



## Norseman Woodlands to Eucla Coast

# Unconfirmed Minutes Ordinary Council Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2025

### NOTICE OF MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2025 at the Eucla Community Hall commencing at 4:30 pm (ACWST) to consider and resolve on the matters set out in the attached agenda.

All meetings are open to the public, except for matters raised by Council under "Confidential Items".

Members of the public may ask a question at an Ordinary Council meeting under "Public Question Time".

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Chief Executive Officer  
19<sup>th</sup> March 2025

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES for the ORDINARY Meeting of Council to  
held at the Eucla Community Hall– commencing at  
4:30 pm (ACWST)

### Notes to Agenda

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Any person or entity who has an application before the Shire must obtain, and should only rely on, written notice of the Shires decision and any conditions attaching to the decision and cannot treat as an approval anything said or done at a Council or Committee meeting.

Any advice provided by an employee of the Shire on the operation of written law, or the performance of a function by the Shire, is provided in the capacity of an employee, and to the best of that person's knowledge and ability. It does not constitute, and should not be relied upon, as a legal advice or representation by the Shire. Any advice on a matter of law, or anything sought to be relied upon as representation by the Shire should be sought in writing and should make clear the purpose of the request.

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## 1. Declaration of Opening and Announcement of Visitors.

The Shire President welcomed all in attendance and declared the meeting open at: 4.30PM (ACWST)

This Ordinary Council Meeting will be video recorded, and the recordings published on the Shire of Dundas website.

### 1.1 Acknowledgment of Country

The Shire of Dundas recognises the Ngadju and Mirning as traditional custodians in the Shire of Dundas and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

### 1.2 Attendance at meetings by electronic means

Cr JE Patrick Hogan	Councillor
Cr John Maloney	Councillor
Cr Sharon Brown	Councillor
Pania Turner	Deputy Chief Executive Officer

## 2. Declarations of Financial, Proximity, Impartiality Interests & Gifts Received.

### Financial Interests:

Cr. L Bonza – Item 10.1.1

### Proximity Interests:

Cr. J Maloney – Item 10.1.1

### Impartiality Interests:

None declared.

Gifts Received by Councillors: None declared.

As per the Shire of Dundas Code of Conduct section 3.4 Gifts, adopted by the Council on 21 October 2014 and reference to Regulation 34B of the Local Government (Administration) 1996.

## 3. Record of Attendance of Councillors / Officers and Apologies.

Cr Laurene G Bonza	Shire President
Cr Sharon M Warner	Deputy Shire President
Cr JE Patrick Hogan	
Cr John Maloney	
Cr Sharon Brown	
Cr Chantelle McLeod	
Peter Fitchat	Chief Executive Officer
Pania Turner	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Barry Hemopo	Manager of Works and Services

Hannah Turner

Executive Assistant

**Apologies****Public Gallery**

S. Conklun	D. Nattrass
R. Slota	V. Nattrass

**4. Applications for Leave of Absence.**

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>4.1 Leave of Absence for Cr. John Maloney</b>	
Location / Address	88-92 Prinsep Street, Norseman
File Reference	GV.CO.21
Author	CEO, Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	19 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

**Summary**

Cr. Maloney requested formerly to have leave of absence for 1 month 31<sup>st</sup> March -7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 due to overseas travel.

**Background**

Cr. Maloney will be unable to attend the scheduled meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025, and will not be available for any special meeting should they arise during the leave period.

**Statutory Environment*****Local Government Act 1995*****2.25. Disqualification for failure to attend meetings**

(1) A council may, by resolution, grant leave of absence, to a member.

(2) Leave is not to be granted to a member in respect of more than 6 consecutive ordinary meetings of the council without the approval of the Minister, unless all of the meetings are within a

Period of 3 months.

(3A) Leave is not to be granted in respect of —

(a) a meeting that has concluded; or

(b) the part of a meeting before the granting of leave.

(3) The granting of the leave, or refusal to grant the leave and reasons for that refusal, is to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

**Policy Implications**

Policy EM.1 Conferences – Elected Members Attendance and Representation does not address leave of absence request.

Financial Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Nil

Consultation

President Laurene Bonza  
Chief Executive Officer

Comment

Councillor John Maloney has advised that they will be on holiday and unable to attend the upcoming Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 1 month 31<sup>st</sup> March -7<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

**Officer Recommendation**

**That Council grant Cr. Maloney's application for Leave of Absence for the period 31<sup>st</sup> March - 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 notes that the Councillor will be absent from the scheduled Ordinary Council Meetings on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**

**Carried: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

**Resolution**

**That Council grant Cr. Maloney's application for Leave of Absence for the period 31<sup>st</sup> March - 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 notes that the Councillor will be absent from the scheduled Ordinary Council Meetings on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**

## **5. Response to Previous Public Questions Taken on Notice.**

## **6. Public Question Time.**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 and the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, any person may during Public Question Time ask any question.

## 7. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting.

### 7.1 Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 25 February 2025

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 25 February 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

#### Voting Requirements

Simply Majority

**Moved:** Cr. JEP Hogan

**Seconded:** Cr. S Brown

#### Recommendation

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 25 February 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

**Carried: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

#### Resolution

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 25 February 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

## 8. Petitions, Deputations or Presentations.

### Reports of Committees

#### 8.1.1 GVROC

Council representatives Cr Bonza and Cr Warner

- A GVROC meeting was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2025 to consider the State Council Agenda.
- The next GVROC meeting will be held in Esperance on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

#### 8.1.2 WALGA

Council representatives Cr Bonza, Cr Warner, and Cr McLeod

- State Council meeting was held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2025 at the WALGA building. This was our first meeting on the new revamped third floor. If any Councillors are in Perth and need to conduct Council business, they may use that facility.
- We considered the Climate Advocacy Position which was sent back for review and a waste management policy.
- The next State Council meeting will be held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May hosted by the City of Swan.

#### 8.1.3 Regional Roads Group

Council representatives Cr Bonza and Cr Brown

- There has been no meeting held but will be one scheduled for April.

#### 8.1.4 RoadWise

Council representatives Cr McLeod and Cr Maloney

- There has been no meeting held.

#### 8.1.5 Local Emergency Management Committee

Council representatives Cr Bonza and Cr Brown

- The next LEMC meeting has been scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2025.

#### 8.1.6 Steering Committee Coastal Management Plan

Council representatives Cr Bonza and Cr Brown

- A meeting was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March.
- The committee considered the draft matters to include in the strategy.
- The Shire has accepted a vesting order for the shack blocks.
- Now drafting the individual lease agreements which will be presented to the committee and then to Council for review and acceptance.

### 9. Announcements by Presiding Member without Discussion.

## 10. Reports

### 10.1 Planning and Development

Agenda Reference & Subject	
<b>10.1.1 Proposed Amendment 13 to the Shire of Dundas Local Planning Scheme No 2</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	LP.PL.2
Author	Anthony Dowling, Dowling Giudici + Associates (DG+A) - Town Planning Consultant
Date of Report	14 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	DG+A receives consulting fees from the Shire of Dundas

*President Cr. Laurene Bonza vacated the Chair and exited the meeting room at 4:35PM (ACWST).*

*Deputy President, Cr. Sharon Warner assumes the Chair.*

#### Summary

Council is requested to consider amending *Local Planning Scheme (LPS) 2* to facilitate State Government initiatives and reforms regulating the provision and operation of **short-term rental accommodation (STRA)** within Western Australia.

To this end, relevant amendment documentation has been prepared detailing the proposed amendments. These amendments primarily comprise alterations, additions and deletions of

general definitions and land use terms in the text of LPS 2 pertaining to short term accommodation. These alterations, additions, and deletions align with the land use planning initiatives set out in the Western Australian Planning Commission's *Position Statement: Planning for Tourism and Short-Term Rental Accommodation*.

It is recommended that Council adopt the proposed amendment (**Amendment 13**) — at this stage, for the purpose of public advertising

### Background

In 2019 there was a State parliamentary inquiry into the regulation of short-stay accommodation due to concerns that housing – particularly in residential zoned areas and designed primarily for permanent residential occupancy – was being let for short-term occupancy (for business and recreation travellers, and for tourists) at the expense of longer-term occupancy and renters.

The increasing prevalence of this type of short-term rental accommodation (STRA), often in competition with traditional forms of short-stay accommodation such as hotels, motels, licenced bed and breakfast premises etc prompted the inquiry – with a focus on how to respond to the rapid change that was taking place in this sphere.

The inquiry - *Levelling the Playing Field: Managing the impact of the rapid increase of short-term rentals in Western Australia* – made a number of findings and recommendations. A key recommendation was to amend the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* ('LPS Regs') to differentiate between hosted and unhosted short-term rentals; to define their size and capacity; to amend the definition of bed and breakfast establishments; and provide greater guidance to local government about ways to appropriately regulate short-term rentals.

The inquiry also further recommended the development and implementation of a State-wide **registration system for registering STRA**. Such a system has subsequently been established and required all short-term accommodation facilities desiring to continue to operate into 2025 and beyond to register by 1 January this year, and have in place by **1 January 2026** any applicable development approval required.

In response to the aforementioned key recommendation the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) developed and released in November 2023 a *Position Statement: Planning for Tourism and Short-Term Rental Accommodation*. Along with associated development guidelines, this position statement outlines the WAPC's position for clearer, more consistent regulation of STRA in planning frameworks.

The Position Statement can be viewed and downloaded [here](#). It provides further background information to the land use planning reforms pertaining to STRA as well as setting out the nature of the amendments required to local government planning schemes to facilitate these reforms.

The WAPC has requested STRA amendments to local planning schemes be initiated as soon as possible and ideally, be completed by **mid-2025** to allow for **development approvals** required by STRA operators to be obtained by **1 January 2026**.

To assist local government in meeting these timeframes, all STRA scheme amendments will be processed as a priority by the WAPC upon submission to it for assessment.

For the avoidance of doubt, **Short-Term Rental Accommodation (STRA)** refers to the practice of renting out a property (or part of a property) for a **relatively short period of time**, usually on a **nightly or weekly basis**.

This type of accommodation is **usually booked through online digital platforms** (eg. the internet) and is popular among travellers and visitors seeking temporary lodging for holidays, business trips or other short stays.

Amendment documentation has been prepared setting out and explaining the proposed amendment (**Amendment 13**) to LPS 2 that will facilitate the STRA planning reforms within the LPS 2 scheme area (which comprises the whole of the Dundas local government district). A copy of this is provided in the papers relating to this agenda (**Attachment 10.1.1.A**).

The amendment is now presented for Council's consideration and initiation.

### Proposal

Proposed amendment 13 to LPS 2 sets out the proposed changes that will deliver the State government's desired reforms to the regulation of STRA as they pertain to the Dundas local planning scheme area.

