



MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Tuesday 26 May 2026

6.00pm

Council Chambers



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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Mayor declared the meeting open at **6.00pm** and acknowledged the presence of Freeman Mrs Alice Rule and Mr Terry Eaton, former Mayor Dennis Wellington and former Chief Executive Officer Mr Andrew Hammond.

2. PRAYER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL LANDOWNERS, PLAYING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

“Heavenly Father, we thank you for the peace and beauty of this area. Direct and prosper the deliberations of this Council for the advancement of the City and the welfare of its people. Amen.”

“We would like to acknowledge the Noongar people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land.

We would also like to pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging”

3. RECORD OF APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mayor	G Stocks
Councillors:	
Councillor	L MacLaren
Councillor	M Lionetti
Councillor	I Clarke APM
Councillor	R Sutton
Councillor	R Stephens
Councillor	C McKinley
Councillor	T Brough

Staff:	
Chief Executive Officer	A Sharpe
Executive Director Community Services	N Watson
Executive Director Corporate and Commercial Services	M Gilfellon
Executive Director Infrastructure, Development & Environment	P Camins
Manager IT	A Catterall

Meeting Secretary	J Williamson
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Apologies/Leave of Absence:	
Councillor	P Terry (Leave of Absence)

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Name	Report Item Number	Nature of Interest
Mayor and Councillors	CCS797	Impartiality. All Elected Members present at the meeting declared an Impartiality Interest in this item, as it relates to Council Members. All Elected Members, with the exception of the respondent to the complaint, remained in the Chamber and participated in the discussion and vote for this item.

5. REPORTS OF MEMBERS

6.03pm Councillor Stephens

Summary of key points:

Councillor Stephens attended the Symposium with local elders for National Sorry Day at Centennial Stadium.

6.04pm Councillor MacLaren

Summary of key points:

Councillor MacLaren provided the following list of engagements:

- Sorry Day acknowledgement;
- Community Screening Event, *Relive the Films: Kaya 2026*;
- Performance of *Karrla Wirren*, the result of a vision of Elder Aunty Carol Pettersen and led by Noongar Director Rachael Colmer, which invited the audience into a story shaped by cultural resilience and the deep significance of fire;
- Workshop with DBCA, the Reserves Team, Greenskills, SouthCoast NRM and Catchment Groups to develop an integrated Weed Strategy;
- *Green Fair on the Square*, part of the *WA Tree Festival* which brings local councils and community groups together to help share the value of trees;
- Panelist for the *Your Move Transport Program* for primary schools;
- *School of Rock*, Albany Light Opera and Theatre Company;
- Planning Institute of Australia training for Elected Members;
- MC for the launch of Historian and Albany 2026 Ambassador Mr Malcolm Traill's new book *South* at the Albany Entertainment Centre;
- State Budget breakfast briefing; and
- Met with the Youth Advisory Council for the review of the Climate Change Declaration.

6.08pm Chief Executive Officer Mr Andrew Sharpe paid tribute to Mr John Tulloch, a valued employee who passed away recently. Mr Sharpe expressed his deepest condolences to John's family and friends on behalf of Council and the City of Albany.

6. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE Nil

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Conduct of Persons at Meetings: Members of the public attending meetings must be respectful of the Presiding Member, Council and City Officers to ensure the meeting runs efficiently.

Prevention of Disturbance:

- Members of the public are admitted to meetings with the understanding that no expressions of dissent, approval, conversations or other interruptions will take place during proceedings.
- Attendees must:
 - Refrain from interrupting the meeting through approval, dissent or conversation.
 - Conduct themselves appropriately and follow directions if asked to leave.
 - Avoid obstructing access to the meeting or causing disturbances.

Public Question Time. In accordance with clause 4.2 (Procedures for public question time) and clause 8.3 (Where this local law does not apply or is silent) of the *City of Albany Standing Orders Local Law 2014 (as amended)*:

- Public Question Time is limited to 30 minutes, extendable at the discretion of the Presiding Member.
- The Presiding Member may decline to respond to a question if:
 - The same or a similar question was asked at a previous meeting.
 - The question or statement is offensive, unlawful or defamatory. The Presiding Member may request that it be rephrased to ensure that it is appropriate.

Contents of Minutes As per the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, regulation 11:

- The minutes of the meeting will include a summary of questions raised during Public Question Time and a summary of any responses provided.

Documents Tabled at Meetings. Documents tabled during Public Question Time or Reports of Members will not be included in the minutes. The minutes will note who tabled the document and will provide a document reference number.

6.10pm: Professor Stephen Hopper

Summary of key points:

Professor Hopper addressed Council regarding report item DIS473: Local Biodiversity Strategy.

6.13pm Rob Wright, on behalf of Albany Agricultural Society

Summary of key points:

Mr Wright addressed Council regarding report item CCS795: Albany Agricultural Society Service Level Agreement- Albany Show.

6.17pm Gerrit Ballast

Summary of key points:

Mr Ballast addressed Council regarding the draft motion to receive a Petition for which Mr Ballast is the Chief Petitioner.

6.23pm Tony Harrison

Summary of key points:

Mr Harrison addressed Council regarding the proposed Water Corporation desalination plant.

6.30pm Michelle Kinsella

Summary of key points:

Ms Kinsella addressed Council regarding Report Item CCS794: Health and Wellbeing Plan. Ms Kinsella asked the following questions:

- *“How much money did the Council spend on legal advice to support the Library’s decision to keep books authored by a paedophile on our shelves?”*

Response: None. The decision was made in accordance with the City’s Library Collection Development Policy and did not require external legal advice.

- *Will the Council consider using the moral compass instead of a legal one and join the various other Councils like Perth and Vincent to remove books written by a paedophilic author?”*

Response: The City shares the community’s concern at the nature of the charges that the author has pleaded guilty to and acknowledges that this matter is distressing for community members.

Public libraries operate within an established professional and policy framework that supports access to a broad and diverse range of materials. The books in question were acquired some time ago under the Albany Public Library Collection Development Policy and on review have been deemed appropriate to remain in the collection. Inclusion of a work in a library’s collection does not represent endorsement of an author or their actions.

Public libraries provide collections where individuals are free to choose what they read. The City supports the right of community members to make their own informed choices about borrowing materials.

This approach is consistent with that taken by many public libraries across the sector.

6.34pm Connie Dekter

Summary of key points:

Ms Dekter addressed Council regarding the petition to be received at this meeting.

There being no further speakers the Mayor declared Public Question Time closed at **6.35pm**

8. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RESOLUTION

VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR BROUGH
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE**

THAT Councillor Brough be GRANTED Leave of Absence for the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held 30 June 2026.

CARRIED 8-0

9. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

RESOLUTION

VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR SUTTON
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR BROUGH**

THAT the Petition lodged by Gerrit Ballast, being “Reforming the misuse of funding of public events sponsored by rate payers. Upon annual review of City of Albany Community Funding Policy 1.15, to ensure that City supported events avoid sexually symbolic content as defined by existing classification standards and avoid the mocking God or perverting Scriptural teachings, and to ensure suitability for general audiences, transparency in funding decisions, and respect for the moral and deeply held convictions within the Albany community” be RECEIVED.

CARRIED 8-0

Officer Comment:

This petition is compliant with the City of Albany Petition Policy. Council may request the CEO to provide a further report to Council if they so wish.

10. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION

VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR STEPHENS
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR MACLAREN**

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28 April 2026, as previously distributed, be CONFIRMED as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

CARRIED 8-0

11. PRESENTATIONS Nil

12. UNRESOLVED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS Nil

CCS790: MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – MARCH 2026

Proponent / Owner : City of Albany
Attachments : Monthly Financial Report – March 2026
Report Prepared By : Manager Finance
Authorising Officer: : Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar:** Leadership.
 - **Outcome:** Strong workplace culture and performance

IN BRIEF

- Under the Local Government Financial Management Regulations, a local government is to prepare monthly a statement of financial activity and statement of financial position that is presented to Council.
- The City of Albany’s Monthly Financial Report (inclusive of the statement of financial activity and the statement of financial position) for the period ending 31 March 2026 has been prepared and is attached.
- In addition, the City provides Council with a monthly investment summary to ensure the investment portfolio complies with the City’s Investment of Surplus Funds Policy.
- The financial information included within the Monthly Financial Report for the period ended 31 March 2026 is preliminary and has not yet been audited.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS790: RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

MOVED: COUNCILOR SUTTON
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE

THAT the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending 31 March 2026 be RECEIVED.

CARRIED 8-0

CCS790: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: COUNCILLOR SUTTON
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE

THAT the Authorising Officer Recommendation be ADOPTED.

CARRIED 6-0

CCS790: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending 31 March 2026 be RECEIVED.

DISCUSSION

2. To fulfil statutory reporting obligations, the Monthly Financial Report prepared provides a snapshot of the City's year to date financial performance. The report provides the:
 - (a) Statement of Financial Activity by nature classifications (satisfying Regulation 34 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*);
 - (b) Statement of Financial Position (satisfying Regulation 35 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*);
 - (c) Basis of Preparation;
 - (d) Explanation of material variances to year-to-date budget;
 - (e) Net Current Asset & Funding Position;
 - (f) Investment Portfolio Snapshot;
 - (g) Receivables; and
 - (h) Capital Acquisitions.
3. Additionally, each year a local government is to adopt a percentage or value to be used in the Statement of Financial Activity for reporting material variances. Under Council item CCS732, Council approved that a variance between actual and budget-to-date of greater than \$100,000 is a material variance for reporting purposes in the Statement of Financial Activity for 2025/2026.
4. The Statement of Financial Activity and Statement of Financial Position may be subject to year-end adjustments and have not been audited.
5. It is noted that rounding errors may occur when whole numbers are used, as they are in the reports that follow. The 'errors' may be \$1 or \$2 when adding sets of numbers. This does not mean that the underlying figures are incorrect."

