



Notice is given that a Meeting of Council will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, 16 December 2025

Time: 3.00pm

Location: Loddon Shire Council Chambers, Wedderburn

AGENDA

Council Meeting

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OPENING COMMENT

This meeting is being recorded and audio streamed via the Council website.

1 OPENING AFFIRMATION

“We, the Councillors of the Loddon Shire, declare that we will carry out our duties in the best interests of the community, and through collective leadership will maintain the highest standards of good governance.”

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

“The Loddon Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are gathered and pays its respects to their Elders both past and present.”

3 APOLOGIES**4 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

5 PREVIOUS MINUTES**5.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

File Number: FOL/19/45615
Author: Lisa Clue, Manager Governance
Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirm the Minutes of the following meetings as previously circulated to Councillors:

1. Council Briefing of 25 November 2025
2. Council Meeting of 25 November 2025

REPORT

This report seeks Council confirmation of Minutes from the November 2025 Council Briefing and Council Meeting as previously circulated to Councillors.

6 COUNCIL AUSPICED MEETINGS**6.1 RECORD OF COUNCIL AUSPICED MEETINGS**

File Number: 02/01/001
Author: Lisa Clue, Manager Governance
Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirm the records of the following auspiced meeting as detailed within this report:

1. Council Briefing held 25 November 2025.

Rule 35 of Council's Governance Rules requires a record of meetings conducted under the auspices of Council to be presented to the next available scheduled Council meeting for confirmation that must include:

- a) a record of which Councillors and officers attended the meeting;
- b) a summary of the matters considered in the meeting; and
- c) a record of any conflicts of interest disclosed by Councillors and officers and any Councillors or officers that left the meeting whilst a matter that their conflict of interest related to was being discussed.

Section 3 of the Governance Rules defines meetings conducted under the auspices of Council to mean a meeting of the kind described in section 131(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 and includes a meeting which:

- a) is schedule or planned for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors;
- b) is attended by a majority of Councillors;
- c) is attended by at least one member of Council staff; and
- d) is not a Council meeting or delegated committee meeting.

This report seeks confirmation of the Council Briefing held on 25 November 2025.

Meeting details	Briefing
Date	25 November 2025
Councillor Attendees	Cr Straub (Mayor) Cr Angelo Cr Holt Cr Weaver Cr Wilson
Staff/ Stakeholder representatives	Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer Wendy Gladman, Director Community Wellbeing Michelle Stedman, Director Corporate Steve Van Orsouw, Director Operations Lisa Clue, Manager Governance Reece Carroll (Acting Manager Organisation Development) – Items 3 and 4 below Amber Lockhart (Team Leader Records and Customer Service) – Item 4 below Natalie Martin (Manager Financial Services) – Item 6 below
Item(s) discussed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of Council Meeting Agenda 2. Strategic Risk Review 3. Councillor Professional Development Training – Occupational Health and Safety, Sexual Harassment, Diversity and Inclusion 4. Customer Service Charter Workshop 5. Councillor Feedback Request – Impact & Readiness Strategy 6. Finance Report for Quarter Ending 30 September 2025 7. Australia Day 2026 8. General Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Risk Review summary • Award nominations • Australian Travel Writers • Gifts
Conflict of Interest Disclosures – Councillor/officer making disclosure	Nil
Councillor/officer left room	N/A

7 REVIEW OF ACTIONS**7.1 REVIEW OF ACTIONS**

File Number: 02/01/002
Author: Lisa Clue, Manager Governance
Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: 1. Status of Council resolution actions

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the status of Council resolution actions, as attached to this report.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this report, or involved in the subject matter of the report.

REPORT

A document containing the status of actions associated with Council resolutions is attached to this Agenda report.

There were no outstanding actions prior to the November 2025 Council meeting.

Five of the six actions from November Council meeting resolutions have been acted upon. One action, relating to updating Council's 2024 Priorities document, has commenced.

Status of Council resolution actions

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 25/11/2025	Colls, Renae Fitzgerald, Lincoln	Compliance Reports	NOTICE OF MOTION - CHILDCARE ADVOCACY
RESOLUTION 2025/200			
Moved: Cr Miki Wilson			
Seconded: Cr David Weaver			
1) That the Councils September 2024 priorities document be superseded with a priorities document for the November 2026 State election.			
2) That Council acknowledge and advocate for a fair and equitable rural childcare model, wherever it is needed in Loddon Shire.			
CARRIED			
08 Dec 2025 12:59pm Colls, Renae - Commenced			
In line with the resolution, the action to update Council's 2024 Priorities document has commenced.			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 25/11/2025	Clue, Lisa Stedman, Michelle	Decision Reports	Council Meeting Schedule
RESOLUTION 2025/186			
Moved: Cr Miki Wilson			
Seconded: Cr Nick Angelo			
That Council:			
1. approves the schedule of Council Meetings for 2026 contained within this report; and			
2. provides public notice of the 2026 Schedule of Council Meetings in accordance with Council's Governance Rules.			
CARRIED			
08 Dec 2025 12:17pm Clue, Lisa - Completion			
The 2026 schedule of meetings has been updated on Council's website and communication has been prepared for local print media in early December and throughout 2026.			

Status of Council resolution actions

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 25/11/2025	Cooper, Adam Stretch, David	Decision Reports	Contract C660 - Annual Reseals 2025-2026
RESOLUTION 2025/188			
Moved: Cr Miki Wilson			
Seconded: Cr David Weaver			
That Council:			
1. Award contract C660 – Annual Reseals 2025-2026 to InRoads Pty Ltd			
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to utilise any unallocated portion of budgeted funds to cover any required variations and design adjustments within the annual reseal program			
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to reallocate any remaining funds after completion of the reseal program to other projects under the Roads to Recovery program			
4. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake the necessary administrative actions to complete the Contract documents.			
			CARRIED
08 Dec 2025 2:14pm Cooper, Adam - Completion			
The Contract has been signed and filed.			

