroll costs which can be capitalised going forward.

Customer Service and Community/Cultural Implications

Not applicable.

> Sustainability Implications

Not applicable.

Engagement/Consultation conducted in the development of the report

Consultation on the development of this report was as follows:

Council Committees: Audit and Risk Committee

Council Workshops: Not applicable
Advisory Groups: Not applicable
External Agencies: Not applicable
Community: Not applicable

Additional Analysis

Overall Preliminary Result compared to budget.

\$'000	Actual 2024-25 \$'000	Budget 2024-25 \$'000	Variance Fav/(Unfav) \$'000
Operating income	63,784	61,698	2,086
Operating expenditure	62,989	64,551	1,562
Operating Surplus/(Deficit) before Capital	795	(2,853)	3,648

Council's preliminary Operating Surplus before Capital as of 30 June 2025 was \$0.795m which is \$3.648m favourable relative to budget.

When considered in isolation, this appears to be a good outcome. However, included in the result are a number of one-off items which have significantly impacted this result, and which will either not re-occur, or will be deferred into next financial year. This result is therefore not a true reflection of Council's operating outcome. These items are detailed below:

Income variance explained:

Variance: \$2.086m

Attributed to:

Financial Assistance grants \$1.137m LRCIP grants \$0.762m Statutory charges (various) \$0.100m

Remaining variance: \$0.087m – Relates to various items

1. Financial Assistance grants

The delayed receipt of \$904k of Financial Assistance Grants and \$806k in Local Road Grants that should have been received in advance in June 2024 has resulted in the favourable result. The funds were received in July 2024 and have been recognised as income in the 2024-25 financial year. This has had a favourable impact on Council's Operating result. The receipt of these funds had an unfavourable impact on the operating result for 2023-24.

In late June 2025, Council received in advance \$1.057m in 2025-2026 Federal Assistance Grants (\$556k) and Local Roads Grants (\$501k) which have been recognised as income upon receipt in 2024-25.

In total, \$3.086m in Financial Assistance grants was received. \$1.949m had been budgeted for. This has resulted in a one-off positive result of \$1.137m relative to the budget.

2. LRCIP grants

\$1.557m worth of LRCIP grants have been recognised in the 2024-25 year. However, only \$0.767m had been budgeted, due to concerns around achieving the necessary milestones. These milestones appear to have been met and therefore the revenue has now been recognised. This has resulted in a one-off positive result of \$0.762m relative to budget.

Operating expenditure variance explained:

Variance: \$1.562m

Attributed to:

Positive impacts

Operating programs (deferred) \$0.674m
Other operating programs \$0.097m
Employee costs \$2.517m

Offset by

Additional contractor costs (\$0.800m)
Additional depreciation (\$0.704m)
Finance costs (\$0.045m)

Remaining variance: \$0.177m – Relates to various items

1. Operating programs

Council's portion of the Amy Gillet project (\$0.500m) and a portion of the CRM Advanced build (\$0.174m), were not delivered in 2024-25. This will have a positive result relative to budget of \$0.674m.

These projects are to be carried over into 2025-26 and will have an unfavourable impact on 2025-26 result of \$0.674m.

In addition, contractor costs in relation to the following projects were not incurred, or not incurred to the level budgeted for:

The Campbelltown Boundary reform - \$22k
 Adelaide Hills Subzone Code amendment - \$30k
 Local Heritage (Privately Owned) Code amendment - \$30k
 Prevention Toolkit for Local Government - \$15k

Most of these projects are expected to be delivered in future years, due to their strategic importance. They are currently being reassessed with a view to progressing them in the current year.

2. Employee costs and vacancies

Vacancies

Employee cost savings relative to budget relate to unbudgeted vacancies. Although Council continues to fill vacancies, the vacancies have been filled later than budgeted. This has resulted in a positive variance to the budget of \$2.517m.

In order for Council to continue to deliver services, \$0.800m in additional contractor costs have been incurred.

This has resulted in a net favourable budget impact of \$1.717m.

This variance is related to the ongoing organisational structural changes and any potential ongoing savings will be identified in future years.

Capitalisation of salaries

A thorough review of the capitalisation of salaries has been undertaken in the current year. Whilst this review resulted in a change in the basis for capitalisation from broad assumptions to specific timesheets, as the systems used to capture the project related information improves, it is expected that the amount of employee costs capitalised will further decrease. This will negatively impact future years.

3. Depreciation

There has been a \$0.704m increase in the depreciation expense relative to budget, the majority of which relates to sealed roads. This is not a one-off cost and results in an on-going unfavourable impact to Council in the 2024-25 year and into the future. As indicated above, the implementation of the asset improvement plan will assist Council in more accurate determination of useful life and associated depreciation going forward.

4. Finalisation of the Statutory Accounts

Further changes to Council's financial results will occur following the finalisation of Council's statutory accounts and subsequent audit. Finalisation of the accounts will address such matters as:

- Council's subsidiaries' results
- Payroll capitalisation.
- Landfill provision
- Asset revaluations

Net Borrowings Position

Excluding leases, borrowings on 30 June 2025 were \$19.3m, represented by an LGFA Cash Advance Debenture facility totalling \$6.1m, an LGFA Debenture Loan of \$2.5m, an LGFA Credit Foncier loan of \$1.6m and a short-term drawdown facility with Westpac, drawn down to \$9.1m at year end.

\$'000	Actual June 2025 \$'000	Budget June 2025 \$'000	Variance \$'000
Cash & Investments	0.249	0.432	(0.183)
Short term drawdown	15.212	20.896	5.684
Fixed Term Loans	4.082	6.355	2.273
Total Borrowings	19.294	27.251	7.957
Net Position	19.045	26.819	7.774

Overall Capital Result

\$'000	Actual 2024-25 \$'000	Budget 2024-25 \$'000	Variance Fav/(Unfav) \$'000
Capital Income	3.170	3.876	(0.706)
Capital Expenditure	16.108	19.350	3.242
Net expenditure - Capital projects	12.938	15.474	2.536

The preliminary results show a capital spend of \$16.108m against a budget of \$19.350m. The 2024-25 capital works program consisted of:

New and upgrade expenditure \$4.190m. Renewal expenditure \$10.917m. Project Management costs \$0.998m.

Capital Carry forward

The \$3.257m of capital budget that needs to be carried forward into 2025-26 is made up as follows:

Carried forward:

During 2024-25 these items were not fully completed and a portion of the work will occur in 2025-26. The budget in relation to this work is therefore required to be carried forward. Of this, \$2.095m relates to renewals and \$0.548m in new capital projects. These projects will be completed in 2025-26.

Deferrals:

During 2024-25 these items were identified as being unlikely to be delivered and were therefore deferred as part of the Budget Review process. Of this, \$149k relates to renewals and \$465k in new capital projects. These projects will be delivered in 2025-26.

Other Year End Matters

Further changes to Council's financial results will occur following the finalisation of Council's statutory accounts and subsequent audit.

Other specific matters currently being worked through as part of the year end process include:

- Final review to ensure all grants have been accounted for in accordance with AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities and AAS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers.
- Landfill provision.
- Subsidiary results and the calculation of equity share for these investments.
- Finalisation of asset revaluations, including land.

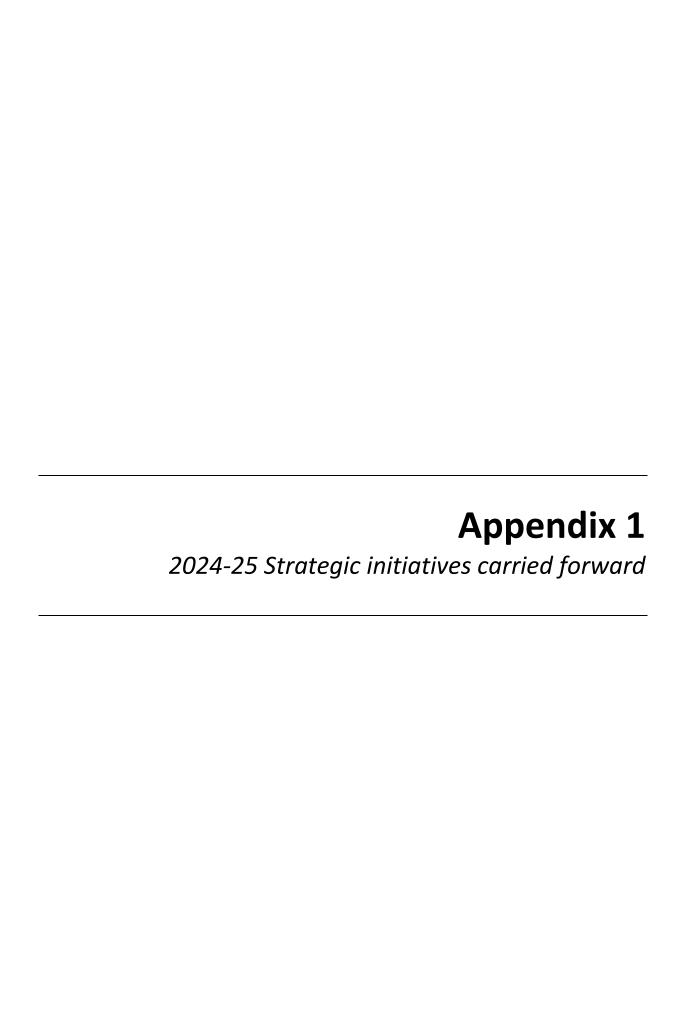
3. OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

- I. To resolve that the report be received and that the proposed carry forward budget amounts from 2024-25 be endorsed for inclusion in the 2025-26 Adopted Budget or
- II. To make additional comments or suggestions for Financial Services staff to consider as part of finalising the 2024-25 financial statements.

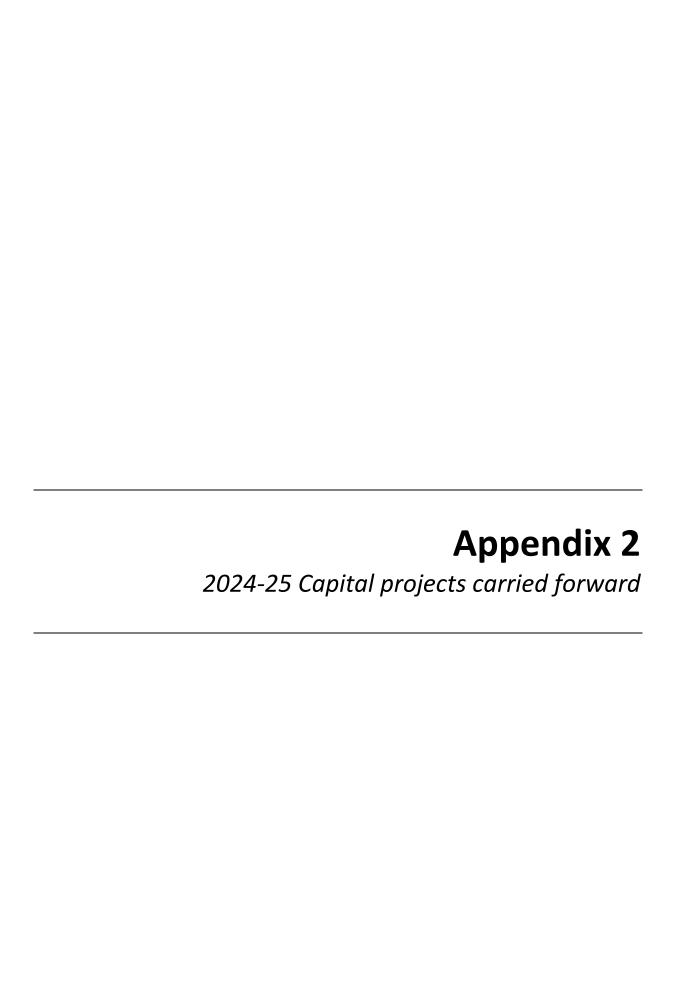
4. APPENDICES

- (1) 2024-25 Strategic initiatives carried forward
- (2) 2024-25 Capital projects carried forward