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

6. The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* stipulate that each month Local Governments are required to prepare and report a Financial Activity Statement (reg 34) and a Financial Position Statement (reg 35).
7. Each of these statements are to be presented at an ordinary meeting of the council within two months after the end of the relevant month, as well as recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which it is presented.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

8. The City's 2025/26 Annual Budget provides a set of parameters that guides the City's financial practices.
9. The Investment of Surplus Funds Policy stipulates that the status and performance of the investment portfolio is to be reported monthly to Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. Expenditure for the period ending 31 March 2026 has been incurred in accordance with the 2025/26 budget parameters.
11. Details of any budget variation more than \$100,000 (year to date) is outlined in the Statement of Financial Activity. There are no other known events, which may result in a material non-recoverable financial loss or financial loss arising from an uninsured event.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12. Nil.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

13. Nil.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

14. Nil.

CONCLUSION

15. The Authorising Officer's recommendation be adopted.
16. It is requested that any questions regarding this report are submitted to the Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services by 4pm of the day prior to the scheduled meeting time. All answers to submitted questions will be provided at the Committee meeting. This allows a detailed response to be given to the Committee in a timely manner.

Consulted References	:	<i>Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996</i>
File Number	:	FM.FIR.7

CCS791: LIST OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – MARCH 2026

Business Entity Name : City of Albany
Attachments : List of Accounts for Payment
Report Prepared By : Manager Finance
Authorising Officer: : Executive Director Corporate and Commercial Services

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar/Priority:** Leadership.
 - **Outcome:** Strong workplace culture and performance.

IN BRIEF

- Council has delegated to the Chief Executive Officer the exercise of its power to make payments from the City's municipal and trust funds. In accordance with Regulation 13 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, a list of accounts paid by the Chief Executive Officer is to be provided to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS791: RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

MOVED: COUNCILLOR STEPHENS
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR MCKINLEY

THAT the list of accounts authorised for payment under delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer for the period ending 31 March 2026 totalling \$10,567,579.34 be RECEIVED.

CARRIED 6-2

Record of Vote

Against the Motion: Councillors Brough and Lionetti

CCS791: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR SUTTON

THAT the Authorising Officer Recommendation be ADOPTED.

CARRIED 7-0

CCS791: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the list of accounts authorised for payment under delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer for the period ending 31 March 2026 totalling \$10,567,579.34 be RECEIVED.

DISCUSSION

2. The table below summarises the payments drawn from the City’s Municipal and Trust funds for the period ending 31 March 2026. Please refer to the Attachment to this report.

Fund	Transaction Type	Amount (\$)	%
Municipal	Electronic Funds Transfer	\$8,137,417.93	77.0
Municipal	Payroll	\$2,386,372.87	22.6
Municipal	Credit Cards	\$43,788.54	0.4
Municipal	Cheques	\$0.00	0.0
Trust	N/A	\$0.00	0.0
TOTAL		\$10,567,579.34	100.0%

3. Included within the Electronic Funds Transfers from the City’s Municipal account are Purchasing Card transactions, required to be reported under Regulation 13(A), totalling: \$6,410.19.
4. The table below summaries the total outstanding creditors as at 31 March 2026.

Aged Creditors	Amount (\$)
Current	\$3,743,141.01
30 Days	\$1,942,850.86
60 Days	\$410,232.45
90 Days	\$51,555.65
TOTAL	\$6,147,779.97

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5. Regulation 12(1)(a) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* provides that payment can only be made from the municipal fund or a trust fund if the Local Government has delegated this function to the Chief Executive Officer or alternatively authorises payment in advance.
6. The Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority to make payments from the municipal and trust fund.
7. Regulation 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* provides that if the function of authorising payments is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, then a list of payments must be presented to Council and recorded in the minutes.
8. As part of the Local Government Regulations Amendment Regulations 2023 (SL2023/106), additional reporting is now required by Local Governments. Regulation 13(A), a new regulation, requires Local Governments to report on payments by employees via purchasing cards.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Expenditure for the period to 31 March 2026 has been incurred in accordance with the 2025/2026 budget parameters.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Expenditure for the period to 31 March 2026 has been incurred in accordance with the 2025/2026 budget parameters.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. Nil

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

10. Nil

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

11. Nil

CONCLUSION

12. That the list of accounts have been authorised for payment under delegated authority.
13. It is requested that any questions on specific payments are submitted to the Executive Director Corporate Services by 4pm of the day prior to the scheduled meeting time. All answers to submitted questions will be provided at the Committee meeting. This allows a detailed response to be given to the Committee in a timely manner.

Consulted References	:	<i>Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996</i>
File Number	:	FM.FIR.2

CCS792: DELEGATED AUTHORITY REPORTS – 16 MARCH 2026 TO 15 APRIL 2026

Proponent / Owner	: City of Albany
Attachments	: Executed Document and Common Seal Report
Report Prepared By	: PA to Mayor and Councillors
Authorising Officer:	: Chief Executive Officer

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar:** Leadership.
 - **Outcome:** A well informed and engaged community.

RECOMMENDATION

**CCS792: RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY**

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR SUTTON**

THAT the Delegated Authority Reports 16 March 2026 to 15 April 2026 be RECEIVED.

CARRIED 8-0

CCS792: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR SUTTON
SECONDED: MAYOR STOCKS**

THAT the Authorising Officer Recommendation be ADOPTED.

CARRIED 7-0

CCS792: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Delegated Authority Reports 16 March 2026 to 15 April 2026 be RECEIVED.

BACKGROUND

2. In compliance with Section 9.49A of the *Local Government Act 1995* the attached report applies to the use of the Common Seal and the signing of documents under Council's Delegated Authority:
 - **Delegation: LG1.18** – Sign Documents on Behalf of the City of Albany (Authority to Executive Deeds & Agreements and apply the Common Seal)
 - **Delegation: LG4.06**– Provide Donations, Sponsorship, Subsidies & Authority to Apply for Grant Funding (Including the provision of sponsorship through the waiver of fees & charges)
 - **Delegation: LG5.05** – Award Contracts (Supply of Equipment, Goods, Materials & Services)

**CCS793: COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY
PROGRESS REPORT**

Proponent / Owner	: City of Albany
Attachments	: City of Albany Communications & Engagement Strategy 2024-2027 Progress Report 2026 Quarter One) City of Albany Engagement Register (2026 Quarter One) Revised Action Plan
Report Prepared By	: Community Development Coordinator
Authorising Officer:	: Executive Director Community Services

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar/Priority:** Leadership
 - **Outcome:** A well informed and engaged community.

In Brief:

- Note the City of Albany Communications & Engagement Strategy Quarter One 2026 progress report.

RECOMMENDATION

**CCS793: RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY**

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR STEPHENS
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR MACLAREN**

THAT the City of Albany Communications & Engagement Strategy progress report for Quarter One 2026 and its endorsement by the Communications and Engagement Advisory Group be NOTED.

CARRIED 8-0

CCS793: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR MACLAREN
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE**

THAT the Authorising Officer Recommendation be ADOPTED.

CARRIED 7-0

CCS793: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the City of Albany Communications & Engagement Strategy progress report for Quarter One 2026 and its endorsement by the Communications and Engagement Advisory Group be NOTED.

BACKGROUND

2. Council adopted the revised Communications and Engagement Strategy at the June 2025 OCM. The Strategy sets a clear direction for communication and engagement activities by the City. An Action Plan underpins the Strategy.
3. A Communications and Engagement Advisory Group comprising community representatives, Elected Members, and City officers oversees the Strategy implementation and annual action plan. The Advisory Group meets quarterly to review and endorse the progress report.

DISCUSSION

Progress Report

4. The Communications and Engagement Advisory Group endorsed the progress report for 2026 Quarter One following its meeting on Monday, 20 April 2026.
5. The Advisory Group also noted the Engagement Register Report.
6. This current action plan includes 31 actions, with 6 actions complete, 25 in progress or on track.
7. The group also provided feedback on two Communications and Engagement projects for staff to consider in their planning and approved an updated action plan.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

8. The revised Strategy was developed using existing data collected as part of the reviews for the Corporate Strategic Plan, Age Friendly Albany Plan, Youth Friendly Albany Plan and the Access and Inclusion Plan.
9. The revised Strategy was also developed in collaboration with the Communications and Engagement Advisory Group, whose members worked closely with staff on the drafting of the Strategy and Action Plan.
10. The progress report has been reviewed and supported by the Advisory Group, which includes members representing the community.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

11. Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

12. This item aligns with the Council's adopted policy position: Community Engagement Policy.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

13. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City’s Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
<i>Reputational: Community engagement expectations are not met due to budget, viability, funding agreements, safety, or legislative constraints.</i>	Likely	Moderate	High	Clearly define and communicate to community instances where project engagement is constrained by non-negotiable factors.
<i>Reputational: Communications or engagement activity is ad-hoc, untimely, inaccurate, or untargeted.</i>	Unlikely	Major	Low	Follow best practice engagement framework and provide timely, informative, and accurate communications to the community through effective channels as outlined in the Communications & Engagement Strategy.
<i>Operational: Some aspirations of the Strategy may not be fully realised due to budget funding, or resource constraints.</i>	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Prioritise budget allocation where necessary and explore all options to achieve objectives.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

14. Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

15. Nil.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

16. Nil.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

17. Council may choose to continue to receive quarterly updates on the Communications and Engagement Strategy informally, such as through a briefing note.

CONCLUSION

18. The Communications and Engagement Strategy is overseen by an Advisory Group comprising of community representatives, Elected Members and City staff.
19. Community representation on the Advisory Group ensures that community needs and priorities remain central to implementing the Communications and Engagement Strategy.
20. Regular progress reports of achievements against the Strategy are endorsed by the Advisory Group and submitted to Council for information. The progress report against the Strategy’s Action Plan for 2026 Quarter One is submitted to Council for noting.