Briefly, the proposed changes comprise —

- (i) deletion of the general definition '**short-term accommodation**';
- (ii) revised general definitions for '**cabin**' and '**chalet**';
- (iii) deletion of the land use terms '**bed and breakfast**', '**holiday accommodation**', '**holiday house**', '**motel**', '**serviced apartment**' and '**tourist development**';
- (iv) modification of the land use term '**roadhouse**';
- (v) insertion of a new land use term '**tourist and visitor accommodation**' replacing the existing land use terms '**serviced apartment**' and '**tourist development**';
- (vi) insertion into **Table 3 – Zoning Table** new land use terms '**hosted short-term rental accommodation**', '**unhosted short-term rental accommodation**', and '**tourist and visitor accommodation**', and assigning to each their permissibility in the respective LPS 2 zones;
- (vii) deletion of the use classes '**holiday accommodation**', '**holiday house**', and '**motel**' from Table 3;
- (viii) deletion of all references to the general definition '**short term accommodation**', and land use terms '**motel**' and '**holiday accommodation**' in **Table 4 – Special Use Zones in Scheme Area**, replacing each of them with the land use term '**tourist and visitor accommodation**';
- (ix) deletion of the the land use terms '**holiday accommodation**' and '**motel**' from **Table 6 – Site Requirements** (pertaining to the **Residential** zone) and replacing them with the land use term '**tourist and visitor accommodation**' with the provision of any front, rear and side boundary setback and onsite car parking requirement for this use class being at the discretion of the Shire; and
- (x) insertion of the land use term '**tourist and visitor accommodation**' into **Table 7 – Car Parking Requirements** (pertaining to the **Commercial** zone) with the provision of any onsite car parking requirement for this use class being at the discretion of the Shire.

**Attachment 1** to the **Amendment Report** in the amendment documentation details the above list of proposed changes.

The new general definition '**short-term rental accommodation**' and new land use terms '**hosted short-term rental accommodation**' and '**unhosted short-term rental**

**accommodation** are not included with this amendment as they have been inserted into **Schedules 1 and 2** of the **LPS Regs** and as such are **'read into'** each local planning scheme and have automatically taken effect.

### Statutory Environment

#### *Planning and Development Act 2005*

This Act enables a local government to both make and amend a local planning scheme for its district in order to control or regulate the use and development of land within the district.

#### *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 (LPS Regs)*

These regulations provide the process and procedures for amending a local planning scheme as well as **'deemed provisions'** that apply to every local planning scheme. Where there is inconsistency between a deemed provision and a relevant scheme provision, the **deemed provision applies** (or takes precedence).

In initiating this amendment to LPS 2 Council is required to resolve whether the amendment is a **basic amendment**, a **standard amendment**, or a **complex amendment**.

A **basic amendment** primarily deals with rectifying administrative errors and anomalies etc in an existing scheme and/or to bring the scheme into conformity with the overarching State planning framework. It does not warrant any public advertising and therefore, can be processed and be dealt with more expediently than a **standard** and **complex amendment**.

A **standard** and **complex amendment** primarily deal with proposed land use changes, and changes to controls and standards applying to land the subject of those changes.

Both of these categories require **mandatory public advertisement**.

The **LPS Regs** prescribes the public advertisement process to follow for either a standard or complex amendment and the statutory timeframes that apply to advertising.

Given the nature of proposed amendment 13, it is considered that it falls within the **standard amendment** category because:

- (i) It is deemed to have minimal impact on land in the scheme area that is not the subject of the amendment;
- (ii) It is deemed not to have any adverse environmental, social, economic or governance impacts on land within the scheme area; and
- (iii) It is neither a basic or complex amendment.

A standard amendment is required to be publicly advertised for a **minimum period of 42 days** before it can be adopted for final approval.

### Policy Implications

Nil.

### Financial Implications

Nil.

### Strategic Implications

The following goal/s and objective/s of the Shire's *Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032* have relevance to the amendment proposal —

**Goal 1**

*A healthy, safe, resilient and engaged Community. A place where people thrive. A Community where diversity is celebrated, a place of belonging. A place where economic growth and business opportunity is encouraged and supported.*

**Objective 1.1.6**

Ensure clear and timely communication on Shire activities and initiatives.

**Goal 4**

*A thriving local economy & economic base supports economic growth and business opportunity.*

**Objective 4.2.1**

A vibrant economy that supports opportunities for mining, industry, creative and cultural industries, tourism, shopping and business.

**Objective 4.3.4**

Support tourist development and promote the Shire of Dundas as a destination experience.

**Goal 5:**

*We are a trusted Local Government; we are a strong advocate for our community; we lead with respect and accountability.*

**Objective 5.1.6**

The Shire will ensure community are informed on matters that affect them.

Consultation

A briefing on changes to the LPS Regs and the requirement to suitably amend LPS 2 to facilitate the STRA reforms was provided at the **October 2024 Council Information Briefing Workshop**.

Comment

The changes to LPS 2 are likely to have no material impact from a land use planning perspective.

The changes essentially **rationalise** a number of related (and to be superseded) land use terms and use classes pertaining to short-stay accommodation (including motels, serviced apartments and tourist accommodation). This can reduce the complexity in determining what class of use a proposed short-term accommodation facility might fall under when determining its permissibility under LPS as well as the relevant development standards that apply.

The changes to the LPS Regs now **exempt** a **hosted** STRA from obtaining development approval under a local planning scheme (where this is presently required). Hosted STRA includes a **single house**, and an **ancillary dwelling** ('granny flat') where the host lives in either of the dwellings and rents the other out.

**Unhosted STRA** will require development approval if it is proposed to be located within the Shire's Residential, Commercial and Rural zones. This type of accommodation can be rented for **up to 90 days within any 12-month period**. If it is sought to be rented out longer than

this then the rental arrangement may be subject to relevant provisions of the *Residential Tenancies Act 1987*.

In respect to the WAPC's advice that it will give priority to assessing amendments to local planning schemes to facilitate the STRA planning reforms by mid-2025, an amendment to a local planning scheme comprising alteration or inclusion of new land use terms and use classes that will not materially impact the operation of the planning scheme are exempt from assessment for environmental approval by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).

Therefore, should Council resolve to adopt this amendment it can be submitted straight to the WAPC requesting consent to advertise the amendment **bypassing** the standard EPA referral process. This can expedite the amendment process by at least 4 weeks.

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

**Moved:** Cr. C McLeod  
**Seconded:** Cr. JEP Hogan

#### Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Pursuant to section 75 of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* **ADOPTS** (for the purpose of advertising) amendment 13 to *Local Planning Scheme 2* as per the amending text set out in the scheme amendment documentation provided at Attachment 10.1.1.A;
2. Pursuant to regulation 35(2) of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* **CONSIDERS** that Amendment 13 to *Local Planning Scheme 2* is a 'standard amendment' on the basis that it is:
  - (i) deemed to have minimal impact on land in the scheme area that is not the subject of the amendment;
  - (ii) is deemed not to have any adverse environmental, social, economic or governance impacts on land within the scheme area; and
  - (iii) it is neither a basic nor complex amendment;
3. **AUTHORISES** the signing of the amendment documentation where applicable by the Shire President and Chief Executive Officer of the Shire of Dundas;
4. **SUBMITS** Amendment No. 13 to *Local Planning Scheme No. 2* to the Western Australian Planning Commission for a recommendation to the Minister for Planning to approve the proposed amendment for advertising pursuant to Clause 46A of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*;
5. Subject to receiving approval from the Minister for Planning **PROCEEDS** to advertise Amendment No. 13 to *Local Planning Scheme No. 2* pursuant to Clause 47(1) of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Scheme) Regulations 2015*; and
6. **NOTES** that in accordance with Section 81(2) of the *Planning and Development Act 2005*, Amendment No. 13 to *Local Planning Scheme No. 2* is not required to be referred to the Environmental Protection Authority for environmental impact

assessment because it is an amendment to include or alter a definition of a land use category that would not materially impact the operation of the planning scheme.

The proposed amendments will replace existing short-term rental accommodation land use definitions and will have no effect on the substantive nature or operation of the Shire's *Local Planning Scheme No. 2*.

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

**Resolution**

**That Council:**

1. Pursuant to section 75 of the Planning and Development Act 2005 **ADOPTS** (for the purpose of advertising) amendment 13 to Local Planning Scheme 2 as per the amending text set out in the scheme amendment documentation provided at Attachment 10.1.1.A;

2. Pursuant to regulation 35(2) of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 **CONSIDERS** that Amendment 13 to Local Planning Scheme 2 is a 'standard amendment' on the basis that it is:

- (i) deemed to have minimal impact on land in the scheme area that is not the subject of the amendment;
- (ii) is deemed not to have any adverse environmental, social, economic or governance impacts on land within the scheme area; and
- (iii) it is neither a basic nor complex amendment;

3. **AUTHORISES** the signing of the amendment documentation where applicable by the Shire President and Chief Executive Officer of the Shire of Dundas;

4. **SUBMITS** Amendment No. 13 to Local Planning Scheme No. 2 to the Western Australian Planning Commission for a recommendation to the Minister for Planning to approve the proposed amendment for advertising pursuant to Clause 46A of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015;

5. Subject to receiving approval from the Minister for Planning **PROCEEDS** to advertise Amendment No. 13 to Local Planning Scheme No. 2 pursuant to Clause 47(1) of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Scheme) Regulations 2015; and

6. **NOTES** that in accordance with Section 81(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2005, Amendment No. 13 to Local Planning Scheme No. 2 is not required to be referred to the Environmental Protection Authority for environmental impact assessment because it is an amendment to include or alter a definition of a land use category that would not materially impact the operation of the planning scheme.

The proposed amendments will replace existing short-term rental accommodation land use definitions and will have no effect on the substantive nature or operation of the Shire's Local Planning Scheme No. 2.

*President Cr. Laurene Bonza entered the meeting room at 4.36PM (ACWST) and resumed the Chair.*

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.1.2 Western Green Energy Hub Environmental Scoping Document</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	LP.PR.2
Author	CEO, Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	18 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

### Summary

For the Shire of Dundas Council to note the issues highlighted with the Western Green Energy Hub Environmental Scoping Document and authorise the CEO to respond to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), to raise the concerns of Council regarding project.

This report presents a detailed assessment of the potential environmental, financial, and social risks associated with the Western Green Energy Hub (WGEH) project, as outlined in the EPA Scoping Document. It highlights key areas of concern for the Shire of Dundas and the broader local government sector, particularly regarding funding implications, biodiversity impact, air quality, workforce infrastructure, and rehabilitation obligations.

### Background

The Western Green Energy Hub (WGEH) is a proposed 22,000 km<sup>2</sup> renewable energy project aimed at producing green hydrogen and ammonia for export, leveraging wind and solar power in the Eucla region of Western Australia. The Project has received State and Federal Government backing, including approval for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act and a Public Environmental Review (PER) under the Western Australian Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).

The Shire of Dundas and other affected local governments have raised concerns regarding the Project's long-term environmental, financial, and social implications, particularly as it lacks clear strategies for rehabilitation, regional infrastructure development, and sustainable funding without federal tax incentives.

### Statutory Environment

The Western Green Energy Hub (WGEH) is subject to multiple State and Federal regulatory frameworks governing environmental protection, land use, emissions, biodiversity, and industrial operations. The EPA Scoping Document should ensure compliance with the following key statutory requirements:

### **Federal Legislation & Regulatory Frameworks**

#### *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)*

- The primary national environmental law assesses projects with significant impacts on matters of national environmental significance (MNES).

