AGENDA

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday 28 July 2026 – 5.00pm

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the next Ordinary Council Meeting of the Shire of Irwin will be held in the Council Chambers, 11-13 Waldeck Street, Dongara at 5.00pm on Tuesday 28 July 2026.

Shane Ivers
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
24 July 2026

AGENDA & BUSINESS PAPERS

Agenda Forums and Ordinary Council Meetings for 2026 will be held on the following dates in the Council Chambers at 11-13 Waldeck Street, Dongara.

2026 DATES	
Agenda Forum - 5.00pm	**Ordinary Council Meeting – 5.00pm**
21 July	**28 July**
18 August	**25 August**
15 September	**22 September**
20 October	**27 October**
17 November	**24 November**
1 December	**7 December (Monday)**

Members of the public are always welcome to attend the Agenda Forums and Ordinary Council Meetings.

Disclaimer

The Shire of Irwin:

- advises that the purpose of an Ordinary Council Meeting is to discuss and, where possible, make resolutions about items appearing in the agenda. No person should rely on or act on the basis of any decision, advice or information provided by an Elected Member or Officer, or on the content of any discussion occurring during the course of the meeting. No person should rely on the decisions made by Council until formal written advice from the Council is received by that person.
- expressly disclaims any liability for any loss or damage whatsoever and howsoever caused arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Agenda Forums, Council or Committee Meetings.
- disclaims any liability for any loss arising from any person or body relying on any statement, discussion, recommendation or decision in the audio recording. Council minutes provide the definitive record of Council's resolutions.

Nature of Council's Role in Decision Making

Advocacy	When Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.
Executive	The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council e.g., performance of the Local Government's function under law, administration of Local Laws, adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.
Legislative	Includes adopting local laws and local planning schemes.
Review	When Council reviews decisions made by Officers.
Quasi-judicial	When Council determines an application/matter that directly affects a person's rights and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice e.g., local planning applications, building permits, other permits/licences (e.g. under the Health Act, Dog Act or local laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT).

By allocating these roles, the Shire ensures that the Council's decision-making is structured and aligned with its legal responsibilities, allowing it to effectively govern, serve its community, and maintain compliance with applicable laws.

Notes for Members of the Public

Meeting Formalities

Shire of Irwin Council Meetings are governed by legislation and regulations. During the meeting, no member of the public may interrupt the meeting proceedings or enter into conversation.

Members of the public shall ensure that their mobile phones are switched off and not used during any Shire meeting.

Members of the public are hereby advised that in line with Council Policy CP48 – Recording of Council Minutes, no person is to use any electronic, visual or audio recording device or instrument to record the proceedings of a Council Meeting without the written permission of the Council.

Audio Recordings

This Meeting will be audio recorded. The recording will be made publicly available on the Shire's website within ten (10) days of the meeting being held.

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AGENDA

of the

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

to be held

Tuesday, 28 July 2026

Commencing at 5.00pm

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Members

Councillor I Scott	Shire President
Councillor A J Gillam	Deputy Shire President
Councillor P Summers	
Councillor J Melsom	
Councillor S Hansen	
Councillor L Berecz	
Councillor L Musulin	

Staff

Mr S D Ivers	Chief Executive Officer
Mr M Jones	Manager Operations
Miss P Machaka	Manager Finance
Mr M Connell	Manager Development
Mr M Antony	Community Emergency Services Manager
Ms F Boksmati	Manager Community Services
Ms S Mearns	Executive Assistant

Guests

Apologies

Approved Leave of Absence

Gallery

3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Question 1: Mr John Rossiter, 181 Point Leander Drive, Port Denison
Is it possible to get a copy of the Quote for the bearing replacement, as in the response to my question on the Yellow Spinning Ball?

Response: Thank you for your request. While the Shire has considered providing a copy of the quotation, it has determined that procurement documents are not released through the Public Question Time process. The quotation was obtained to assess the feasibility of repairing the spinner. It identified that the works involved substantially more than replacing a bearing, requiring significant reconstruction of the base of the equipment to safely install a new bearing assembly. The estimated cost of these works was approximately $22,000. Given the significant cost of the repair and the planned renewal of the playground and pavilion as part of the Port Denison Foreshore Redevelopment Project in the coming months, the Shire determined that undertaking these repairs would not represent an appropriate use of public funds.

Question 2: Mr John Rossiter, 181 Point Leander Drive, Port Denison
Mr Rossiter asked whether there had been any instances of nepotism within the Works Department.

Response: The Shire has no evidence of any instances of nepotism within the Works Department. Recruitment and employment decisions are undertaken in accordance with the Shire's recruitment policies and merit-based selection principles.

Question 3: Mr John Rossiter, 181 Point Leander Drive, Port Denison
In June last year 2025, one of the shire's semi trailers was involved in an accident on Allanooka Springs Road, where the prime mover was written off. How much was the prime mover insured for and how much was paid to the Shire by the insurance company and was the driver responsible for the accident?

Response: The Shire can confirm that following the accident involving a Shire prime mover on Allanooka Springs Road in June 2025, an insurance payment of $69,700 was received by the Shire. This information was publicly reported as part of the July 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting. The insured value of the vehicle will not be disclosed, as insurance values form part of the Shire's commercial insurance arrangements. The Shire will also not be providing information regarding any assessment of driver responsibility, as this relates to internal employment and risk management matters.

Question 4: Mr Ian Maluish, 5 Abbot Terrace, Port Denison
What is the role of the LGCSA Inc?

Question 5: Mr Ian Maluish, 5 Abbot Terrace, Port Denison
Who are the Office Bearers?

Question 6: Mr Ian Maluish, 5 Abbot Terrace, Port Denison
Who is on the Management Committee?

Question 7: Mr Ian Maluish, 5 Abbot Terrace, Port Denison
Who is the Executive Officer and their salary?

Question 8: Mr Ian Maluish, 5 Abbot Terrace, Port Denison
What is the member fee and how much has been received from each member?

Question 9: Mr Ian Maluish, 5 Abbot Terrace, Port Denison
What is the cost of the annual licence for the ERP and what provider is used?

Responses to Questions 4 to 9: *The Corporate Services Alliance Project and the ERP partnership refer to the same broader initiative. LGCSA Inc. was established to enable participating local governments to collaborate on corporate services, including sharing knowledge and resources, improving efficiency and service delivery, and procuring ICT goods and services where there is benefit in doing so collectively.*

The current LGCSA Management Committee consists of representatives from the participating local governments and independent members, being Shire of Irwin representatives Shane Ivers and Patience Machaka, Shire of Chapman Valley representatives Jamie Criddle and Di Raymond, and independent members Garry Hunt and Maurice Battilana.

The office bearer roles recorded at the Special General Meeting were Chairperson Shane Ivers, Deputy Chairperson Jamie Criddle, Secretary Maurice Battilana and Treasurer Patience Machaka.