Consulted References	:	City of Albany Communication and Engagement Strategy 2024-2027 Council Policy – Community Engagement
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	All Wards
Previous Reference	:	OCM 24 March 2026 CCS781

CCS794: HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN

Proponent / Owner	: City of Albany
Attachments	: Health & Wellbeing Plan 2026-2031 Health & Wellbeing Action Plan
Report Prepared By	: Community Development Coordinator & Manager Public Health & Safety
Authorising Officer:	: Executive Director Community Services

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar:** People.
 - **Outcome:** Improve access to quality health facilities, services and programs to achieve good general and mental health in the community.
 - **Outcome:** Improve access to sport, recreation and fitness facilities and programs.
 - **Outcome:** Grow community capacity and belonging through volunteering.
 - **Outcome:** Improve community safety.
 - **Pillar: Planet.**
 - **Outcome:** 5 Shared responsibility for climate action.
 - **Outcome:** Increased community readiness and resilience to bushfires and floods.
 - **Pillar:** Place.
 - **Outcome:** Improve road safety, connectivity and traffic flow.
 - **Outcome:** Encourage more people to use active transport (walking and cycling).

In Brief:

- This report seeks Council adoption of a Health and Wellbeing Plan to meet mandatory requirements under section 45 of the Public Health Act 2016, as well as to guide coordinated local action to improve community wellbeing.
- Implementation of Stage 5A of the Public Health Act 2016 requires each local government to prepare and publish a public health plan by 4 June 2026.
- The City's new public health plan has been developed to incorporate the Safer Albany Plan and will be known as the City of Albany Health and Wellbeing Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS794: RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

MOVED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR MACLAREN

THAT Council:

1. ADOPT the City of Albany Health and Wellbeing Plan 2026-2031 for the purposes of section 45 of the Public Health Act 2016, to enable publication by the statutory deadline, subject to a public comment period for feedback, with any material amendments arising from public comment to be reported back to Council for consideration; and

2. NOTE the Health and Wellbeing Action Plan as a supporting document.

CARRIED 5-3

Record of Vote

Against the Motion: Councillors Brough, McKinley and Lionetti

CCS794: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: COUNCILLOR MACLAREN
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE

THAT the Authorising Officer Recommendation be ADOPTED.

CARRIED 6-1

Record of Vote

Against the Motion: Councillor Brough

CCS794: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. ADOPT the City of Albany Health and Wellbeing Plan 2026-2031 for the purposes of section 45 of the Public Health Act 2016, to enable publication by the statutory deadline, subject to a public comment period for feedback, with any material amendments arising from public comment to be reported back to Council for consideration.

2. NOTE the Health and Wellbeing Action Plan as a supporting document.

BACKGROUND

2. The purpose of public health planning is to improve and promote public health and wellbeing in the community. This enables a flexible, proactive and integrated risk-based approach to provision of facilities, programs and services that address not only environmental health, but chronic disease, mental health, and communicable diseases.
3. Council adopted the City of Albany's first Public Health Plan at its June 2016 Ordinary Council Meeting. The City was among the first local governments to implement a Public Health Plan.
4. Several key legislative changes and a partnership with WA Country Health Service led to the plan being reviewed, with an updated plan adopted by Council in April 2019.
5. Stage 5A of the implementation of the State Public Act required all local governments to have a public health plan prepared and published by 4 June 2026.

DISCUSSION

6. The City's draft Health and Wellbeing Plan is a high-level strategy, supported by a delivery action plan which aligns with both the City's Community Strategic Plan and the State Public Health Plan.
7. The data used to inform the plan came from multiple sources, primarily the Epidemiology Directorate, Department of Health, Injury Matters, Social Health Atlas of Australia, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and WA Police.
8. The priority areas were identified in consultation with key stakeholders, and based on the demographic, health profile and population risks unique to Albany.
9. The new Health and Wellbeing Plan will replace the City of Albany Public Health Plan 2018-2022 and the Safer Albany Plan 2020-2023, acknowledging the strong connection between safety, social connection and overall wellbeing.
10. A safe community environment supports people to feel confident, included, and able to participate fully in community life.

11. By bringing these plans together, the City can take a more holistic and coordinated approach to strengthening mental and physical health, ensuring that safety, connection, and wellbeing are addressed as interconnected foundations for a thriving community.
12. The Plan is an opportunity to not only demonstrate the diverse range of activities undertaken every day to keep Albany residents and visitors safe, but also provides an opportunity to identify new actions, partnerships and approaches which can help create a more healthier community.
13. The plan acknowledges the community’s growing concern in relation to social isolation and loneliness, and the direct impact that has on mental health and identifies housing as a major risk factor for our community.
14. Access to affordable housing and homelessness has been a priority issue for respondents across the MARKYT survey, the Youth Friendly Albany Survey, and the Health & Wellbeing Plan Survey, which were used to inform the plan.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

15. The City conducted workshops with stakeholders, ran a community survey and had 1:1 meetings where there had been low engagement from specific stakeholder groups.
16. Community feedback from the MARKYT Survey and Youth Friendly Albany Review consultation was also considered in the development of the plan.
17. While the 139 community responses to the Health and Wellbeing survey were less than anticipated but significantly higher than the 55 responses for the previous plan.
18. A breakdown of participation in consultation activities informing this plan is provided at Table 1.

Table 1 – Consultation

Type of Engagement	Method of Engagement	Engagement Dates	Participation (Number)	Statutory Consultation
Consult	MARKYT Survey	March 2025	2524	N/A
Engage	Workshop with stakeholders	18 September 2025 10 February 2026	32	N/A
Engage	Workshop with indigenous stakeholders	18 February 2026	4	N/A
Consult	Survey (online & hardcopy)	7 November 2025 – 31 January 2026	139	N/A
Consult	Survey – Youth	7 November – 28 February 2026	121	N/A
Engage	1:1 meetings with teams	February – March 2026	53	N/A
Engage	1:1 meetings with key stakeholders	February – March 2026	7	N/A

19. As there is insufficient time to put the plan out for public comment and still meet the legislative deadline, it is proposed that an opportunity for community and stakeholders to provide comment will be provided after the plan is adopted.
20. Following the public comment period, officers will review all submissions received and provide a summary of key themes and any proposed material amendments to Council through a further report, where required.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 21. Section 45 of the Public Health Act 2016 sets out the requirements for all local governments to prepare a health plan for its district that is consistent with the State Public Health Plan.
- 22. Implementation of Stage 5A of the Public Health Act in June 2024 required a State Public Health Plan to be developed, and a Public Health Plan to be prepared by each local government by 4 June 2026.
- 23. Adopting this plan will meet the Statutory Requirement under the Public Health Act 2016.
- 24. For the purposes of section 45 of the Public Health Act 2016, Council adoption enables the Plan to be published by the statutory deadline, noting that if any subsequent material amendments arising from the public comment period are required, a further report will be presented to Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 25. The Health and Wellbeing Plan complies with the Regulatory Compliance Policy and the Customer Service Commitment and Complaints Resolution Policy.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

- 26. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City’s Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Legal and Compliance <i>Risk: Failure to meet the requirements of the State Public Health Act</i>	<i>Unlikely</i>	<i>Minor</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Plan has been developed using Department of Health guidance and aligns with the State Public Health Plan. Council adoption enables publication by the statutory deadline.</i>
Community & Reputation <i>Risk: Feedback on the plan is negative from the community & stakeholders</i>	<i>Possible</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>All the actions have been derived from the data, and within the scope of the City's activities. Feedback from the public comment period will be carefully considered and adjustments made if required.</i>
Community & Reputation & Operational <i>Risk: Plan is not able to be delivered due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e. budget constraints, major incident requiring recovery etc)</i>	<i>Possible</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>The plan will be reviewed annually, so adjustments can be made to allow the City to adjust deliverables as required or add new actions to reflect any identified new trends that the City needs to respond to.</i>
Organisational Operations and Reputation. <i>Risk: Failure to endorse may impact City operations</i>	<i>Likely</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Failure to endorse a compliant plan may limit the City's ability to justify public health interventions or attract external funding.</i>
Governance & Reputation. <i>Risk: Endorsing the Plan prior to receiving public comment or feedback.</i>	<i>Possible</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Public comment will be undertaken following adoption, with any material amendments to be reported back to Council for consideration if required.</i>
Opportunity: <i>Strengthening of existing partnerships and creation of new partnerships with stakeholders to deliver the actions within the plan.</i>				

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 27. The majority of the actions within the action plan will be delivered within existing staff and budget allocations.
- 28. Any actions not covered by normal operational allocations will be subject to securing grant funding or additional budget.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 29. Section 45 of the Public Health Act 2016 sets out the requirements for all local governments to prepare a local Public Health Plan that applies to its local government district.
- 30. It is a requirement of the Public Health Act 2016 that local governments publish a Public Health Plan by 4 June 2026.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 31. The Health and Wellbeing Plan has been developed with consideration of environmental factors that influence public health outcomes, including the built environment, access to green space, climate change, air and water quality, and exposure to environmental hazards.
- 32. Many of the actions identified in the Plan support positive environmental outcomes, particularly those related to active transport, emergency preparedness, and community access to safe and healthy public spaces.
- 33. The Plan adopts a prevention-focused approach which recognises the interconnection between environmental sustainability and community health and wellbeing. No adverse environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of adopting the Plan.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

- 34. Council can choose not to adopt the Health and Wellbeing Plan. This is not recommended as State Government legislation mandates local governments to adopt public health plans.
- 35. Council can opt to modify the Health and Wellbeing Plan. If Council chooses this option, it is recommended the Health and Wellbeing Plan return to the Corporate and Community Services Committee for updating and further review, however this would result in the City not meeting the legislative deadline of 4 June 2026.