Status of Council resolution actions

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 25/11/2025	Cooper, Adam Stretch, David	Decision Reports	C650 - Civil Infrastructure Works Panel
RESOLUTION 2025/187			
Moved: Cr Gavan Holt			
Seconded: Cr David Weaver			
That Council:			
1. Appoint the conforming companies to C650 – Civil Infrastructure Works Panel			
Berne Fleming			
Central Vic Stabilising			
Country Wide Asphalt			
Earthlink Civil			
Eco Infrastructure and Engineering			
Inroads			
JMM			
Maine Civil Pty Ltd			
RECivil Pty Ltd			
S & N Road Stabilising Pty Ltd			
S & R Engineering			
Sydney Civil Comm			
SJK Excavations Pty Ltd			
Stabilized Pavements Aust			
Goldfields Pavements Pty Ltd			
MCM Services and;			
Yousuf Civil Constructions			
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake the necessary administrative actions to complete the Contract documents.			
			CARRIED
08 Dec 2025 2:14pm Cooper, Adam - Completion			
Procurement officers are working through completing Contract Agreements for all panel contract members.			

Status of Council resolution actions

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 25/11/2025	Gladman, Wendy Gladman, Wendy	Decision Reports	DRAFT DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026-2029 FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY
RESOLUTION 2025/190			
Moved: Cr Nick Angelo			
Seconded: Cr Miki Wilson			
That Council place the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026-2029 on public display and seek community feedback.			
CARRIED			
08 Dec 2025 5:14pm Gladman, Wendy - Completion			
Community feedback is being sought on the Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan until 21 December 2025, advertised in local print and social media, and on Council's website			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 25/11/2025	Stedman, Michelle Stedman, Michelle	Decision Reports	Fraud and Corruption Control Policy (v6) and Fraud and Corruption Control Plan
RESOLUTION 2025/189			
Moved: Cr David Weaver			
Seconded: Cr Nick Angelo			
That Council adopts the			
1. Fraud and Corruption Control Policy (v6), and			
2. Fraud and Corruption Control Plan (v1).			
CARRIED			
08 Dec 2025 12:18pm Clue, Lisa - Completion			
The documents have been updated to reflect their adoption by Council and uploaded to Council's website.			

8 MAYORAL REPORT**8.1 MAYORAL REPORT**

File Number: 02/01/001
Author: Lisa Clue, Manager Governance
Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Mayoral Report.

REPORT

Mayor Straub will present a verbal report at the meeting.

Loddon Campaspe Councils	
Murray River Group of Councils	
North Central Local Learning and Employment Network	
Rural Councils Victoria	
Section 65 Community Asset Committees:	
East Loddon Community Centre	
Pyramid Hill Memorial Hall	
Other Council activities	
Date	Activity

9 COUNCILLORS' REPORT**9.1 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

File Number: 02/01/001
Author: Lisa Clue, Manager Governance
Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Councillors' reports.

REPORT

Each Councillor will present a verbal report at the meeting.

Cr Angelo

Australia Day Committee	
North Central Goldfields Regional Library	
Other Council activities	
Date	Activity

Cr Holt

Audit and Risk Committee	
Municipal Association of Victoria	
Section 65 Community Asset Committees:	
Donaldson Park	
Hard Hill Tourist Reserve	
Wedderburn Community Centre	
Wedderburn Engine Park and Market Square Reserve	
Wedderburn Mechanics and Literary Institute Hall	
Other Council activities	
Date	Activity

Cr Weaver

Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee	
Rail Freight Alliance	
Section 65 Community Asset Committees:	
Boort Aerodrome Boort Memorial Hall Boort Park Korong Vale Mechanics Hall Korong Vale Sports Centre Little Lake Boort Yando Public Hall	
Other Council activities	
Date	Activity

Cr Wilson

Calder Highway Improvement Committee	
Section 65 Community Asset Committees:	
Inglewood Community Sports Centre Inglewood Community Elderly Persons Units	
Other Council activities	
Date	Activity

10 DECISION REPORTS**10.1 STRATEGIC RISK REVIEW AND REPORT****File Number:****Author:** Michelle Stedman, Director Corporate**Authoriser:** Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Strategic Risk Report - December 2025**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approve the Strategic Risk Report – December 2025.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this report, or involved in the subject matter of the report.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council most recently approved the Strategic Risk Report in March 2024.

Councillors commenced a review of the strategic risks at the March 2025 Forum and were briefed on the progress of the strategic risk review and Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) discussion at the June 2025 Forum. Following a series of councillor workshops the review progressed through to finalisation at the November Briefing.

BACKGROUND

The Victorian Government established the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) in 2014 to ensure that all Councils are measuring and reporting on their performance in a consistent way. The LGPRF includes an indicator specifically relating to reporting on strategic risks to Council's operations, their likelihood and consequences of occurring, and risk minimisation strategies. The requirement to report on strategic risks is also documented within Council's Risk Management Framework.

This report seeks Council approval of the Strategic Risk Report – December 2025.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

Council experiences many different types of risks generally divided into two categories, operational and strategic.

Operational risks are those which would impact achievement of the current objectives or strategy and are managed within the organisation. Strategic risks are those risks that may require a change in current strategy and are managed by the Council.

The most recent review of Council's strategic risks commenced in March 2025.

In August 2025, Councillors considered feedback received from Council's Audit and Risk Committee and the top ten risks identified in the JLT Public Sector Risk Report 2022/23.

Councillors finalised six strategic risk descriptions, and confirmed one strategic risk is to be removed from the Strategic Risk Register.

Over recent months, a review of strategic risks has progressed during Councillor Forums and Briefings.

The Strategic Risk Report – December 2025, attached to this Agenda report, includes the Strategic Risk Register (with inherent and residual risk levels), controls in place to reduce or mitigate each risk and the effectiveness of those controls.

COST/BENEFITS

The benefit of developing the Strategic Risk Report is an awareness across the organisation of the external environment that may impact Council's ability to achieve its strategic objectives.