Budget Review 0 2025/26 2024/25 Carry Forwards Strategic Initiatives

Account Description	24/25 Actual	24/25 Budget	Proposed Carry Forward	Comments
CRM Project	\$390,906	\$586,000	\$174,000	Advanced build of Salesforce CRM, including 2025-26 services.
Amy Gillett Stage 4 - AHC Contribution	\$0	\$500,000		Costs incurred to date have been offset by State and Federal Government funding and the AHC contribution is yet to be drawn on. It is likely that this will occur through the accumulation of project management and other associated costs once the project is fully wrapped up. As such, it is proposed that the AHC contribution is carry-forward to allow for the close out of the project.
Total costs to be carried forward			\$674,000	



Project description	Asset Classification	Asset Category	24/25 Actual	24/25 Budget	Proposed Carry Forward	Comments
						Project in Defects Liability Phase
FABRIK - Activation of Arts & Heritage Hub	New/Upgrade	Buildings	\$497,487	\$535,000	\$37,500	Budget to complete defects/incomplete works, post contract termination.
Operational Workplace Review	New/Upgrade	Buildings	\$0	\$267,240	\$267,200	Project in Design phase Currently working through seating layouts and associated design works. This commenced in second half of 2024/25. Major works to be undertaken in 2025/26.
Randells Cottage Upgrade	Renewal	Buildings	\$0	\$13,631	\$13,600	Project in Defects Liability Phase Project completed and final invoices received in August 2025.
Aldgate Oval Clubrooms Renewal Works	Renewal	Buildings	\$15,000	\$40,000	\$25,000	Project in Defects Liability Phase
Mylor Institute Renewal of Internal Walls and Storage	Renewal	Buildings	\$7,457	\$50,000	\$43,000	Project completed and that involve received in July 2023. Project in Construction Phase Purchase Orders raised \$19,000 for works contracted to date. Further wall repairs, including painting to be undertaken thereafter.
Bradbury / Longwood Institute Renewal Works	Renewal	Buildings	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000	Project in Preparation Phase Timber flooring ordered and is currently in transit in preparation for the site acclimatisation period. Removal of the existing floor is scheduled to commence in early September, with installation of the new timber anticipated by the end of September. Carry-over is required to fund the removal and instrallation, and for the in transit timber
General ICT Renewals	Renewal	ICT	\$252,562	\$403,848	\$60,000	Timing The majority of the ICT renewals were completed in FY 2024-25. However some were delayed, due to a range of factors including availability of the goods and staff capacity. The items are still required and expected to be delivered Q1 of FY 2025-26.
Chamber AV Equipment	Renewal	ICT	\$0	\$195,000	\$195,000	Tender Awarded The procurement process has just been completed with the vendor now ordering all required equipment to complete the installation in Q1 2025-26.
Network Infrastructure	Renewal	ICT	\$2,944	\$481,800	\$478,000	Procurement process being undertaken The initial scoping work has been completed with an external vendor providing assistance for the technical specification for the market approach. This work was completed in late June and the approach to market is planned to occur in Q1 2025-26. The project was delayed due to staff availability and to ensure that a throughly developed scope and technical specifications were created.
Light Fleet Replacement Program	Renewal	Fleet	\$309,394	\$1,050,000	\$741,000	Fleet on order Renewal of 10 x Operational Light Fleet vehicles which were planned to be replaced in FY 2024-25. The suppliers were engaged and orders placed during 2024/25. However, due to extended manufacturing wait times, it is anticipated Council will take delivery of these vehicles within FY 2025/26.

Project description	Asset Classification	Asset Category	24/25 Actual	24/25 Budget	Proposed Carry Forward	Comments
Sealed Road renewals	Renewal	Roads	\$1,835,015	\$1,997,000	\$162,000	Contractor non-delivery Amount is required to complete spray seal program from FY 2024-25 as the previous contractor abandoned it's SA contracts. The retendering of the work resulted in delays and may result in cost increases. This will be considered as part of Budget Review 1.
Stormwater Work - Balhannah Township	New/Upgrade	Stormwater	\$107,689	\$344,000	\$200,000	Works delayed AHC coordinated with DIT on the delivery of certain works with Balhannah. This resulted in delays to the AHC schedule and this amount is required to complete stormwater works in Balhannah including West Terrace and Bridge Street
Minor Stormwater Projects	Renewal	Stormwater	\$71,325	\$150,000		Various minor stormwater works Various minor stormwater works had commenced in FY 2024-25 but not been completed. The total amounts committed but unspent at 30 June was \$79,000 and this is required to complete these projects
Tiers Rd Culvert WOODSIDE	Renewal	Bridges	\$0	\$65,000	\$50,000	Costs reclassified and technical complexity Initial investigate works and vegetation removal were undertaken and correctly treated as an operating expense. However, the replacement of the safety barrier is still required but technical difficulties has delayed the replacement works.
Woorabinda Lake Jetty STIRLING Bridge Renewal	Renewal	Bridges	\$5,486	\$52,000	\$46,500	Project delayed This project has been delayed. However, it is likely that this will be required to be completed and therefore the project, although budgetted in FY 2024-25, will likely be completed in FY 2025-26.
Elizabeth St OAKBANK Footpath Renewal	Renewal	Footpaths	\$0	\$45,000		Project delayed This project has been delayed. However, work has commenced in FY 2025-26 despite being budgetted in FY 2024-25, with a contract for \$45,000 issued.
Lobethal Rd LOBETHAL Footpath Renewal	Renewal	Footpaths	\$126,681	\$150,000		Project delayed Protracted design works occurred in FY2024-25 and therefore the delivery of the project was delayed into FY 2025-26. The materials to deliver the project were purchased and received in FY 2024-25.
Elizabeth St OAKBANK Kerb Renewal	Renewal	Kerbing	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000	Project delayed This project has been delayed. However, a contract was issued in FY 2025-26 for the works.
Heathfield Depot - Retaining Wall Renewal	Renewal	Other	\$16,221	\$15,000		Project delayed This project has been delayed whilst the need for the works and the scope of the project is fully understood. This project was deferred at BR3 in FY 2024-25.
Shannon Road, Bridgewater, footpath	New/Upgrade	Footpaths	\$0	\$35,000		Works completed The works were completed in late 2024-25, with project hand-over in early 2025-26. This has resulted in the deferal of this into FY 2025-26. The project is now complete and the final invoice has been paid in FY2025-26.
Gumeracha Depot - Tree Structure Stabilisation	New/Upgrade	Other	\$16,065	\$24,000		Project delayed This project has been delayed whilst the need for the works and the scope of the project is fully understood. This project was deferred at BR3 in FY 2024-25. A contract has been issued to undertake the works

\$3,263,326 \$5,958,519

\$2,581,800

Capital Expenditure Carry Forward Split Renewals 2,034,100

Total 2024-25 Capital Expenditure Carry Forwards

New

547,700 To be transferred to 2025-26 Capital Program 2,581,800

ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM PROPOSED 2025-26 DEFERRALS

Project description	Asset Classification	Asset Category	24/25 Actual	24/25 Budget	Proposed Carry Forward	Comments
Energy Upgrade, Battery & Efficiency Actions Program	New/Upgrade	Buildings	\$34,346	\$12,487	\$122,000	Project in Pre-Construction Budget to complete Solar and Height Safety installation. Total budget commitment to date \$96,000 Budget for Solar and Height Safety design & install adjustments post Heritage Development Application Assessment. Purchase Orders raised and contracts being approved.
Birdwood Institute Renewal of external doors and windows	Renewal	Buildings	\$3,720	\$0	\$41,000	Project in Construction Phase Purchase Order raised and contract signed. Estimated remaining projects costs are \$46,000
Uraidla Institute Renewal of Internal Walls	Renewal	Buildings	\$12,125	\$0		Project in Construction Phase Purchase Order raised and contracts signed, committing \$116,000. The budget for the remainder of the committed costs will be sourced from another project relating to the same building.
Norton Summit Land Purchase	New/Upgrade	Other	\$0	\$0	\$130,000	Land purchase finalised - Settlement imminent Due to delays with the land subdivision, there were delays with the finalisation of the titles at the Land Titles Office. This, combined with protracted contractual negotiations with the vendor, have deferred settlement has been into the 2025/2026 financial year.
Old Woollen Mill Culvert Replacement	Renewal	Stormwater	\$33,507	\$40,000	\$61,000	Complexity of site and remediation/repairs Due to the complexity of the site, and the need to prioritise remediation/repair works, a portion of the funding allocated in FY 2024-25 remained unspent. The design of a long term solution is required and this budget will be used to advance this design. A portion of the budget was deferred at BR3 and is being brought into FY 2025-26.
Play Space Upgrade URAIDLA	New/Upgrade	Sport & Recreation	\$6,830	\$0	\$213,000	Project delayed This project was delayed due to extended community consultation on the design etc of the playspace. It was originally included in the FY 2023-24 budget. It is likely that the project will be delivered in FY 2025-26.
Total 2024-25 Capital Expenditure Carry Forwards			\$90,528	\$52,487	\$675,000	1

 Capital Expenditure Deferrals Split
 210,000

 Renewals
 210,000

 New
 465,000

 To be transferred to 2025-26 Capital Program
 675,000



ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday 9 September 2025 AGENDA BUSINESS ITEM

Item: 13.1

Responsible Officer: Zoë Gill

Executive Governance Officer

Directorate

Subject: Elector Representation Review update

For: Information

SUMMARY

An Elector Representation Review is held to examine fundamental aspects of a Council's composition and ward structure. This is a formal process which is closely regulated under the *Local Government Act* 1999 (the Act) and is required to be conducted at least every eight years.

Council undertook the review process in 2024 and early 2025 and in April 2025 submitted the final submission to the Electoral Commission for approval.

The Electoral Commission has provided advice regarding an administrative re-numbering of the wards for Council to note.

RECOMMENDATION

Council resolves:

- 1. That the Elector Representation Review update report be received and noted.
- 2. To note resolution 108/25 at the 25 March 2025 Council meeting.
- 3. To note that the Final Representation Report to the Electoral Commissioner was provided to the Electoral Commission in April 2025.
- 4. To note that the Electoral Commission have advised that the Commission's ward structure numbering does not align with the numbering in the Elector Representation Review report.
- 5. To note that under the Electoral Commission's ward numbering system the proposed wards will be referred to as:

i. Ward 1 South Wardii. Ward 2 Central Wardiii. Ward 3 North Ward

6. To note that there is no substantive change to the boundaries and location of the proposed wards described in the Final Representation Report to the Electoral Commissioner.

1. BACKGROUND

At the 24 September 2024 meeting, Council gave in principle endorsement of the preferred ward structure for Public Consultation.

12.6 Representation Review

Moved Cr Nathan Daniell S/- Cr Pauline Gill

347/24

Council resolves:

- That this report be received and noted.
- To note that administration, under their delegation for the purposes of s12(5) of the Local Government Act 1999, was satisfied that C L Rowe and Associates Pty Ltd are qualified to address the representation and governance issues that may arise with respect to the representation review.
- That the Representation Review Discussion Paper August 2024 prepared by C L Rowe and Associates Pty Ltd (Appendix 1) be received and noted.
- That in principle, Council should consult on Option 3 as detailed in Appendix 1 for the future elector representation arrangement to come into effect at the next Local Government elections in 2026.
- That a draft "Representation Report" be prepared presenting Option 3 as detailed in Appendix 1.
- That the draft "Representation Report" be presented to Council, for consideration and endorsement, prior to the initiation of the public consultation process.



At the 12 November 2024 Council meeting it was resolved to endorse the draft representation review report and commence public consultation.

12.5 Draft Representation Review Report

Moved Cr Adrian Cheater S/- Cr Nathan Daniell

393/24

Council resolves:

- To receive and note the report titled "Draft Representation Review Report" (Agenda item 12.5, 12 November 2024 Council Meeting).
- To approve the draft representation report in Appendix 1 of the Draft Representation Review Report (Agenda Item 12.5, 12 November 2024 Council Meeting) for public consultation, in compliance with the provisions of Section 12 (7) of the Local Government Act 1999.
- To delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the discretion to make any formatting, nomenclature or other minor changes to the draft Representation Review Report for consultation purposes.
- 4. To delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the discretion to determine the final consultation dates, for a period not less than three (3) weeks.