CONCLUSION

- 36. Council adopted its first Public Health Plan in 2016. Since then, legislative changes have mandated public health planning for all local governments.
- 37. The Health and Wellbeing Plan has identified further opportunities to align the City’s Plan with the State Health Plan, as well as provide a greater focus on vulnerable populations and community mental health issues.
- 38. The updated Health and Wellbeing Plan includes measurable objectives that have a clear intent and assign responsibility to relevant Directorates. The Plan also provides strategic guidance to Council.

Consulted References	:	Public Health Planning Guide for Local Government State Public Health Plan for Western Australia 2025-2030 City of Albany Health Profile ABS Census Data Profile Id.
File Number	:	PH.PLA.2
Previous Reference	:	CCS143 23/04/2019 OCM

CCS795: ALBANY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT - ALBANY SHOW

Proponent / Owner	: City of Albany
Business Entity Name	: Albany Agricultural Society
Attachments	: AAS Statistics for the Show AAS Annual Profit & Loss Summary (CONFIDENTIAL)
Report Prepared By	: Executive Director Community Services
Authorising Officer:	: Chief Executive Officer

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar:** People
 - **Outcome:** Grow Participation in art, culture and community events.

In Brief:

- To seek Council approval for a revised Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Albany Agricultural Society (AAS) for delivery of the Albany Show.

RECOMMENDATION

**CCS795: RESOLUTION (PROCEDURAL MOTION BY COUNCILLOR MACLAREN
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY**

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR MACLAREN
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR LIONETTI**

THAT consideration of this report and the proposed amendment by Councillor Brough be deferred until the June 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting.

**TIED 4-4
THE MAYOR EXERCISED HIS CASTING VOTE
CARRIED 5-4**

Record of Vote

Against the Motion: Councillors Stephens, Sutton, Brough and Clarke

Councillor MacLaren then moved a Procedural Motion to defer consideration of this report until the June 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting. The reason for the deferral is to allow Officers and the Albany Agricultural Society to review the proposed amendment by Councillor Brough and determine whether the Service Level Agreement is acceptable to both parties.

CCS795: AMENDMENT BY COUNCILLOR BROUGH

MOVED: COUNCILLOR BROUGH
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE

THAT the Committee Recommendation be AMENDED to read as follows:

THAT Council:

1. AUTHORISE the CEO to renew the Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Albany Agricultural Society (AAS) to support the Albany Show for a period of ~~5 years (2026-2030)~~ **three (3) years**, inclusive of the following financial support:
 - a. Annual cash sponsorship of \$30,000; and
 - b. In-kind services ~~that support the delivery of the show to an estimated value of \$20,800.~~ **at a capped value of \$22,000 per annum, reviewed annually through the City's budget processes, with any proposed increase to the cap requiring Council approval; and**
 - c. **Sponsorship recognition commensurate with the City's status as a major sponsor, including complimentary tradespace and entry passes for City staff attending in connection with that tradespace, to be confirmed in the SLA prior to execution.**
2. NOTE that any material variation to the financial value or scope of the SLA during the term will be subject to Council approval.

Councillor Reasons:

This amendment supports the Albany Show and the City's partnership with the Albany Agricultural Society. It varies the Authorising Officer Recommendation in three respects — term, in-kind cost control, and sponsorship recognition.

1. Term — three years rather than five

The previous SLA was three years (paragraph 3). The Folk & Shanty Festival operates on a three-year term (Table 1, paragraph 34). Paragraph 32 of the officer risk register warns that "entering a 5-year SLA with indexed or rising in-kind costs may constrain future budget flexibility or create precedent expectations from other event partners."

A three-year term aligns with prior practice and the officers' own risk assessment. A five-year term binds the Council elected in 2027 to a financial commitment it had no role in negotiating. That Council should assess the SLA on its own terms, against its own budget priorities, with the benefit of two further years of cost data. Three years respects that discretion. Five years removes it.

3. In-kind — hard cap with Council approval for any increase

Paragraph 12 records in-kind cost increases including traffic management from \$4,000 to \$7,000 and waste bins from \$1,500 to \$2,600 in a single cycle.

Paragraph 38 provides for annual review through budget processes — but that mechanism does not return cost increases to Council for endorsement. Once executed, in-kind costs escalate through operational budget lines without Council oversight.

The recommendation fixes cash for the term (paragraph 32 mitigation) but leaves in-kind open-ended.

The amendment applies the same accountability principle to both. A cap of \$22,000 — slightly above the current \$20,800 (paragraph 35) — accommodates ordinary cost movement. Any increase above the cap returns to Council. The cap is not a ceiling on the Show. It is a trigger for Council oversight.

3. Recognition — sponsorship benefits commensurate with contribution

The City asked to be recognised as a major sponsor through complimentary tradespace and entry passes (paragraph 15). The AAS offered a 50% tradespace discount with two complimentary passes per booking (paragraph 16). The City booked 12 trade stalls for 9 teams in 2025 (paragraph 17).

For a \$50,800 package (paragraph 36), the offer does not reflect major sponsor status. The amendment requires the SLA, as a condition of execution, to provide complimentary tradespace for the City and complimentary entry passes for staff attending in connection with that tradespace. Power usage may continue to be charged at cost (paragraph 16).

4. Effect

The amendment maintains the City's financial commitment to the Show, satisfies the Deed obligation (paragraph 41), addresses the strategic risk identified by officers (paragraph 32), and applies consistent Council accountability to both cash and in-kind components.

Officer Comment:

The amendment seeks to strengthen the governance of the proposed SLA by shortening the term and placing a capped limit on in-kind cost growth, further addressing the financial/strategic risk identified in the report. It is also seeking further recognition as a major sponsor through the provision of complimentary tradespace as a condition of sponsorship.

This is balanced against reduced long-term certainty for the AAS, earlier renegotiation of the SLA, and a potential reduction in the net value of the recommended sponsorship, noting that providing complimentary tradespace would cost the AAS about \$2k based on the cost of the tradespace the City booked in 2025.

The proposed amendment remains consistent with the requirements of the Deed to maintain a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Albany Agricultural Society (AAS) to support the Albany Show.

Councillor Brough then moved an amendment to the Committee Recommendation.

CCS795: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

MOVED: COUNCILLOR BROUGH
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE

1. THAT Council AUTHORISE the CEO to renew the Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Albany Agricultural Society (AAS) to support the Albany Show for a period of 5 years (2026-2030), inclusive of the following financial support:
 - d. Annual cash sponsorship of \$30,000; and
 - e. In-kind services that support the delivery of the show to an estimated value of \$20,800.
2. NOTE that any material variation to the financial value or scope of the SLA during the term will be subject to Council approval.

CCS795: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: COUNCILLOR MACLAREN
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE

That the Authorising Officer Recommendation be ADOPTED.

CARRIED 6-1

Record of Vote

Against the Motion: Councillor Brough

CCS795: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council AUTHORISE the CEO to renew the Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Albany Agricultural Society (AAS) to support the Albany Show for a period of 5 years (2026-2030), inclusive of the following financial support:
 - a. Annual cash sponsorship of \$30,000; and
 - b. In-kind services that support the delivery of the show to an estimated value of \$20,800.
2. NOTE that any material variation to the financial value or scope of the SLA during the term will be subject to Council approval.

BACKGROUND

3. The City of Albany (City) and the Albany Agricultural Society (AAS) have held a Service Level Agreement (SLA) to support delivery of the annual Albany Show. This SLA is required under a legally binding Deed of Agreement established in 2015.
4. The incumbent SLA was for a three-year term and provided:
 - Annual cash sponsorship of \$25k; and
 - In-kind services including the supply of marquees, waste management, traffic management, and pre/post event ground works including minor damage repair.
5. The SLA expired in 2024 and was carried over for 2025 while the CoA and AAS reviewed the existing agreement.

DISCUSSION

6. Through this review the AAS requested a range of operational changes and an increase in financial support. COA officers have met with AAS on multiple occasions to discuss these proposed changes.
7. The operational matters raised by AAS, including access to facilities and grounds, and maintenance responsibilities do not materially impact costs and have been supported where possible by the Reserves, Events and Recreation Services teams.
8. The matters relating to financial support include:
 - The annual cash sponsorship provided to AAS; and
 - The scope and cost of discretionary in-kind services included in the SLA.

Financial Assistance

9. The incumbent SLA committed the City to providing cash sponsorship to the Albany Agricultural Society for the Albany Show of \$25,000 annually.
10. AAS has requested the City to consider an increase in annual cash sponsorship.
11. AAS has cited increasing costs and revenue pressures as challenges and provided annual profit and loss statements which are summarised in the confidentially attached for information.

In-Kind Services

12. Under the incumbent SLA, the City also provides a range of in-kind services to support delivery of the Albany Show.
13. Costs associated with these in-kind services have increased and, in most cases, now represent direct cash costs. These include:
 - CoA marquees (\$6,000 – unchanged from previous, primarily transport and labour)
 - Waste bins (\$2,600 up from \$1,500)
 - Traffic management (\$7,000 up from \$4,000)
 - Pre and post event on-ground works, including minor damage (currently capped at \$3,000).
14. The changes in cost of these in-kind services reflects an increase from approximately \$14,500 to \$20,800.
15. Operational ground works (mowing, spraying, top-dressing) will continue to be delivered as routine maintenance using annual operational budgets as per the incumbent SLA.

Other

16. The CoA has requested recognition from the AAS as a major sponsor through complimentary tradespace and entry passes for staff and Councillors, noting that prior to 2025 the City has been charged for these.
17. AAS has offered a 50% discount on tradespace, with up to two complimentary passes per tradespace booked. Power usage would continue to be charged at cost.
18. The City booked 12 trade stalls for 9 teams in 2025, and these sponsorship benefits were provided in good faith.

Economic Impact

19. Based on the City's Profile ID Event Economic Impact calculator, an estimate of Economic Impact is provided at Table 1 as an indicator only of the potential economic impact of the Albany Show.

Table 1 – Economic Impact Assessment A

20. The proposed Albany Show event is planned to start on November 13th, 2026, and to run for 2 days. It is an event of Local significance and is estimated to attract 9000 visitors per day over the 2 days, with an (estimated) average spend per person per day of \$120.