- WGEH has been referred for assessment under this Act due to potential impacts on:
  - Threatened species and ecological communities.
  - Migratory birds under international agreements.
  - Ramsar-listed wetlands and marine environments.

#### *Clean Energy Act 2011 & Clean Energy Regulator*

- Governs carbon emissions reduction targets, which are relevant to WGEH's hydrogen and ammonia production.
- Requires WGEH to demonstrate actual emissions reductions in line with national net-zero goals.

#### *Water Act 2007*

- Protects groundwater-dependent ecosystems, relevant to WGEH's desalination plant and groundwater extraction.
- Requires hydrological impact assessments for projects affecting nationally significant water resources.

#### *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984*

- Protects cultural heritage and Indigenous sites.
- Requires detailed consultation with the Mirning People, given WGEH's location on traditional lands.

### **Western Australian State Legislation**

#### *Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)*

- The primary environmental legislation in WA, under which the EPA Scoping Document is being assessed.
- Requires projects to meet air, water, and land pollution standards.
- Includes Part IV (Environmental Impact Assessment), which governs approvals for high-impact projects.

#### *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (WA)*

- Protects threatened species and ecological communities in WA.
- Requires surveys and mitigation plans for species impacted by land clearing and industrial activities.

#### *Water Services Act 2012 (WA)*

- Regulates water supply, desalination, and wastewater management.
- Requires WGEH to obtain approvals for water extraction and discharge.

#### *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (WA) & Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 (WA)*

- Requires heritage assessments and agreements with Traditional Owners before land disturbance.
- Penalties apply for unauthorised damage to significant Indigenous sites.

#### *Mining Act 1978 (WA)*

- Governs extraction of resources such as limestone and sand for concrete batching plants used in WGEH construction.
- Requires mining lease applications if quarrying occurs for infrastructure development.

WGEH must obtain approvals under multiple regulatory bodies before proceeding, including:

- EPA Western Australia – Public Environmental Review (PER) approval.

- Federal Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) – EPBC Act approval.
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) – Water and emissions management permits.
- Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) – Heritage and land use approvals.
- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) – Quarrying and resource extraction approvals.
- Clean Energy Regulator – Compliance with carbon reduction and hydrogen export standards.
- Shire of Dundas & Local Governments – Planning, road use, and waste management approvals.

### Policy Implications

#### Town Planning Scheme No 2

#### Relevant Shire of Dundas Policy Implications for the WGEH Project

The following policies from the Shire of Dundas Policy Manual 2020-21 are relevant to the assessment of the Western Green Energy Hub (WGEH) project and its potential impacts:

1. T.14 Development on Shire of Dundas Controlled Land
  - This policy outlines the process for development on Shire-owned and controlled land.
  - Implications: Any project development on Shire-managed land must have prior Council approval, including plans, costings, and impact assessments. This is crucial in assessing how WGEH will use and impact local land.
2. T.8 Gravel Pit Rehabilitation
  - Focuses on the rehabilitation of gravel pits, including progressive rehabilitation and monitoring.
  - Implications: The WGEH project should be required to provide a rehabilitation and monitoring plan for all land disturbances, including wind turbine and solar farm sites. The policy sets a precedent for environmental responsibility in resource extraction and infrastructure projects.
3. T.10 Trees and Native Vegetation
  - Encourages the appropriate planting and conservation of native vegetation within the Shire.
  - Implications: Given the large-scale clearing proposed for WGEH, the Project must demonstrate how it will mitigate biodiversity loss and comply with the Shire's commitment to conserving native flora.
4. T.7 Operation of Shire Plant
  - Ensures that Shire-owned equipment is operated only by authorised personnel.
  - Implications: If Shire equipment is required for site works or road maintenance, the Project must adhere to the Shire's safety and operational regulations.
5. Bushfire Control Policy (T.1)
  - Defines fire control responsibilities for various land types, including response plans and required resources.
  - Implications: The WGEH project increases bushfire risks due to the scale of development. The Project must include a fire prevention and management plan aligned with the Shire's policy.
6. Waste Management and Infrastructure Planning

- The policy framework does not explicitly outline waste management for large-scale projects.
  - Implications: The lack of defined waste management strategies in WGEH raises concerns about disposal, particularly for construction materials, desalination byproducts, and workforce-related waste.
7. Environmental and Social Impacts
- The Shire's policy manual does not contain explicit environmental offset or social impact policies for large-scale renewable projects.
  - Implications: The WGEH project must propose mechanisms for:
    - Environmental offsets.
    - Social infrastructure, including housing, education, healthcare, and emergency services.
    - Workforce sustainability, preventing fly-in-fly-out workforce impacts on local services and businesses.

#### Policy Recommendations

- The Shire may need to develop new policies requiring large-scale projects to:
  - Contribute to a local rehabilitation fund for environmental restoration.
  - Implement binding social impact mitigation measures.
  - Include monitoring and compliance systems to track adherence to environmental and social commitments.

#### Financial Implications

The size, complexity, and financial uncertainty of the Western Green Energy Hub (WGEH) project make it impossible to accurately determine the potential cost impact on the Shire of Dundas. The Project's heavy reliance on federal subsidies, potential strain on local infrastructure, and lack of financial safeguards create significant financial risks. Without clear commitments on funding allocations, infrastructure contributions, and rehabilitation responsibilities, the Shire cannot provide even an indicative cost estimate for the potential financial burden on local government services. The magnitude of this Project exceeds the Shire's financial and operational capacity, making long-term economic risks unpredictable.

#### Strategic Implications

The Western Green Energy Hub (WGEH) project poses a significant impact on several key strategic outcomes outlined in the Shire of Dundas Strategic Community Plan (2022-2023). The concerns raised in this submission align with the strategic priorities identified in the plan, particularly in areas related to environmental sustainability, economic development, infrastructure planning, and community well-being.

#### 1. Environmental Sustainability and Biodiversity Conservation

- Impact on Native Vegetation and Wildlife: The Project will result in significant land clearing (27,188 hectares), affecting native ecosystems, flora, and fauna.
- Biodiversity Protection: Risks to terrestrial, marine, and subterranean species, including the Nullarbor karst system's microbial life.
- Desalination and Marine Pollution: Potential contamination from desalination waste affecting coastal ecosystems and water quality.
- Ammonia Processing Impact: No assessment of the impact of ammonia production, transportation, and storage on air and water quality.
- Air Quality Concerns: Risks associated with dust generation, emissions from ammonia production, and wind farm-induced atmospheric changes.

#### 2. Economic Development and Financial Sustainability

- Reliance on Federal Subsidies: The Project is not financially viable without the \$660 million annual tax incentive, creating long-term financial risks.
- Potential Reduction in Local Government Grants: The hydrogen tax incentive is equivalent to 21.29% of the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) allocated to local governments, possibly diverting funds from essential community services.
- On-Selling Risk: If the Project becomes unviable, there is no safeguard preventing it from being sold to another company, potentially leaving local governments to deal with economic and environmental fallout.

### 3. Social Infrastructure and Workforce Planning

- Workforce Accommodation Challenges: The Project requires temporary accommodation near Madura and a permanent settlement in Eucla without clear plans for:
  - Waste management
  - Health services
  - Education and childcare for families
  - Emergency response and law enforcement
- Community Displacement and Social Impact: The sudden population increase will strain local resources, infrastructure, and social cohesion.

### 4. Infrastructure and Land Use Planning

- Increased Vehicle Traffic and Road Impact: The Project will introduce a high volume of maintenance vehicles on fragile landscapes, increasing dust pollution and soil erosion.
- Lighting Pollution and Noise Disturbance: Impact on wildlife movement and nesting due to turbine noise, vibrations, and excessive artificial lighting.
- Quarrying and Concrete Batching Environmental Risks: No climate impact assessment on quarrying materials, concrete production, or long-term carbon footprint of project operations.

### 5. Governance, Transparency, and Accountability

- Lack of Rehabilitation Funding: There is no mandated rehabilitation fund or environmental bond to ensure post-project site restoration.
- Limited Consultation with Stakeholders: No evidence of proper engagement with local communities, Indigenous groups, and regional stakeholders.
- Failure to Identify Regulatory Compliance Risks: Missing references to essential Western Australian environmental laws, such as:
  - Environmental Protection (Concrete Batching and Cement Product Manufacturing) Regulations 1998
  - Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004
  - DWER Guidelines for Dust Emissions

### Consultation

Councillors

CEO

Planning Consultant Tony Dowling

Alysha Kempt EHO Consultant

Senior Management of Western Green Energy Hub PTY LTD

### Comment

The Western Green Energy Hub (WGEH) project presents significant environmental, financial, and social risks that have not been adequately addressed in the EPA Scoping Document. The

scale and complexity of the Project, combined with uncertain financial viability, potential reductions in local government funding, and inadequate environmental safeguards, pose serious challenges to the Shire of Dundas and the surrounding region.

Without clear commitments on rehabilitation, workforce infrastructure, waste management, regulatory compliance, and financial security, the Project remains too uncertain for the Shire to support. The potential long-term impact on local government operations, community well-being, and the natural environment must be fully assessed before any approvals are granted. Further amendments and stronger safeguards are essential to protect the interests of the Shire and its residents.

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

#### Officer Recommendation

**That the Shire of Dundas Council supports the request to add the identified concerns and recommendations to the Western Green Energy Hub Environmental Scoping Document and authorises the CEO to formally submit this response to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for inclusion and consideration.**

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

#### Resolution

**That the Shire of Dundas Council supports the request to add the identified concerns and recommendations to the Western Green Energy Hub Environmental Scoping Document and authorises the CEO to formally submit this response to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for inclusion and consideration.**

### **10.2 Administration, Finance and Community Development**

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.2.1 – Receive the Information Bulletin</b>	
Location / Address	88-92 Prinsep Street, Norseman
File Reference	PE.ME.2
Author	Chief Executive Officer – Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	19 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

#### Summary

For Council to consider receiving the Information Bulletin for **18 March 2025**.

#### Background

The Councillors' Information Bulletin for the period ending **18 March 2025** was completed and circulated to Councillors.

### Statutory Environment

#### *Local Government Act 1995*

1. Section 2.7(2) - Provides that Council is to oversee the allocation of local government finances and resources and to determine the local government policies.
2. Section 3.1 – Provides that the general function of the local government is to provide for the good governance of persons in its district.

### Policy Implications

Council has no policies in relation to this matter.

### Financial Implications

The recommendation of this report has no financial implications for Council.

### Strategic Implications

Informing Elected Members with respect to matters impacting on their roles, responsibilities and decision making as the Shire of Dundas Council.

### Consultation

The IB Report is prepared in consultation with Senior Officers.

### Comment

The intent of the Councillors' Information Bulletin is to assist in providing Councillors with information relevant to their role as a Councillor.

The Information Bulletin contains confidential elements and is not a public document, it is distributed to Councillors and senior officers only and is not for public release.

### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

**Moved:** Cr. C McLeod

**Seconded:** Cr. S Warner

### Officer Recommendation

**That Council receive the monthly Councillors' Information Bulletin for the period ending 18 March 2025.**

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

**Resolution**

**That Council receive the monthly Councillors' Information Bulletin for the period ending 18 March 2025.**

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.2.2 – Financial Statements for the period ending 31 January 2025</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	FM.IN
Author	Moore Australia
Date of Report	28 February 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

**Appendix 4 Monthly Financial Report for the Period Ending 31 January 2025**

**Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. JEP Hogan

**Officer Recommendation**

**That the Shire of Dundas Financial Statements for the period ending 31 January 2025 be accepted.**

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

**Resolution**

**That the Shire of Dundas Financial Statements for the period ending 31 January 2025 be accepted.**

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.2.3 – Appointment of Council Committees' Presiding and Deputy Presiding Member</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	GV.CO.2
Author	Deputy CEO, Pania Turner
Date of Report	21 February 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

**Summary**

For the Council to appoint presiding member (required) and deputy presiding (optional) to each Shire of Dundas Council committees.

**Background**

Councils establish both formal and informal committees to support their strategic decision making and community outcomes.

Types of committees and groups include:

- Committees with delegated functions/powers (established under section 5.8).
- Advisory committees without delegated powers/duties (also under section 5.8).
- Informal working/advisory groups (not established under the Act).

The Local Government Amendment Bill 2024 introduced a number of changes to the *Local Government Act 1995 (the Act)*. Various reforms have been introduced including changes to section 5.12 of the Act which refers to Council committees, and the appointment of a presiding member. Previously the committee would elect those roles, the reform now requires that Council formally appoint these roles.

#### Statutory Environment

*Local Government Act 1995*

#### Policy Implications

Committees support the achievement of the Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032 outcomes.  
EM 6 Elected Members Code of Conduct  
A11 Council Meeting Public Notice Policy

#### Financial Implications

The costs associated Council Committees are contained in the annual budget.

#### Strategic Implications

Council committees support the achievement of the Strategic Community Plan outcomes.

#### Consultation

Elected Members  
Senior Officers

#### Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

#### Officer Recommendation

**That Council appoint:**

**Cr. John Maloney as the Presiding Member and Cr. Chantelle McLeod as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Shire of Dundas RoadWise Committee.**

**Cr. Sharon Brown as the Presiding Member and President Laurene Bonza as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Shire of Dundas Local Emergency Management Committee.**

**President Laurene Bonza as the Presiding Member and Cr. Sharon Brown as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Shire of Dundas Coastal Strategy Steering Committee.**

**Cr. JEP Hogan as the Presiding Member and Cr. Chantelle McLeod as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Shire of Dundas Local Business and Tourism Committee.**

**Cr. Sharon Warner as the Presiding Member and President Laurene Bonza as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Shire of Dundas Environmental and Community Health Committee.**

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

### **Resolution**

**That Council appoint:**

**Cr. John Maloney as the Presiding Member and Cr. Chantelle McLeod as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Shire of Dundas RoadWise Committee.**

**Cr. Sharon Brown as the Presiding Member and President Laurene Bonza as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Shire of Dundas Local Emergency Management Committee.**

**President Laurene Bonza as the Presiding Member and Cr. Sharon Brown as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Shire of Dundas Coastal Strategy Steering Committee.**

**Cr. JEP Hogan as the Presiding Member and Cr. Chantelle McLeod as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Shire of Dundas Local Business and Tourism Committee.**

**Cr. Sharon Warner as the Presiding Member and President Laurene Bonza as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Shire of Dundas Environmental and Community Health Committee.**

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.2.4 – Local Laws Review</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	LE.LO
Author	CEO, Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	6 February 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

### **Summary**

This report proposes that Council, in accordance with section 3.16 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, considers the public submissions received for the Shire of Dundas Dogs Local Law, the Shire of Dundas Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2016, and recommends the local laws not be amended.

With regards to the Shire of Dundas Norseman Cemeteries Local Law No.2 further investigation requires the Local Law to be repealed and a new local law-making process to commence.

### **Background**

Section 3.16 of the Act requires all local laws to be reviewed within an 8-year period from the date the local law commenced or was last reviewed.

The Shire of Dundas Norseman Cemeteries Local Law No.2 was adopted on 4 June 1999 and later amended on 6 January 2015, the Shire of Dundas Dogs Local Law was gazetted on 14 July 2006, and the Shire of Dundas Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2016 was gazetted on 26 September 2016 and was subsequently amended on 24 October 2017.

These local laws have not been reviewed or amended since these times.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held 25 February 2025, Council resolved that the local law review be laid on the table and presented at the next Ordinary Council Meeting as a discrepancy in the local law had been identified.

### Statutory Environment

*Section 3.16 of the Local Government Act 1995*

### Policy Implications

Nil.

### Financial Implications

Nil.

### Strategic Implications

## **GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP – GOAL 5**

We are a trusted Local Government; we are a strong advocate for our community; we lead with respect and accountability.

Objective 5.1 – A trusted Local Government

Objective 5.2 – We are a strong advocate for our community

### Consultation

On 22 October 2024, Council resolved to commence a review of the Shire of Dundas Norseman Cemeteries Local Law No.2, the Shire of Dundas Dogs Local Law and the Shire of Dundas Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2016. A public notice of the local law reviews was publicly advertised on the Council Website, Community Notice Boards, social media and the local newspaper from 30 October 2024 until 31 January 2025. This time exceeded the statutory 6-week public consultation timeframe.

At the end of the public consultation process, one submission was received for the Norseman Cemeteries Local Law No.2 and one submission received for the Shire of Dundas Dogs Local Law. No submissions were received for the Shire of Dundas Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2016.

The submission relating to the Norseman Cemeteries Local Law No.2 queried clause 7.9 – Plants and Trees, questioning why the CEO had been given authority to approve trees or shrubs planted on a grave or within the cemetery itself.

**Submission One:**

*“7.9 Plants and Trees No trees or shrubs shall be planted on any grave or within the cemetery except such as shall be approved by the CEO. Leaving this up to a CEO creates opportunity for inconsistency, and an environment where the CEO may be pressured by relationships within the community. This is especially true in small communities. Furthermore a legacy is then left for future CEOs and maintenance work. Rather it should be specific to gardens, and graves the places should be separated in the law.”*

In the local law authority is given to either the Board or to the CEO to issue approvals to do certain things in the cemetery (such as clause 7.9). Clause 2.1 of the local law then empowers the CEO to exercise all the powers and functions of the Board in respect of that cemetery unless there has been a direction given by the Board. Therefore, the CEO having authority to issue approvals for plants and trees within the cemetery is consistent with the broader framework of the local law.

The delegation of the Board's powers to the CEO ensures efficient administration and decision-making regarding cemetery management while allowing the Board to intervene if necessary.

Further investigation highlighted that the Law was outdated and did not meet the needs of the community, such as the approval of niche walls.

The submission received for the Dogs Local Law did not propose any amendments or identify any clauses in the local law that required attention. Instead, the submission related to the Rangers enforcement of the local law.

**Submission One:**

*“Dogs are wandering and nobody is able to do anything according to the ranger, he follows dogs home and then cannot do anything, this has to stop. If any dog is loose owners should be fined and animals removed if they do not pay a. Animals not getting fed properly! I cannot take my dog out anymore for fear I will be bitten. One ranger is not enough. Also some owners do not take care of their animals. Who cares about that and if the shire does care do something about it not just say oh shire wont do anything because of this and that. Enough is enough Shire knows about dogs left off leash at the shops, ranger sees it constantly. Traveler said to us we wont be coming back as a loose dog kept jumping on their animal???? There are notices leash dogs NOBODY takes any notice well the owners that think the law doesnt apply to them, does it????”*

**Comment**

The internal review of the Shire of Dundas Dogs Local Law, and taking into account the one public submission received, has revealed that this local law is also still fit for purpose with no changes required.

The Shire of Dundas Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2016 received no public submissions. Officers have reviewed this local law and do not propose any changes.

As the local laws do not require amendment, it is recommended that the local law review process be formally finalised.

**Officer Recommendation as presented at 21 February 2025 OCM**

**That Council:**

1. Notes the submissions received for the Shire of Dundas Norseman Cemeteries Local Law No.2, and the Shire of Dundas Dogs Local Law.
2. Agrees that the local law review processes has been finalised and resolves not to make any changes to the Shire of Dundas Norseman Cemeteries Local Law No.2, the Shire of Dundas Dogs Local Law, and the Shire of Dundas Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2016.

#### Additional Information

On 10 May 1999, Council resolved to adopt the Model Local Law (Cemeteries) 1998, with several amendments. These amendments included the removal of cremations, disposal of ashes (including the ability to have niche walls), matters relating to monuments, memorial plaques and licensing of monumental masons. The reasons for removing these provisions in the local law are not known. This local law came into effect in June 1999.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held 25 February 2025, Council resolved that the local law review be laid on the table and presented at the next Ordinary Council Meeting as a discrepancy in the local law had been identified. The current local law did not provide for niche walls for ashes, yet the cemetery provides these types of memorials.

It is unknown why niche walls were removed from the local law. However, it was considered necessary to amend the local law to correct this discrepancy. Given the need to commence the law-making process for this to occur, it was considered worthwhile to update a number of other areas in the local law to reflect current cemetery practices. As such, it was considered more practical to repeal the current local law and replace it with a more modern version.

If Council approve the law-making process for a cemeteries local law, a local public notice will be given advising that the Shire proposes to adopt the local law and gives a minimum of 6 weeks for community feedback.

A review of many other local governments cemetery local laws revealed that the Shire of Chittering Cemeteries Local Law 2023 was the most progressive, recognising rights of burials, accommodating natural burials and allowing for niche walls. A comparison between the current Shire of Dundas local law and the Shire of Chittering local law was undertaken to identify the differences between the two local laws. This is provided below. Clauses that appeared in both local laws have not been included.

<b>Norseman Cemeteries Local Law No.2</b>	<b>Chittering Cemeteries Local Law 2023</b>
Has definitions for: funeral director, headstone, mausoleum, monumental mason, single funeral permit, vault.	Definitions for: ashes, burial, business day, cemetery, coffin, district, grant of right of burial, interment, interment permit, local government, memorial, memorial plaque, memorial work, monument, natural burial, niche wall, set fee, shroud, standard grave, utility services, vehicle.
Mausoleums	Includes the need to maintain plans of the cemetery
	Right of burial – issuing of grants, holders rights, renewal of grants, replacement of grants, transfer of grants, exercising the rights of holder, the Board may enter into an agreement for maintenance

	More comprehensive details for an application for an internment permit
	Fixing of times for an internment
	Requirements for grave preparations
	Requirements for disposal of ashes
	Requirements for reopening a grave
	Requirements relating to exhumations
	Requirements for opening of coffin or removal of shroud
	Ashes not to be held by the Board
	Application to place a memorial
	Specifications for monuments, headstones, memorial plaque bases, memorial plaques, gravesite fencing
	Display of tradenames on memorials not allowed
	Utility services
	Board may close the cemetery
	Offensive matters
	Liability for damage or works required to comply
	Offence to fail to comply with a notice
	Board may undertake requirements of a notice
	Further modified penalties

Given the items that the Chittering local law covers, it is suggested that the Shire adopt the Shire of Chittering Local Law 2023 as published in the Government Gazette on 6 June 2023, with modifications, to reflect that it relates to the Shire of Dundas.