The Association Rules include reference to an Executive Officer role; however, this role has not been filled and no salary is being paid for an Executive Officer position.

There is no member fee payable at this stage. As LGCSA Inc. evolves, it is expected that membership fees may be considered and paid by member local governments in the future.

The ERP solution has not yet been deployed through LGCSA Inc., and therefore there is no annual licence cost currently payable under a deployed LGCSA ERP arrangement.

For further background, refer to Council Report CEO02-06/24 and Council Report CEO01-12/24, together with the associated LGCSA Association Rules and Council attachments. 2024 Council Meetings - Shire of Irwin

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

7. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND TABLING OF AGENDA FORUM NOTES

8.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 23 June 2026

The Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 23 June 2026 are included in the *Attachment Booklet – July 2026.*

RECOMMENDED:
That Council by Simple Majority confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 23 June 2026.

8.2 Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held 21 July 2026

The Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held 21 July 2026 are included in the *Attachment Booklet – July 2026.*

RECOMMENDED:
That Council by Simple Majority confirms the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held 21 July 2026.

8.3 Agenda Forum Notes – 21 July 2026

At the Agenda Forum held 21 July 2026, Shire Officers presented background information and answered questions on items to be considered at the July 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting.

Notes from the Agenda Forum are included in the *Attachment Booklet – July 2026*.

RECOMMENDED:
That Council by Simple Majority receives the Notes of the Agenda Forum held 21 July 2026.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

10. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

10.1 Finance Reports

FIN 02-07/26 Accounts for Payment – June 2026	
Author:	**S Clarkson, Senior Finance Officer**
Responsible Officer:	**P Machaka, Manager Finance**
File Reference:	**2.0057**
Council Role:	**Executive**
Voting Requirements:	**Simple Majority**

Report Purpose:
For Council to receive the list of accounts paid under delegated authority during June 2026.

Officer Recommendation:

RECOMMENDED:

That Council, by Simple Majority, receives the list of accounts paid under delegated authority during June 2026, as detailed in FIN02-07/26 Attachment 1, and summarised as follows:

Payment Type/Numbers	Total Amount
EFT 000000016/1– 00000019/1	$1,064,587.57
Muni Cheques – 32267 – 32272	$87,721.45
Direct Debit – Telstra	$4,308.87
Direct Debit – WA Treasury Corporation	$127,320.27
Direct Debit – Credit Card	$43,350.49
Direct Debit – N-Able Pty Ltd	$2,650.51
Direct Debit – Australian Phone Company	$225.23
Direct Debit – Telair Pty Ltd	$2,725.89
Direct Debit – Hello Teams Pty Ltd	$27.82
Direct Debit – Vestone Capital Pty Ltd	$10,554.20
Direct Debit – Superannuation	$60,123.43
Grand Total	$1,403,595.73

Background:
A list of accounts paid under delegated authority is attached showing all payments made during the month of June 2026.

Officer's Comment:
The list of accounts has been prepared in accordance with regulation 13 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. Individual corporate credit card transactions are also disclosed in accordance with regulation 13A.

Consultation:
Nil

Statutory Environment:
The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* provides as follows:

13. Payments from municipal fund or trust fund by CEO, CEO's duties as to etc.

(1) If the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, a list of accounts paid by the CEO is to be prepared each month showing for each account paid since the last such list was prepared

(a) the payee's name;
(b) the amount of the payment;
(c) the date of the payment; and
(d) sufficient information to identify the transaction.

(3) A list prepared under sub-regulation (1) or (2) is to be —

(a) presented to the council at the next ordinary meeting of the council after the list is prepared; and
(b) recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

13A. Payments by employees via purchasing cards

(1) If a local government has authorised an employee to use a credit, debit or other purchasing card, a list of payments made using the card must be prepared each month showing the following for each payment made since the last such list was prepared —

(a) the payee's name;
(b) the amount of the payment;
(c) the date of the payment;
(d) sufficient information to identify the payment.

(2) A list prepared under subregulation (1) must be —

(a) presented to the council at the next ordinary meeting of the council after the list is prepared; and
(b) recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

[Regulation 13A inserted: SL 2023/106 r. 6.]

Policy Implications:
Under Delegation CEO101 Council has delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer to authorise payments from the municipal or trust fund.

Financial/Resource Implications:
Nil

Strategic Implications:
Our Brilliant Future – Strategic Community Plan 2021 – 2031
Strategy 4.2.1 Ensure compliance whilst embracing innovation and better practice principles
Strategy 4.3.2 Adopt and follow better practice processes

Attachments:
Attachment Booklet – July 2026
FIN02-07/26 Attachment 1: Accounts for Payment – June 2026

FIN 03-07/26 Monthly Financial Statements – May 2026	
Author:	**P Machaka, Manager Finance**
Responsible Officer:	**S Ivers, Chief Executive Officer**
File Reference:	**2.0057**
Council Role:	**Executive**
Voting Requirements:	**Simple Majority**

Report Purpose:
For Council to consider and receive the Monthly Financial Statements for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 May 2026.

Officer Recommendation:

RECOMMENDED:
That Council, by Simple Majority, receives the Monthly Financial Statements for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 May 2026 as contained in FIN03-07/26 Attachment 1 of the Attachment Booklet – July 2026.

Background:
The Monthly Financial Statements to 31 May 2026 are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* and includes the following statutory reports:

- Statement of Financial Activity by Nature
- Statement of Financial Position
- Explanation of Material Variances
- Net Current Funding Position

The Statements also include various other financial information not required by legislation, but for Council information.

Officer's Comment:
The financial statements for the period ended 31 May 2026 remain provisional, with a number of year-end accounting processes still to be completed. These include the recognition of eligible grant and contribution revenue, the processing of depreciation for January to May 2026, and the final allocation of employee costs between operating and capital activities. These adjustments will be completed as part of the June 2026 year-end process and will affect the final reported result.

Operating revenue at the end of May was approximately $108,000 above the year-to-date budget. This was largely attributable to fees and charges exceeding budget by approximately $198,000, partly offset by lower-than-budgeted rates, operating grants and interest revenue. Materials and contracts, utilities and finance costs were also below the year-to-date budget. Although operating employee costs are currently shown as exceeding budget, the attached statements confirm that total employee costs across operating and capital activities remain within the overall budget, pending completion of the final allocation process.

The adjusted net current funding position at 31 May 2026 was a deficit of approximately $984,000, compared with the year-to-date budgeted deficit of approximately $623,000. This was a point-in-time position and should not be interpreted as the Shire's expected result for the full financial year. The Shire expects to receive its annual Financial Assistance Grant allocation, ordinarily in the order of $800,000 to $900,000, which will materially improve the reported position. A further timing difference remains between project expenditure incurred during 2025/26 and associated grant revenue that could not be recognised by 30 June 2026 as several funding agreement milestones had not yet been achieved. That revenue is expected to be recognised in 2026/27 once the relevant milestones are satisfied. Based on the information currently available, the Shire expects to conclude 2025/26 broadly in balance, with the final result likely to be a modest surplus or deficit depending on the completion of year-end accruals, revenue recognition, cost allocations, depreciation and other accounting adjustments.