21. This equals a total visitor spend of \$2,160,000 attributed to this event. Assuming the event will be held in the City of Albany, it is calculated to have the following potential impact:

Event Impact Summary			
City of Albany - Modelling the effect of \$2,160,000 from a Sports and Recreation Activities event with Local significance			
	Output (\$)	Value-added (\$)	Local Jobs (annual jobs)
Direct impact	1,965,168	996,357	21.9
Industrial impact	774,512	362,296	3.5
Consumption impact	479,752	266,472	2.9
Total impact on City of Albany economy	3,219,432	1,625,126	28
Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) ©2025. Compiled and presented in economy.id by.id (informed decisions). <i>Note: All \$ values are expressed in 2022/23 base year dollar terms.</i>			

22. SpendMapp tracks consumer spending data and is another tool used by the City to provide insight on economic trends. This tool reports direct spend only and does not calculate flow-on economic benefit from that spend.
23. SpendMapp data analysed for 2024 and 2025 by the City's Manager Economic Development reveals a meaningful and concentrated benefit to our local hospitality and entertainment sectors on the weekends of the Albany Show.
24. These businesses, which often struggle with seasonal variability, see a measurable increase in patronage during the show period, supporting local employment and keeping revenue circulating within the community.

Community participation

25. The show also serves functions that are difficult to quantify in economic terms alone: it strengthens regional identity, connects our agricultural community, and helps maintain Albany's profile as a hub for the Great Southern region.
26. As well as attracting an audience of approximately 18,000, various specialist sections including animals, craft, cooking, photography and more attract out-of-region participation as well as supporting juniors and local special interest groups and associations.
27. Trade stalls provide exposure for businesses and schools to a large audience, attracting more than 80 local businesses and more than 90 regional businesses from a variety of industries.
28. Statistics for the show have been provided by the AAS and are attached for information.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

29. Nil.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

30. This item has been assessed for compliance with the Local Government Act 1995 and the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996.
31. The recommendation seeks Council's approval for the CEO to enter a new service level agreement for a period of five years with a small increase in sponsorship.
32. Should Council approve the recommendation, the agreement will be administered in accordance with the Act and Regulations, the City's relevant policies, budget processes, and delegated authorities.
33. There are no statutory impediments to Council supporting the recommendation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

34. This item aligns with the City of Albany Sponsorship Policy and Guideline.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

35. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City’s Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Legal and Compliance. Risk: Not having an agreed SLA would constitute a breach of the Deed of Agreement and could trigger dispute resolution provisions.	Almost Certain	Minor	High	Enter a new Service Level Agreement with the AAS that meets the requirements of the Deed of Agreement.
Reputation. Risk: Not providing support to the show could affect relationships with show stakeholders and create negative feedback and media attention.	Likely	Moderate	High	Continue providing support to the AAS to deliver the Albany Show through an agreed SLA, consistent with the City’s Sponsorship Policy.
Reputation. Risk: Withdrawing or limiting support for the Albany Show while continuing to fund other events could be perceived to be inconsistent.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Continue providing support to the AAS to deliver the Albany Show through an agreed SLA.
Community. Risk: Withdrawing or limiting support for the Albany Show could result in fewer participation opportunities for local community groups, special interest groups, services and businesses.	Possible	Major	High	Continue providing support to the AAS to deliver the Albany Show through an agreed SLA.
Financial / Strategic Risk: Entering a 5-year SLA with indexed or rising in-kind costs may constrain future budget flexibility or create precedent expectations from other event partners.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Mitigation: Ensure cash sponsorship is fixed for the term of the SLA, subject to Council approval for any material variation. Review in-kind service costs annually through the City’s budget and business planning processes. Clarify that future sponsorship requests will be assessed on a case-by-case basis in line with adopted policy and available resources.
Opportunity: To continue supporting the Albany Show as a major community and regional event that delivers participation opportunities for community and special interest groups, volunteers, local businesses and industries, and contributes to social cohesion and economic activity within the City.				

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 36. Officers are recommending a small \$5k increase in sponsorship for the Albany Show, which would take the City’s cash contribution to \$30k if supported by Council.
- 37. The recommended amount is comparable to other events sponsored by the City (refer to Table 1).

Table 1 – Event Sponsorships

Event	Term	Days	Attendance	Cash	In-Kind	Total	
Albany Car Classic	2022-2027	1	10,000 (approx.)	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$40,000	Comparable to AAS current total.
Taste Great Southern	2025-2027	4	2,500-3,000 (approx.)	\$20,000	-	\$20,000	Much smaller audience than AAS.
Albany Film Festival (Cinesfest OZ)	2023-2025	2-3	2,300 (2024)	\$50,000	\$4,000	\$54,000	High value for modest Audience.
Albany RSL (Anzac & Remembrance Day)	2025-2028	1	9,000 approx. (Dawn & Memorial Services)	\$3,000 (previously \$25k)	\$15,000	\$18,000 (previous \$40k)	Large community event, low direct cash due to Lotterywest sponsorship.
Southern Art & Craft Trail	Annual	16	12,000 (2024)	\$20,000	-	\$20,000	Long duration, strong economic impact
Perth Glory	2024	1	3,000 plus	\$50,000	-	\$50,000	High-profile one-off sports event.
Folk & Shanty Festival	2025-2027	3	3,000 (2024)	\$30,000	\$4,000	\$34,000	Smaller audience

- 38. There is also an approximate \$6k increase in the cost of the in-kind services included in the SLA, taking the total cost of these in-kind services to \$20,800 as at March 2026.
- 39. The combined value of the recommended cash sponsorship amount and the in-kind services is \$50,800.
- 40. Currently \$40,000 is included annually in the City’s long-term financial plan to cover the cash sponsorship and in-kind costs for the Albany Show. Should the increase in sponsorship be supported as recommended, this amount will be adjusted in the 2026-2027 draft Budget to reflect the revised value of the SLA.
- 41. The SLA requires that the costs of in-kind services are reviewed annually as part of the City’s annual budget processes, noting that there may be minor changes in City and contractor costs associated with these services.
- 42. The Albany Show is distinguished by scale, frequency, community breadth, and Deed obligations, which justifies a multi-year agreement.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 43. The City of Albany and AAS entered a legally binding Deed of Agreement in 2015 that set the terms of financial and leasing arrangements between the parties, with minor variations to the Deed agreed by both parties in 2016 and 2021.
- 44. Condition 4.5b) ix) of the Deed requires that “the parties shall negotiate a Service Level Agreement that reflects this Deed and provides for an annual contribution by the City towards the annual show.”

45. The current SLA has expired and under the terms of the Deed, a new SLA is required to be agreed between the parties.
46. If a new SLA cannot be agreed, this would constitute a breach of the Deed and could trigger dispute resolution provisions that may involve legal costs.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

47. Nil

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

48. Council may choose to amend the recommendation to provide a different cash sponsorship amount for the Albany Show.

CONCLUSION

49. The Albany Show is a long-standing and highly valued community event delivering economic, cultural, and social benefits to the City of Albany.
50. This year the Albany Show also has an important role to play in the Bicentenary in recognising and celebrating the contributions of agriculture and volunteer organisations. The AAS is considering ways its Show can tie-in with the Albany 2026 program.
51. AAS has requested a substantial increase in cash sponsorship.
52. There is merit in considering an increase in recognition of rising costs, the scale of the event in terms of community and industry engagement, and its economic impact.

Consulted References	:	Deed of Agreement between the City of Albany and the Albany Agricultural Society Incorporated Service Level Agreement (2021) between City of Albany and Albany Agricultural Society
File Number	:	PRO024
Previous Reference	:	OCM 15/12/2015 – CSF214

**CCS796: LICENCE FINAL APPROVAL – VIRGIN AUSTRALIA
REGIONAL AIRLINES PTY LTD – PORTION OF ALBANY AIRPORT**

Land Description	: Lot 5643 on Deposited Plan 157458 and Lot 4861 on Plan 157338, the subject of Certificate of Title Volume 2088 Folio 492 at 35615 Albany Highway, Drome
Proponent / Owner	: Virgin Australia Regional Airlines Pty Ltd (ACN 008997662)
Attachments	: Schedule of Submissions
Report Prepared By	: Property and Leasing Team Leader
Authorising Officer:	: Executive Director Corporate and Commercial Services

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan 2032:
 - **Pillar:** Prosperity.
 - **Outcomes:** A strong, diverse and resilient economy with work opportunities for everyone.

In Brief:

- Virgin Australia Regional Airlines Pty Ltd (Virgin) has operated weekly FIFO charter flights from Albany Airport since 2016 for Rio Tinto employees.
- Virgin occupies non-exclusive airline reception, office and baggage handling areas within the Airport terminal under a licence arrangement.
- The previous licence expired on 26 February 2026 with Virgin currently operating under holding over provisions on the same terms.
- Council, at its meeting on 24 March 2026 supported a new five-year non-exclusive licence proposal, subject to public advertising and consideration of submissions.
- The proposed licence was advertised for public comment for two weeks closing on 21 April 2026, with one submission received.
- Council is requested to consider the submission and determine whether to grant final approval of the licence to Virgin.

RECOMMENDATION

**CCS796: RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY**

**Moved: Councillor Clarke
Seconded: Councillor Stephens**

THAT Council GRANTS final approval of a non-exclusive licence to Virgin Australia Regional Airlines Pty Ltd over allocated areas within the Albany Regional Airport terminal, located at 35615 Albany Highway, Drome in line with the previous Council resolution of 24 March 2026 as outlined in Section 6 of this report. This decision has taken into consideration the submission received during the public advertising period.

CARRIED 8-0

CCS796: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

**Moved: Councillor Clarke
Seconded: Councillor Sutton**

THAT the Authorising Officer Recommendation be ADOPTED.