The purpose and effect of the local law is:

**Purpose:** To provide for the orderly management of the Norseman Cemetery and to create offences for inappropriate behaviour within the cemetery grounds.

**Effect:** To ensure compliance by all persons engaged in the administration of the cemetery, burying deceased in the cemeteries, or otherwise providing services to or making use of the cemeteries.

Local laws are made using the process set out in section 3.12 of the *Local Government Act 1995*. This requires the following:

- a) A local public notice stating that:
  - The local government proposes to make a local law that includes the purpose and effect
  - A copy of the proposed local law may be inspected or obtained at any place specified in the notice
  - Public submissions on the proposed local law can be made for a period of no less than 6 weeks.
- b) Provide a copy of the proposed local law to the Minister
- c) Provide a copy of the proposed local law to any person requesting it

Any feedback from the Minister or the community are to be considered by Council before the making the local law.

### Voting Requirements

Simple majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

**Officer Recommendation**

**That Council:**

1. Notes the submissions received for the Shire of Dundas Dogs Local Law.
2. Agrees that the local law review process has been finalised and resolves not to make any changes to:
  - a. The Shire of Dundas Dogs Local Law
  - b. The Shire of Dundas Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2016
3. Repeals the Shire of Dundas Norseman Cemeteries Local Law No.2.
4. Commences the law-making process for the Shire of Dundas Cemeteries Local Law 2025 with the purpose and effect of the local law being:

**Purpose:** To provide for the orderly management of the Norseman Cemetery and to create offences for inappropriate behaviour within the cemetery grounds.

**Effect:** To ensure compliance by all persons engaged in the administration of the cemetery, burying deceased in the cemetery, or otherwise providing services to or making use of the cemetery.

5. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to carry out the law-making process under section 3.12(3) of the *Local Government Act 1995* by:
  - a. Giving local public notice of the law; and
  - b. Giving a copy of the local law and public notice to the Minister for Local Government.
6. Notes that the Chief Executive Officer, after the close of the public consultation period, will submit a report to the Council on any submissions received on the proposed local law to enable the Council to consider the submissions made and to determine whether to make the local law in accordance with section 3.12(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.
7. Authorises the use of the Common Seal by President Laurene Bonza and CEO Peter Fitchat where required in the above local law processes.

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

**Resolution**

**That Council:**

1. Notes the submissions received for the Shire of Dundas Dogs Local Law.
2. Agrees that the local law review process has been finalised and resolves not to make any changes to:
  - a. The Shire of Dundas Dogs Local Law
  - b. The Shire of Dundas Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2016

3. Repeals the Shire of Dundas Norseman Cemeteries Local Law No.2.
4. Commences the law-making process for the Shire of Dundas Cemeteries Local Law 2025 with the purpose and effect of the local law being:

**Purpose:** To provide for the orderly management of the Norseman Cemetery and to create offences for inappropriate behaviour within the cemetery grounds.

**Effect:** To ensure compliance by all persons engaged in the administration of the cemetery, burying deceased in the cemetery, or otherwise providing services to or making use of the cemetery.

5. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to carry out the law-making process under section 3.12(3) of the *Local Government Act 1995* by:
  - a. Giving local public notice of the law; and
  - b. Giving a copy of the local law and public notice to the Minister for Local Government.
6. Notes that the Chief Executive Officer, after the close of the public consultation period, will submit a report to the Council on any submissions received on the proposed local law to enable the Council to consider the submissions made and to determine whether to make the local law in accordance with section 3.12(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.
7. Authorises the use of the Common Seal by President Laurene Bonza and CEO Peter Fitchat where required in the above local law processes.

Agenda Reference & Subject	
<b>10.2.5 – Use of the Common Seal for Parking Local Law</b>	
Location / Address	88-92 Prinsep Street, Norseman
File Reference	GV.AU.1
Author	CEO, Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	18 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

### Summary

On 25 February 2025 the Shire of Dundas Council resolved to make the Shire of Dundas Parking Local Law 2025. The next stage of the Local Law process requires a copy of the local law, affixed with the Common Seal, to be sent to the State Law Publisher to be published in the Government Gazette.

### Background

The use of the Common Seal by the Shire of Dundas is governed by the **Local Government Act 1995**, which provides the legal framework for its application. The Common Seal is used to formally authorise and execute documents on behalf of the Shire, including agreements, deeds, and contracts. Its use requires a resolution by the Council, ensuring that the document has been officially approved. The seal must be affixed in the presence of the Shire President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or another authorised officer who attests to its use. All actions involving the Common Seal are recorded in the official council records to maintain transparency and accountability.

### Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995 section 9.49A

Policy Implications

A.7 Common Seal

Financial Implications

Nil.

Strategic Implications

Nil

ConsultationElected Members  
Senior StaffComment

On 25 February 2025 the Shire of Dundas Council resolved to make the Shire of Dundas Parking Local Law 2025. The next stage of the Local Law process requires a copy of the local law, affixed with the Common Seal, to be sent to the State Law Publisher to be published in the Government Gazette.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

Officer Recommendation

**That Council delegate the use of the Common Seal by President Laurene Bonza and CEO Peter Fitchat to for the Shire of Dundas Parking Local Law 2025.**

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

Resolution

**That Council delegate the use of the Common Seal by President Laurene Bonza and CEO Peter Fitchat to for the Shire of Dundas Parking Local Law 2025.**

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.2.6 – 2024/25 Budget Review</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	FM.IN
Author	CEO, Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	19 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

Summary

To consider the Shire's financial position as of the 31 January 2025 and performance for the period 1 July 2024 to 31 January 2025 in relation to the adopted annual budget and projections estimated for the remainder of the financial year.

Background

The budget review has been prepared to include information required by the *Local Government Act 1995*, *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* and Australian Accounting Standards. The report for the period 1 July 2024 to 31 January 2025 shown in the attachment has been prepared incorporating year to date budget variations and forecasts to 30 June 2025 and is presented for council's consideration.

Consideration of the status of various projects and programs was undertaken to ensure any anticipated variances were captured within the review document where possible.

It is noted that the FY 23/24 Audit is not yet completed due to some differing opinions of the Local Government financial reporting requirements, these issues are being discussed between the OAG, Auditors and the Shire's accountants. As such the 30 June 2024 balance may be subject to change.

Comment

The budget review report includes at Note 4 a summary of predicted variances contained within the Statement of Financial Activity, including whether variances are considered to be permanent (where a difference is likely between the current budget and the expected outcome to 30 June) or due to timing (e.g. where a project is likely to be delayed).

Features of the budget review include:

The Shire was unsuccessful for the Animal Welfare Program, Emergency Management Plan & Mapping of Remote Roads, RED Grant Honeybee Industry. Decrease to CMPAP budget as revenue was recognised late June 2024.	(\$208,535)
An increased income budget for rates instalment fees, housing rental, airstrip landing fees and IGA/LPO revenue. Decrease in budget for gym memberships and sale of standpipe water.	\$134,550
Increase in budgets for rates instalment and penalty interest received. Interest earnings on reserve fund more than expected. Decrease in the municipal investment accounts lower than expected.	\$41,600
An increase in other revenue items relating to reimbursements for rates legal fees recovered. New budget item was for the CRC rent.	\$22,051
The sale of the Mitsubishi Fuso tip trucks and Fuso Tip Truck saw an asset disposal profit.	\$61,500
An increase to employee costs attributed to workers compensation insurance premiums not originally budgeted as employee costs but as insurance. Increased budget for the animal control, community development, building control, CRC, Woodlands, IGA, LPO, depot salaries and wages. Increased budget for waste facility superannuation. Increase to the staff training budget for the new plant purchases and also	(\$200,719)

workplace safety and equipment handling.	
Unsuccessful grant applications for the Animal Welfare Program, Emergency Management Plan & Mapping of Remote Roads, Tactical Hazard Reduction Program and RED Grant Honeybee Industry. Decrease in the administration cost reallocations, IGA operational costs and vehicle expenditure. Increase budget for subscriptions, public convenience building maintenance due to vandalism, gym building maintenance, dog park, Norseman and Eucla aerodrome general maintenance, marketing and communications publications, LPO plant costs and increase to parts and repairs.	\$403,824
Decrease over estimated budget for Council Bush Fire Brigade and public conveniences. Increase expenditure for public halls due to more functions held. Utilities budget for the Norseman aerodrome.	\$3,203
Decrease in most insurance budgets as workers compensation premiums are classified as employee costs. Increase insurance budgets for the laundromat, IGA and LPO.	\$74,834
Decrease original budget for marketing and communications publications as this is reclassified as materials and contracts. Increase budget for the Norseman Today donation	\$9,206
Non-cash amounts excluded from operating activities disposal of the Mitsubishi Fuso tip trucks.	(\$61,500)
Grant application unsuccessful for the Animal Welfare Program, Tactical Hazard Reduction Program and RED Grant Honeybee Industry. Increase to the Eucla Airstrip funding grant.	\$1,510,000
Proceeds from disposal of assets.	\$152,700
Remove from current budget and carry forward to 25/26 the land and housing/accommodation budgets as further scope and discussion required. Remove and carry forward the to the 25/26 budget the VFRS Clubhouse upgrades. Decrease to the IGA building upgrade budget. Increase budget for the relocation of the Anglican Church to the Museum. Increase budget for the Norseman airstrip terminal building air conditioners as quotes are higher than expected. Upgrade the electrical at swimming pool/gym for workplace safety.	\$648,160
Grant application unsuccessful for Animal Welfare Program and Tactical Hazard Reduction Program. Decrease budget for swimming pool LED Lighting on towers no longer going ahead. Decrease most plant purchase budgets as they have come under. New budget for the purchase of 2 x Mitsubishi Fuso Tip Trucks that were not carry forward from the 23/24 budget.	(\$425,873)
Increase budget for the Shire portion of the RRG works that was not originally captured. Increase to budget as per YTD actual expenditure as jobs completed for the 24/25 reseal and roads drainage	(\$237,333)

Increase budget for the technical upgrades of the Chambers and Community Meeting Room. Decrease budget for the Works Administration Office as purchases came under budget.	\$10,550
Increase budget for the Eucla airstrip upgrade. Decrease budget and carry forward to 25/26 all the footpath upgrades as will not be completed before June 2025.	(\$2,088,089)
Transfers from Reserve Accounts: Asset replacement purchase of Mitsubishi tip truck.	\$411,300
Transfers to reserve accounts	\$442,877
Surplus or deficit at the start of the financial year Difference between adopted 2024/25 budget and the closing balance of the 2023/24 unaudited statements.	(\$299,901)
<b>Surplus or deficit after imposition of general rates Difference between updated budget estimates and the current closing.</b>	<b>\$404,405</b>

In considering the above variances and projections within the attached budget review, the closing position is reflected in the Statement of Budget Review.

Following completion of the budget review and to properly consider the impact of estimated projections at 30 June 2025, some items have been identified as requiring a budget amendment to properly account for these variances where appropriate. Required budget amendments have been included in Note 4 of the attached budget review document for information and also presented as a separate recommendation to the budget review for council consideration.