Capital expenditure totalled approximately $2.71 million at the end of May and was broadly consistent with the year-to-date capital program. The Statement of Financial Position records total assets of approximately $107.44 million, total liabilities of $7.57 million and net assets of $99.87 million. Rates collection remained strong at 96.76%. Management will continue to complete the outstanding year-end entries, monitor aged receivables and finalise the financial position for reporting following completion of the June 2026 accounts.

31/05/2026		YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Operating Revenue		11,114,334	11,222,350
Operating Expenditure		(13,462,315)	(12,029,442)
Net Operating		(2,347,981)	(807,092)
Non-Operating Revenue		1,587,000	1,411,566
Non-Operating Expenditure		(2,854,512)	(2,711,502)
Net Non-Operating		(1,267,512)	(1,299,936)
Cash at Bank			710,776
Cash at Bank Restricted			373,935
Reserve Bank			1,067,949
Total Cash Funds			2,152,660
Current Ratio			1.1

Consultation:
Nil

Statutory Environment:
Local Government Act 1995
- *Section 6.4 Financial report*

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations
- *Section 34 - Financial activity statement report:*

(1) A local government is to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the sources and applications of funds, as set out in the annual budget under regulation 22(1)(d), for that month in the following detail -
(a) annual budget estimates, taking into account any expenditure incurred for an additional purpose under section 6.8(1)(b) or (c);
(b) budget estimates to the end of the month to which the statement relates;
(c) actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income to the end of the month to which the statement relates;
(d) material variances between the comparable amounts referred to in paragraphs (b) and (c); and
(e) the net current assets at the end of the month to which the statement relates.

(2) Each statement of financial activity is to be accompanied by documents containing -

(a) an explanation of the composition of the net current assets of the month to which the statement relates, less committed assets and restricted assets;
(b) an explanation of each of the material variances referred to in sub-regulation (1)(d); and
(c) such other supporting information as is considered relevant by the local government.

(3) The information in a statement of financial activity must be shown according to the nature classification.

(4) A statement of financial activity, and the accompanying documents referred to in sub-regulation (2), are to be -
(a) presented to the council - at an ordinary meeting of the council within 2 months after the end of month to which the statement relates; and
(b) recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which it is presented.

Policy Implications:
Nil

Financial/Resource Implications:
Any issues in relation to expenditure and revenue allocations or variance trends are identified and addressed each month or at budget review.

Strategic Implications:
Our Brilliant Future - Strategic Community Plan 2021 – 2031
Strategy 4.2.1 Ensure compliance whilst embracing innovation and better practice principles
Strategy 4.3.2 Adopt and follow better practice processes

Attachments:
Attachment Booklet – July 2026
FIN 03-07/26 Attachment 1: Financial Statements for the Period Ended 31 May 2026

FIN 04-07/26 Changing Method of Valuation – July 2026	
Author:	**P Machaka, Manager Finance**
Responsible Officer:	**S Ivers, Chief Executive Officer**
File Reference:	**3.0683**
Council Role:	**Executive**
Voting Requirements:	**Simple Majority**

Report Purpose:
To consider the proposed change in the method of valuation of the properties identified in the confidential attachment from unimproved value to gross rental value, consider the submissions received from affected ratepayers, and determine whether to apply to the Minister for Local Government under section 6.28 of the Local Government Act 1995.

Officer Recommendation:

RECOMMENDED:

That Council by Simple Majority:

1. **Determines having regard to the current predominant non-rural use of the land identified in FIN 04-07/26 Confidential Attachment 1, that the Shire supports changing the method of valuation of that land from unimproved value to gross rental value.**

2. **Considers the submissions received from affected ratepayers insofar as they relate to the proposed changes in method of valuation and endorses the corresponding officer responses contained in FIN 04-07/26 Confidential Attachment 1.**

3. **Requests the Chief Executive Officer to make application to the Minister for Local Government under section 6.28 of the Local Government Act 1995 to change the method of valuation of the identified land from unimproved value to gross rental value.**

4. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to provide any further supporting information and make minor non-substantive amendments necessary to progress the applications.**

Background:
Under section *6.28 of the Local Government Act 1995 (the Act*), the Minister for Local Government is responsible for determining the method of valuation of land to be used by a local government as the basis for a rate.

In determining the method of valuation, the Minister is to have regard to the general principle that the basis for a rate on any land is to be:
- Where land is used predominantly for rural purposes, the appropriate method of valuation is unimproved value (UV).
- Where land is used predominantly for non-rural purposes, the appropriate method of valuation is gross rental value (GRV).

It is the Local Government's responsibility to review the predominant use of land and apply to the Minister to have the method of valuation changed where appropriate.

Before applying to the Minister, the Shire must establish the current predominant use of each property, obtain appropriate supporting evidence and indicative valuations, consult the affected ratepayers, consider any submissions received and demonstrate that comparable properties are being treated consistently.

Officer's Comment:
The Shire's review identified three assessments currently valued on an unimproved value basis but assessed as being used predominantly for non-rural purposes. These comprise two properties used for transient workforce accommodation and the separately leased portion of the Mondarra Gas Storage Facility used for commercial gas storage purposes.

The assessment of predominant use has been based on the actual use of the land and the nature of the improvements situated on each property. The two transient workforce accommodation properties contain accommodation units and associated facilities used to house a transient workforce, indicating a predominantly non-rural accommodation use. The separately leased portion of the Mondarra Gas Storage Facility contains gas storage and associated operational infrastructure and is used for the commercial storage and handling of gas, indicating a predominantly non-rural commercial and industrial use. The relevant land descriptions, lease areas, current and proposed methods of valuation, evidence supporting the assessment of predominant use, indicative gross rental values and estimated rating impacts are detailed in FIN 03-07/26 Confidential Attachment 1.

The land proposed for a change in method of valuation, together with evidence of predominant use, the current valuation method, indicative GRV assessments, estimated rating impacts, consultation correspondence, submissions and officer responses, is detailed in the confidential attachment.

The proposed change for the separately leased portion of the Mondarra Gas Storage Facility is based on its predominant commercial use as a gas storage facility. It is not based on transient workforce accommodation.

The purpose of the application is to align the method of valuation with the current predominant use of the land and to ensure comparable properties are treated consistently and equitably. Any increase in rate revenue is a consequence of the proposed change rather than the statutory basis for the application.

Written notification of the proposed changes was sent to the affected ratepayers on 18 May 2026, inviting submissions by 18 June 2026.