CARRIED 7-0

CCS796: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council GRANTS final approval of a non-exclusive licence to Virgin Australia Regional Airlines Pty Ltd over allocated areas within the Albany Regional Airport terminal, located at 35615 Albany Highway, Drome in line with the previous Council resolution of 24 March 2026 as outlined in Section 6 of this report. This decision has taken into consideration the submission received during the public advertising period.

BACKGROUND

2. The City of Albany owns and operates the Albany Regional Airport located at 35615 Albany Highway, Drome, Western Australia.
3. Virgin has operated weekly FIFO charter flights since February 2016, supporting Rio Tinto employees travelling to and from regional and remote worksites. To facilitate this service, Virgin utilises defined areas within the Airport terminal for airline reception, office administration and baggage handling.
4. Virgin previously held a non-exclusive licence for use of these terminal areas, which expired on 26 February 2026. Since that date, Virgin has continued operating under holding over provisions in accordance with the terms of the previous licence.
5. Council considered a request for a new licence at its meeting on 24 March 2026 and resolved to support the grant of a new five-year non-exclusive licence, subject to compliance with statutory advertising requirements.
6. The key terms of the new licence are summarised below.

Item	Details
Tenant	Virgin Australia Regional Airlines Pty Ltd
Land Description	Lot 5643 on Deposited Plan 157458 the subject of Certificate of Title Volume 2088 Folio 492, Drome
Licence Area	Approx 272.3m ² (counter space, office and baggage handling areas)
Land Ownership	City of Albany
Permitted Use	Airline reception, transfer terminal baggage handling and associated airline activities
Term of Lease	5 years, commencing 27 February 2026
Rent	\$10.00 plus GST per annum
Outgoings	Tenant responsible for all outgoings, including insurance
Special Conditions	Consistent with the current licence, including termination if charter services cease

7. One submission was received during the advertising period objecting to the proposed licence, particularly the nominal annual rental. The submission has been reviewed and summarised in the Schedule of Submissions (Attachment).

DISCUSSION

8. The nominal licence rental for Virgin's access to terminal facilities recognises that Virgin already contributes through passenger and aircraft landing fees paid as part of its charter operations.
9. Council has previously acknowledged that this broader airport fee structure contributes to the recovery of operational costs associated with terminal use. Council also recognised the regional and economic value of maintaining FIFO charter services operating from the Airport when it resolved to waive market rental under the previous and proposed licence arrangements.

10. Virgin provides a dedicated weekly charter service that supports ongoing FIFO employment opportunities for local residents and contributes to the utilisation and operational viability of the Airport.
11. Having regard to the history of the arrangement, the non-exclusive nature of the licence, the broader airport revenue framework and Council’s previous resolution of 24 March 2026, it is considered appropriate to proceed with final approval of the licence to Virgin.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

12. The provisions of Section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (Act) require that public advertising be undertaken for the disposal of property. For the purposes of this section, a licence is considered a disposal.
13. The proposed licence was advertised for public comment for a two-week period closing on 21 April 2026, with notices placed in the local newspaper and on the City’s website.

Type of Engagement	Method of Engagement	Engagement Dates	Participation (Number)	Statutory Consultation
Consult	Advertising of proposed licence in local newspaper and City’s website inviting submissions from the public	A two-week period of advertising closed on 21 April 2026	One submission received as a result of advertising	Section 3.58 of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i>

14. One submission was received and acknowledged, with the submitter advised that the matter would be presented to Council for consideration.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

15. Section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995* allows for the disposal of property such as licensed land and buildings, including advertising requirements. These requirements have been met.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

16. Council’s Property Management (Leases and Licences) Policy supports equitable access and effective management of City owned and managed properties in line with statutory requirements.
17. Council has previously resolved to waive market rental for Virgin’s terminal use, recognising that the arrangement aligns with the Airport’s operational and revenue framework, noting Virgin terminal use is covered by Airport passenger and landing fees and delivers broader economic benefit.
18. All other terms of the licence agreement are consistent with the policy.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

19. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City’s Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputation: new licence not approved – disruption to FIFO charter services	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Seek to negotiate and formalise terms to Council satisfaction.
Reputation: Confusion between airline services operating at the Airport	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Clear signage and communication
Opportunity: The licence supports the City’s Strategic Community Plan 2032 by attracting and retaining businesses, growing the economy and creating local jobs.				

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 20. Virgin is responsible for all costs associated with the occupation and operation of the licence area.
- 21. The City continues to recover revenue through passenger and aircraft landing fees.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 22. The Deed of Licence will be prepared by City’s lawyers and include appropriate terms and conditions to manage risk.
- 23. The licence does not grant exclusive use or occupation rights over the premises.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 24. No environmental impacts have been identified.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

- 25. Council may:
 - Approve the licence; or
 - Approve the licence with amendments; or
 - Decline the licence request.
- 26. If the licence is declined, Virgin would be required to seek alternative arrangements for charter operations, which may disrupt existing FIFO services operating from the Airport.

CONCLUSION

- 27. Virgin has operated FIFO charter flights from Albany Regional Airport since 2016 and has held a licence allowing use of Airport terminal facilities for that purpose.
- 28. Council previously supported the grant of a new non-exclusive licence at its meeting of 24 March 2026, subject to public consultation. That process has now been completed, with one submission received and considered.
- 29. Having regard to the submission, the existing operational arrangements, Council policy and the strategic importance of maintaining FIFO charter flight services, it is recommended that Council grant final approval of the licence to Virgin Australia Regional Airlines Pty Ltd.

Consulted References	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Management (Leases and Licences) Policy • <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> • <i>Land Administration Act 1997</i>
File Number	:	PRO414, A64802
Previous Reference	:	OCM 15.12.2015 Item ED029 OCM 22.03.2016 Item CSF228 OCM 24.03.2026 Item CCS780

CCS797: BEHAVIOURAL COMPLAINT - INDEPENDENT ASSESSOR'S REPORT, FINDING AND DETERMINATION

Attachments : Independent Complaint Assessor Report-Behavioural Complaint EF26207872 **CONFIDENTIAL**
Report Prepared By : Manager Governance and Risk
Authorising Officer: : Chief Executive Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

Not for further distribution - This matter is considered confidential in accordance with section 5.23(2) of the Local Government Act 1995, specifically: (b) The personal affairs of any person; and (d) Legal advice obtained, or which may be obtained by the local government.

All Elected Members declared an Impartiality Interest in this report, remained in the Chamber and participated in the discussion and vote for this report, with the exception of the Councillor that was the respondent to the complaint, who left the chamber at 7:30pm and did not return until the meeting had closed at 7:50pm.

With the approval of Council the Mayor moved this item to the end of the meeting and was considered following item CCS798: Freeman of the City.

RECOMMENDATION

7.30PM All members of the public, the Councillor who was the respondent to the complaint left the Chamber and did not return until the meeting had concluded at 7:50pm.

City Officers Mr N Watson, Mr M Gilfellow, Mr P Camins and Mr A Catterall left the Chamber and returned at 7:46pm.

RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

MOVED: COUNCILLOR STEPHENS
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR LIONETTI

THAT the meeting be closed to members of the public in accordance with 4.1 (1) of the City of Albany Standing Orders Local Law to allow confidential discussion on the following item:

CCS797: BEHAVIOURAL COMPLAINT-INDEPENDENT ASSESSOR'S REPORT, FINDING AND DETERMINATION

CARRIED 8-0

CCS797: RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

MOVED: COUNCILLOR SUTTON
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR MCKINLEY

THAT:

- 1. The findings of the Alleged Behaviour Complaint against the respondent be NOTED: and**
- 2. Council RESOLVE, pursuant to clause 12(4) of the Code, to take no further action in respect of the complaint.**

CARRIED 6-1

Record of Vote

Against the Motion: Councillor MacLaren

7.46PM The following City officers returned to the Chamber being Mr N Watson, Mr M Gilfellon, Mr P Camins and Mr A Catterall.

RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

MOVED: COUNCILLOR MCKINLEY
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR SUTTON

THAT the meeting be RE-OPENED.

CARRIED 7-0

Consulted References	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Independent Complaints Assessor Report-Confidential</i>• <i>Local Government Act 1995</i>• <i>City of Albany Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates</i>• <i>City of Albany Management of Complaints of Alleged Breaches of Behaviour Policy</i>
File Number	:	GO.CLS.6

CCS798: FREEMAN OF THE CITY

Attachments : Honorary Freeman of the City Policy
Report Prepared By : Executive Officer Governance
Authorising Officer: : Chief Executive Officer

With the approval of Council, the Mayor moved this item to the end of the meeting and it was considered following item DIS474: Planning and Building Reports April 2026.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar:** 5. Leadership. A well-governed city that uses resources wisely to meet local needs.
 - **Outcomes:** 5.3 A well-informed and engaged community.

In Brief:

- Consider the appointment of a Freeman to the City of Albany, in accordance with the City of Albany Policy.

RECOMMENDATION

**CCS798: RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR STEPHENS
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE**

THAT Mr Dennis Wellington be APPOINTED as an Honorary Freeman of the City of Albany, in accordance with the Honorary Freeman of the City Policy.

**CARRIED 7-1
ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

Record of Vote

Against the Motion: Councillor Lionetti

Following the resolution of Council to appoint Mr Dennis Wellington as Honorary Freeman of the City of Albany the nomination has now become public and published in the minutes.

Originally the nomination remained confidential for the publishing of the May Ordinary Council Meeting agenda.

The Mayor congratulated Mr Wellington on his appointment as Honorary Freeman of the City and invited him to speak. Which was followed by various supportive and congratulatory comments from the Mayor, Councillors and CEO.