#### Statutory Environment

Regulation 33A of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* requires:

- (1) Between 1 January and the last day of February in each financial year a local government is to carry out a review of its annual budget for that year.
- (2A) The review of an annual budget for a financial year must —
  - (a) consider the local government's financial performance in the period beginning on 1 July and ending no earlier than 31 December in that financial year; and
  - (b) consider the local government's financial position as at the date of the review; and
  - (c) review the outcomes for the end of that financial year that are forecast in the budget; and
  - (d) include the following —
    - (i) the annual budget adopted by the local government;
    - (ii) an update of each of the estimates included in the annual budget;
    - (iii) the actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income as at the date of the

review;

(iv) adjacent to each item in the annual budget adopted by the local government that states an amount, the estimated end of year amount for the item.

(2) The review of an annual budget for a financial year must be submitted to the council on or before 31 March in that financial year.

(3) A council is to consider a review submitted to it and is to determine\* whether or not to adopt the review, any parts of the review or any recommendations made in the review.

*\*Absolute majority required.*

(4) Within 14 days after a council has made a determination, a copy of the review and determination is to be provided to the Department.

Section 6.8(1) (b) of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides that expenditure can be incurred when not included in the annual budget provided it is authorised in advance by resolution (absolute majority required).

#### Policy Implications

There are no known policy implications for this matter.

#### Financial Implications

Authorisation of expenditure through budget amendments recommended. Other specific financial implications are as outlined in the body of this report.

#### Strategic Implications

Strategic Community Plan 2022 - 2032

- Goal 5: Governance and Leadership
- Outcome 5.1, A trusted local government
- Strategy 5.1.1, Accountable and informed decision-making by Council
- Strategy 5.1.2, Compliance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and all relevant legislation and regulations.

#### Consultation

Elected Members

Moore Australia WA

Senior Officers

#### Voting Requirement

Absolute Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner

**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

#### Officer Recommendation 1

**That Council adopt by absolute majority the 2024/2025 midyear budget review as attached.**

**Carried by: Absolute Majority**

For: Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

Against: 0

### **Resolution 1**

**That Council adopt by absolute majority the 2024/2025 midyear budget review as attached.**

#### Voting Requirement

Absolute Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

### **Officer Recommendation 2**

**That Council adopt by absolute majority the following budget amendments to the 2024/2025 adopted annual budget:**

#### **OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

##### **Revenue from operating activities**

Grants, subsidies and contributions	Decrease (\$208,535)
Fees and charges	Increase \$134,550
Interest revenue	Increase \$41,600
Other revenue	Increase \$22,051
Profit on asset disposals	Increase \$61,500

##### **Expenditure from operating activities**

Employee costs	Decrease (\$200,719)
Materials and contracts	Increase \$403,824
Utility charges	Increase \$3,203
Insurance	Increase \$74,834
Other expenditure	Increase \$9,206

#### **INVESTING ACTIVITIES**

##### **Inflows from investing activities**

Capital grants, subsidies and contributions	Increase \$1,510,000
Proceeds from disposal of assets	Increase \$152,700

##### **Outflows from investing activities**

Purchase of land and buildings	Increase \$648,160
Purchase of plant and equipment	Decrease (\$425,873)
Purchase of furniture and equipment	Increase \$10,550
Purchase and construction of infrastructure-roads	Decrease (\$237,333)
Purchase and construction of infrastructure-other	Decrease (\$2,088,089)

#### **FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

##### **Cash inflows from financing activities**

Transfers from reserve accounts	Decrease \$280,000
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##### **Cash outflows from financing activities**

Transfers to reserve accounts	Increase (\$442,877)
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Carried by: Absolute Majority

For: Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

Against: 0

### Resolution 2

That Council adopt by absolute majority the following budget amendments to the 2024/2025 adopted annual budget:

#### **OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

##### **Revenue from operating activities**

Grants, subsidies and contributions	Decrease (\$208,535)
Fees and charges	Increase \$134,550
Interest revenue	Increase \$41,600
Other revenue	Increase \$22,051
Profit on asset disposals	Increase \$61,500

##### **Expenditure from operating activities**

Employee costs	Decrease (\$200,719)
Materials and contracts	Increase \$403,824
Utility charges	Increase \$3,203
Insurance	Increase \$74,834
Other expenditure	Increase \$9,206

#### **INVESTING ACTIVITIES**

##### **Inflows from investing activities**

Capital grants, subsidies and contributions	Increase \$1,510,000
Proceeds from disposal of assets	Increase \$152,700

##### **Outflows from investing activities**

Purchase of land and buildings	Increase \$648,160
Purchase of plant and equipment	Decrease (\$425,873)
Purchase of furniture and equipment	Increase \$10,550
Purchase and construction of infrastructure-roads	Decrease (\$237,333)
	Decrease
Purchase and construction of infrastructure-other	(\$2,088,089)

#### **FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

##### **Cash inflows from financing activities**

Transfers from reserve accounts	Decrease \$280,000
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##### **Cash outflows from financing activities**

Transfers to reserve accounts	Increase (\$442,877)
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<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.2.7 – Appointment of Audit and Risk Committee</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	CM.ME
Author	DCEO, Pania Turner
Date of Report	14 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

Summary

The Local Government Act 1995 (the Act) requires that all local governments establish an audit committee. An audit committee plays a key role in assisting a local government to fulfil its governance and oversight responsibilities in relation to financial reporting, internal control structure, risk management systems, legislative compliance, ethical accountability and the internal and external audit functions.

### Background

Each local government must establish an audit committee with at least three members, the majority being elected members. The committee is appointed by an absolute majority decision of the Council. The CEO and employees cannot be members.

The role of the audit committee is to support Council in fulfilling its governance and oversight responsibilities in relation to financial reporting, internal control structure, risk management systems, internal and external audit functions and ethical accountability.

A number of Councils name title their audit committees as Audit and Risk Committee due to the committee considering matters beyond financial reporting such as internal control frameworks, risk management and ethical accountability such as the statutory Compliance Audit Return (CAR).

### Statutory Environment

*Local Government Act 1995*

*Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996*

### Policy Implications

The Audit Committee supports the review and compliance of Council's policies.

### Financial Implications

The costs associated Council Committees are contained in the annual budget.

### Strategic Implications

Committees support the achievement of the Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032 outcomes.

### Consultation

Elected Members  
Moore Australia  
Senior Officers

### Comment

The Shire of Dundas has traditionally appointed all members of Council as its Audit Committee. The formal appointment should happen after each local government election, as this has not occurred a recommendation is being presented to Council.

The committee will consist of eight members with six elected and two external persons and an independent chairperson. All members shall have full voting rights.

External persons appointed to the committee will have high-level business or financial management/reporting knowledge and experience and be conversant with financial and other reporting requirements.

Appointment of external persons shall be made by Council by way of a public advertisement and be for a maximum term of two years. The terms of the appointment should be considered to ensure an orderly rotation and continuity of membership despite changes to council's elected representatives.

#### Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority

*President Bonza moved to make an amendment to the recommendation.*

**Moved:** Cr. L Bonza  
**Seconded:** Cr. S Warner

#### Officer Recommendation

**That Council:**

- 1. Rename the Shire of Dundas Audit Committee to the Audit and Risk Committee.**
- 2. Appoint Cr. Laurene Bonza, Cr. Sharon Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. John Maloney, Cr. Sharon Brown, and Cr. Chantelle McLeod to the Shire of Dundas Audit and Risk Committee.**
- 3. Endorse the Shire of Dundas Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference as attached in papers relating.**
- 4. Authorise the CEO to commence the Expression of Interest process for nominations of suitably qualified external persons (two) to the Shire of Dundas Audit and Risk Committee. A report will be presented to Council at the close of the Expression of Interest process.**
- 5. Note that on the successful appointment of the external members, Council will commence the process to appoint the presiding member for the committee.**

#### Amended Recommendation

**That Council:**

- 1. Rename the Shire of Dundas Audit Committee to the Audit and Risk Committee.**
- 2. Appoint Cr. Laurene Bonza, Cr. Sharon Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. John Maloney, Cr. Sharon Brown, and Cr. Chantelle McLeod to the Shire of Dundas Audit and Risk Committee.**
- 3. Review the Shire of Dundas Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference as attached in papers relating.**
- 4. Authorise the CEO to commence the Expression of Interest process for nominations of suitably qualified external persons (two) to the Shire of Dundas Audit and Risk Committee. A report will be presented to Council at the close of the Expression of Interest process.**
- 5. Note that on the successful appointment of the external members, Council will commence the process to appoint the presiding member for the committee.**

**Carried by: Absolute Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

**Resolution**

**That Council:**

1. **Rename the Shire of Dundas Audit Committee to the Audit and Risk Committee.**
2. **Appoint Cr. Laurene Bonza, Cr. Sharon Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. John Maloney, Cr. Sharon Brown, and Cr. Chantelle McLeod to the Shire of Dundas Audit and Risk Committee.**
3. **Review the Shire of Dundas Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference as attached in papers relating.**
4. **Authorise the CEO to commence the Expression of Interest process for nominations of suitably qualified external persons (two) to the Shire of Dundas Audit and Risk Committee. A report will be presented to Council at the close of the Expression of Interest process.**
5. **Note that on the successful appointment of the external members, Council will commence the process to appoint the presiding member for the committee.**

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.2.8 Compliance Audit Return 2024</b>	
Location / Address	88-92 Prinsep Street, Norseman
File Reference	CM.ME
Author	CEO, Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	18 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

**Summary**

To consider the 2024, Compliance Audit Return (CAR) reviewed by the Audit Committee at its meeting held 18 March 2025, and the recommendations of the Audit Committee to adopt the CAR for submission to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC).

**Background**

Each year, Council is required to complete an annual compliance audit return for the calendar year immediately preceding (1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December) as published by the Department for Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries. The CAR is then to be reviewed by the Audit Committee and a report presented to Council prior to the adoption of the CAR.

This year, the CAR was reviewed and completed by Moore Australia WA. Tanya Browning, Director Local Government Advisory, from Moore Australia attended the Shire offices from 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025, during which time information to complete the CAR was gathered through interviews with senior staff and the inspection of various documents and records including:

- Minute books
- Tender Register
- Financial Interest & Return Register
- Complaints Register
- Delegations Register

- Council's Website

The CAR is one of the tools that allow Council to monitor how the organisation is functioning in regard to compliance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and provides the Audit Committee the opportunity to report to Council any cases of non-compliance or where full compliance was not achieved.

This process also provides opportunity for the Audit Committee to consider matters that may require further review within ongoing risk framework assessments and actions.

A summary of matters noted during the completion of the 2024 CAR in relation to instances of non-compliance were presented to the Audit Committee for information, which also note where actions have already been implemented to address some of these matters. The summary also noted general improvement opportunities to systems and processes which were identified through the completion of the CAR. These improvements may assist the Shire in its risk management activities and endeavours towards continual improvement of administrative and compliance functions.

The Audit Committee reviewed the CAR at its meeting held 18 March 2025 and resolved to accept the responses as presented, recommend to Council adoption of the 2024 CAR as well as authorisation for the Shire President and Chief Executive Officer to sign the CAR for submission to DLGSC. An extract of minutes of that meeting are attached to this report as well as the 2024 CAR.