At the 11 March 2025 meeting, Council endorsed the representation review report to be sent to the Electoral Commission, which proposed a three ward structure after the next general election:

Moved Cr Adrian Cheater S/- Cr Kirsty Parkin

96/25

- 1. That the report be received and noted.
- That the Elector Representation Review Community Consultation Outcomes Report at Appendix 1 containing 58 valid submissions and 2 petitions is received and noted.
- The following proposal for the future composition and structure of the Adelaide Hills Council be carried into effect as follows:
 - The principal member of Council continues to be a Mayor, elected by the electors for the area.
 - b) The Council elected body comprise a Mayor and twelve councillors.
 - c) The Council area be divided into three wards (as per the structure presented in the Representation Review Report dated November 2024 at Appendix 2).
 - d) The proposed wards be identified as Ward One Rivers, Ward Two Central and Ward Three - Ranges, with each Ward being represented by four Councillors.
- The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to prepare and forward the necessary final report and documents to the Electoral Commissioner, pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 of the Local Government Act 1999.

Carried

At the 25 March 2025 Council meeting, Council revoked Part 3 of the 11 March 2025 resolution and determined to name the proposed new wards: North, Central and South. The full resolution is:

MOTION AS AMENDED

Moved Cr Kirrilee Boyd S/- Cr Adrian Cheater 108/25

1. Council notes resolution 96/25 from the 11 March 2025 Council Meeting relating to the Elector Representation Review, namely:

Moved Cr Adrian Cheater S/- Cr Kirsty Parkin

96/25

- That the report be received and noted.
- That the Elector Representation Review Community Consultation Outcomes Report at Appendix 1 containing 58 valid submissions and 2 petitions is received and noted.
- The following proposal for the future composition and structure of the Adelaide Hills Council be carried into effect as follows:
 - The principal member of Council continues to be a <u>Mayor</u>, elected by the electors for the area.
 - b) The Council elected body comprise a <u>Mayor</u> and twelve councillors.
 - The Council area be divided into three wards (as per the structure presented in the Representation Review Report dated November 2024 at Appendix 2).
 - d) The proposed wards be identified as Ward One Rivers, Ward Two Central and Ward Three - Ranges, with each Ward being represented by four Councillors.
- The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to prepare and forward the necessary final report and documents to the Electoral Commissioner, pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 of the Local Government Act 1999.

Carried

2. Council revokes part 3 of resolution 96/25 and replaces it with the following:

The following proposal for the future composition and structure of the Adelaide Hills Council be carried into effect as follows:

- The principal member of Council continues to be a Mayor, elected by the electors for the area.
- b) The Council elected body comprise a Mayor and twelve councillors.
- The Council area be divided into three wards (as per the structure presented in the Representation Review Report dated November 2024 at Appendix 2).
- d) The proposed wards be identified as North (for the Ward identified as Ward 1 in

Ward 3 in the Representation Review Report), with each Ward being represented by four Councillors.

Carried

Following this decision, Final Representation Report to the Electoral Commissioner was provided to the Electoral Commission in April 2025 for approval. The Electoral Commission has subsequently notified administration of an administrative change to the numbering of the wards. This report advised Council of this administrative change.

2. ANALYSIS

> Strategic Management Plan/Functional Strategy/Council Policy Alignment

Strategic Plan 2024 – Your Place, Your Space

Goal 4 Organisation

Objective 02 Operate with integrity using best practice governance processes. Priority 02.1 Demonstrate accountable and transparent decision making.

Legal Implications

Legislative requirements regarding an Elector Representation Review are laid out in Division 2 *Powers of councils and representation reviews*, section 12(3) of the Act and the *Local Government (General) Regulations 1999* (the Regulations).

Risk Management Implications

There are no Risk Management Implications in noting the administrative changes advised to Council.

Financial and Resource Implications

An external consultant CL Rowe and Associates has been engaged by Council to assist during the Representation Review process.

This is at a capped fee of \$15,000 which is inclusive of research, consultation with Council, preparation and presentation of Ward structure options, preparation and presentation of a discussion paper, preparation of a representation report for public consultation, preparation and the presentation of public consultation notices and other documents, examination of public submissions, preparation of a final report and consultation with Electoral Commission SA throughout the assessment of the final report.

Customer Service and Community/Cultural Implications

There are no Customer Service and Community/Cultural Implications in noting the administrative changes advised to Council.

> Sustainability Implications

Not Applicable.

> Engagement/Consultation conducted in the development of the report

Consultation on the development of this report was as follows:

Council Committees: Not Applicable.
Council Workshops: Not Applicable.
Advisory Groups: Not Applicable.

External Agencies: Electoral Commission of South Australia, CL Rowe and Associates Pty

Ltd.

Community: Not Applicable.

Additional Analysis

Ward Numbering

The Electoral Commission has advised that in the final report submitted to the Electoral Commissioner for certification, the ward code allocations differ from those recorded in the ECSA database of electors.

Under the current two ward structure the Ranges Ward is Number 1 and the Valleys Ward is Number 2.

In the Final Representation Report to the Electoral Commissioner for the proposed three ward structure the North Ward (previously mostly Valleys Ward) is named as Ward 1 and the South Ward (previously mostly Ranges Ward) is named Ward 3. From an administrative perspective, given the joint roll with Electoral Commission and the Australian Electoral Commission, this would require the Electoral Commission to recode and transfer approximately 32,000 electors between the current Ward Code 1 and 2, before applying the new ward boundaries and reallocating electors accordingly to the new proposed structure from two wards to three wards.

For administrative purposes the Electoral Commission has advised that the numbering will be amended to:

Ward 1 South Ward Ward 2 Central Ward Ward 3 North Ward

This amendment will ensure that electors that remain in the same number ward do not need to be moved onto a different voters roll, as the Electoral Commissions internal processes rely on the ward numbers for the roll.

This administrative change has no substantive impact on the geography or location of the proposed new wards.

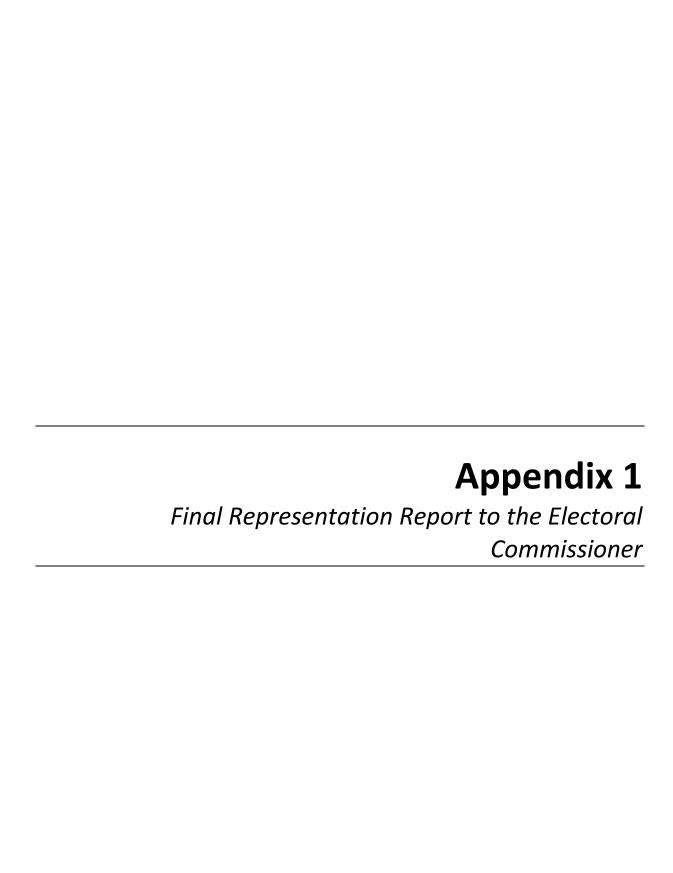
3. OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

I. To note the report and administrative change advised by the Electoral Commission

4. APPENDICES

(1) Final Representation Report to the Electoral Commissioner



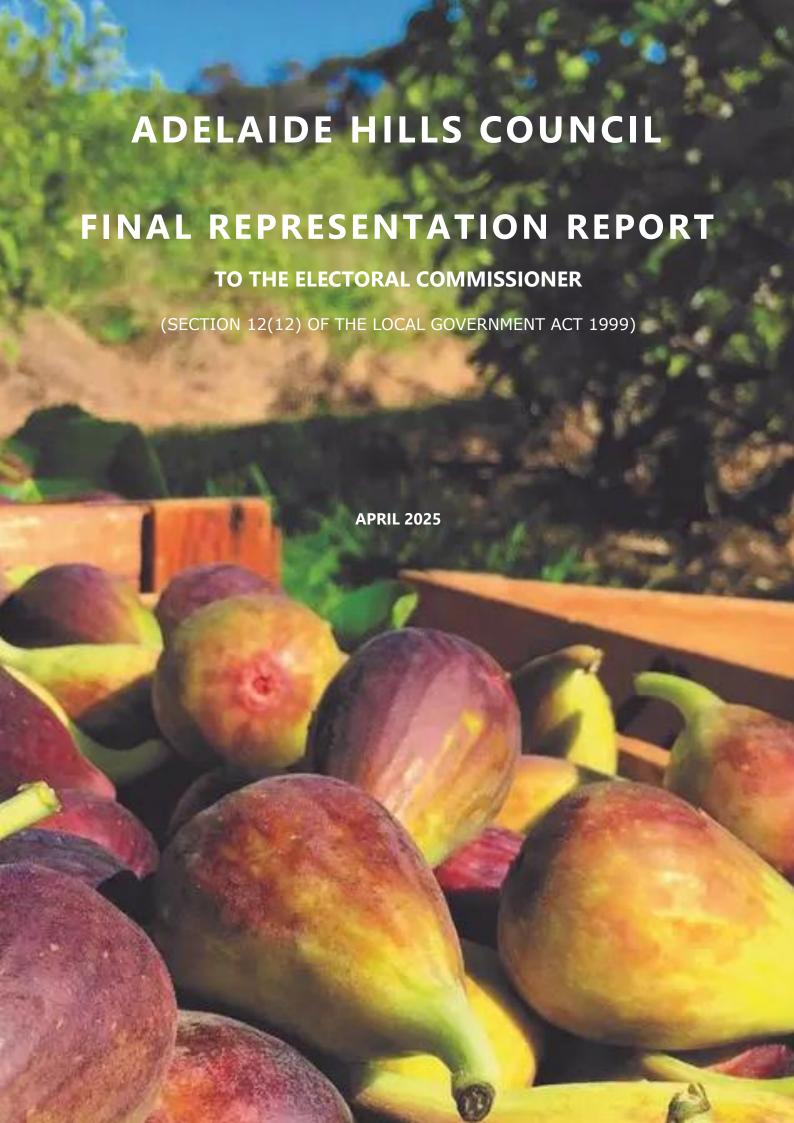




Table of Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION	1
2.	BACKGROUND	2
3.	PROPOSAL	5
4.	REVIEW PROCESS	7
5.	PUBLIC CONSULTATION	11
6.	PROPOSAL RATIONALE	12
(6.1 Composition and Structure of Council	12
	6.1.1 Principal Member	12
	6.1.2 Number of Councillors	12
	6.1.3 Wards/No Wards	14
	6.1.4 Proposed Ward Structure	15
	6.1.5 Area Councillors (in addition to Ward Councillors)	16
	6.1.6 Ward identification/Titles	16
6	6.2 Local Government Act 1999	16
	6.2.1 Quota	17
	6.2.2 Communities of Interest	17
	6.2.3 Population and Demographic Trends	17
	6.2.4 Topography	19
	6.2.5 Communication	19
7	CONCLUSION	20



1. Introduction

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 of the *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act), the Adelaide Hills Council has undertaken a review of all aspects of its composition and structure so as to determine whether the community would benefit from any alterations thereto. It is the intent of Council that the arrangement which it now proposes will formally come into effect at the next scheduled Local Government election in November 2026.

Section 12(4) of the Act states: "A review may relate to a specific aspect of the composition of the council, or of the wards of the council, or may relate to those matters generally – but a council must ensure that all aspects of the composition of the council, and the issue of the division, or potential division, of the area of the council into wards, are comprehensively reviewed under this section at least once in each relevant period that is prescribed by the regulations".

In keeping with the aforementioned requirements of the Act, the key issues considered during the course of the review included:

- whether the number of elected members should be reduced or increased:
- whether the Council area should continue to be divided into wards, or whether wards should be abolished:
- consideration of potential future ward structures, including the names/titles of the proposed wards and the level of ward representation; and
- the need for area councillors in addition to ward councillors (under a ward structure).