A submission was received from APA regarding the proposed change in method of valuation for the separately leased portion of the Mondarra Gas Storage Facility. The matters raised insofar as they relate to the predominant use of the land and the proposed change from UV to GRV, together with the officer response, are summarised in Confidential Attachment 1. Matters concerning the differential rating category and applicable rate in the dollar are addressed separately through the Shire's 2026/27 differential rating process.

Consultation:
The rating consultant presented the proposed changes to Council on the 18 March 2025.

On 18 May 2026, affected ratepayers were notified in writing of the reason for the proposed change in method of valuation, the evidence supporting the assessment of predominant use and the indicative impact on annual rates. Submissions were invited by 18 June 2026. The submissions received and the officer responses are contained in FIN 03-07/26 Confidential Attachment 1.

Statutory Environment:
Local Government Act 1995
6.28. Basis of rates
(1) The Minister is to —

(a) determine the method of valuation of land to be used by a local government as the basis for a rate; and
(b) publish a notice of the determination in the Government Gazette.

(2) In determining the method of valuation of land to be used by a local government the Minister is to have regard to the general principle that the basis for a rate on any land is to be —
(a) where the land is used predominantly for rural purposes, the unimproved value of the land; and
(b) where the land is used predominantly for non- rural purposes, the gross rental value of the land.

(3) The unimproved value or gross rental value, as the case requires, of rateable land in the district of a local government is to be recorded in the rate record of that local government.

(4) Subject to subsection (5), for the purposes of this section the valuation to be used by a local government is to be the valuation in force under the Valuation of Land Act 1978 as at 1 July in each financial year.

(5) Where during a financial year —
(a) an interim valuation is made under the Valuation of Land Act 1978; or
(b) a valuation comes into force under the Valuation of Land Act 1978 as a result of the amendment of a valuation under that Act; or
(c) a new valuation is made under the Valuation of Land Act 1978 in the course of completing a general valuation that has previously come into force, the interim valuation, amended valuation or new valuation, as the case requires, is to be used by a local government for the
purposes of this section.

The Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety – Rating Policy: Valuation of Land requires applications to be supported by evidence of predominant land use, clear identification of the land, indicative valuations, direct consultation with affected ratepayers, consideration of submissions, consistent treatment of comparable properties and consideration of split valuations where appropriate

Policy Implications:
Nil

Financial/Resource Implications:
The proposed changes may increase rate revenue if approved by the Minister and following the issue of GRV assessments by the Valuer-General. The exact financial impact will depend on the final valuations, the effective date of the Minister's determination and the applicable rate in the dollar. Indicative rate impacts for each affected assessment are contained in the confidential attachment. Any material variation from the adopted 2026/27 budget will be addressed through a subsequent budget review.

Strategic Implications:
Our Brilliant Future – Strategic Community Plan 2021 – 2031
Strategy 4.2.1 Ensure compliance whilst embracing innovation and better practice principles
Strategy 4.3.2 Adopt and follow better practice processes

Attachments:
Confidential Attachment Booklet – July 2026
FIN 04-07/26 Attachment 1: Transient Workforce Accommodation - Others

10.2 Development Reports

DEV 01-07/26 June 2026 Development Delegated and Authorised Authority Report	
Author:	**M Connell, Manager Development**
Responsible Officer:	**S Ivers, Chief Executive Officer**
File Reference:	**3.00125**
Council Role:	**Executive**
Voting Requirements:	**Simple Majority**

Report Purpose:
For Council to receive the June 2026 Development Delegated and Authorised Authority Report.

Officer Recommendation:

RECOMMENDED:
That Council by Simple Majority, receives the June 2026 Development Delegated and Authorised Authority Report, as contained in DEV 01-07/26 Attachment 1.

Background:
Local governments utilise levels of delegated authority to undertake day-to-day statutory functions, thereby allowing Council to focus on policy development, representation, strategic planning and community leadership, with the organisation focussing on the day-to-day operations of the Shire.

The use of delegated authority means the large volume of routine work can be effectively managed and acted on promptly, which in turn facilitates efficient service delivery to the community.

Officer's Comment:
This report presents the details of development functions made under delegated or authorised authority for the month of June 2026, with 12 building permits/certificates, 8 single house applications and 2 applications for development approval having been issued.

Consultation:
Nil.

Statutory Environment:
- *Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*
- *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*

Policy Implications:
Nil.

Financial/Resource Implications:
Nil.

Strategic Implications:
Our Brilliant Future – Strategic Community Plan 2021 – 2031
Strategy 4.2.1 Ensure compliance whilst embracing innovation and better practice principles
Strategy 4.3.2 Adopt and follow better practice processes

Attachments:
Attachment Booklet – July 2026
DEV 01-07/26 Attachment 1: June 2026 Development Delegated and Authorised Authority Report

DEV 02-07/26 Road Dedication, Reserve 10876 – Yandanooka West Road, Milo	
Author:	**M Connell, Manager Development**
Responsible Officer:	**S Ivers, Chief Executive Officer**
File Reference:	**P26026**
Council Role:	**Legislative**
Voting Requirements:	**Simple Majority**

Report Purpose:
For Council to request the Minister for Lands to approve the dedication of a portion of Reserve 10876 as road.

Officer Recommendation:

RECOMMENDED:

That Council by Simple Majority:

1. **Request the Minister for Lands to dedicate the portion of Reserve 10876, indicated in blue on the plan contained in DEV 02-07/26 Attachment 1, as road; and**

2. **Advises the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage that it has no objection to dedicating only a portion of Reserve 10876, as detailed in the submission from the Irwin Districts Historical Society.**

Background:
The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) have received a request from Hancock Energy to dedicate a portion of Crown Reserve 10876 as a road (indicated in blue on the plan contained in DEV 02-07/26 Attachment 1).

In December 2025, the Shire received an invitation from the WA Planning Commission to make a submission on an application for significant development for a proposed gas processing plant and workforce accommodation (commonly referred to as the Belisama Gas Project) on Lot M441 (No. 1906) Yandanooka West Road, Milo.