#### Statutory Environment

Regulation 14 of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996* provides that:

- (1) A local government is to carry out a compliance audit for the period 1 January to 31 December in each year.
- (2) After carrying out a compliance audit the local government is to prepare a compliance audit return in a form approved by the Minister.
- (3A) The local government's audit committee is to review the compliance audit return and is to report to the council the results of that review.
- (3) After the audit committee has reported to the council under sub regulation (3A), the compliance audit return is to be —
  - (a) presented to the council at a meeting of the council; and
  - (b) adopted by the council; and
  - (c) recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which it is adopted.

Regulation 14 of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996* details the requirements regarding certifying the CAR and issuing to the Departmental CEO

Section 7.13(1)(i) of the *Local Government Act 1995* refers to the provisions within regulations regarding audits.

#### Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the recommendation of this report.

#### Financial Implications

There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendation of this report.

#### Strategic Implications

Strategic references within the Strategic Community Plan demonstrate connections between services and the desired outcomes and community vision for the Shire, particularly in relation to strategy 5.1.2 Compliance with the Local Government Act 1995 and all relevant legislation and regulations and 5.1.4 Risk is managed through planning and timely reporting of Senior Officers to Council.

#### Consultation

Pania Turner, Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Tanya Browning, Moore Australia WA

#### Risk Management

This item has been evaluated against the Shire of Dundas's Internal Audit and Risk Management Policy. The perceived level of risk is high prior to treatment, receipt of the report by the committee (and subsequently Council) as well as the progression of risk management activities may reduce the risk to low.

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

#### Officer Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. **Adopt the finalised 2024 Compliance Audit Return as contained in the Papers Relating; and**
2. **Authorise the Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer to sign the Compliance Audit Return for submission to DLGSC.**

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

#### Resolution

**That Council:**

1. **Adopt the finalised 2024 Compliance Audit Return as contained in the Papers Relating; and**
2. **Authorise the Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer to sign the Compliance Audit Return for submission to DLGSC.**

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.2.9 Local Government Elections Cost Estimate</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	GV.EL.21
Author	CEO, Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	19 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

## Summary

As the Council is aware, the next Local Government Ordinary Election will take place on 18 October 2025. Senior staff are requesting the Council to consider engaging the Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC) to oversee the election process.

## Background

Local Government elections play a crucial role in ensuring democratic representation within the Shire of Dundas. The upcoming Ordinary Local Government Election is scheduled for 18 October 2025, providing an opportunity for community members to elect representatives to serve on the Council.

The Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC) is the independent body responsible for conducting elections in Western Australia. Under the Local Government Act 1995, Councils have the option to appoint the WAEC to conduct their elections to ensure an impartial, professional, and efficient electoral process.

Historically, many Local Governments have opted to engage the WAEC due to its expertise in managing electoral logistics, ensuring compliance with regulations, and maintaining the integrity of election outcomes. Given the complexity of electoral procedures and the requirement for accuracy in vote counting, the engagement of the WAEC is being considered for the 2025 election to provide transparency and efficiency.

A cost estimate of \$11,244 (ex GST) has been provided by the WAEC to conduct the Election via postal voting. The Council has now been requested to consider this option and determine whether to proceed with WAEC's services for the upcoming Election.

## Statutory Environment

1. Local Government Act 1995 (WA)
  - Section 4.20 – Appointment of the WAEC as the Returning Officer to conduct elections.
  - Section 4.61 – Specifies the election method, including postal voting as an option.
  - Section 4.87 – Requires proper record-keeping and transparency in the election process.
2. Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1997
  - Outlines the procedural requirements for conducting Local Government elections.
  - Covers nomination processes, voting methods, and election day procedures.
3. Electoral Act 1907 (WA)
  - Governs the broader electoral processes and responsibilities of the WA Electoral Commission.
4. Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003 (WA)
  - Ensures integrity and accountability in the electoral process.

## Policy Implications

A.11 Council Meetings - Public Notice

A.10 Media and Community Communication Policy

## A.5 Record Keeping and Management

## A.3 Legal Representation

### Financial Implications

Associated costs are to be adopted in the 2025-26 financial year budget.

### Strategic Implications

1. Governance and Leadership
  - The plan emphasises transparent and accountable decision-making, which aligns with the need for a fair and well-managed election process.
  - Encourages community engagement in democratic processes, including voter participation in local elections.
  - Supports capacity-building for elected members, which is relevant as new councillors may be elected.
2. Community Engagement and Consultation
  - The Election is an opportunity to enhance community involvement in local government.
  - Ensures that election processes align with the Shire's commitment to community-led decision-making.
3. Sustainability and Financial Management
  - The cost of the Election (estimated at \$11,244 ex GST under the WAEC) needs to be managed efficiently within the Shire's budget.
4. Resilient and Connected Communities
  - The election process should encourage diverse representation to reflect the interests of all community groups.
  - A well-conducted election promotes trust and confidence in the Shire's leadership.
5. Legislative Compliance
  - The Strategic Plan supports adherence to the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1997, ensuring compliance with statutory election requirements.

### Consultation

Councillors  
WAEC  
Senior staff  
CEO

### Comment

The upcoming 2025 Local Government Ordinary Election, scheduled for 18 October 2025, presents an opportunity to ensure a transparent, efficient, and well-managed electoral process for the Shire of Dundas. Senior staff recommend that the Council consider engaging the Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC) to conduct the Election as a postal vote, ensuring compliance with legislative requirements and best practice in electoral management.

The cost estimate provided by WAEC is \$11,244 (ex GST), based on three councillor vacancies and a 50% voter response rate. The process will involve the appointment of a local Returning Officer and vote counting at the Shire office using CountWA.

Engaging the WAEC aligns with the Shire's Strategic Community Plan, particularly in good governance, community engagement, and legislative compliance. The Council has now been requested to consider this option and determine whether to proceed with the WAEC for the upcoming Election.

### Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

### Officer Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. **Accepts the cost estimate of \$11,244 (ex GST) provided by WAEC for the 2025 local government election administration (noting that final costs may vary depending on actual expenses incurred).**
2. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to formally notify WAEC in writing of the Council's decision and proceed with the necessary documentation for WAEC to manage the 2025 local government election process.**

**Carried by: Absolute Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

### Resolution

**That Council:**

1. **Accepts the cost estimate of \$11,244 (ex GST) provided by WAEC for the 2025 local government election administration (noting that final costs may vary depending on actual expenses incurred).**
2. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to formally notify WAEC in writing of the Council's decision and proceed with the necessary documentation for WAEC to manage the 2025 local government election process.**

## 10.3 Officer Reports

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.3.1 – Officers Reports</b>	
Location / Address	88-92 Prinsep Street, Norseman
File Reference	CM.PL.1
Author	Chief Executive Officer – Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	19 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

### Summary

That the Council receive Works and Services, Woodlands Cultural, Community & Visitor Centre, and Youth and Recreation Services and reports as contained in Papers Relating.

### Background

The Officers present their reports on activities for the past month. These reports are in papers relating.

#### Statutory Environment

Shire officers are required to deliver the activities, programs, works and services within the appropriate legislative requirements where applicable.

#### Policy Implications

Shire officers are required to deliver the activities, programs, works and services guided by and within the appropriate Shire policies and procedures where applicable.

#### Financial Implications

Shire officers are required to deliver the activities, programs, works and services within allocated budgets, and purchasing and procurement policies.

#### Strategic Implications

Shire officers deliver activities, programs, works and services to achieve the community outcomes identified within the Strategic Community Plan.

#### Consultation

CEO  
DCEO  
Manager of Works and Services  
Community and Tourism Coordinator  
Youth and Recreation Officer

#### Comment

The reports will advise councillors of the progress towards achieving the Strategic Plan's objectives.

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

#### Officer Recommendation

**That the Shire of Dundas Council receive the Works and Services, Youth and Recreation Services and Woodlands Cultural, Community & Visitor Centre reports as contained in Papers Relating.**

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

#### Resolution

That the Shire of Dundas Council receive the Works and Services, Youth and Recreation Services and Woodlands Cultural, Community & Visitor Centre reports as contained in Papers Relating.

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.3.2 – Request to keep additional dogs on a residential property</b>	
Location / Address	56 Roberts Street, Norseman
File Reference	LE.RE
Author	DCEO – Pania Turner
Date of Report	19 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

### Summary

For Council to give consideration to a request to keep four dogs on a residential property.

### Background

The Shire of Dundas has received a request from the resident of property 56 Roberts Street, Norseman to keep four dogs. The applicant currently has two dogs at the property and has requested to keep an additional two dogs at the property temporarily.

All four dogs have been registered with the Shire of Dundas.

### Statutory Environment

Dog Act 1976  
Dogs Local Law (Shire of Dundas)

### Policy Implications

Nil

### Financial Implications

Nil

### Strategic Implications

Nil

### Consultation

Elected Members  
Senior Officers  
Jo Morgan

### Comment

Under the Shire of Dundas Local Law for dogs, the maximum number of dogs for a residential property within the townsite is two dogs over the age of three months.

The resident has requested to keep an additional two dogs at the property at 56 Roberts Street, Norseman on a temporary basis due to family circumstances and the requirement to care for her grandchildren and their pets temporarily.

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

#### Officer Recommendation

**That Council grant approval for the housing of four dogs at 56 Roberts Street, Norseman, dependent on dog registration and appropriate fencing being in place.**

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

#### Resolution

**That Council grant approval for the housing of four dogs at 56 Roberts Street, Norseman, dependent on dog registration and appropriate fencing being in place.**

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.3.3 Shire of Dundas Motion – National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association – Federal Funding to Support Local Government in Advancing the Circular Economy</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	GR.SL.25
Author	Chief Executive Officer – Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	19 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

#### Summary

That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish a dedicated Circular Economy Fund for local governments, providing long-term financial support for initiatives that improve recycling, waste reduction, and sustainable resource recovery.

Summary of Key Arguments:

- Local governments bear the financial burden of managing Australia's waste streams but lack sufficient resources to develop and expand circular economy initiatives.
- The rising costs of waste disposal and landfill operations are unsustainable for councils, requiring urgent financial intervention.
- A dedicated federal funding stream will enable councils to establish resource recovery hubs, invest in new recycling technologies, and partner with industry to enhance waste sustainability.

Supporting councils through consistent and targeted funding will create regional jobs, reduce landfill waste, and improve environmental sustainability.

National Objective:

A well-funded circular economy strategy will strengthen local waste management systems, drive innovation in recycling, create new employment opportunities, and reduce environmental damage caused by landfill reliance.

Proposed Actions:

- The federal Government should establish a \$500 million circular economy fund for councils to develop regional waste reduction initiatives.
- Local governments are to be prioritized in national waste reduction strategies, ensuring funding for community-led recycling and material recovery projects.
- Expansion of Product Stewardship Programs that shift waste management costs from councils to manufacturers, ensuring industry responsibility in sustainable packaging and materials.

#### Member Comment

WALGA will be contacted for their input before submitting this to ALGA.