This report is presented for consideration in accordance with the provisions of Section 12(12) of the Act. It provides details pertaining to the review process; the public consultation undertaken by Council (and all documents relevant thereto); the proposal which Council intends to carry into effect; and the rationale behind Council's decisions.



2. Background

Adelaide Hills Council covers approximately 795.1km²; and had an estimated resident population of 41,842 as at the 30th June 2023. According to Electoral Commission SA, there were 30,886 eligible electors within the Council area as at the 31st January 2025, this equating to an elector ratio of 1:2,574.

The Council area is currently divided into two (2) wards, as described hereinafter and depicted on Map 1. The Ranges Ward is represented by seven (7) ward councillors, whilst the Valleys Ward is represented by five (5) ward councillors. The Mayor is the thirteenth and principal member of Council. This arrangement formally came into effect at the Local Government elections in November 2018.

Ranges Ward: Comprising the suburbs/localities of Aldgate, Ashton, Basket Range, Carey Gully, Castambul, Cherryville, Cleland, Crafers, Greenhill, Heathfield, Horsnell Gully, Longwood, Marble Hill, Montacute, Mount George, Norton Summit, Piccadilly, Scott Creek, Stirling, Summertown, Teringie, Uraidla and Woodforde; and part of the localities of Belair, Bradbury, Bridgewater, Crafers West, Dorset Vale, Ironbank, Mylor, Rostrevor and Upper Sturt.

Valleys Ward: Comprising the localities of Balhannah, Chain of Ponds, Charleston, Cudlee Creek, Forest Range, Forreston, Gumeracha, Inglewood, Kenton Valley, Kersbrook, Lenswood, Lobethal, Lower Hermitage and Millbrook; and part of the localities of Birdwood, Cromer, Hahndorf, Hay Valley, Houghton, Humbug Scrub, Mount Crawford, Mount Torrens, Oakbank, Paracombe, Upper Hermitage, Verdun and Woodside.

The distribution of electors between the existing wards is detailed in Table 1.

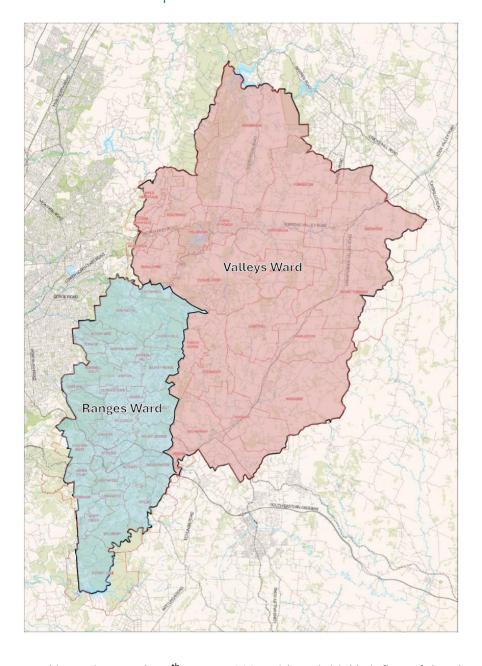
Table 1: Elector numbers and ratios for the existing wards.

Ward	Crs	H of A Roll	Council Roll	Total Electors	Elector Ratio	% Variance
Ranges	7	18,455	9	18,464	1:2,637	+2.49
Valleys	5	12,413	9	12,422	1:2,484	- 3.46
Total	12	30,868	18	30,886		
Average					1:2,574	

Source: Electoral Commission SA (31sr January 2025)

The elector ratios in both of the existing wards lay within the specified quota tolerance limits (refer 8.2.1 Quota, page 17) and, as such, the ward structure could have been retained by Council.





Map 1: Current ward structure

Council commenced its review on the 5th August 2024 with an initial briefing of the elected members on matters relevant to the review. A subsequent workshop/briefing was conducted on the 2nd September 2024 at which time the elected members further discussed matters relevant to the review; and considered a Discussion Paper which provided further information, including potential alternative ward structure options. Key issues of discussion have included:

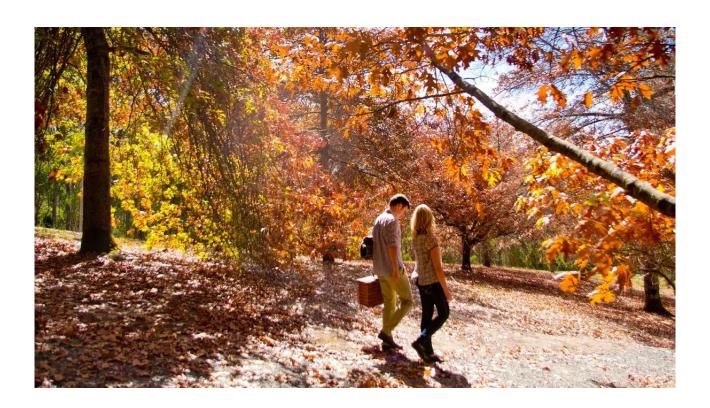
- the "member cap" specified under Section 11A of the Act;
- the continued division of the Council area into wards, as opposed to the abolition of wards;
- the number of elected members required to provide adequate and fair representation;
- the provisions of Sections 26(1)(c) and 33 of the Act, in particular the requirement to avoid overrepresentation in comparison with councils of a similar size and type; and



• the anticipated population growth over coming years, and the likely impacts thereof upon elector representation across the Council area.

At its meeting on the 24th September 2024 Council identified the preferred (in principle) option in respect to its future composition and ward structure.

Public consultation was undertaken during the period Wednesday, 18th December 2024 to Tuesday, 28th January 2025; and the review process concluded on Tuesday 25th March 2025, at which time Council resolved to amend its elector representation arrangements.





3. Proposal

Having duly considered all relevant provisions of the Act and considerable information pertaining to the primary issues pertaining to the review, Council proposes the following in respect to its future composition and structure.

- The principal member of Council will be a Mayor elected by the community (as per the requirements of Section 51 of the Act).
- The future elected body of Council will comprise the Mayor and twelve (12) ward councillors.
- The Council area will be divided into three (3) wards (as depicted in Map 2 and described hereinafter), with each of the proposed wards being represented by four (4) councillors.
 - Ward 1: Comprising the districts/localities of Birdwood (part), Castambul, Chain of Ponds, Charleston, Cromer (part), Cudlee Creek, Forreston, Gumeracha, Houghton (part), Humbug Scrub (part), Inglewood, Kenton Valley, Kersbrook, Lobethal, Lower Hermitage, Millbrook, Montacute, Mount Crawford (part), Mount Torrens (part), Paracombe (part), Upper Hermitage (part) and Woodside.
 - Ward 2: Comprising the districts/localities of Ashton, Balhannah, Basket Range, Bridgewater (part), Carey Gully, Cherryville, Forest Range, Greenhill, Hahndorf (part), Hay Valley (part), Horsnell Gully, Lenswood, Marble Hill, Mount George, Norton Summit, Oakbank (part), Piccadilly, Rostrevor (part), Summertown, Teringie, Uraidla, Verdun (part) and Woodforde.
 - Ward 3: Comprising the districts/localities of Aldgate, Belair (part), Bradbury (part), Cleland, Crafers, Crafers West (part), Dorset Vale (part), Heathfield, Ironbank (part), Longwood, Mylor (part), Scott Creek, Stirling, Upper Sturt (part) and Waterfall Gully (part).
- The proposed wards will be identified as North Ward, Central Ward and South Ward.

The distribution of electors between the proposed wards is detailed in Table 2, and the reasons for Council's decisions, together with an analysis of compliance with the relevant provisions and requirements of the Act, are provided hereinafter.

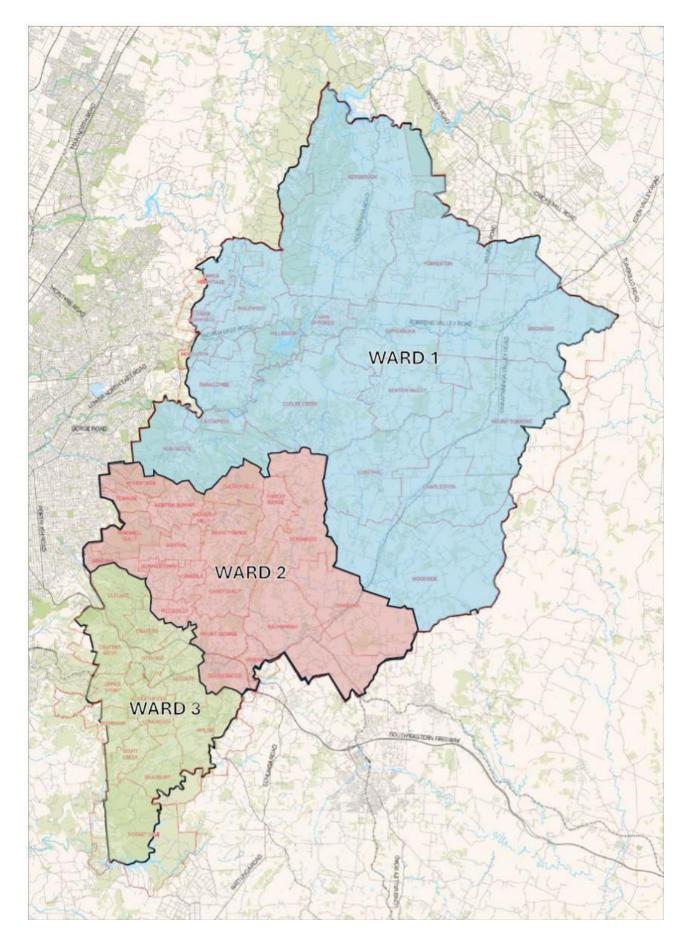
Table 2: Elector distribution between proposed wards.

Ward	Councillors	Electors	Elector Ratio	% Variance
Ward 1	4	9,870	1:2,468	-3.10
Ward 2	4	10,247	1:2,562	+0.60
Ward 3	4	10,440	1:2,610	+2.50
Total	12	30,557		
Average			1:2,546	

Source: Electoral Commission SA, House of Assembly Roll (8th April 2025) Council Voter's Roll (June 2024)



Map 2: Proposed ward structure





4. Review Process

The following is a chronology of the review process undertaken by Council.

Date	Event
28 March 2024	C L Rowe and Associates Pty Ltd was appointed to assist Council with the conduct of the review.
5 August 2024	C L Rowe and Associates Pty Ltd conducted an information workshop/briefing with the elected members of Council and discussed the key issues of the review, as outlined in the Information Paper. Refer Information Paper – Appendix A; Notice of Information Session – Appendix B
2 September 2024	C L Rowe and Associates Pty Ltd conducted a workshop/briefing with the elected members of Council; and discussed the key issues of the review, potential ward options and the relevant information provided in a Discussion Paper.
	Refer Discussion Paper – Appendix c; Notice of Information Session – Appendix D.
24 September 2024	Council resolved:
	to receive and note the Discussion Paper dated August 2024;
	to agree "in principle" Council should consult on Option 3 as detailed in the Discussion Paper for the future elector representation to come into effect at the next Local Government elections in 2026; and
	that a Representation Report be drafted and presented for consideration and endorsement prior to the initiation of the public consultation process.
	Refer Agenda Item and Minutes – Appendix E.
12 November 2024	Council resolved to:
	 receive and note the report titled 'Draft Representation Review Report';
	approve the draft representation report in Appendix 2 of the Draft Representation Review Report put public consultation, in compliance with the provisions of Section 12 (7) of the Local Government Act 1999;



Date	Event
12 November 2024 (cont.)	delegate the Chief Executive Officer the discretion to make any formatting, nomenclature or other minor changes to the draft Representation Review Report for consultation purposes;
	delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the discretion to determine the final consultation dates, for a period not less than three (3) weeks.
	Refer Representation Report – Appendix F; Council Agenda and Minutes – Appendix G; Public Consultation Policy – Appendix H.
18 December 2024 to 28 January 2025	Hardcopy information and submission forms available at customer service centres and libraries and information evenings at Gumeracha, Stirling, Woodside and Norton Summit.
18 December 2024	An advertisement was published in the "Courier" newspaper advising that the review was being undertaken and seeking written submissions by Tuesday, 28 th January 2025.
	Refer copy of notice – Appendix I.
18 December 2024	4,119 emails were sent to January 'Hills Voice E-News' subscribers regarding the Representation Review Report public consultation. Refer copy of email – Appendix J;
18 December 2024	12,829 emails were sent via the campaign monitor regarding the Representation Review Report public consultation. Refer copy of email – Appendix K;
18 December 2024	1,952 emails were sent via the Engagement Hub regarding the Representation Review Report public consultation.
	Refer copy of email – Appendix L;
18 December 2024	Emails were sent to the mayor and elected members to share, regarding the Representation Review Report public consultation.
18 December 2024	The Council website page and Community Engagement Hub page displayed information pertaining to the review.
	Refer copy of Community Engagement Hub page and submission form – Appendix M.