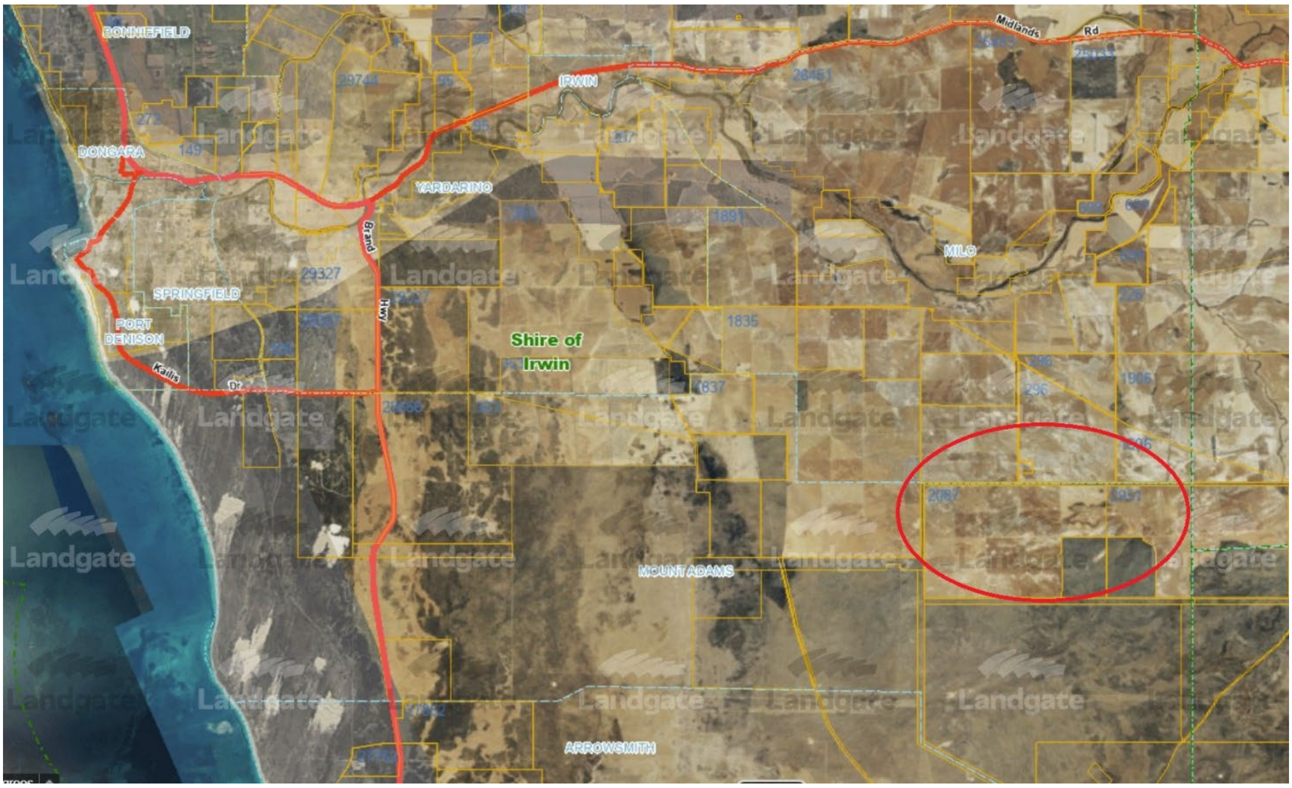
During the assessment of the application, it was noted that there are anomalies with the underlying land tenure on which the current road carriageway of Yandanooka West Road is situated.

The land parcel (that is mistakenly considered to be the Yandanooka West Road reserve) is in fact Crown Reserve 10876. The responsible agency for the reserve is the DPLH and the reserve purpose is 'Stock Route'. The Reserve 10876 report is contained in DEV 02-07/26 Attachment 2.

Council at its meeting held on 24 February 2026 resolved to conditionally support the application with one of the conditions being:

> 4. *Prior to the commencement of operations, land tenure arrangements are to be resolved so that the road carriageway of Yandanooka West Road and Mount Adams Road is located within a gazetted public road reserve.*

Location Plan



Officer's Comment:
Whilst the Reserves purpose is formally a 'stock route' it has functioned as a public road for many years and as such its tenure should reflect this.

The tenure change would have no impact on the heritage values of the stock route which will continue to have protection afforded under the local heritage survey and local planning scheme.

Formalising the tenure will provide clearer legal recognition of the current road usage, ensure lawful access for surrounding land parcels and give certainty for future road maintenance requirements.

Consultation:
The dedication was advertised in accordance with the provisions of the *Land Administration Act 1997* and involved the following:

- A public notice was published in the Midwest Times and the Dongara Denison Local Rag;
- A copy of the dedication was made available for public inspection at the Shire office;
- The dedication was published on the Shire's website along with an alert on the Shire's Facebook page;
- A written notice was sent to abutting landowners; and
- A written notice was sent to the following government/service agencies and stakeholders:
  - Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety
  - Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage – Aboriginal Heritage
  - Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
  - Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
  - Main Roads WA
  - Telstra
  - Water Corporation
  - Western Power
  - Irwin Districts Historical Society

- Shire of Mingenew
- Yamatji Southern Regional Corporation

In response to the advertising a total of 7 submissions were received, 6 from government/service agencies with no objections. One submission from the Irwin Districts Historical Society (contained in DEV 02-07/26 Attachment 3) objected to the proposal. The key issues raised in the submission are summarised below along with Officer comments in response.

- <u>No clear rationale for the change.</u>
  The rationale for the tenure change is explained throughout this report.
- <u>R10876 is part of a place assessed by the WA Heritage Council.</u>
  The 'Old North Stock Route' is listed as a Historic Heritage Place No. P25092. The Minister decided in October 2024 not to recommend its inclusion in the State Register.
- <u>R10876 is listed on the Heritage List under the Local Planning Scheme.</u>
  The tenure change would have no impact on the heritage listing of the stock route.
- <u>Alternative proposal to reduce the width of the road as opposed to all of the reserve. The reserve is currently 100m wide and a 20m wide road reserve containing the road formation should suffice.</u>
  A reduced road reserve proposal has merit and could potentially resolve the road tenure matter whilst retaining the reserve's heritage status.

Following the consultation period the proponent also provided further information as contained in DEV 02-07/26 Attachment 4. To ensure appropriate legal access from freehold property to Yandanooka West Road, Hancock Energy supports the road dedication of the entire width of the current reserve to ensure the pending subdivision (road widening) and any other future subdivision or development processes that Hancock Energy or other freehold landholders may wish to progress.

Statutory Environment:
Section 56 of the Land Administration Act 1997 enables a local government to request the Minister for Lands to dedicate land as road, as follows:

56. Dedication of land as road

(1) If in the district of a local government –

(a) land is reserved or acquired for use by the public, or is used by the public, as a road under the care, control and management of the local government;

and that land is described in a plan of survey, sketch plan or document, the local government may request the Minister to dedicate that land as a road.

Policy Implications:
Nil.

Financial/Resource Implications:
Nil.

Strategic Implications:
Our Brilliant Future – Strategic Community Plan 2021 – 2031
Strategy 1.1.3 Support appropriate community transport options
Strategy 1.2.1 Recognise places of cultural and heritage value

Attachments:
Attachment Booklet – July 2026
DEV 02-07/26 Attachment 1: Road Dedication Plan
DEV 02-07/26 Attachment 2: Reserve 10876 Report
DEV 02-07/26 Attachment 3: Irwin Districts Historical Society Submission
DEV 02-07/26 Attachment 4: Hancock Energy Memo

10.3 Operations Reports

OPS 01-07/26 125091-23WA-BR9 Milo Road Crossing Upgrade Project – Culvert Construction Contract Award	
Author:	**P Traylen, Supervisor Technical Services**
Responsible Officer:	**M Jones, Manager Operations**
File Reference:	**3.00539**
Council Role:	**Executive**
Voting Requirements:	**Simple Majority**

Report Purpose:
To consider the evaluation outcome for RFQ 125091-23WA-BR9 and determine whether to award the Milo Road Crossing culvert construction contract to the preferred respondent.