It is not anticipated that any costs will be incurred as a result of the Strategic Risk Report. Costs associated with the implementation of risk mitigation measures are managed through annual budgeting processes in consultation with Councillors.

RISK ANALYSIS

This report assesses the strategic risks that may impact Council achieving its strategic objectives while also addressing statutory risk management obligations.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The strategic risk review has been discussed with Council's Audit and Risk Committee at its May and November meetings.

LODDON SHIRE COUNCIL

STRATEGIC RISK REPORT – December 2025



DOCUMENT INFORMATION

DOCUMENT TYPE:	Strategic document
DOCUMENT STATUS:	Under Review
POLICY OWNER POSITION:	Director Corporate
INTERNAL COMMITTEE REVIEW:	Audit and Risk Committee
APPROVED BY:	Council
DATE ADOPTED:	TBC
VERSION NUMBER:	3
REVIEW DATE:	TBC
DATE RESCINDED:	-
RELATED STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS, POLICIES OR PROCEDURES:	Risk Management Policy Risk Management Framework Risk Appetite Statement
RELATED LEGISLATION:	
EVIDENCE OF APPROVAL:	

Signed by Chief Executive Officer

FILE LOCATION: K:\EXECUTIVE\Strategies policies and procedures\Strategies

Strategic documents are amended from time to time, therefore you should not rely on a printed copy being the current version. Please consult the Loddon Shire website to ensure that the version you are using is up to date.

This document is available in alternative formats (e.g. larger font) if requested.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Loddon Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land comprising the Loddon Shire Council area. Council would like to pay respect to their Elders both past and present.

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1 PURPOSE

Section 98 of the *Local Government Act 2020* prescribes the content of Council's Annual Report.

The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* (Regulations) require Council to comply with annual reporting requirements. Those requirements include the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF). Indicators within the LGPRF are reported in Council's Annual Report.

Section 12 (Governance and management checklist) of the Regulations states:

For the purposes of 131(3)(a)(ii) of the Act—

- a) the prescribed governance and management checklist is set out in column 1 of Schedule 1;*
- b) the prescribed form of the results of Council's assessment against the prescribed governance and management checklist is set out in column 2 of Schedule 1.*

The requirement for six monthly reports of strategic risks to Council's operations, their likelihood and consequences of occurring and risk minimisation strategies is contained within Item 19 of Schedule 1.

2 BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Additional budget required to implement risk mitigation measures will be requested through standard budget processes.

3 RISK ANALYSIS

This report has been developed to assess the strategic risks that Council faces in achieving its strategic objectives.

4 STRATEGIC VERSUS OPERATIONAL RISKS

Council experiences many different types of risks, generally divided into two categories, operational or strategic.

Operational risks are those which would impact achievement of the current objectives or strategy and are managed within the organisation. Strategic risks are those risks that may require a change in current strategy and are managed by the Council.

Strategic risks have been identified as relating to delivery of the strategic objectives of Council, and form the Strategic Risk Register which forms part of this report.

5 IDENTIFICATION OF STRATEGIC RISKS

The review of Council's strategic risks has been undertaken during sessions with Councillors and the Audit and Risk Committee.

It is acknowledged that there will be varying views about this assessment, particularly around the risks included on the register and the assessment of the inherent and residual risks. They are quite subjective, and opinions will vary as to how reflective they are of the current state.

Each aspect of the Strategic Risk Register can and will be refined during each review and additional strategic risks can be considered.

6 ASSESSMENT OF RISKS

In accordance with LGPRF, Council is required to assess its strategic risks every six months, including their likelihood and consequences of occurring and risk minimisation strategies.

Likelihood and consequences are identified in Council's Risk Management Policy. Appendix A - Consequence Table, Appendix B - Likelihood Table, and Appendix C - Risk Matrix.

6.1 Inherent and Residual Risks

The first level of assessment of each of the strategic risks is inherent risk; the second level of assessment is residual risk. Inherent risk is commonly defined as "the risk without considering internal controls" or alternatively "a raw risk that has no mitigation factors or treatments applied to it."

Residual risk on the other hand is commonly defined as "the level of risk remaining after controls have been applied." Therefore, the difference between inherent risk and residual risk is the controls that are in place to reduce or mitigate the risk.

6.2 Controls

As the residual risk will be determined by the effectiveness of the controls in place, they are rated as Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor, or Non-Existent, as per below:

CONTROL EFFECTIVENESS	DESCRIPTION	COLOR
Excellent controls	Negligible control gaps. Controls treat the root causes of the risks. Controls eliminate the risk. All controls are well designed for the risk. Many lines of defence. Critical controls are quality assured.	Excellent controls
Good controls	There are a few control gaps. A few controls rely on procedural compliance. Several lines of defence. Most controls are well designed for the risk. Risk to health and safety is reduced as far as is reasonably practicable.	Good controls
Fair controls	There are some control gaps. Some controls rely on procedural compliance. A few lines of defence. Risk to health and safety is likely to be reduced as far as is reasonably practicable	Fair controls
Poor controls	There are many control gaps. Most controls rely on procedural compliance. Single line of defence. Risk to health and safety may not be reduced as far as is reasonably practicable	Poor controls
Non-existent controls	No effective controls are in place. Risk to health and safety is not reduced as far as is reasonably practicable	Non-existent controls

7 FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTROLS

Where a control effectiveness is identified as less than Excellent, effort may be required to improve the quality of the control environment. New controls may also be identified to focus effort on risk mitigation.

It should be noted that for some strategic risks, even the best controls may not mitigate the overall impact. e.g. A one-in-100 year flood will always cause significant damage regardless of how many effective controls are in place.

8 REVIEW

In accordance with LGPRF, Council is required to assess its strategic risks every six months. Where possible and appropriate, this document will be reviewed on a six-monthly cycle, aligned with timeframes identified in risk management documents and the Audit and Risk Committee Charter.