Date	Event	
18 December 2024 & 7 January 2025	Information pertaining to the review was provided via Council's social media (Facebook, X and Linkedin).	
	Refer copy of social media post – Appendix N.	
28 January 2025	At the close of the public consultation stage, eight (8) written submissions and two (2) petitions had been received by Council.	
	Refer copies of submissions - Appendix O.	
11 March 2025	Council resolved:	
	1) that the (staff) report be received and noted;	
	2) to receive and note the "Community Consultation Outcomes Report containing 58 valid submissions and 2 petitions;	
	3) the following proposal for the future composition and structure of the Adelaide Hills Council be carried into effect as follows:	
	a) the principal member of Council continues to be a Mayor, elected by the electors for the area;	
	b) The Council elected body comprise a Mayor and twelve councillors;	
	c) The Council area be divided into three wards (as per the structure presented in the Representation Review Report dated November 2024 at Appendix 2);	
	d) The proposed wards be identified as Ward One – Rivers, Ward Two – Central and Ward Three – Ranges, with each ward being represented by four Councillors; and	
	4) to prepare and forward the necessary report and documentation to the Electoral Commissioner pursuant to Sections 12(11a) and 12(12) of the Local Government Act 1999.	
	Refer Agenda Item and "Elector Representation Review Community Consultation Outcomes" Report – Appendix P; and Council Minutes – Appendix Q).	



Date	Event	
25 March 2025	Council revoked part 3 of the resolution made on 11 March 2025, and replaced it with the following:	
	The following proposal for the future composition and structure of the Adelaide Hills Council be carried into effect as follows:	
	e) the principal member of Council continues to be a Mayor, elected by the electors for the area;	
	f) The Council elected body comprise a Mayor and twelve councillors;	
	g) The Council area be divided into three wards (as per the structure presented in the Representation Review Report dated November 2024 at Appendix 2);	
	h) The proposed wards be identified as North (for the Ward identified as Ward 1 in the Representation Review Report), Central (for the Ward identified as Ward 2 in the Representation Review Report) and South (for the Ward identified as Ward 3 in the Representation Review Report), with each Ward being represented by four Councillors.	
	Refer Council Agenda & Minutes – Appendix R).	



5. Public Consultation

The public consultation stage of the review process was conducted during the period Wednesday 18th December 2024 to Tuesday 28th January 2025. The consultation period and consultation process were undertaken in accordance with the provisions of Section 12(7) of the Act and Council's Community Consultation Policy.

The public consultation process incorporated the following.

- An advertisement published in "The Mount Barker Courier" newspaper (18th December 2024).
- An email to "January Hills Voice" subscribers (18th December 2024).
- Information posted to the Council website and Community Engagement Hub page throughout the public consultation period.
- An email campaign via campaign monitor (18th December 2024).
- An email campaign via Engagement Hub (18th December 2024).
- An email to the Mayor and Elected Members providing information to share with the community.
- Posts to social media (on five occasions).
- The provision of a hard copy of the Representation Report, information and submission forms at the customer service centres and libraries throughout the public consultation period.
- The conduct of information evenings at Gumeracha, Stirling, Woodside and Norton Summit.

At the expiration of the public consultation period on Tuesday 28th January 2025, Council had received eight (8) written submissions and two (2) petitions.

The submissions were formally considered by Council at a meeting convened on the 11th March 2025. Copies of the submissions and petitions are provided in Appendix O.



6. Proposal Rationale

6.1 Composition and Structure of Council

6.1.1 Principal Member

The principal member of the Adelaide Hills Council has always been a Mayor who has been elected by the community.

Council is aware that Section 51(1) of the Act requires the principal member of Council to be either elected as a representative of the area as a whole or appointed (by the Governor under circumstances prescribed under Section 10 of the Act); and is to have the title of mayor.

6.1.2 Number of Councillors

Council has comprised a principal member and twelve (12) ward councillors for twenty-five (25) or more years.

Section 11A of the Act specifies that a council must not be comprised of more than thirteen (13) members, including the Mayor. However, the Act also allows Council to seek an "exemption certificate" from the Electoral Commissioner if it desires to retain more than the specified maximum number of elected members.

The Council proposal to retain thirteen (13) elected members, being the Mayor and twelve (12) ward councillors, is in keeping with the requirement and intent of the Act.

In addition, Sections 26(1)(c) and 33(1) of the Act seek to ensure adequate and fair representation while at the same time avoiding over-representation in comparison to other councils of a similar size and type (at least in the longer term).

The comparison of representation arrangements between the Adelaide Hills Council and the other metropolitan councils is not necessarily a straightforward exercise, given that no councils are identical in terms of their size (elector numbers and/or area), character, population, topography or communities of interest.

Table 3 provides (for comparison purposes) the elector data, elector ratios, and the size/area of the metropolitan councils. The data indicates that the Adelaide Hills Council:

- Is the largest metropolitan council in area; and
- exhibits a level of representation and an elector ratio that are relatively consistent with the
 representation arrangements of the City of Unley, the City of Holdfast Bay and the City of
 Burnside, all of which are of a similar size (in terms of elector numbers) to Adelaide Hills Council
 and comprise twelve (12) councillors.



Table 3: Elector representation – Metropolitan councils

Council	Councillors	Electors	Elector Ratio
Walkerville (1.34 km²)	8	5,841	1: 743
Prospect (7.81 km²)	8	15,217	1:1,902
Gawler (41.10km²)	10	20,667	1:2,067
Norwood Payneham & St Peters (15.1 km²)	13	26,079	1:2,006
Unley (14.29 km²)	12	28,048	1:2,337
Holdfast Bay (13.72 km²)	12	28,835	1:2,403
Adelaide Hills (795.1 km²)	12	30,886	1:2,574
Burnside (27.53 km²)	12	32,508	1:2,709
West Torrens (37.07 km²)	14	43,290	1:3,092
Adelaide (15.57 km²)	9	30,587	1:3,399
Campbelltown (24.35 km²)	10	37,336	1:3,734
Mitcham (75.55 km²)	12	49,896	1:4,158
Playford (344.9 km²)	15	73,966	1:4,931
Port Adelaide/Enfield (97.0 km²)	17	90,918	1:5,348
Charles Sturt (52.14 km²)	16	91,087	1:5,693
Marion (55.5km²)	12	68,627	1:5,719
Tea Tree Gully (95.2 km²)	12	74,756	1:6,230
Salisbury (158.1 km²)	14	98,609	1:7,044
Onkaparinga (518.4 km²)	12	134,557	1:11,213

Source: Electoral Commission SA (31 January 2025)

When determining its preferred future composition, Council also gave consideration to the following.

- Section 12(6)(a)(i) of the Act specifically required Council to examine the question of whether the number of members should be reduced. The Act is silent on the issue of a potential increase in the number of elected members.
- Whilst ward councillors are elected to provide representation of (and assistance to) the constituents within their wards, they also act in the best interest of the whole community within the Council area. This includes approximately 11,000 or more residents who are not enrolled to vote but have the same day-to-day concerns and issues which confront the eligible electors throughout the Council area. As the demands and needs of the whole of the local community directly impact upon the workloads of the elected members, the greater the number of elected members the greater the lines of communication between Council and the greater the likelihood that the elected members will be capable of providing an adequate service to the local community.

^{*} City of Adelaide also comprises two (2) "area councillors".



- There must be sufficient elected members to manage the day-to-day affairs of Council; provide
 adequate and readily available lines of communication between Council and the community; and
 ensure that the potential for diversity in the elected member's skill sets, experience and
 backgrounds is maintained.
- It is anticipated that the population of the Adelaide Hills Council will continue to grow in the foreseeable future (refer 6.2.3 Population and Demographic Trends, page 18). Whilst it is difficult to quantify the future population growth with any certainty at this time, the anticipated increase in the population of the Council area over the next eight years (i.e. the next scheduled representation review) will obviously result in greater elector numbers, higher elector ratios and greater demands being placed upon the elected members (both individually and as a collective body).

Council believes that it is important to find a balance between adhering to the intent of the Act (in regard to the future number of elected members) and maintaining a quality and level of representation similar to that which has long been experienced and expected by the local community. Ultimately, Council formed the opinion that the retention of twelve (12) ward councillors and the Mayor will meet both objectives at this time.

In addition, Council is of the opinion that twelve (12) ward councillors and the Mayor will be required to provide fair and adequate representation to an increasing local community, and will afford reasonable opportunities for potential future candidates to seek election to Council. Further, whilst a reduction in the number of councillors would result in some financial benefit to Council and the community, Council desires to provide an appropriate and consistent level of representation across the Council area, without excessively increasing the workloads of, and demands placed upon, the elected members.

Council believes that twelve (12) councillors are required to provide fair and adequate representation at this time.

6.1.3 Wards/No Wards

The Council area has been divided into wards since the Adelaide Hills Council was proclaimed in 1997.

Currently two (2) of the nineteen (19) metropolitan councils (i.e. the Towns of Gawler and Walkerville) have no wards, as do thirty-five (35) of the forty-nine (49) regional councils.

Council acknowledges that the "no ward" alternative could befit the smaller of the metropolitan councils; affords electors the opportunity to vote for all of the vacant positions on Council; automatically absorbs fluctuations in elector numbers; allows for the most supported candidates from across the Council area to be elected; and supposedly enables the elected members to be free of parochial ward attitudes. Notwithstanding this, Council is concerned that the "no ward" alternative:

• does not guarantee direct representation of all communities within the Council area;



- may make it easier for single interest candidates and/or groups to gain support (than does the
 existing ward based system);
- has the potential to make the task and expense of contesting "council-wide" elections difficult and excessive; and
- has the potential to increase the cost of conducting elections and supplementary elections, given that under the "no wards" structure all contested elections must be conducted on a "councilwide" basis.

On the other hand, Council believes that a ward structure:

- quarantees a level of direct representation of all areas and communities within the Council area;
- ensures local interests and/or issues are not overlooked in favour of the bigger "city-wide" picture; and
- provides recognizable lines of communication with Council through the ward councillors.

It is also considered that ward councillors can have empathy for, and an affiliation with, the constituents and communities within their ward; and ward councillors deliberate and make decisions on the basis of achieving the best outcome for their ward and the whole of the Council area (as would be the role of an area councillor under the "no ward" alternative). Further, the community knows and accepts the division of the Council area into wards, and the structure and level of representation that it provides. As such, the retention of a ward structure will likely be perceived as an indication of stability within Council and Local Government in general.

Given the aforementioned, Council supports the on-going division of the Council area into wards.

6.1.4 Proposed Ward Structure

During the course of the review Council has considered numerous ward structures based on ten, eleven and twelve councillors.

Council favours the proposed ward structure because it:

- is relatively simple in configuration;
- is reasonably well balanced in terms of the distribution of electors between the proposed wards (and the resulting ward elector ratios);
- exhibits ward elector ratios which lay well within the specified quota tolerance limits (and are therefore capable of sustaining reasonable future fluctuations in elector numbers);
- has consistent levels of ward representation;
- will provide sufficient opportunities for aspiring candidates to Council (and the individual wards);
- will provide a level of ward representation which will ensure continued representation within a ward under circumstances whereby a ward councillor or councillors are absent or unavailable;



- should maintain reasonable and manageable workloads for the ward councillors; and
- proposes wards which are not excessively large in area and, as such, should provide an
 environment wherein close relationships between ward councillors and their constituents can still
 be fostered, and ward councillors can be more familiar with the issues and/or concerns within
 their ward.

Council's proposal to introduce a new, three-ward structure is considered to be rational and justifiable.