Officer Recommendation:

RECOMMENDED:

That Council by Simple Majority:

1. **Accepts the Evaluation Panel's recommendation and awards RFQ 125091-23WA-BR9 – Milo Road Crossing Upgrade Project, culvert construction package, to Polecat Civil Contracting Pty Ltd for a fixed lump sum of $1,163,742 excluding GST.**

2. **Notes that the total delivery allowance for the culvert construction package is $1,613,742 excluding GST, comprising the contract sum of $1,163,742, a project contingency of $350,000 and external site/project engineering support of $100,000, and notes that the contingency and engineering allowance do not form part of the contract award.**

3. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to finalise, execute and administer the contract in accordance with section 9.49A of the Local Government Act 1995, including variations that remain within the approved scope, contract terms, adopted project budget and the total delivery allowance identified in item 2.**

4. **Requires any variation that would materially alter the project scope or risk, or cause the total delivery allowance or adopted project budget to be exceeded, to be referred to Council.**

5. **Requires that no notice to proceed for ground-disturbing or construction works be issued until all necessary statutory approvals, environmental and clearing approvals, Aboriginal heritage approvals, land access arrangements and relevant funding conditions have been satisfied.**

Background:
The Shire of Irwin is undertaking the Milo Road Crossing Upgrade Project to replace the existing low-level bridge crossing of the Irwin River with reinforced concrete box culvert structures on a new alignment. The project aims to improve flood resilience, reduce ongoing maintenance requirements, and provide a safer and more reliable crossing for the community.

The works comprise two separable portions, being the northern and southern culvert structures, to provide flexibility in project staging and budget management. The scope includes excavation, reinforced concrete works, installation of precast concrete box culverts, scour protection, and associated temporary works and environmental protection measures. This contract package covers construction of the northern and southern culvert structures and directly associated works. Pavement construction, surfacing, line marking, signage and guideposts are excluded from this contract and will be procured separately. Accordingly, the proposed contract award does not represent the complete cost of delivering the broader Milo Road Crossing Upgrade Project.

On 16 March 2026, the Shire issued RFQ 125091-23WA-BR9 through the WALGA Preferred Supplier Program, Panel PSP009 – Roads, Infrastructure and Depot Services. The competitive quotation process was undertaken among prequalified panel suppliers and closed on 7 April 2026, with four submissions received.

An Evaluation Panel comprising representatives from the Shire of Irwin, Procurement Associates, and technical adviser GHD assessed the submissions against mandatory compliance, qualitative criteria, price, risk profile, and overall value for money. The evaluation criteria included relevant experience, organisational capacity, methodology, programme, and value-add initiatives.

Following clarification and detailed risk assessment, the Evaluation Panel determined that Polecat Civil Contracting Pty Ltd represented the best overall value for money outcome for the Shire, having demonstrated an acceptable methodology, understanding of the works, and a competitive delivery model supported by appropriate risk mitigation measures.

Officer's Comment:
The Evaluation Panel undertook a structured and defensible assessment process in accordance with the RFQ requirements and the Shire's procurement policies.

Polecat Civil Contracting Pty Ltd was assessed as compliant and was identified as the preferred respondent after consideration of the qualitative criteria, price, delivery risk and overall value for money.

On the basis of demonstrated capability, relevant experience, and value for money, the Evaluation Panel recommends award of the contract to Polecat Civil Contracting.

The contract documentation is to clearly identify all conditions precedent to site commencement. These include completion of the required statutory and heritage approval processes and confirmation of land access. Contract award will enable finalisation of contractual arrangements, but it will not authorise commencement of ground-disturbing works before those requirements have been satisfied.

Consultation:
Internal: Chief Executive Officer, Manager Operations, Supervisor Technical Services and Manager Finance.

External/technical: Procurement Associates and GHD.

Statutory Environment:
Local Government Act 1995
- Section 3.57 – Tenders for providing goods or services
- Section 9.49A – Execution of documents

Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996
- Part 4 – Tenders
- Regulation 11(1) – Requirement to publicly invite tenders for contracts exceeding the prescribed threshold
- Regulation 11(2)(b) – Exemption where goods or services are obtained through the WALGA Preferred Supplier Program

Policy Implications:
CP20 – Purchasing
CP01 – Localised Purchasing (Regional Price Preference)

Financial/Resource Implications:
The total estimated contract value is $1,163,742 plus GST, which is provided for within the approved project budget. The total estimated delivery allocation for the preferred delivery model is $1,613,742 excluding GST, comprising the contract award, contingency allowance and external project/site engineering support.

Strategic Implications:
Our Brilliant Future – Strategic Community Plan 2021 – 2031
Strategy 1.1.3 Support appropriate community transport options
Strategy 4.2.1 Ensure compliance whilst embracing innovation and better practice principles

Attachments:
Confidential Attachment Booklet – July 2026
OPS 01-07/26 Confidential Attachment 1: 125091-23WA-BR9 Milo Road Crossing Upgrade Project – Evaluation Report

10.4 Community Services Reports

10.5 Office of the CEO Reports

CEO 01-07/26 CEO Performance and Organisational Report – Quarter 4 2025/26	
Author:	S Ivers, Chief Executive Officer
Responsible Officer:	S Ivers, Chief Executive Officer
File Reference:	2.00098
Council Role:	Executive
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority

Report Purpose:
To provide Council with the Chief Executive Officer Performance and Organisational Report for Quarter 4 of the 2025/26 financial year, covering the period 1 April to 30 June 2026, in accordance with the adopted CEO Performance Criteria.

Officer Recommendation:

RECOMMENDED:
That Council, by Simple Majority, receives the Chief Executive Officer Performance and Organisational Report for Quarter 4 (April – June 2026).

Background
The CEO Performance Criteria were adopted by Council in late September 2025. This report is the third formal quarterly update following adoption of the criteria and provides a high-level year-end summary of organisational performance, governance matters, strategic risks and progress against Council's annual priorities. It is not the formal annual CEO performance review, which remains a separate statutory and contractual process.

Officer's Comment

Executive Overview
During the reporting period the organisation continued to operate in a stable manner, with organisational stability improving and the focus moving increasingly toward delivery of major infrastructure, financial sustainability and preparation for the 2026/27 financial year.