Regular review will provide opportunity to assess the current external context to identify any new or emerging strategic risks. It will also enable strategic opportunities to be included as they are identified.

9 STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

Risk ID	Risk Description	Inherent Risk Level	Residual Risk Level
32	Limited ability to impact and diversify Council's revenue base, combined with rising expenses, leads to long-term financial unsustainability and reduced ability to deliver the Council Plan.	Very High	Very High
56	Demographic shifts and declining community volunteerism reduces the availability of volunteers to support key community services, leading to service gaps or increased costs to Council.	High	Medium
80	Weather events such as drought, flood and storms, damage infrastructure, disrupt operations and impact Council's ability to deliver core services.	Very High	Very High
182	Failure to ensure the security and resilience of Council's digital infrastructure undermines community trust and disrupts strategic service delivery.	Very High	High
231	Disruption in workforce, contractor availability, or supply chains will delay or alter the delivery of Council projects and services, requiring reprioritisation of resources, impacting community outcomes.	High	Medium
241 (new)	A decline in civic participation and community leadership driven by demographic, social or political change undermines local democratic processes and reduces community representation in decision-making.	High	Medium

10 CONTROLS

The following controls have been applied to each of the six strategic risks identified, which have impacted the inherent risk by reducing it in four of the five risks.

10.1 Risk #32

Limited ability to impact and diversify Council's revenue base, combined with rising expenses, leads to long-term financial unsustainability and reduced ability to deliver the Council Plan.

Control measures and effectiveness

Control Measure Effectiveness	Control Measure Description
Good	Council has developed a Financial Plan that covers 10 years and incorporates all expected income and expenditure.
Excellent	Council's officers monitor their financial results monthly.
Excellent	The Audit and Risk Committee and Council review the financial report quarterly.
Excellent	The Financial Statements are subject to external audit.
Good	Asset management plans are developed for infrastructure assets.
Good	Actions contained in strategic plans are costed across the life of the plan.
Excellent	Use of reserves to fund future major projects, purchases and works.
Excellent	Implementation and continuous review of the Financial Reserves Policy.
Excellent	Council has a robust process for ensuring accurate reporting to the Victorian Grants Commission.
Good	Council has developed a Service Review Plan 2023-2027 to outline the priority areas for review.
Good	Council has developed a Revenue and Rating Plan to determine the most appropriate and affordable revenue and rating approach for Loddon Shire Council which in conjunction with other income sources will adequately finance the objectives in the Council Plan.
Good	Prioritisation of renewal expenditure over new.
Good	Federal government advocacy for increased funding.

10.2 Risk #56

Demographic shifts and declining community volunteerism reduces the availability of volunteers to support key community services, leading to service gaps or increased costs to Council.

Control measures and effectiveness

Control Measure Effectiveness	Control Measure Description
Good	The Community Support Policy documents Council's commitment to supporting volunteers and volunteer groups in providing services to the community.
Fair	Promote volunteering to young people through school networks.
Poor	Provide young volunteers with mentors to grow and develop their skills in volunteering roles.
Fair	Target communication through schools and other relevant groups re the benefits of, and opportunities for young people to volunteer within Loddon.
Good	Promotion and recruitment of volunteers in line with strategic direction 1 of the Volunteer Strategy.
Good	Support and develop Council and community volunteers and volunteering in the community in line with strategic direction 2 of the Volunteer Strategy.
Good	Recognise, celebrate and value volunteers in line with strategic direction 3 of the Volunteer Strategy.
Excellent	Partner and collaborate to create a strong culture toward volunteering in line with strategic direction 4 of the Volunteer Strategy.
Fair	Diversity and inclusion in volunteering.
Good	Council has undertaken the Re-Engaging Volunteers in Rural Towns Project resulting in 4 clear directions.
Good	Implementation of Volunteer Strategy for recruitment of new and support of existing volunteers.

10.3 Risk #80

Weather events such as drought, flood and storms, damage infrastructure, disrupt operations and impact Council's ability to deliver core services.

Control measures and effectiveness

Control Measure Effectiveness	Control Measure Description
Excellent	Exploration of alternate products or work methods across the range of Council infrastructure types.
Excellent	Drought proof playing surfaces and community facilities with water saving initiatives.
Good	Planning and design of new or renewal infrastructure, that assists with climate change risk mitigation including betterment of assets to withstand future events.
Fair	Flood study is being undertaken for Wedderburn.
Fair	Maintain current condition records for Council infrastructure assets should funding or insurance cover be sought for reinstatement.
Good	Local community knowledge, including the community preparedness model (Build Your Own Community) being trialled at Bridgewater.
Good	Council Officer knowledge.
Good	Planning Scheme Overlays on flood plains.
Fair	Business continuity management policy and framework.
Fair	Business continuity management plan.
Fair	Awareness and planning for predicted environmental or climate related risks.

10.4 Risk #182

Failure to ensure the security and resilience of Council's digital infrastructure undermines community trust and disrupts strategic service delivery.

Control measures and effectiveness

Control Measure Effectiveness	Control Measure Description
Fair	Council is subject to the Victorian Protective Data Security Standards which were developed to help manage public sector information across all security areas.
Excellent	Implementation of a SIEM (Security Incident and Event Management) solution as well as the implementation of an outsourced SOC (Security Operations Centre) for 24/7 monitoring and response to cyber security related incidents, given our internal IT capability does not extend to 24/7.
Fair	Councillor and staff training program regarding cybercrime and phishing emails.
Fair	Alert emails are provided to registered users from the IT Department when a known threat is identified.
Good	Multi-factor authentication has been implemented for remote access to the network.
Good	Disaster Recovery practices and Incident Responses.

10.5 Risk #231

Disruption in workforce, contractor availability, or supply chains will delay or alter the delivery of Council projects and services, requiring reprioritisation of resources, impacting community outcomes.