6.1.5 Area Councillors (in addition to Ward Councillors)

Council is aware that Section 52(2) requires that a councillor will (depending on how the council is constituted) be elected by the electors for the area, as a representative of the area as a whole (whether or not the area is divided into wards); or if the area is divided into wards, be elected by the electors of a particular ward, as a representative of the ward.

Council is also aware that only one council in South Australia (i.e. the City of Adelaide) has two tiers of representation (i.e. area councillors in addition to ward councillors); but considers that this form of elected member/representation affords few advantages. Under a ward structure area councillors hold no greater status than a ward councillor; have no greater responsibilities than a ward councillor; nor need comply with any extraordinary or additional eligibility requirements. In addition, ward councillors generally consider themselves to represent not only the ward in which they were elected, but also the Council area as a whole.

For these reasons it is considered that the introduction of area councillors (under a ward structure) would be unwarranted; unnecessary; and potentially a costly additional tier of representation.

6.1.6 Ward Identification/Titles

Council has opted to identify the proposed wards as North, Central and South Wards. This is considered to be a simple means of identification which befits the geographical location of the proposed wards within the Council area and the proposed ward structure.

Council considered alternative ward names during the course of the review but was unable to identify any names of a common theme that had relevance to all three of the proposed wards.

Whilst the names of watercourses were favoured by a good number of local residents, significant watercourses which specifically related to the localities within each of the proposed wards could not be identified. As such, this proposed ward identification option was ultimately disregarded.

6.2 Local Government Act 1999

Throughout the course of the review, specific attention was paid to the provisions of Sections 26 and 33 of the Act. Brief comments pertaining to Council's findings and opinions, as they relate to the relevant principles and/or matters, are provided hereinafter.



6.2.1 Quota

Ward quota is the number of electors within a ward divided by the number of ward councillors, whereas the "elector ratio" for the Council area is the total number of electors divided by the number of councillors (i.e. the Mayor is excluded).

Given the aforementioned, any potential future ward structure must incorporate wards wherein the distribution of electors is equitable, either in terms of numbers (if the wards have equal representation) or elector ratio. Under the latter circumstance, the elector ratio within each ward must be within 10% of the average elector ratio for the Council area. The Act only allows for the 10% quota tolerance limit to be exceeded in the short term if demographic changes predicted by a Federal or State government agency indicate that the ward quota will not be exceeded at the time of the next periodic Local Government election.

As indicated in Table 2 (refer 3. Proposal, page 5), the elector ratios in each of the proposed wards lay well within the specified quota tolerance limits.

6.2.2 Communities of Interest

The Act speaks of the desirability of reflecting communities of interest of an economic, social, regional or other kind.

Council defines "Communities of interest" as a community of people who share a common interest or passion over an extended period of time, and are generally identified by considering factors including neighbourhood communities; virtual communities; history and heritage communities; sporting facilities; community support services; recreation and leisure communities; retail and shopping centres; work communities; industrial and economic development clusters; and environmental and geographic interests.

The Council area covers 795.1km² and incorporates sixty (60) districts and/or localities, all of which could conceivably constitute a "community of interest". Council is keen to ensure that, where possible, identified "communities of interest" are maintained in their entirety within the bounds of a ward, taking into account the features of the landscape; the location of, and connection between, the various communities; and the distribution of the electors.

In order to achieve the aforementioned, Council proposes a ward structure wherein all townships and districts are maintained in their entirety within a ward.

6.2.3 Population and Demographic Trends

Further residential development and urban renewal (and therefore population growth) is expected across the Council area in the future.

The following information provides some insight into the demographic trends that have occurred over recent years, and the extent of the anticipated future population increase. This information has been taken into account by Council when determining its preferred future ward structure.



Data sourced from Electoral Commission SA indicates that the number of electors within the Council area increased at varying rates over the period 2010 – 2024. Overall, during the cited period the number of enrolled electors increased by 2,187 or 7.6% (i.e. 28,767 to 30,954).

The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure document "Local Area (SA2 and LGA), Population Projections for South Australia, 2021 – 2041" (published March 2024) indicates that the population of the Council area is anticipated (medium series) to increase by 3,439 people or 8.3% (i.e. 41,240 to 44,679) during the period 2021 – 2041.

Data provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (refer 3218.0 Regional Population Growth, Australia) indicates that the estimated population of the Council area generally increased from year to year during the period 2001 – 2023; and overall increased by 3,293 people or 8.54% over the specified period (i.e. 38,549 to 41,842). The same data indicates that the population increased by 1,669 people or 4.15% during the five year period 2018 – 2023 (i.e. 40,173 to 41,842).

Australian Bureau of Statistics "Quick Stats" indicate that the estimated population of the Council area increased by 4,250 people or 11.6% over the period 2001 – 2021 (i.e. 36,629 to 40,879).

According to the Adelaide Hills Council "community profile", the estimated resident population of the Council area increased by 555 people or 1.42% (i.e. 39,165 to 39,720) during the period 2006 – 2012; decreased by 57 people or -0.14% (I.e. 39,687 to 39,630) during the period 2013 – 2015; and then increased by 2,210 people or 5.58% (i.e. 39,632 to 41,842) during the period 2016 – 2023. Overall, this equates to an increase of 2,677 people or 6.84% over the period 2006 – 2023. 15

In addition, Council is aware of the following.

- The residential growth opportunities identified in the District Masterplan (2015) have largely been realised via the development of Hamilton Estate (Woodforde), "The Crest" at Woodside, Dunnfield Estate at Mount Torrens, Hughes Place Estate at Lobethal, and a small estate (Pomona Road) at Stirling. The anticipated residential development at Birdwood has not eventuated.
- There are currently no Code Amendments seeking the rezoning of land for residential purposes or the expansion of township boundaries.
- Approximately 60% of metropolitan Adelaide's watershed is within the Council area and this restricts the potential for further residential development.
- Land divisions are largely confined to small scale infill/urban renewal developments.
- Two small land divisions (10 and 12 allotments) have been approved in Charleston.
- Two small land divisions (6 and 11 allotments) have been approved in Lobethal.
- There are opportunities for small residential developments in Birdwood (8 Shannon Street) and Lobethal (30-32 Pioneer Avenue, 13 Kenton Valley Road and Magpie Castle Road).



6.2.4 Topography

The Adelaide Hills Council is 795.1 km² in area; extends from Mount Bold Reservoir in the south to the South Para Reservoir in the north and from the Hills Face escarpment in the west to the eastern escarpment of the Mount Lofty Ranges; and primarily comprises natural and/or rural landscape, undulating hills, farming land uses and sixty township, settlement and/or district communities.

Council acknowledges that the topography and travel distances can, at times, have some effect upon the elected members' ability to attend to the requirements and/or demands of the community, and has consequently given due consideration to the impacts of the topography during the review process.

It is considered that the proposed ward structure is a relatively simple and efficient division of the Council area which befits and accommodates the existing topography of the Council area. Council believes that the topography of the Council area should have little or no impact upon Council's elector representation proposal, given that the proposed ward structure has been developed to maintain entire "communities of interest" (districts/localities) within the bounds of the proposed wards; and (where practicable) to take into account the topography of the area.

6.2.5 Communication

Council believes that the Mayor and twelve ward councillors can provide adequate lines of communication between the elected members of Council and the community, taking into consideration the anticipated future growth in elector numbers; the size of the Council area; the nature and density of the urban development within the Council area; and the continual advancements in telecommunications and information technology.





7. Conclusion

The Adelaide Hills Council has completed a review of its composition and structure, as required by the provisions of Section 12 of the Act. The review, which was conducted in accordance with the specified process outlined within the Act and Council's Community Consultation Policy.

The review, culminated in Council resolving as follows.

- The principal member of Council will be a Mayor elected by the community (as per the requirements of Section 51 of the Act).
- The future elected body of Council will comprise the Mayor and twelve (12) ward councillors.
- The Council area will be divided into three (3) wards, with each ward being represented by four (4) councillors.
- The proposed wards will be identified as North Ward, Central Ward and South Ward.

This report is referred to the Electoral Commissioner in accordance with the provisions of Section 12(12) of the Act, and certification is hereby sought so as to enable Council's proposal, as detailed herein, to come into effect at the next Local Government elections (November 2026).

Should you require any additional information or wish to discuss the review, please contact the undersigned on telephone 8408 0483 or email sludzay@ahc.sa.gov.au.

3

Greg Georgopoulos

Chief Executive Officer



Our reference: ECM 848077 AW/KT/ER

18 August 2025

Acting Mayor Nathan Daniell

Adelaide Hills Council 63 Mount Barker Road Stirling SA 5152

Email: ndaniell@ahc.sa.gov.au

Dear Mayor Daniell,

Following an Item of Business carried at the 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM), the LGA is now considering proposed changes to the LGA Board election process. The motion carried was:

That the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to consider the adoption of preferential voting for the LGA President (subsequent to the 2024 AGM); the voting methods used in South Australian elections for the House of Assembly and Legislative Council to be followed respectively.

The proposed changes would apply from the 2026 LGA Board elections, subject to member approval at the November 2025 AGM. Councils are encouraged to consider the changes at their August or September Council meetings.

The final marked-up constitutional amendments will be presented to Councils in October as part of the LGA Annual General Meeting agenda papers. LGA is outlining the following proposed changes:

- Preferential voting for the LGA President
- Removal of the sealed ballot process, with the Council's formal meeting resolution constituting its vote

Further information is provided in the attached FAQ sheet.



Three online webinars will be held in August to support the discussion:

Lunchtime sessions

Monday 25 August

12:30 to 1:30 pm ACST

Tuesday 16 September 12:30 to 1:30 pm ACST

Evening session

Wednesday 10 September 6:00 to 7:00 pm ACST

These sessions will explain how the preferential voting system would operate in practice, outline potential changes to the ballot process, and examine the associated advantages, challenges, and implementation considerations. Each session will include time for questions, and both will cover the same content. Mayors and elected members are encouraged to attend.

We appreciate any questions or comments as we explore options for a more consistent, inclusive, and efficient voting process. If you have any questions regarding the webinars or FAQs, please contact Andrew Wroniak, Executive Director, Corporate Services, at feedback@lga.sa.gov.au or on 8224 2020.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Teaha

Interim Chief Executive Officer

Local Government Association of South Australia

Copy to - Chief Executive Officer - George Georgopoulos ggeorgopoulos@ahc.sa.gov.au



FAQ - Preferential Voting Review

Introduction

At the 2024 Annual General Meeting, a motion was carried by a majority of members, requesting the LGA to consider adopting preferential voting for the election of the LGA President. The motion noted that this is the voting method used in South Australian elections for the House of Assembly and Legislative Council.

The specific resolution was:

That the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to consider the adoption of preferential voting for the LGA President (subsequent to the 2024 AGM); the voting methods used in South Australian elections for the House of Assembly and Legislative Council to be followed respectively.

As LGA is considering implementing these changes, the consultation is being extended to also cover potential changes to how councils submit their votes, with the aim of improving transparency and administrative efficiency.

What is Preferential Voting?

There are many different types of voting systems in use across Australia and the world. To differentiate between some of these methods, explanations summarised from information on the <u>Parliament of Australia</u> website are included below.

The current method used is *First-Past-The-Post*, which is a simple form of voting as it requires the voter to indicate a vote for only one candidate, and the candidate with the greatest number of votes is elected.

The LGA is considering changing to *Preferential Voting* that allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.). If no candidate secures an outright majority of first-preference votes, the candidate with the fewest votes is excluded. Their votes are then redistributed according to the next preferences indicated. This process continues until one candidate achieves a majority.

Example: If there are three candidates for LGA President and none receives more than 50% of first preferences, the candidate with the lowest number of votes is excluded. Councils that selected that candidate will have their second preferences counted. This method helps ensure the elected candidate has broad support across the membership.



Impacts and Risks of Preferential Voting

In many cases, preferential voting is seen as a fairer method of selecting a preferred candidate. In the case of the President, with 68 councils voting (i.e., one vote per council), preferential voting provides a greater chance that the overall preferred President will be elected. Over the past 20 years, it has been rare for any President to be elected with a clear majority under the first-past-the-post method, so preferential voting may have influenced the outcome had it been used.

Why change the sealed ballot process?

During the 2024 Local Government Association of South Australia elections, inconsistencies emerged between the votes recorded in councils' formal meetings, which often occur in a public meeting, and the sealed ballot papers submitted to the LGA. These discrepancies created confusion for nominated representatives and made the process more difficult to administer.