BACKGROUND

2. The Honorary Freeman of the City Policy (the Policy) states that at any one time, a maximum of four living persons only, unless otherwise decided by an Absolute Majority decision of Council, may hold the title "*Freeman of the City of Albany*".
3. The City currently has two living Freemen, Mrs Alice Rule and Mr Terry Eaton, leaving two vacant positions.
4. The title of Honorary Freeman is the most prestigious form of honour or recognition which can be conferred by Council. As such, the honour will be conferred in rare and exceptional circumstances to maintain the significance and prestige of the title.
5. Members of the Albany community who demonstrate outstanding commitment and contribution to the community should be acknowledged. In special circumstances, Council may recognise long standing and distinguished service to their community by choosing to award the title of "Honorary Freeman of the City".
6. One nomination for the position of Freeman has been received. The nomination complies with the requirements of the Policy.

DISCUSSION

7. Mr Wellington has given extensive and distinguished service to our community which is a matter of public record, and has identifiable and long-standing connection to our community.
8. The nomination is supported by the required number of elected members in accordance with the Policy.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

9. Confidential consultation has been undertaken with the elected member group. The nomination process informs the selection process in accordance with the Policy.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

10. N/A

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

11. The nomination and appointment of a Freeman is guided by the Council's policy position.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

12. Whilst the position of Freeman of the City is honorary and no remuneration is provided, a Civic Reception will be held in due course to honour the recipient. A budget line exists for the cost of the reception.
13. Invitations will be extended for attendance at future civic and ceremonial occasions.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

14. There are no direct legal implications associated with this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

15. Not applicable.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

16. If an elected member expresses an objection to the nomination, they must give their reasons for the objection in writing to the Chief Executive Officer at least one week prior to the meeting at which the nomination will be considered.
17. The Chief Executive Officer shall submit the objection, together with any other relevant information, to the Council Meeting.

CONCLUSION

18. It is recommended that the nomination be accepted and Mr Wellington be appointed as an Honorary Freeman of the City.

Consulted References	:	Honorary Freeman of the City of Albany Policy
File Number	:	CR.AWH.2
Previous Reference	:	CCS157 OCM 28/05/2019

DIS472: BUDGET VARIATION – VARIOUS

Proponent / Owner	: City of Albany
Business Entity Name	: City of Albany
Attachments	: Budget Variation documents
Report Prepared By	: Building Infrastructure Officer
Authorising Officer:	: Executive Director Infrastructure, Development & Environment

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the *City of Albany Strategic Community Plan* or *Corporate Business Plan* informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar:** Place.
 - **Outcome:** Interesting, vibrant, and welcoming places.

In Brief:

- This item is a budget variation for minor Building capital works and a project at Milpara Park with budget summary attached.
- Council approval is sought to vary budget allowances to provide adequate funds to complete specific works.

RECOMMENDATION

**DIS472: RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR SUTTON**

THAT Council APPROVE the proposed budget variations as detailed in the attached schedules.

**CARRIED 8-0
ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

DIS472: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

**MOVED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR BROUGH**

THAT the Authorising Officer Recommendation be ADOPTED.

CARRIED 6-0

DIS472: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council APPROVE the proposed budget variations as detailed in the attached schedules.

BACKGROUND

2. There are variations within the 2025/26 Building Capital Works Program; however, the capital program contains sufficient approved funding to manage these variations.
3. The Budget Variation for two City Reserves projects has also been included on this list, nominally using underspends from other Reserves projects.

DISCUSSION

4. An accurate assessment of the funds required to complete the works has been undertaken and is provided as an attachment.
5. Budget increases reflect higher-than-anticipated costs and unforeseen service delivery requirements, including necessary scope enhancements to meet or improve operational objectives.
6. Budget decreases generally reflect resourcing efficiencies or changes in project scope.

Projects with budget available

7. The Lake Seppings boardwalk (WO.4336) was completed under budget, utilising City resources and expertise.
8. Marine Drive Lookout (WO.3076) was delivered under budget through effective use of City resources and in-house expertise.
9. Women's Rest Centre roof re-oiling works (WO.2923) have been completed, with a surplus remaining in the budget. This roof is restored annually and the effectiveness of the restoration in 24/25 meant that less work was required in this budget
10. Muttonbird Island upper stairs (WO.4322) is complete, with a budget surplus. Work was carried out efficiently with less material required than anticipated
11. Funds from the Trails budget (WO.2071) were used to deliver additional landscaping and stonework at the Marine Drive Lookout project, in line with the funding agreement. The remaining surplus is proposed to be returned to the Trails project.
12. Lawley Park Heritage Concept Planning (WO.8420) has an underspend due to delays associated with cultural surveys.
13. Centennial Multiple Bores (WO.1857) has an underspend due to required investigations.
14. The Middleton Beach Toddler Playground is in the budget to be upgraded. The smaller budget previously allocated is no longer required, as full funding has now been secured (WO.4350)

Projects requiring additional Budget

15. The Nanarup Beach stair and lookout (WO.C0180) currently has insufficient budget to complete the works.
16. When construction was scheduled to commence in 2025, the stairs were significantly impacted by erosion following two storm events that year. As a result, materials originally allocated to Nanarup were redirected to the Muttonbird Beach stairs.
17. These materials were subsequently reinstated at Nanarup, and the project was deferred until the beach stabilised. However, insufficient funds were carried over to complete the remaining labour required for the stair construction.
18. Rainwater storage tanks at Mercer Road were completed this year using funding from the department of Water and Environmental regulation. An unforeseen electrical upgrade is now required to support the fire service pumps at the facility (WO.C0945).

19. This year’s works program delivered the Milpara Park pump track to a gravel standard. Upgrading the track to asphalt would reduce ongoing maintenance requirements and whole-of-life costs. Additional funding is required to complete these works (WO.1857 / WO.8420).
20. The Access and Inclusion Working Group has identified improvements to the Eyre Park Playground that can be completed this financial year by increasing this budget. (WO.2663)

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

21. Not required

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

22. Voting Requirement: **Absolute Majority**, as the proposed item constitutes a formal variation to the adopted Annual Budget in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

23. Nil

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

24. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City’s Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Business Operation, Reputation & Financial. <i>Risk: There is a risk that by not providing sufficient funds to complete the work, the work will remain incomplete.</i>	Likely	Moderate	Medium	Approve a financially neutral budget variation to ensure timely completion and asset quality
Financial & Governance <i>Repeated mid-year budget reallocations may reduce Council and community confidence in the accuracy of capital planning and cost estimation.</i>	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Improved early project costing, contingency allowances, and periodic reporting of emerging cost pressures
Opportunity: Approval of the budget variation supports the timely delivery of capital projects and reinforces the City’s reputation for maintaining high-quality, interesting, vibrant, and welcoming community assets.				

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

25. There is a net zero financial impact arising from this budget variation.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

26. There are no legal implications associated with this item.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

27. Environmental implications associated with individual projects will be addressed as part of each project’s delivery.
28. The budget review itself does not have any direct environmental considerations.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

29. The options are:

- a) Council may elect to approve the application for this budget variation: or
- b) Council may refuse the recommendation, which would result in specific capital projects being deferred or delivered in an incomplete state within the 2025/26 program, including works at Nanarup Beach, Mercer Road, Milpara Park and Eyre Park.

CONCLUSION

30. It is recommended that the Authorising Officers recommendation to approve the budget variation be supported to provide an uninterrupted building program.

Consulted References	<i>Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996</i>
File Number	N/A
Previous Reference	N/A

DIS473: LOCAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

Proponent / Owner	: City of Albany
Attachments	: Local Biodiversity Strategy – The Strategy 2026-2036 Local Biodiversity Strategy – Action Plan Local Biodiversity Strategy – Technical Report Key Themes from Public Consultation
Supplementary Information & Councillor Workstation	: N/A
Report Prepared By	: Manager Development Services
Authorising Officer:	: Executive Director Infrastructure, Development & Environment

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the *City of Albany Strategic Community Plan* or *Corporate Business Plan* informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar:** We are leaders in sustainability with a shared commitment to climate action and protecting our beautiful, natural environment.
 - **Outcome:** Sustainable management of natural areas; balancing conservation with responsible access and enjoyment.

Maps and Diagrams:

Online mapping tool available here: <http://albany.wa.gov.au/ALBSmappingtool>

In Brief:

- In 2023, Council requested the preparation of a Local Biodiversity Strategy.
- Funding support was secured through WALGA, and the Strategy has since been developed through specialist analysis and stakeholder engagement.
- The strategy was presented to Elected Members at the 18 July 2023 Strategic Workshop and after the 15 April 2026 Development Infrastructure Services Committee Meeting.
- The Local Biodiversity Strategy 2026–2036 provides a framework to identify and protect areas of biodiversity significance, improve ecological connectivity, integrate biodiversity considerations into planning and development processes, and guide coordinated land management and community stewardship.
- The Strategy is supported by a detailed technical report and action plan, with implementation to occur through the City's internal governance, business planning and annual budget processes.
- The *City of Albany Local Biodiversity Strategy 2026-2036* is presented to Council for adoption

RECOMMENDATION

DIS473: RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

MOVED: COUNCILLOR MACLAREN
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR STEPHENS

THAT consideration of Report item DIS473: LOCAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY be DEFERRED until no later than the August Ordinary Council Meeting.

CARRIED 8-0

Councillor Reason for Deferral:

Deferral of adoption will allow engagement with Professor Stephen Hopper and Mr Paul Wetton to develop meaningful outcomes in the Strategy, and also address the importance of aquatic systems and granite outcrops and enable their inclusion in this document

DIS473: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (PROCEDURAL MOTION BY COUNCILLOR MACLAREN)

MOVED: COUNCILLOR MACLAREN
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR CLARKE

THAT consideration of Report item DIS473: LOCAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY be DEFERRED until no later than the August Ordinary Council Meeting.

CARRIED 7-0

Councillor Reason:

To enable the consultant and City officers to make requested changes to the Technical Report to include additional information as identified by community members.

DIS473: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. ADOPT the *City of Albany Local Biodiversity Strategy 2026 – 2036*.
2. NOTE the *Local Biodiversity Strategy – Action Plan* and *Local Biodiversity Strategy – Technical Report* as supporting documents.