Control measures and effectiveness

Control Measure Effectiveness	Control Measure Description
Excellent	Various staff retention strategies have been developed to retain staff. e.g. flexible working options, enterprise agreement, carpooling program, training and development opportunities.
Good	Various staff recruitment strategies are being implemented. e.g. Grow our own program encouraging traineeships, broader marketing of Council and local government as a career option, connecting with the local learning network and school network to develop relationships and promote Council.
Fair	The civil design program provides designs for projects in advance of budget years to allow flexibility should the program require change.
Excellent	The rolling works program documents projects to be delivered over a number of years providing the ability for the program to be amended if needed.
Fair	Council advertises tenders on an e-portal that provides opportunity for better reach to contractors.
Fair	Participate in collaborative tendering opportunities to increase buying power and economies of scale.
Fair	Due diligence undertaken-tenderers identify possible hold ups and price increases, incorporate liquidated damages clause, identify practical completion dates and start and finish dates for projects, identify risks with provision of supplies, understand tenderers' financial capacity.
Non-existent controls	Risk assessments undertaken prior to release of tender documents.
Poor	For suppliers of key products, build relationships with key account staff, and any new key account staff as they enter the business to build collaborative and open relationships, and understand whether new supplier options should be explored.
Fair	Where there is potential for supply disruption (such as import restrictions on vehicles) seek and engage alternate suppliers and/or brands, increase order volumes and stock levels, and improve forward planning for required products.
Fair	Implement quality assurance checks for products to ensure they maintain standard, and if not raise issues with suppliers and if needed source other potential suppliers.

10.6 Risk #241 (new)

A decline in civic participation and community leadership driven by demographic, social or political change undermines local democratic processes and reduces community representation in decision-making

Control measures and effectiveness

Control Measure Effectiveness	Control Measure Description
Good	Community Reference Group participation and engagement.
Excellent	Community Planning groups participation and engagement.
Good	Australia Day and ANZAC Day celebrations and awards.
Fair	Strategy documents such as Economic Development Strategy and Branding Strategy.
Fair	LEAD Loddon Murray
Good	North Central LLEN
Fair	Community Asset Committees based on asset classes.
Fair	Council membership of industry bodies (MAV, ALGA) which support engagement with current and potential participants, including election advocacy and encouraging community participation in democratic process.
Excellent	<i>Local Government Act 2020</i> combined with Model Councillor Code of Conduct identifying Councillor roles in supporting engagement with and representation of the community that they serve.
Good	Governance Rules in place and implemented, ensuring community are able to engage with Council decision making appropriately.
Excellent	Support for organisational capability in media relations.
Good	Support and utilisation of local media outlets.

10.2 TENDER C656 - FLOOD RESTORATION WORKS - RESHEETING**File Number:****Author:** Peter Rogers, Manager Flood Restoration Program**Authoriser:** Steve Van Orsouw, Director Operations**Attachments:** 1. **C656 Flood Restoration Tender Evaluation Report - Confidential**

This attachment is designated as confidential in accordance with Section 3(1)(g(ii)) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. It contains private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

Pricing schedules included in the tender evaluation report from tender submissions.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Award Contract C656 – Flood Restoration Works – Resheeting
 - Packet 1, 3 and 45 to Earthworks Civil and Construction Pty Ltd
 - Packet 2, 14, 40, 44 and 59 to Central Vic Stabilising Pty Ltd
 - Packet 41 to Civil and Earth Australia Pty Ltd
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake all necessary administrative actions to complete the contract documents.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this report, or involved in the subject matter of the report.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council has been provided flood restoration quarterly reports on program delivery and progress. The last report was provided at the Official Council Meeting in November 2025.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 26 August 2025 council adopted the Council to CEO delegation which limited CEO expenditure to \$825,000 (GST inc.). As this contract exceeds the CEO delegation amount, Council approval of the expenditure is required before a contract is awarded.

BACKGROUND

Following the 2022 and 2024 flood events, significant damage occurred to multiple gravel roads and sealed road shoulders across Loddon Shire. In response to delivering the flood restoration program Council has sought tenders under Contract C656 for flood restoration works – resheeting, comprising nine (9) packets of works across various locations.

These works are in line with the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements to enable restoration of assets to pre flood condition.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

The scope of the project is for the following works:

- Flood restoration works – resheeting for 9 packets of works which was damaged by 2022 and 2024 events flood.

The evaluation criteria and weightings for the tender assessment are:

- Financial Benefit to Council 30%
- Capability 30%
- Capacity 30%
- Financial Benefit to Community 10%

Council received a total of 11 tenders, of which 10 were deemed conforming. One submission provided a tender that did not comply with the specified material requirements and was therefore assessed as non-conforming. The 10 conforming responses were evaluated package-by-package by an assessment panel (five Council officers in conjunction with Council's Procurement Officer and Procurement Coordinator), and their report can be found in confidential Attachment 1.

During the evaluation process, it was identified that a tenderer submitted significantly lower pricing than project estimates. While their overall scores were high, the panel assessed this pricing as representing a substantial risk for variations and potential impacts to project delivery. As a result, the panel recommended proceeding with the second conforming tenderers for relevant packets to ensure certainty of delivery and manage risk.

Based on the assessment of pricing, capability, and capacity, the recommended contractors were selected on a package-by-package basis to ensure timely delivery and value for money

COST/BENEFITS

The awarded tender amounts across all nine (9) packages are within the approved Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements project budget. The budget includes appropriate contingency to accommodate variations if required.

RISK ANALYSIS

The key risks associated with this project include potential cost variations arising from unforeseen ground conditions and adverse weather impacts.

All recommended contractors have demonstrated appropriate insurances, OH&S systems, and capability to deliver the works within the required timeframe.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The development of this contract has been prepared in consultation with the Assets and Infrastructure team, the Flood team, and the Procurement team.