To address this, the LGA is considering options to simplify and clarify the process by treating a council's formal resolution as its official vote, thereby removing the need for a separate ballot paper. While individual vote counts will not be disclosed, the overall result will be publicly announced on the designated results day.

Next Steps

If councils, mayors, elected members, or council staff have any questions or concerns, early advice is welcomed. Information can be shared during the webinars, emailed to feedback@lga.sa.gov.au, or provided by phone on 8224 2020.

LGA is currently working on the amendments and will consider any input in the final version that will be available for voting at the AGM.

If no changes are approved, the existing first-past-the-post method will remain in place for the LGA Presidential election in 2026.



Hon Joe Szakacs MP



LG25/00501

A/Mayor Nathan Daniell Adelaide Hills Council PO Box 44 WOODSIDE SA 5244

By email: ndaniell@ahc.sa.gov.au

Minister for Trade and Investment

Minister for Local

Minister for Veterans' Affairs

GPO Box 1533 ADELAIDE SA 5000

T: (08) 7133 2070

E: minister.szakacs@sa.gov.au

Dear Mayor Daniell

I am pleased to advise that the recommendations of the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission (the Commission) for the distribution of the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants (FA Grants) for 2025-2026 and the Supplementary Local Road Funding for 2025-2026 to councils were approved by the Hon Kristy McBain MP, Federal Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories on 7 August 2025.

FA Grants across Australia will provide an estimated \$3.45 billion for 2025-2026, which is an increase of 5.19% over 2024-2025. For South Australia, the total allocation is \$222.66 million - an increase of 4.39%.

South Australia's allocation includes General Purpose Grants of \$164,456,121, an increase of 4.1% from 2024-2025, and Identified Local Road Grants of \$58,199,702, an increase of 5.19% from 2024-2025. The Identified Local Road component includes formulae-based funding of \$49,469,702 and \$8,730,000 for the Special Local Roads Program.

Minister McBain has also advised there was an underpayment of the General Purpose Grants of \$782,203 and an overpayment of the Identified Local Road Grants of \$28,383 in the 2024-2025 grants for South Australia. Cash grants received by councils during 2025-2026 will be adjusted accordingly in proportion to the approved 2024-2025 distributions.

As has been the case in recent years, a brought forward payment of the 2025-2026 FA Grants was made in late June 2024-2025. Approximately 50% of the 2025-2026 FA Grants was brought forward, providing a total of \$111.39 million for South Australia. This included \$82.23 million in General Purpose Grants and \$29.16 million in Identified Local Road Grants.

The brought forward payment was distributed on the basis of the Commission's draft recommendations for 2025-2026 to give councils immediate access to funds that can help to manage current significant financial pressures.



The 2025-2026 brought forward payment was paid to the State late on Friday 20 June 2025 and distributed by the Commission to councils on Monday 23 June 2025. Adelaide Hills Council received a total of \$1,057,326, comprising \$556,504 in General Purpose Grants and \$500,822 in Identified Local Road funding.

I am also pleased to confirm that the Commission's recommendations for distribution of the 2025-2026 Supplementary Local Road Funding, provided to South Australia to address the inequity in South Australia's share of the Identified Local Road Grants, has also been approved by Minister McBain. This funding will provide \$20 million to South Australia for 2025-2026, including 85% or \$17 million in formula grants and 15% or \$3 million provided to the Special Local Roads Program.

In summary, the total allocation to the Adelaide Hills Council for the 2025-2026 financial year consists of:

Estimated FA Grants for 2025-2026

General Purpose Grant (GPG)	\$	1,113,007
Roads (Formulae Funding - ILRG)	\$	999,586
Roads (Special Local Roads Program - ILRG)	\$	*
Total Estimated Grant for 2025-2026		2,112,593
Add Adjustment for 2024-2025 underpayment (GPG)	\$	5,301
Less Adjustment for 2024-2025 overpayment (ILRG)	\$	- 573
Less Brought Forward Payment Paid in June 2025 (GPG)	\$	556,504
Less Brought Forward Payment Paid in June 2025 (ILRG)	\$	500,822
Remaining 2025-2026 Cash Payable (rounded to the nearest dollar)	\$	1,059,995
2025-2026 Supplementary Local Road Funding		
Supplementary Local Road Funding (Formulae Funding)	\$	343,502
Supplementary Local Road Funding (Special Local Roads)	\$	**

- * Moneys provided under the Special Local Roads Program (FA Grants) have been allocated for work on the following project:
- ** Moneys provided under the Supplementary Local Road Funding component of the Special Local Roads Program for 2025-2026 have been allocated for work on the following project:

The General Purpose Grants and the Identified Local Road Grants are determined using different assessment methods.

To determine the recommended allocation of General Purpose Grants, the Commission assesses each council's capacity to raise revenue and their expenditure need relative to the average across the state.

Greater funding is directed to councils with less capacity to raise revenue from rates (i.e. typically those councils with lower than average property values) or where services cost more to provide for reasons outside the council's control (i.e. typically those councils with higher than average expenditure needs).

OFFICIAL

The Identified Local Road Grants are distributed on the basis of road length and population, and for rural councils, road length, population and the area of the council.

The Commission, consisting of the chair, Mr Rob Donaldson and commissioners, Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM, makes recommendations to me each year based on its distribution methodology. This methodology is reviewed regularly by the Commission. While there have been no changes to the distribution methodology for 2025-2026, the Commission is currently reviewing a number of areas of its methodology.

The FA Grants are untied and the remaining funding for 2025-2026 will be paid in four quarterly instalments, with the first instalment paid on 18 August 2025 and further instalments to be paid in November 2025, February 2026 and May 2026. The Supplementary Local Road Funding for South Australia for 2025-2026 is scheduled to be paid on 30 August 2025.

It would be appreciated if you could forward this information to the relevant council officers. Should you have any queries regarding your council's grant, please contact Mr Peter Ilee, the Commission's Executive Officer, on telephone (08) 7133 1414 or via email to grants.commission@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Hon Joe Szakacs MP

Minister for Trade and Investment Minister for Local Government Minister for Veterans' Affairs

29 / 08 / 2025

cc: ggeorgopoulos@ahc.sa.gov.au

Hon Joe Szakacs MP

24MINLG-0591 LG25/00100

Mr Greg Georgopoulos Chief Executive Officer Adelaide Hills Council 63 Mount Barker Road STIRLING SA 5152

By email: mail@ahc.sa.gov.au



Minister for Trade and Investment

Minister for Local Government

Minister for Veterans' Affairs

GPO Box 1533 ADELAIDE SA 5000

T: (08) 7133 2070

E: minister.szakacs@sa.gov.au

Dear Mr Georgopoulos

Thank you for writing to seek my approval for the Adelaide Hills Council (the Council) to withdraw from the Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority (GRFMA) under clause 29(b) of Schedule 2 to the *Local Government Act* 1999.

I have carefully considered the information provided by the Council, in particular the submission provided by the Council by letter dated 3 June 2025. I note that you have also provided this submission to the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, the Hon Dr Susan Close MP, and I am responding also on behalf of Minister Close.

I have also taken into account the submissions I have received from GRFMA's other constituent councils.

I note the Council's concerns regarding its involvement with GRFMA, including the Council's views regarding geographic and operational relevance, financial inequity and lack of benefit and misalignment with the Council's strategic priorities.

However, I am of the view that all councils in the Gawler River catchment have a responsibility to contribute towards flood mitigation and participate in GRFMA to achieve its functions and objectives.

As you are aware, the State Government, through the Department for Environment and Water, has worked with GRFMA on the development of a Business Case to establish a long-term strategy in respect to Gawler River flood management. The withdrawal of a council from GRFMA would not only negatively impact the delivery of this Business Case but also impact the ability for GRFMA to attract future co-investment from both the South Australian and Australian governments.



OFFICIAL

Therefore, I do not approve the Council's application to withdraw from GRFMA. Protecting communities from natural disasters is a core function of councils and therefore I encourage GRFMA's constituent councils to engage constructively to determine how they can all contribute to flood mitigation in the Gawler River catchment.

Yours sincerely

Hon Joe Szakacs MP

Minister for Trade and Investment Minister for Local Government Minister for Veterans' Affairs

(O) / 7 / 2025

cc: Hon Dr Susan Close MP, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water



63 Mount Barker Road Stirling SA 5152 Phone: 08 8408 0400 Fax: 08 8389 7440 mail@ahc.sa.gov.au www.ahc.sa.gov.au

28 August 2025

The Hon Joe Szakacs MP Minister for Local Government GPO Box 1533 Adelaide SA 5000

Via email: minister.szakacs@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister

Request for Further Information – Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority Withdrawal Decision

Thank you for your correspondence dated 10 July 2025 (LG25/00100 refers), by which you have advised that the Adelaide Hills Council's request to withdraw from the Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority (GRFMA) has not been approved.

Council appreciates your consideration of its submission and acknowledges the broader strategic context in which your decision was made. However, given the significance of the matter and its implications for both Council and the community, we seek a clearer understanding of the basis for the refusal. In this context, we respectfully request a clear articulation of the reasons underlying the decision.

Without detracting from our general request to understand your reasons, we would particularly appreciate feedback on matters including, but not limited to:

- 1. what, if any, weight was given to the Council's geographic and operational irrelevance within the catchment;
- 2. financial equity, including the current cost-sharing model and Council's lack of any benefit from GRFMA infrastructure;
- 3. the relevance and role of the GRFMA's Business Case and Stormwater Management Plan; and
- 4. the influence and weight of submissions received from other Constituent Councils and government departments.

Council believes that a clear explanation of the Ministerial reasoning will help inform our next steps in considering the provisions of the Charter, negotiating with the other Constituent



63 Mount Barker Road Stirling SA 5152 Phone: 08 8408 0400 Fax: 08 8389 7440 mail@ahc.sa.gov.au www.ahc.sa.gov.au

Councils, and ensuring the levels of transparency and accountability to our community that you would expect.

Please note that Council remains committed to working constructively with all stakeholders and, after hearing from you further, would welcome the opportunity to meet with you or your office to discuss and better understand this matter.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

Greg Georgopoulos
Chief Executive Officer
Adelaide Hills Council



To: Chief Executive Officer

From: Sarah O'Flaherty, Corporate Services Manager

Date: 29 August 2025

Subject: Adelaide Hills Region Waste Management Authority – 2025 Certification of Auditor

Independence

The certification statement is signed annually by all Chief Executive Officers of the Adelaide Hills Region Waste Management Authority's Constituent Councils. A Certification of Auditor Independence is also signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority.

This statement is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Clause 22 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011,* and in a format prescribed by the South Australian Model Financial Statements.

In my opinion independence is being maintained. I confirm that no payments have been paid outside the scope of the audit contract, and no additional advice has been provided by the auditors during FY2024.

Recommendation:

On approval of the information detailed above, the Chief Executive Officer hereby signs the:

Adelaide Hills Region Waste Management Authority - 2025 Certification of Auditor Independence

Sarah O'Flaherty

Corporate Services Manager

Attachment:

2025 Auditor's Independence Declaration







Mount Gambier

233 Commercial Street West PO Box 246, Mount Gambier SA 5290 P: (08) 8725 3068 F: (08) 8724 9553 E: admin@galpins.com.au

Stirling

Unit 4, 3-5 Mount Barker Road PO Box 727, Stirling SA 5152 P: (08) 8339 1255 F: (08) 8339 1266 E: stirling@galpins.com.au

Norwood

3 Kensington Road, Norwood SA 5067 PO Box 4067, Norwood South SA 5067 P: (08) 8332 3433 E: norwood@galpins.com.au

W: www.galpins.com.au

Galpins Trading Pty Ltd ABN: 89 656 702 886

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

ADELAIDE HILLS REGION WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Statement by Auditor

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of the Adelaide Hills Region Waste Management Authority for the year ended 30 June 2025, I have maintained my independence in accordance with the requirements of APES 110 – *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards),* Part 4A, published by the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 made under that Act.