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

**Moved:** Cr. C McLeod

**Seconded:** Cr. S Warner

#### Officer Recommendation

**Motion to ALGA:**

**This proposal aims to:**

1. **Establish a dedicated, long-term funding stream to support local governments in developing circular economy initiatives that drive waste reduction, job creation, and sustainable resource management.**
2. **Ensure the funding is non-competitive and allocated through a direct, formula-based model similar to the Roads to Recovery Program, allowing councils to plan and implement waste management strategies effectively without the uncertainty of competitive grants.**

**Recommendation:**

The Shire of Dundas Council endorses the submission of this resolution to the 2025 ALGA National General Assembly, advocating for a dedicated Circular Economy Fund to provide financial support for local governments, enabling the development of regional recycling programs, innovative waste reduction strategies, and sustainable material recovery initiatives that will drive economic and environmental benefits for communities nationwide.

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

### **Resolution**

**Motion to ALGA:**

**This proposal aims to:**

1. **Establish a dedicated, long-term funding stream to support local governments in developing circular economy initiatives that drive waste reduction, job creation, and sustainable resource management.**
2. **Ensure the funding is non-competitive and allocated through a direct, formula-based model similar to the Roads to Recovery Program, allowing councils to plan and implement waste management strategies effectively without the uncertainty of competitive grants.**

**Recommendation:**

The Shire of Dundas Council endorses the submission of this resolution to the 2025 ALGA National General Assembly, advocating for a dedicated Circular Economy Fund to provide financial support for local governments, enabling the development of regional recycling programs, innovative waste reduction strategies, and sustainable material recovery initiatives that will drive economic and environmental benefits for communities nationwide.

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.3.4 Shire of Dundas Motion – National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association – Local Government Representation in Intergovernmental Forums</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	GR.SL.25
Author	Chief Executive Officer – Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	19 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

### **Summary**

- Local governments implement national policies on housing, disaster resilience, transport, and infrastructure yet lack formal representation in the policy-making process.
- Removing local government representation from the National Cabinet in 2020 has weakened advocacy for regional communities.
- State-based representation ensures all regions are heard, avoiding urban bias and recognizing the diverse needs of rural and remote councils.
- Including local government representatives in intergovernmental forums will foster better policy coordination, stronger economic planning, and improved national governance.

**National Objective:**

Local governments deliver essential services and infrastructure that directly impact communities. However, their absence from key national decision-making forums has led to policies that do not fully consider local impacts. By reinstating and formalizing local government representation in intergovernmental forums, councils can contribute meaningfully to shaping policies on housing, climate action, economic development, and service delivery.

Proposed Actions:

- ALGA will advocate for the statutory inclusion of local government representation in all relevant federal decision-making bodies.
- Establish a Local Government Advisory Panel within the National Cabinet to facilitate council input on key national policies.
- Ensure local government associations from each state and territory have a seat at major intergovernmental councils.

Member Comment

WALGA will be contacted for their input before submitting this to ALGA.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

Officer Recommendation

**Motion to ALGA:**

**The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to ensure permanent local government representation from each state and territory in intergovernmental forums, including the National Cabinet and key ministerial councils, to strengthen cooperation between all levels of Government and ensure local government perspectives are included in national decision-making.**

**Recommendation:**

**The Shire of Dundas Council endorses the submission of this resolution to the 2025 ALGA National General Assembly, advocating for the reinstatement of permanent local government representation in intergovernmental forums to enhance policy coordination, strengthen national decision-making, and ensure regional and remote councils have a voice in shaping federal policies.**

**Carried by: Simple Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

Resolution

**Motion to ALGA:**

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to ensure permanent local government representation from each state and territory in intergovernmental forums, including the National Cabinet and key ministerial councils, to strengthen cooperation between all levels of Government and ensure local government perspectives are included in national decision-making.

**Recommendation:**

The Shire of Dundas Council endorses the submission of this resolution to the 2025 ALGA National General Assembly, advocating for the reinstatement of permanent local government representation in intergovernmental forums to enhance policy coordination, strengthen national decision-making, and ensure regional and remote councils have a voice in shaping federal policies.

<b>Agenda Reference &amp; Subject</b>	
<b>10.3.5 MetCash Franchise – Moving from IGA to Village Grocer Branding</b>	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	FM.BU
Author	Chief Executive Officer – Peter Fitchat
Date of Report	19 March 2025
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

Summary

The proposed transition from Norseman IGA to Village Grocer, while remaining under Metcash, offers several compelling advantages for the Shire of Dundas. Enhanced autonomy in decision-making and community engagement are key benefits, allowing for tailored local products and policies. Establishing a distinct brand identity could strengthen community ties and attract loyal customers seeking unique shopping experiences. However, challenges such as brand recognition and increased operational responsibilities need careful consideration. Overall, embracing the Village Grocer model presents an opportunity to enhance local identity and flexibility while navigating potential drawbacks.

Background

Remaining in the current 90+-year-old building offers the Shire of Dundas a unique opportunity to maintain flexibility under the Village Grocer branding. Unlike the IGA brand, which imposes stringent operational and aesthetic standards, Village Grocer allows for greater freedom in customising the store layout, product offerings, and store design to suit local needs and preferences better.

The age of the building presents challenges in terms of infrastructure, but it also provides the potential for creative solutions that align with the Village Grocer identity. With Village Grocer, there is room for modernisation without being constrained by the IGA brand's rigid requirements. This flexibility extends to store policies, marketing strategies, and product pricing, giving the Shire the ability to adapt the store to its own vision and the Community's evolving demands.

Moreover, Village Grocer supports an independent store identity, which can leverage the character of the older building to appeal to customers seeking a more personalised and local shopping experience. The transition provides an opportunity to blend the historic charm of the building with modern retail practices, ensuring that the store remains a central part of the Community while embracing a unique market position.

### Statutory Environment

Under the Local Government Act 1995, it is a requirement that the Shire's Annual Budget be adopted by 31 August each year, unless Ministerial approval is obtained for an extension. The transition from IGA branding to Village Grocer branding does not involve the purchase of a new store or any significant capital expenditure. It is purely a rebranding exercise, which falls within the scope of operational adjustments rather than a new capital project.

In compliance with Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act, a detailed estimate for the current financial year has been prepared and included as part of the Shire's draft Budget. This includes:

- The particulars of the estimated expenditure related to the branding change.
- The expected revenue and income, excluding general rates.

Additionally, as outlined in Section 6.8 of the Local Government Act, expenditure from the municipal fund for any additional purpose must be authorised in advance. Given that this rebranding is within the existing operational framework, it does not require new expenditure outside the approved budget unless authorised by Council resolution or in an emergency situation. This ensures that the transition aligns with statutory requirements while allowing for necessary adjustments in operations under the Village Grocer brand.

### Policy Implications

Nil

### Financial Implications

Given that the financial implications are reduced to meet the Village Grocer branding and the associated costs are already allocated in this financial year's budget if we are moving away from the IGA Branding.

### Strategic Implications

#### **Theme 2 – A thriving local economy and economic base**

A strong, diversified economy with a number of commercial businesses and industries providing new and varied employment opportunities for all age groups.

<b>Strategy 2</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Priority</b>
<b>2.1 Opportunity for Economic Diversification</b>	A vibrant economy that includes opportunities for mining, industry, tourism, shopping, and business.	The level and diversity of businesses, including mining, industry, tourism, and commercial activity is increasing.	Medium
<b>2.2 Attracting new businesses</b>	New businesses are attracted to the area and existing ones encouraged to grow through promotion of the area as an attractive place to work and live.		

<b>2.4 Provide infrastructure that stimulates growth</b>	To assist in the provision of infrastructure that encourages development of existing and new business opportunities.	Increased level of infrastructure that is beneficial to business and industry.	High
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### Theme 3 – Natural & Built Environment

A protected and enhanced environment that is aesthetically pleasing and provides benefits for the Community for generations to come.

Strategy 3	Goal	Measure	Priority
<b>3.3 Enhanced transport access and infrastructure.</b>	Improved infrastructure within the Shire and good transport access to and around Norseman.	Existing infrastructure that meets Community expectations and requirements. A measurable improvement in levels of infrastructure.	High
<b>3.5 Improved streetscape.</b>	To improve the streetscape for the town sites of Norseman and Eucla	That the town sites in the Shire are attractive, well presented and encourage people to work, live and visit the Shire.	Medium

#### Consultation

Councillors  
 Executive Staff  
 Community Consultation to follow

#### Comment

The transition from IGA branding to Village Grocer branding represents an exciting opportunity for the Shire of Dundas to enhance the local identity and operational flexibility of the Norseman store. By shifting to Village Grocer, we can tailor the store's offerings to better meet the needs of our Community while maintaining a relationship with Metcash for supply chain support. This change will allow for a distinct brand identity, increased autonomy in decision-making, and the ability to implement initiatives that align with local values.

Financially, the rebranding will not require additional expenditure beyond what has already been allocated in this year's budget, which is currently under review by the Council. This ensures that the transition is cost-effective and aligned with the Shire's fiscal planning. Furthermore, the flexibility provided by the Village Grocer model, including the option to retain

local character within the existing 90+ year-old building, offers an exciting way to modernise without significant infrastructure costs.

While challenges such as brand recognition and the loss of certain IGA-specific programs (e.g., the Community Chest) exist, the long-term benefits of greater local engagement, customised product offerings, and operational independence make this an ideal path forward. We are confident that this change will help strengthen the store's connection with the Community, and we look forward to the positive impact it will have on both the business and the Shire as a whole.

Council approval of this branding change is recommended to proceed as planned, utilising the resources already outlined in the budget.

#### Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority

**Moved:** Cr. S Warner  
**Seconded:** Cr. C McLeod

#### Officer Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. Approve the transition of the Norseman IGA to Village Grocer branding while remaining part of the Metcash franchise.
2. Authorise the Executive Team to commence the rebranding process, including making the necessary operational adjustments and coordinating with Metcash to ensure continued supply chain support.
3. Approve the initiation of community consultation to engage with residents and stakeholders to ensure the transition aligns with community needs and expectations.

**Carried by: Absolute Majority**

**For:** Cr. L Bonza, Cr. S Warner, Cr. JEP Hogan, Cr. J Maloney, Cr. S Brown, Cr. C McLeod

**Against:** 0

#### Resolution

**That Council:**

1. Approve the transition of the Norseman IGA to Village Grocer branding while remaining part of the Metcash franchise.
2. Authorise the Executive Team to commence the rebranding process, including making the necessary operational adjustments and coordinating with Metcash to ensure continued supply chain support.
3. Approve the initiation of community consultation to engage with residents and stakeholders to ensure the transition aligns with community needs and expectations.

### **11. Elected Members Motions of Which Previous Notice Has Been Given**

### **12. New Business of an Urgent Nature Introduced by the President or by a decision of the Meeting**

The following items of urgent business were accepted for consideration by the President or by majority of the members of the Council:

#### **Recommendation**

**That the members of the Council agreed to the introduction of the following late item for decision.**

### **13. Next Meeting**

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Council is scheduled to be held at **6.00 pm AWST 15 April 2025 in Norseman.**

There being no further business the Shire President will declare the meeting closed at: 4.58PM (ACWST)