11 INFORMATION REPORTS

Nil

12 COMPLIANCE REPORTS**12.1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE UPDATE**

File Number:

Author: Michelle Stedman, Director Corporate

Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report - November 2025

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the:

1. Summary of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting – 17 November 2025
2. Audit and Risk Committee – Biannual Report – November 2025.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this report, or involved in the subject matter of the report.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council most recently received an update on a Loddon Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) meeting at its October 2025 meeting.

The Audit and Risk Committee – Biannual Report May 2025 was presented to Council at its meeting held 27 May 2025.

BACKGROUND

Council's ARC has been established in accordance with section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, to support it in discharging its oversight responsibilities related to financial and performance reporting, risk management, fraud prevention systems and control, maintenance of a sound internal control environment, assurance activities including internal and external audit, and Council's performance with regard to compliance with its policies and legislative and regulatory requirements.

This report is a requirement of the ARC Charter which states:

'A summary of each ARC meeting will be reported at the next meeting of the Council.'

'A biannual audit and risk report including the activities of the Committee and its findings and recommendation, will be tabled at the next meeting of Council in accordance with section 54(5) of the Act.'

ISSUES/DISCUSSIONSummary of meeting

Following is a summary of the ARC meeting held on Monday, 17 November 2025 in the Loddon Shire Council Chambers.

Member attendees:

Marg Allan – Independent Member (Chair)
 Rod Poxon – Independent Member
 Amber Currie – Independent Member
 Mick Cummins – Independent Member (online)
 Cr Gavan Holt – Councillor Representative
 Cr Miki Wilson – Substitute Councillor Representative

Officer attendees:

Lincoln Fitzgerald – Chief Executive Officer
 Michelle Stedman – Director Corporate
 Lisa Clue – Manager Governance
 Michelle Hargreaves – Administration Officer Governance
 Natalie Martin – Manager Financial Services
 Ange Marshal – Acting Manager Financial Services

Other attendees:

Brad Ead – AFS & Associates Pty Ltd

Apologies:

Nil

The following matters were considered by the ARC at the meeting:

Report	Discussion points
Status of actions generated during ARC meetings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ARC considered a report on the status of actions generated during its meetings. 2. The Committee acknowledged and noted ten resolutions arising from the 1 and 29 September 2025 Audit and Risk Committee meetings decision reports have been acted upon; one resolution, arising from the 1 September Audit and Risk Committee meeting has not yet been completely acted upon; and one action requested by the Committee during the course of past meetings remains outstanding.
CEO Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The ARC resolved to receive and note a report from the CEO updating the Committee on a number of matters associated with fraud and corruption; Council's Staff Code of Conduct; information security; financial management; the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund; Skinners Flat Reservoir; workforce matters; and recently reviewed strategic documents. 4. The Committee has requested future meetings include reports on progress towards completion of strategic actions with Council's Financial Plan; and actions being undertaken by Council to manage the risks and opportunities that AI provides.

Report	Discussion points
Biannual Audit and Risk Report of Activities	<p>The ARC considered and resolved to endorse the Biannual Report – November 2025, including the Committee Chair report, and provide a copy of the Biannual Report – November 2025 to the Chief Executive Officer for tabling at the next Council Meeting.</p> <p>Future Biannual Reports will include a summary of areas of interest and concern to the Committee during the reporting period.</p>
Strategic Internal Audit Program (SIAP) status update and Internal Audit scope review	<p>The ARC received and noted an update on the delivery status of the Strategic Internal Audit Program 2023 - 2026 and endorsed a high level scope for a review of Asset Management – Bridges and Roads, that includes a review of depreciation.</p>
Progress on open audit recommendations	<p>The ARC considered a report on the status of actions from past internal audits, endorsing nine completed actions to be closed, noting one completed action rated high risk will be reviewed by the Internal Auditor; approving adjusted due dates for the completion of six actions; and noting the progress by management on open actions. The Committee discussed commentary on the progress of incomplete actions and the inclusion of (in summary) Council officers' level of comfort with overdue actions.</p>
Quarterly review of finance reports and performance reports	<p>5. The ARC considered and noted the Finance Report for the quarter ending 30 September 2025. Given the legislative context for 'revised budgets', amended terminology will be used in future reports, ie 'forecast budget'.</p>
Findings of Interim Audit and management responses to any audit findings	<p>The ARC considered a report on findings of Interim Audit and management responses to audit findings, resolving to note the matters discussed, and six actions outstanding in relation to the external audit findings.</p>
External Audit – Review of Auditor performance	<p>The ARC considered and resolved to note a report on the External Auditor performance.</p>
Risk Profile and Strategic Risk Update	<p>The ARC considered a report on Council's Risk Profile and a current review of strategic risks, resolving to note the status update on the review of strategic risks and endorse Council's overall risk profile.</p>
Systems and processes to monitor compliance with legislation and regulations	<p>The ARC received and noted a report on systems and processes Council has in place to monitor compliance with legislation and regulations.</p>
Review of Internal Control Environment policies and plans	<p>The ARC received and noted a report on key policies and plans supporting Council's Internal Control Environment.</p>

Reimbursement of Councillor expenses	6. The ARC received and noted a quarterly report on Councillor expenses.
Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Register	7. The ARC received and noted the annual review of the Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Register as presented.
Investigations undertaken by regulatory and integrity agencies relevant to Council	8. The ARC received and noted a report on reports and publications of interest to local government.
Matters referred by Councillor representative	9. The ARC discussed a future review of the Committee Charter, including composition of the committee, and refined reporting based on legislated requirements, areas of focus, and Council's strategic risk profile.

Biannual Audit and Risk Report

The Biannual Report – November 2025 is attached to this report and encompasses the activities of the ARC for the period May 2025 to October 2025.

The Biannual Report, including an introduction from the Chair, includes details on ARC membership, meetings, governance, remuneration, internal audit program, assessment against the Committee Charter, and focus for the next reporting period.

As referenced in the Report, four focus areas have been identified for the next reporting period:

1. Continue to work with management reviewing progress on outstanding audit actions;
2. Receive and review the internal audit into Budget preparation and modelling;
3. Review progress on strategic projects undertaken in relation to the long term financial sustainability of the Council; and
4. Recommend Council consider options to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Rod Poxon, an Independent Member who has served the full number of terms permitted under the ARC Charter.