Key outcomes during the quarter included:
- Progress on the Milo Road River Crossing, including completion of the culvert tender process, submission of the clearing permit, completion of the EPBC self-assessment and landholder consents, carting of construction material and commencement of preliminary works where approvals were not required.
- Progress on the Boat Ramp and Recreational Jetty – Stage 1, including installation of the floating-jetty piles and positioning of pontoons in readiness for final assembly, notwithstanding delays caused by storm damage and contractor availability.
- Progression of the Port Denison Foreshore Core Precinct design to approximately 85% issued-for-tender stage, with scope and procurement planning continuing against the approved funding envelope.
- Completion and stabilisation of the NetSuite finance implementation, together with a deliberate decision to pause the incomplete CPM implementation and retain existing property and rating systems while a fit-for-purpose pathway is considered.

- Preparation of the draft 2026/27 Budget with an emphasis on rebuilding financial resilience, sequencing new capital commitments and increasing the focus on asset renewal.
- An indicative Federal Assistance Grant allocation announced in late June that was approximately 8% higher than the prior year, subject to final grant payments and confirmation during 2026/27.
- Preparation of the Strategic Community Plan engagement program and continued advocacy for the LGCSA regional consolidated-services initiative.

The principal organisational challenges during the quarter were the significant coastal impacts of the late-May storm, delays in external approvals for the Milo Road River Crossing, delivery and acquittal deadlines for existing funded projects, and continued attention to the Shire's short-term liquidity and current ratio.

At the time of preparing this report, renewed hostilities involving the United States and Iran had also created material uncertainty for global fuel prices and the broader economic outlook. A prolonged disruption to Gulf oil production or shipping routes could increase fuel, freight, goods and construction costs and, in a severe scenario, contribute to recessionary conditions.

Preliminary repair estimates for the storm-related impacts at Granny's Beach and Surf Beach are approximately $200,000 at each location. These estimates remain subject to further assessment, prioritisation and consideration through the normal Council and budget processes.

CEO Role – Governance and Administration

Advice to Council
Council continued to receive reports and advice across the CEO, Finance, Development, Operations and Community Services functions to support informed decision-making and oversight of the organisation. The major governance focus during the quarter was preparation of the 2026/27 Budget, together with ongoing oversight of the capital works program and strategic planning process.

Communication with Elected Members
Regular meetings continued with the Shire President. Communication with Councillors occurred through Council meetings, Agenda Forums, workshops and normal organisational channels. This supported ongoing alignment on budget preparation, project delivery and strategic priorities.

Stakeholder Engagement
Engagement continued with the Mid West Development Commission and WALGA Northern Country Zone on regional priorities and local government reform. The LGCSA regional consolidated-services concept was outlined at the Northern Country Zone Future of Local Government in the Midwest workshop held in Geraldton on 15 June 2026, and a request was initiated for a meeting with the Minister for Local Government.

Engagement with Yamatji stakeholders and the local State Government representative was also being arranged. No material funding or policy commitment arose from these engagements during the quarter; however, they established the basis for further advocacy in 2026/27.

Governance and Compliance
The interim audit was completed during the quarter. At the time of preparing this report, the Shire had not been advised of the audit findings.

The Compliance Audit Return was not due within the reporting period. Preparation for the next statutory compliance cycle will occur during 2026/27.

Implementation of Council Decisions
Council resolutions were progressed in accordance with organisational priorities, with no material overdue actions requiring separate Council attention through this report.

Organisational Management
The organisation continued to operate in a stable manner. At 30 June 2026, the workforce comprised approximately 47.9 full-time equivalent positions. FTE is considered a more meaningful indicator than raw headcount because a number of casual roles involve very limited monthly hours.

The reported employee turnover rate for the 2025/26 financial year was 16%. Workforce movements did not materially disrupt service delivery during the reporting period.

Moore Australia commenced work on the Shire's Workforce Plan. The organisational culture review did not commence during the quarter and will need to be considered against future budget priorities and the Workforce Plan outcomes.

Work Health and Safety
The WHS Officer position was vacant during part of the reporting period. Despite the vacancy, operational teams continued to complete Take 5 assessments in strong numbers and existing safety processes remained in operation.

Safety Activity	Total Recorded	Completed (Closed)	In Progress	Pending (Open)	Completion Rate
Take 5's	3,879	3,879	-	-	100%
Corrective Actions	29	16	-	13	55.2%
Hazard Reports	39	36	3	-	92.3%
Incident Reports	24	14	-	10	58.3%

Financial Position and Sustainability

2025/26 Year-End Position
The 2025/26 year-end position was developing favourably. Approximately $447,000 of revenue was unable to be recognised in the 2025/26 financial statements and is expected to be recognised in 2026/27. This is understood to be a timing matter rather than a permanent loss of revenue.

OAG Current Ratio Finding and Management Response
The Office of the Auditor General's public report identified that the Shire's current ratio at 30 June 2025 was below 1.0. The public release attracted significant community attention and reinforced the need for active management of short-term liquidity and financial resilience.

The ratio is a point-in-time indicator and must be considered alongside the timing of grant receipts, capital expenditure and current liabilities. Nevertheless, maintaining a current ratio above 1.0 is a key management focus. The management response includes disciplined sequencing of new capital commitments, rebuilding reserves, close monitoring of liquidity and redirecting a greater share of available resources toward asset renewal rather than discretionary new infrastructure.

Federal Assistance Grant
The indicative Federal Assistance Grant allocation announced in late June was approximately 8% higher than the prior year. This was a positive outcome and provided support to the Shire's continuing advocacy regarding the financial pressures faced by smaller regional local governments. The final allocation and payments will occur during 2026/27, and

it is not yet known whether the increase reflects a lasting methodology change or a one-off movement.

External Economic and Fuel Market Risk
Recent International Energy Agency and International Monetary Fund analysis indicates that renewed Middle East hostilities could disrupt oil flows, extend commodity-price volatility, increase inflation and weaken economic growth. While recession is not the central forecast, a severe or prolonged energy shock could contribute to recessionary conditions. For the Shire, the principal exposures include diesel and petrol, freight, bitumen, plant operations, contractor pricing, construction inputs and broader pressure on household and business costs.

Annual Priority Projects

Accommodation Investment Brochure and Workers Accommodation
The proposed accommodation investment brochure did not progress during the quarter because the practical benefit remained uncertain while commercial operators continued expanding accommodation capacity. A substantial viability gap remains between the revenue available to private developers and current construction costs.

The Shire will continue to facilitate opportunities and seek external funding; however, the current position is that the Shire should not itself become the accommodation developer. The brochure can be reconsidered if Council allocates a budget or a credible funding and investment pathway emerges.

Capital Works Program

Milo Road River Crossing
The clearing-permit application was submitted and remained under assessment. The culvert tender process was completed and the award process was progressing. The EPBC self-assessment and landholder consents were completed, construction materials were carted to site and preliminary works commenced where approvals were not required.