This statement is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 22 (5) *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Tim Muhlhausler CA, Registered Company Auditor

Date: 29 August 2025

Partner

Adelaide Hills Region Waste Management Authority

Certification of Auditor Independence for the year ending 30 June 2025

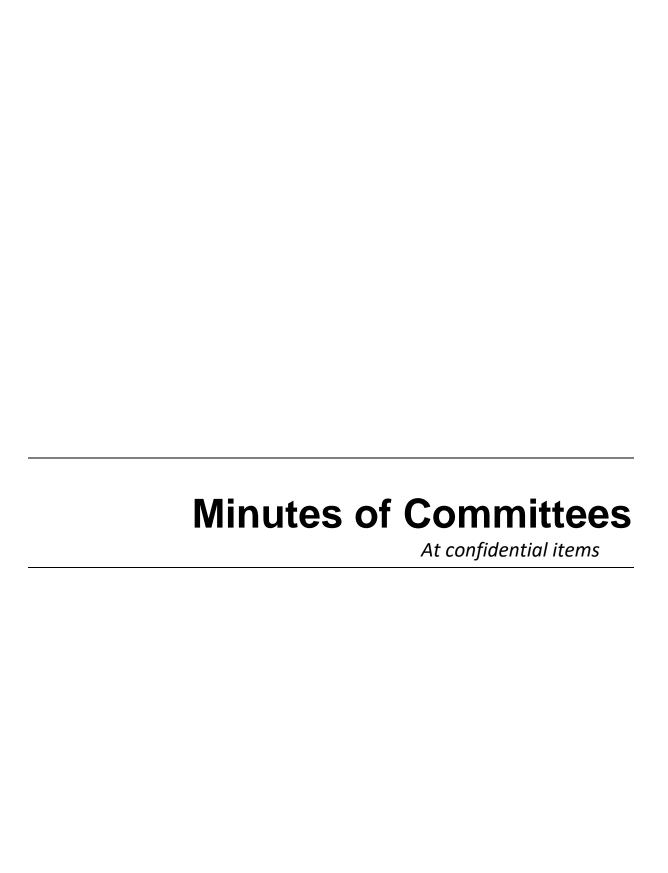
To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of Adelaide Hills Region Waste Management Authority for the year ended 30 June 2025, the Authority's Auditor, Galpins Accountants, Auditors & Business Consultants, has maintained its independence in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 made under that Act.

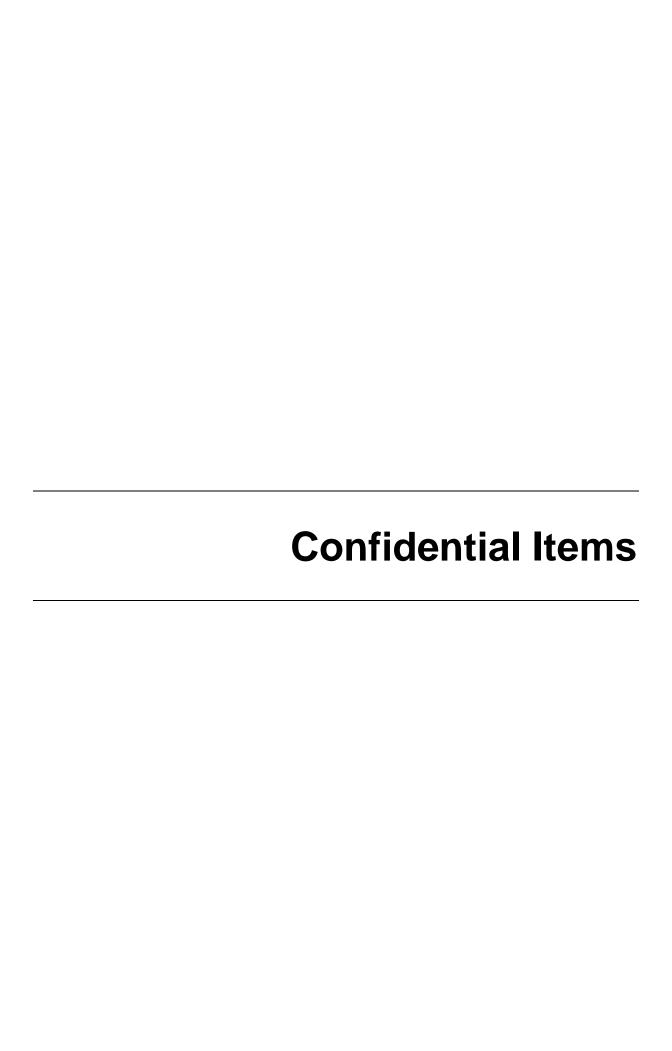
This statement is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 22(3) Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

Greg Georgopoulos
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Adelaide Hills Council

Date: 02 September 2025





ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday 9 September 2025 CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA BUSINESS ITEM

Item: 19.1

Responsible Officer: Zoë Gill

Executive Governance Officer

Office of the CEO

Subject: CEO Performance Review Panel Confidential Minutes (27

August 2025)

For: Decision

 CEO Performance Review Panel Confidential Minutes (27 August 2025) – Exclusion of the Public

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999* the Council orders that all members of the public, except:

- Chief Executive Officer, Greg Georgopoulos
- Director Environment & Infrastructure, Jade Ballantine
- Director Corporate Services, Gary Lewis
- Director Community & Development, Jess Charlton
- Executive Governance Officer, Zoe Gill
- Minute Secretary, Skye Ludzay
- IT Support, Tom Portas

be excluded from attendance at the meeting for Agenda Item 19.1: (CEO Performance Review Panel Confidential Minutes (27 August 2025)) in confidence.

The Council is satisfied that it is necessary that the public, with the exception of Council staff in attendance as specified above, be excluded to enable Council to consider the report at the meeting on the following grounds:

Section 90(3)(a) of the Local Government Act 1999, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this Agenda Item is Information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).

Accordingly, on this basis the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep the information and discussion confidential.

2. CEO Performance Review Panel Confidential Minutes (27 August 2025) – Confidential Item

3. CEO Performance Review Panel Confidential Minutes – 27 August 2025 – Duration of Confidentiality

Subject to the CEO, or his delegate, disclosing information or any document (in whole or in part) for the purpose of implementing Council's decision(s) in this matter in the performance of the duties and responsibilities of office, Council, having considered Agenda Item 19.1 in confidence under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, resolves that an order be made under the provisions of sections 91(7) and (9) of the *Local Government Act 1999* to retain the Items in confidence as detailed in the Duration of Confidentiality Table below:

Item	Duration of Confidentiality NB: Item to be reviewed every 12 months if not released
Report	Nil
Related Attachments	Until Further Order
Minutes	Nil
Other (presentation, documents, or similar)	Nil

Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council delegates the power to revoke the confidentiality order either partially or in full to the Chief Executive Officer.

ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday 9 SEPTEMBER 2025 CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA BUSINESS ITEM

Item: 19.2

Responsible Officer: Zoë Gill

Executive Governance Officer

Office of the CEO

Subject: Boundary Change Committee Confidential Minutes

(2 September 2025)

For: Decision

1. Boundary Committee Confidential Minutes (2 September 2025) – Exclusion of the Public

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999* the Council orders that all members of the public, except:

- Chief Executive Officer, Greg Georgopoulos
- Director Environment & Infrastructure, Jade Ballantine
- Director Corporate Services, Gary Lewis
- Director Community & Development, Jess Charlton
- Executive Governance Officer, Zoë Gill
- Minute Secretary, Skye Ludzay
- IT Support, Tom Portas

be excluded from attendance at the meeting for Agenda Item 19.2: (Boundary Change Committee Confidential Minutes (2 September 2025)) in confidence.

The Council is satisfied that it is necessary that the public, with the exception of Council staff in attendance as specified above, be excluded to enable Council to consider the report at the meeting on the following grounds:

Section 90(3)(b) and (i) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this Agenda Item is:

- Information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest;
- information relating to actual litigation, or litigation that the council or council committee believes on reasonable grounds will take place, involving the council.

Accordingly, on this basis the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep the information and discussion confidential.

2. Boundary Change Committee Confidential Minutes (2 September 2025) – Confidential Item

3. Boundary Change Committee Confidential Minutes (2 September 2025) – Duration of Confidentiality

Subject to the CEO, or his delegate, disclosing information or any document (in whole or in part) for the purpose of implementing Council's decision(s) in this matter in the performance of the duties and responsibilities of office, Council, having considered Agenda Item 19.2 in confidence under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(b) and (i) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, resolves that an order be made under the provisions of sections 91(7) and (9) of the *Local Government Act 1999* to retain the Items in confidence as detailed in the Duration of Confidentiality Table below:

Item	Duration of Confidentiality NB: Item to be reviewed every 12 months if not released
Report	Nil
Related Attachments	Until Further Order
Minutes	Nil
Other (presentation, documents, or similar)	Nil

Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council delegates the power to revoke the confidentiality order either partially or in full to the Chief Executive Officer.

ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday 9 September 2025 CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA BUSINESS ITEM

Item: 19.3

Responsible Officer: Zoë Gill

Executive Governance Officer

Office of the CEO

Subject: Trans Tasman Energy Group Matter

For: Information

1. Trans Tasman Energy Group – Exclusion of the Public

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999* the Council orders that all members of the public, except:

- Chief Executive Officer, Greg Georgopoulos
- Director Environment & Infrastructure, Jade Ballantine
- Director Corporate Services, Gary Lewis
- Director Community & Development, Jess Charlton
- Executive Governance Officer, Zoë Gill
- Minute Secretary, Skye Ludzay
- IT Support, Tom Portas

be excluded from attendance at the meeting for Agenda Item 19.3: (Trans Tasman Energy Group) in confidence.

The Council is satisfied that it is necessary that the public, with the exception of Council staff in attendance as specified above, be excluded to enable Council to consider the report at the meeting on the following grounds:

Section 90(3)(h) and (i) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this Agenda Item is information relating to legal advice and information relating to actual litigation, or litigation that the council or council committee believes on reasonable grounds will take place, involving the council or an employee of the council.

Accordingly, on this basis the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep the information and discussion confidential.

2. Trans Tasman Energy Group – Confidential Item

3. Trans Tasman Energy Group – Duration of Confidentiality

Subject to the CEO, or his delegate, disclosing information or any document (in whole or in part) for the purpose of implementing Council's decision(s) in this matter in the performance of the duties and responsibilities of office, Council, having considered Agenda Item 19.2 in confidence under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(h) and (i) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, resolves that an order be made under the provisions of sections 91(7) and (9) of the *Local Government Act 1999* to retain the Items in confidence as detailed in the Duration of Confidentiality Table below:

Item	Duration of Confidentiality NB: Item to be reviewed every 12 months if not released
Report	Until Further Order
Related Attachments	Until Further Order
Minutes	Until Further Order
Other (presentation, documents, or similar)	Until Further Order

Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council delegates the power to revoke the confidentiality order either partially or in full to the Chief Executive Officer.

ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday 9 September 2025 CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA BUSINESS ITEM

Item: 19.4

Responsible Officer: Zoë Gill

Executive Governance Officer

Office of the CEO

Subject: CEO 2025 Remuneration Review

For: Decision

1. CEO 2025 Remuneration Review – Exclusion of the Public

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999* the Council orders that all members of the public, except:

- Chief Executive Officer, Greg Georgopoulos until invited to leave by Council
- Executive Governance Officer, Zoe Gill

be excluded from attendance at the meeting for Agenda Item 19.1: (CEO 2025 Remuneration Review) in confidence.

The Council is satisfied that it is necessary that the public, with the exception of Council staff in attendance as specified above, be excluded to enable Council to consider the report at the meeting on the following grounds:

Section 90(3) (a) of the Local Government Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this Agenda Item is information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).

Accordingly, on this basis the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep the information and discussion confidential.

2. CEO 2025 Remuneration Review – Confidential Item

3. CEO 2025 Remuneration Review – Duration of Confidentiality

Subject to the CEO, or his delegate, disclosing information or any document (in whole or in part) for the purpose of implementing Council's decision(s) in this matter in the performance of the duties and responsibilities of office, Council, having considered Agenda Item 19.4 in confidence under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, resolves that an order be made under the provisions of sections 91(7) and (9) of the *Local Government Act 1999* to retain the Items in confidence as detailed in the Duration of Confidentiality Table below:

Item	Duration of Confidentiality NB: Item to be reviewed every 12 months if not released
Report	Until Further Order
Related Attachments	Until Further Order
Minutes	Nil
Other (presentation, documents, or similar)	Until Further Order

Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council delegates the power to revoke the confidentiality order either partially or in full to the Chief Executive Officer.