COST/BENEFITS

This report provides Council with oversight of the work of the ARC, providing a level of surety that services are undertaken efficiently and effectively.

There are no costs associated with development of this report, however there are modest costs associated with the Audit and Risk Committee and undertaking regular internal and external auditing of Council activities. These costs are provided for in Council's approved budget.

RISK ANALYSIS

The ARC has risk management oversight for the Council and monitors, reviews, endorses and advises Council on matters as set out in the Charter.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Officers involved in the conduct of the ARC meeting were consulted in the preparation of this report.

LODDON SHIRE COUNCIL

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE BIANNUAL REPORT: NOVEMBER 2025



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1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to present the bi-annual report of the Audit and Risk Committee's (ARC) work for the period May 2025 to October 2025. During this period, we welcomed Mick Cummins who joined the Committee as an Independent Member, commencing a four-year term. I am confident Mick's extensive experience in local government will be a significant asset to the ARC and the Shire.

The Committee had the opportunity to review the Council Budget 25/26, Financial Statements 24/25 and the Draft Long Term Financial Plan. Congratulations to the Council and staff involved in development of these important documents. The Committee looks forward to working with Council to further develop and refine the Long Term Financial Plan.

2 PURPOSE

The Audit and Risk Committee has been established in accordance with Section 53 and 54 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act). The ARC provides support to Council and meets its requirements under the Act by providing oversight of:

- financial and performance reporting
- risk management
- fraud prevention systems and control
- maintenance of a sound internal control environment
- assurance activities including internal and external audit and
- Council's performance with regard to compliance with its policies and legislative and regulatory requirements.

3 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee consists of five members appointed by Council, four of whom are independent members. The Committee membership for this reporting period included independent members:

Member	Initial appointment date	Current term's appointment date	End of current term
Rod Poxon	1 May 2015	1 May 2022	30 April 2026
Marg Allan	26 July 2023	26 July 2023	30 June 2027
Amber Currie	1 May 2024	1 May 2024	30 April 2028
Mick Cummins	1 August 2025	1 August 2025	31 July 2029

Cr Gavan Holt is the Councillor Representative for the Committee, with Cr Miki Wilson as his proxy.

4 REMUNERATION

Remuneration is reviewed annually in accordance with the Consumer Price Index for *All Groups – Melbourne for December Quarter to December Quarter*. The remuneration for independent Committee Members over the reporting period as approved by Council at its 22 April 2025 Council Meeting, is as follows:

1. Remuneration payable to Independent Committee Members of the Audit and Risk Committee of \$585.00 per meeting
2. An extra quarterly payment to the Chair during a one-year term

3. Payment of a travel reimbursement for Independent Committee Members paid at the rate that Councillors are reimbursed for travel.

5 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee meetings are generally scheduled quarterly, with an option to convene special meetings where required. Due to timing requirements for a number of key pieces of work, the Committee held two special meetings in addition to its standard meeting cycle over this reporting period being for the six month period from May 2025 to October 2025.

5.1 Committee meeting attendance

The following outlines the Committee Members' attendances for meetings in the reporting period:

	5 May 2025	14 July 2025	1 Sept 2025	29 Sept 2025	Total Attendance	
Name of Member	Committee Meeting	Special Meeting (online)	Committee Meeting	Special Meeting (online)	4 meetings held	
Rod Poxon	✓	✓	✓		3 of 4	75%
Marg Allan	✓	✓	✓	✓	4 of 4	100%
Amber Currie	✓	✓	✓	✓	4 of 4	100%
Mick Cummins	Not yet appointed (IM position vacant)	Not yet appointed (IM position vacant)	✓	✓	2 of 2	100%
Cr Gavan Holt	✓ (part)	✓	Leave of absence	Leave of absence	2 of 4	50%
Cr Miki Wilson (Substitute Councillor Rep)	✓ (part)	✓ (observer)	✓	✓	4 of 4 (3 acting as Councillor Rep)	100%

6 COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE

The ARC Charter is a requirement under the *Local Government Act 2020* and it outlines the responsibilities of the Audit and Risk Committee. The charter is supported by an annual work plan which ensures all responsibilities of the ARC are addressed.

The Charter was comprehensively reviewed and endorsed by the ARC at its meeting on 3 February 2025. It was subsequently adopted by Council at the Council Meeting on 25 February 2025.

7 ASSESSMENT AGAINST COMMITTEE CHARTER

In accordance with the Charter, the ARC is responsible for delivery oversight on each of the key responsibilities outlined within it. The following table provides an assessment of ARC's performance against the key responsibilities.

Key Responsibilities				25/26 ARC Reporting Year			
				Current Reporting Period		Future Reporting Period	
No.	Charter Requirement	Charter Ref.	Timing	2025 May	2025 Sept	2025 Nov	2026 Feb
7.1 Financial and Performance Reporting							
4	Review Council's annual asset valuation approach and likely outcomes for the upcoming valuation cycle	7.1	Annually	✓			
5	Review significant changes in accounting standards and reporting	7.1.1	Annually	✓			•
6	Review changes to Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF)	7.1.2	Annually	Not Required			
7	Review and recommend to Council the adoption of the annual financial statements and annual performance statements	7.1.4	Annually		✓ plus further subsequent special mtg 29/9/2025		
8	Assess the reasonableness of the valuation and fair value assessment outcomes	7.1	Annually		✓ per statements		
9	Review quarterly finance report	7.1.5	Quarterly	✓	Financial Statements	•	•
10	Review reimbursement of Councillors expenses	7.1.6	Quarterly	✓	✓	•	•
7.2 Internal Control Environment							
11	Review the effectiveness of Council's Risk Management Framework	7.3.1	Annually	✓			
12	Review Council's Risk Appetite Statement	7.3.2	Annually	Deferred due to ongoing review of Strategic Risks by Council			•
13	Review and endorse Council's overall risk profile	7.3.4	Half Yearly			•	
14	Review the Business Continuity Framework and testing regime	7.3.7	Annually				•
15	Review the Disaster Recovery and Incident Response planning and testing regimes	7.3.7	Annually				•
16	Review Council's fraud prevention policies and controls	7.4.1	Two-yearly		✓		
17	Review Council's fraud control plan and awareness programme	7.4.2	Annually		✓		
18	Review systems and processes to monitor compliance with legislation and regulations and Council policies	7.7.1	Annually			•	
19	Review key policies and plans supporting the internal control environment as listed in Appendix 4	7.7.1	Quarterly	✓	✓	•	•
20	Review Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Register	7.7.3	Annually			•	