BACKGROUND

2. Albany contains significant biodiversity values due to its geology, climate and location at the junction of three bioregions.
3. Historic clearing associated with agriculture and settlement has resulted in the loss of approximately 65% of native vegetation, with remaining areas often fragmented and subject to pressures including land use change, weeds, pests, altered fire regimes and hydrological modification.
4. As one of Western Australia's fastest-growing regional cities, Albany continues to experience increasing demand for housing, infrastructure and services to support a growing and diverse community. This growth presents both opportunities and challenges for the City's natural environment.
5. Many local governments in Western Australia have prepared biodiversity strategies to guide conservation, restoration and land management.
6. These strategies assist in identifying biodiversity values, managing threats, and integrating environmental considerations into planning, reserve management and operational activities, with guidance provided by the Western Australian Local Government Association.
7. The City has previously prepared environmental strategies and surveys, including the Albany Regional Vegetation Survey, Natural Reserves Strategy and Environmental Weed Management Plan.
8. While these documents identify environmental values and management needs, they do not provide a consolidated strategic framework across all City functions.

DISCUSSION

9. The *Local Biodiversity Strategy* has been prepared in accordance with the *WALGA Local Biodiversity Planning Guidelines* and informed by specialist analysis and stakeholder engagement.
10. The Strategy recognises the intrinsic, social and economic value of biodiversity to the City's identity and liveability, while acknowledging the need to balance biodiversity protection with responsible growth and development.
11. The *Local Biodiversity Strategy 2026–2036* provides a framework to:
 - Identify and rank Local Natural Areas (LNAs) across public and private land;
 - Protect areas of high conservation significance and under-represented vegetation types;
 - Improve ecological connectivity through macro-corridors and linkages;
 - Integrate biodiversity considerations into planning, rezoning, subdivision and development assessment; and
 - Guide coordinated land management, restoration and community stewardship.
12. The Strategy is supported by a Technical Report prepared by Aurora Environmental, which includes spatial analysis, biodiversity rankings, legislative context and stakeholder engagement outcomes.
13. An accompanying Action Plan outlines implementation across planning, reserves management, operational practices and community engagement.
14. Implementation will be coordinated through the City's internal governance arrangements and progressed through the annual business planning and budget processes.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

15. Preparation of the Strategy was informed by:
 - A community survey (693 responses)
 - Two stakeholder workshops involving State agencies, community groups, NGOs and technical specialists;
 - Ongoing internal officer workshops across multiple teams, including planning, reserves and sustainability.
16. Survey results demonstrated strong community support for biodiversity protection, with 93% of respondents rating biodiversity conservation as important or very important and strong support for integrating biodiversity into all decision-making.
17. Community consultation showed strong support for the Strategy but raised concerns about the length and structure of the document, resourcing and enforcement, and the need for clearer, measurable outcomes.
18. Submissions also highlighted the importance of stronger integration with planning controls, protection of key biodiversity areas, improved connectivity, involvement of Traditional Custodians, and improved access to mapping and data.
19. These matters are detailed in the attached ‘Key Themes’ document and have informed refinement of the Strategy.
20. Community Engagement

Type of Engagement	Method of Engagement	Engagement Dates	Participation (Number)	Statutory Consultation
Consult	Community Survey – note this was a broader survey that included biodiversity and related matters.	06/03/2024 – 14/04/2024	693	N/A
Consult	Workshops with Stakeholder Reference Group	29/08/2024 05/12/2024 09/04/2026	14 Attendees 13 Attendees 16 Attendees	N/A
Consult	Community Survey on Draft Report	08/07/2025 – 10/08/2025	60 responses	N/A
Inform	Community Information Sessions	09/07/2025 12/07/2026	23 attendees 16 attendees	N/A

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

21. While the Strategy is non-statutory, adoption may inform future planning and operational decision-making where relevant, consistent with adopted City strategies.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

22. The proposed Local Biodiversity Strategy provides a coordinated framework to support biodiversity management across City planning, reserves and operational functions.
23. The Strategy complements existing City strategies and does not introduce new statutory requirements.
24. It has been prepared with consideration of the *City of Albany Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Business Plan, Local Planning Strategy, Local Planning Scheme No. 2, Natural Reserves Strategy and Action Plan, Environmental Weed Management Plan, and Water Management Strategy* and Urban Forest initiatives.
25. The Strategy may also inform future reviews of relevant City policies and management plans, consistent with guidance from the *Western Australian Local Government Association Local Biodiversity Planning Guidelines*.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

26. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City’s Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Community <i>There is a reputational risk if the City does not act consistently with environmental objectives and actions outlined in the plan. There is also a reputational risk associated with not adopting a Local Biodiversity Strategy, given increasing community and stakeholder expectations for structured biodiversity planning and management.</i>	<i>Almost Certain</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Manage community expectation through clear and transparent communication and leadership.</i>
Environmental <i>If the Strategy is not endorsed, there is a risk the City will lack a clear framework to guide biodiversity management in the context of a changing climate and ongoing population growth.</i>	<i>Almost Certain</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Ensure strong partnership with external stakeholders on issues that extend beyond City’s scope of responsibility.</i>
Service Delivery <i>If the Strategy is not endorsed, implementation of biodiversity-related initiatives may be delayed, with potential impacts on coordination and competing priorities across business areas including Reserves, Sustainability and Planning Services.</i>	<i>Almost Certain</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Review and update Action Plan on a regular basis to underpin continued action towards achievement of Strategy objectives.</i>
Implementation Risk <i>There is a risk that adoption raises expectations that cannot be met within available resources, leading to reputational and organisational risk.</i>	<i>Possible</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Clear communication that actions are subject to business planning and budget decisions Annual review and prioritisation of the Action Plan</i>
Opportunity 1: <i>The Strategy demonstrates continued leadership and a collaborative approach to managing biodiversity in an open and transparent document.</i>				
Opportunity 2: <i>The Local Biodiversity Strategy will help leverage funding for projects and collaboratively work across different business areas and related strategies to achieve mutually beneficial environmental, financial and community outcomes.</i>				
Opportunity 3: <i>Identify actions that can be delivered through current budget and those that can be incorporated into long term financial planning and business plan.</i>				

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

27. Implementation of actions will be subject to Council consideration through the annual budget, *Corporate Business Plan* and Long-Term Financial Plan processes.

28. A funding estimation and source of funding is proposed for each action in the Action Plan.

Cost	Likely order of magnitude costs
High	Over \$100,000
Medium	\$50,000 - \$100,000
Low	Under \$50,000

Funding consideration	
	The action is currently resourced and can be delivered within existing operational capacity.
	The action is currently resourced through the Annual Budget or available external grant funding.
	The action is not currently resourced and will require additional resourcing to enable implementation.
*	Potential to seek external funding to resource this action.

29. It may be possible to seek external funding to co-fund various projects.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

30. Nil. Adoption of the Strategy does not create enforceable obligations but may inform future policy development and decision-making.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

31. The *Local Biodiversity Strategy* provides a structured framework to support the identification, protection and management of biodiversity values across the City.
32. It consolidates existing information and aligns management approaches to address key environmental pressures including habitat fragmentation, land use change, weeds, pests, altered fire regimes and hydrological modification.
33. The Strategy also supports a more coordinated response to climate change impacts by informing priorities for conservation, restoration and land management across reserves and other natural areas.
34. As the City is also in the process of preparing a *Waterwise Strategy and Urban Forest Strategy*, many actions are complementary across all three strategies. Together, these strategies will work to protect biodiversity and water resources, enhance landscape values, and improve community liveability.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

35. Council may choose not to support the *Local Biodiversity Strategy* and associated actions listed within the Action Plan.
36. Council may choose to change the priority strategies and actions based on its own strategic priorities.

CONCLUSION

37. The *Local Biodiversity Strategy 2026–2036* has been prepared with considerable input from City staff, the Stakeholder Reference Group and the broader community.
38. It is underpinned by a detailed Technical Report prepared by Aurora Environmental, which includes spatial analysis, biodiversity rankings, legislative context and stakeholder engagement outcomes.
39. The accompanying Action Plan translates the Strategy's objectives into practical actions across planning, reserves management, operational practices and community engagement.
40. The Strategy provides a clear framework to identify and rank Local Natural Areas (LNAs) across public and private land, protect areas of high conservation significance and poorly represented vegetation types, improve ecological connectivity through identification of macro-corridors and linkages, embed biodiversity considerations into planning and development assessment processes, and guide coordinated on-ground management, restoration and community stewardship.

41. Implementation will be managed through internal governance arrangements and integrated into the City’s annual business planning and budget processes.
42. Actions will be prioritised in response to community, asset management and environmental needs, allowing for continuous improvement as new information becomes available regarding outcomes, risks and their management.

Consulted References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>City of Albany Local Planning Scheme</i> • <i>City of Albany Local Planning Strategy</i> • <i>Local Government Guidelines for Biodiversity Planning (WALGA, 2023)</i>
File Number	: EM.PLA.46
Previous Reference	: Strategic Workshop – 18 July 2023 Post DIS Committee Presentation – 15 April 2026

DIS474: PLANNING AND BUILDING REPORTS APRIL 2026

Proponent / Owner : City of Albany
Attachments : Planning and Building Reports April 2026
Report Prepared By : Information Officer – Development Services
Authorising Officer: : Manager Development Services

RECOMMENDATION

DIS474: RESOLUTION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

MOVED: COUNCILLOR SUTTON
SECONDED: COUNCILLOR MCKINLEY

THAT the Planning and Building Reports for April 2026 be RECEIVED.

CARRIED 8-0

14. **NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF COUNCIL**
15. **MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**
16. **REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS Nil**
17. **MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC**
18. **CLOSURE**

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at **7.50PM**

(Unconfirmed Minutes)

Gregory B Stocks
MAYOR