The main risks remain longer-than-expected DWER assessment timeframes and delays in the Heritage Act section 18 process due to Yamatji workload. The next milestones are geotechnical work, approved vegetation clearing and commencement of culvert installation, currently targeted for September/October 2026.

Boat Ramp and Recreational Jetty – Stage 1
Floating-jetty piles were installed and the pontoons were positioned generally ready for final assembly. Storm damage and contractor availability delayed the works, with construction scheduled to recommence in July 2026.

The project target and funding-acquittal date is 31 July 2026. Completion and acquittal outcomes will therefore be reported as part of the next quarterly report. The project includes $100,000 of State funding allocated toward the Stage 1 works.

Port Denison Foreshore Core Precinct
Design progressed to approximately 85% issued-for-tender stage. The project team continued refining scope and procurement packages to align the project with confirmed funding and the approved budget.
The next milestone is the issue and evaluation of tenders for the playground and pavilion, targeted for August 2026. The State funding package includes $300,000 specifically associated with the foreshore carpark upgrade.

CCTV Program
The first stage of the CCTV program was completed and commissioned, which included a suite of cameras on the Moreton Terrace roundabouts and a set opposite Hepburn Avenue.

Old Shire Hall
The project remained complete, with no further material update required during the quarter.

Coastal Management – Granny's Beach and Surf Beach
A significant storm in late May caused further coastal erosion and infrastructure impacts at Granny's Beach and Surf Beach. Preliminary repair estimates are approximately $200,000 for each location. Further assessment is required to confirm the repair scope, priorities and funding pathway. Material decisions will be presented to Council through the ordinary reporting and budget processes.

ERP and Information Systems
The NetSuite finance implementation was completed during Quarter 3 and remained operational during Quarter 4. The former finance system is soon to become obsolete, making migration necessary. Pricing and scope were managed to provide the most economical viable replacement rather than to generate an immediate cash-saving target.

A deliberate decision was made to place the incomplete CPM implementation on hold and retain the existing property and rating systems for the present. This reduced implementation risk and allowed organisational capacity to be redirected toward higher-priority initiatives, including the LGCSA. The implementation of InfoCouncil is a priority for the next quarter.

LGCSA Regional Consolidated Services
The LGCSA initiative remained in the advocacy and concept-development stage. During the quarter, a request was initiated to meet with the Minister for Local Government and the concept was outlined at the Northern Country Zone Future of Local Government in the Midwest workshop on 15 June 2026. No formal commitment was received during the quarter, and further work is required to build regional support and determine the appropriate governance and service pathway.

Strategic Community Plan / Council Plan
The engagement program for the Strategic Community Plan review was prepared during the quarter. Following a Councillor workshop in July, the next stages are scheduled as follows:
- Community survey – 17 August to 6 September 2026.
- Community Leaders Workshop – 19 August 2026.
- Community drop-in sessions – 20 August 2026.

Funding and Advocacy Initiatives
No new major grant was secured during the quarter. The organisational focus was on delivery and acquittal of existing funded projects and on positioning priority initiatives for future funding rounds. Advocacy continued through the Mid West Development Commission, WALGA Northern Country Zone and State Government channels.

Strategic Risks

Coastal Erosion
Consequence: unplanned repair costs, potential impacts on public access and pressure on future capital and maintenance budgets. Management response: complete condition and repair assessments, prioritise immediate safety works, identify external funding opportunities and bring material budget decisions to Council.

Milo Road River Crossing Approvals
Consequence: delayed construction, possible seasonal impacts and increased project costs. Management response: continue close engagement with DWER and Yamatji stakeholders,

progress all work not dependent on outstanding approvals and maintain procurement readiness.

Liquidity and Current Ratio
Consequence: reduced capacity to meet short-term obligations and fund unplanned works. Management response: maintain disciplined capital sequencing, rebuild reserves, increase emphasis on asset renewal and monitor cash flow and the current ratio through regular financial reporting.

United States-Iran Conflict, Fuel Prices and Economic Outlook
Consequence: sustained disruption to Gulf energy production or shipping routes could materially increase fuel, freight, bitumen, plant-operating, goods and construction costs, add to inflation and weaken the wider economy. In a severe or prolonged scenario, recessionary conditions could emerge, affecting Shire revenue, community demand and project affordability. Management response: monitor fuel consumption and market pricing, review procurement and contract-escalation exposure, update financial forecasts, protect liquidity and contingency capacity, stage or reprioritise discretionary works if necessary, and report material variances or required budget amendments to Council.

CEO Outlook
The next quarter will focus on finalising and adopting the 2026/27 Budget, completing Boat Ramp and Recreational Jetty – Stage 1, commencing the next stages of the Port Denison Foreshore works, progressing Milo Road River Crossing approvals and early works, and delivering the Strategic Community Plan engagement program.

Further priorities include progressing LGCSA advocacy, maintaining financial discipline and liquidity, and ensuring that new capital commitments are appropriately balanced against asset renewal and the Shire's capacity to fund and deliver them.

The organisation will also monitor the United States-Iran conflict and its potential effects on fuel prices, supply chains, inflation and economic activity. If these external risks materially affect the Shire, management will bring forward appropriate budget adjustments, procurement responses and project reprioritisation for Council consideration.

Matters Requiring Council Direction
No additional Council direction is sought through this report. Matters requiring formal decisions continue to be presented through the ordinary Council reporting process, with the annual Budget remaining the principal mechanism through which Council sets financial and delivery priorities.

Consultation
Internal consultation has occurred with relevant managers in preparing this report.

Statutory Environment
Local Government Act 1995
Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

Policy Implications
Nil.

Financial / Resource Implications
The financial matters and project risks identified in this report are being monitored through the Shire's normal financial-management, project-reporting and budget processes. Coastal-repair requirements, project variations and other material funding decisions will be presented separately to Council where approval is required. A sustained fuel or broader energy-price shock may increase operating and capital costs during 2026/27. Any material impact will be managed through regular

financial monitoring and, where necessary, budget amendment, procurement adjustment or reprioritisation of the capital program.

Strategic Implications
Our Brilliant Future – Strategic Community Plan 2021–2031
Strategy 3.1.1 – Prepare for and manage natural disasters and environmental risks.
Strategy 3.1.3 – Identify, provide and manage Shire assets in accordance with agreed service levels.
Strategy 4.1.3 – Maintain effective working relationships with relevant stakeholders.
Strategy 4.2.1 – Ensure compliance whilst embracing innovation and better practice principles.
Strategy 4.3.2 – Adopt and follow better practice processes.

Risk Implications
The principal strategic risks are outlined in this report and are being actively monitored and managed. Material matters requiring a Council decision will be reported separately through the ordinary Council process. This includes the potential for external geopolitical events to materially affect fuel prices, inflation, supply chains and economic activity.

Attachments
Nil.

10.6 Committee Reports

11. MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

12. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

13. URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION

14. MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

15. CLOSURE