Key Responsibilities				25/26 ARC Reporting Year			
				Current Reporting Period		Future Reporting Period	
No.	Charter Requirement	Charter Ref.	Timing	2025 May	2025 Sept	2025 Nov	2026 Feb
7.3 Risk Management							
21	Review and approve strategic risks to Council's operations	7.3.3	Half Yearly	✓ <i>Provided Feedback to Council</i>		•	
22	Review operational risks	7.3.5	Annually	✓ <i>Risk Mngmnt Review</i>			
23	Review the insurance programme	7.3.6	Annually		✓		
7.4 Internal Audit							
24	Review and approve the strategic and internal audit plans	7.5.1	Annually	✓			
25	Review status of delivery of strategic internal audit plan	7.5.2	Quarterly	✓	✓	•	•
26	Review scopes of proposed internal audit reviews	7.5.2	Quarterly	<i>Not Required</i>	✓	•	•
27	Review reports on internal audit reviews	7.5.4	Quarterly	✓	✓	•	•
28	Meet with internal auditor in the absence of management	7.5.5	Annually		✓		
29	Review progress by management on open audit recommendations	7.5.6	Quarterly	✓	✓	•	•
30	Review the effectiveness of the internal audit function	7.5.7, 7.5.8	Annually	✓			
7.5 External Audit							
31	Review and approve the external audit scope and plan	7.6.1	Annually				•
32	Discuss any audit issues encountered during the course of the interim audit	7.6.2	Half Yearly	✓		•	
33	Review the outcomes of the external audit and discuss any audit issues encountered during the course of the final audit	7.1.3, 7.6.3	Half Yearly		✓		•
34	Ensure that management responses to any audit findings are appropriate and timely	7.6.4	Quarterly	✓	✓	•	•
35	Review the effectiveness of the external audit function	7.6.5	Annually			•	
36	Review other VAGO performance audit reports for impacts on Council	7.6.6	Quarterly	✓	✓	•	•
37	Meet with the external auditor in absence of management	7.6.7	Annually		✓		

Key Responsibilities				25/26 ARC Reporting Year			
				Current Reporting Period		Future Reporting Period	
No.	Charter Requirement	Charter Ref.	Timing	2025 May	2025 Sept	2025 Nov	2026 Feb
7.6 Compliance Management							
38	Obtain briefings on any significant compliance matters, and reports on any fraud related incidents, including those reported to integrity bodies	7.4.3, 7.4.4, 7.7.2	Quarterly (as required)	✓	✓	•	•
39	Consider reports on investigations undertaken by regulatory and integrity agencies relevant to Council	7.7.5	Quarterly	✓	✓	•	•

8 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRAM

8.1 Reports provided to the Committee

During the reporting period the Committee was provided with the following internal audit documents.

Audit Name	Audit Scope	Audit Report
Key Internal Controls	May 2024 <i>*Note – audit delayed until 2025</i>	September 2025
Procurement	September 2024	May 2025
Fleet Management	February 2025	September 2025
Budgeting Preparation and Modelling	September 2025	<i>Due December 2025</i>

8.2 Open Actions List

At the commencement of the biannual reporting period there were 30 open audit actions, with 11 new actions added, and 13 actions closed during the period. 28 actions remained open at the end of the reporting period (September 2025).

Consultation occurred with relevant officers to assist in the progressing of actions and the relevance of older actions remaining on the list with new quarterly reporting now being provided to the ARC regarding Information Technology related actions. A number of these actions have been outstanding for a long period of time, but require substantial work on fundamental infrastructure to enable further progress. The IT Strategy continues to inform meaningful progress.

Audit	Not updated	Not yet started	Commenced*	Total
Data Governance	-	-	8	8
Victorian Protective Data Security Standards	-	-	2	2
Governance Framework	-	-	1	1
Procurement and Contract Management	-	-	4	4
Emergency Management	-	-	2	2
Human Resources	-	-	1	1
Occupational Health, Safety and Wellbeing	-	1	2	3
Procurement	-	-	7	7
Total	-	1	27	28



9 FOCUS FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD

During the next 6 months, in addition to meeting the obligations outlined in the Charter, the ARC will:

- continue to work with management reviewing progress on outstanding audit actions;
- receive and review the internal audit into Budget preparation and modelling;
- review progress on strategic projects undertaken in relation to the long term financial sustainability of the Council; and
- recommend Council consider options to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Rod Poxon, an Independent Member who has served the full number of terms permitted under the ARC Charter.

13 URGENT BUSINESS

In accordance with Council's Governance Rules, Clause 56 provides that at a scheduled or special meeting of Council, business that is not included in the agenda notice must only be considered if no more than one Councillor is absent and the Council resolves that the matter is urgent.

Despite this requirement, a matter that is not included in the agenda notice must not be considered at a Council meeting if it will:

- (a) directly and significantly affect the exercise of a person's rights;
- (b) alter the Council Plan or the budget; or
- (c) commit the Council to expenditure exceeding \$20,000.

14 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting of Council will be held on 27 January 2026 at Wedderburn commencing at 3.00pm.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at [enter time](#).

Confirmed this.....day of..... 2025

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