



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 20 October 2026, commencing at 5:00 PM

Meeting to be held at

Wellington Centre – Wellington Room, Foster Street, Sale

or stream online at <https://www.youtube.com/@wellingtonshire>

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
TABLE OF CONTENTS

0.1. TABLE OF CONTENTS 2

1. APOLOGIES 5

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST 5

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING/S.....5

 3.1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING 5

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS 6

5. ACCEPTANCE OF LATE AND URGENT ITEMS 6

6. NOTICE/S OF MOTION 6

7. RECEIVING OF PETITION OR JOINT LETTERS.....6

 7.1. OUTSTANDING PETITIONS 6

8. INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 7

9. QUESTION/S ON NOTICE 8

 9.1. OUTSTANDING QUESTION/S ON NOTICE 8

10. MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS REPORT 8

11. DELEGATES REPORT.....12

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.....13

 12.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT 13

13. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES 15

 13.1. RECORD OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS.....15

 13.2. BIENNIAL AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE UPDATE 20

 13.3. AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES.....31

 13.4. COUNCIL QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2026.....39

 13.5. CONSIDERATION OF 2025/26 ANNUAL REPORT 49

14. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT 52

 14.1. MONTHLY PLANNING DECISIONS - AUGUST 2026 52

14.2. STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE REPORT, QUARTER 3 - JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2026	63
14.3. PETITION - P139/2026 REJECT PROPOSED USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAND FOR A 2206 HEAD CATTLE FEEDLOT IN LLOWALONG - UPDATE.....	71
15. GENERAL MANAGER BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	74
15.1. PROPOSED LAND LEASE - BOISDALE STREET, MAFFRA	74
15.2. COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS – AUGUST 2026	78
15.3. CONTRACT 2027-002 GEORGE STREET DRAINAGE STAGE 2 AND 3, MAFFRA...	90
15.4. CONTRACT 2027-048 WOORARRA ROAD AND YARRAM-MORWELL ROAD LANDSLIP RECTIFICATION WORKS.....	94
15.5. CONTRACT 2027-019 GRAVEL RE-SHEETING PROGRAM - EAST	98
15.6. CONTRACT 2027-020 GRAVEL RE-SHEETING PROGRAM - SOUTH	102
15.7. CONTRACT 2027-021 GRAVEL RE-SHEETING PROGRAM - WEST	106
15.8. CONTRACT 2027-022 LIONS PARK, SALE PAVILLION REFURBISHMENT	110
15.9. CONTRACT 2027-017 RODGERS STREET RECONSTRUCTION YARRAM	114
16. FURTHER GALLERY AND ONLINE COMMENTS	118
17. IN CLOSED SESSION	119
17.1. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION	119
17.2. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CONTRACT	120
17.3. THIRD PARTY AGREEMENT.....	121
17.4. MOVE OUT OF CLOSED SESSION	122

COUNCIL MEETING INFORMATION

Members of the public gallery should note that the Council records and publishes Council meetings via YouTube to enhance the accessibility of Council meetings to the broader Wellington community. These recordings are also published and archived on Council's Website for viewing by the public. Recordings may be used for publicity or information purposes.

Members of the public in attendance at the Council meeting who wish to communicate with the Council regarding an agenda item or any other matter should advise the Mayor, ideally prior to the meeting starting, to ensure that their submission is called at the appropriate time during the meeting.

Would gallery visitors, Councillors and invited online attendees please ensure that mobile phones and other electronic devices are turned off or in silent mode for the duration of the meeting.

MISSION STATEMENT

Working together to make a difference. We listen and lead to provide quality services that improve life for all.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Gunaikurnai people. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and acknowledge their ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to their land and waters.

RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY

We recognise the entire Wellington Shire community, including visitors to our shire, for their collective efforts in protecting and preserving the land, water, air, and history, and for making this a better place to live and work for current and future generations.

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING/S

3.1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

OBJECTIVE

To adopt the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 6 October 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 6 October 2026.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

5. ACCEPTANCE OF LATE AND URGENT ITEMS

NIL

6. NOTICE/S OF MOTION

NIL

7. RECEIVING OF PETITION OR JOINT LETTERS

7.1. OUTSTANDING PETITIONS

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
Request to reject proposed use and development of land for a 2206 Head Cattle Feedlot in Llowalong.	6 October 2026	A response to this Petition is required to align with the Planning Application processes.	Refer Item 14.3 of this Council Meeting Agenda.

8. INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

9. QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

9.1. OUTSTANDING QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

10. MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: MAYOR CINDY MADELEY

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor and Councillors report be noted for September 2026.

SEPTEMBER 2026

DATE	EVENT	ATTENDEES
1 September	Chief Executive Remuneration Committee Meeting.	Mayor Madeley, Deputy Mayor Foat and Cr Rossetti.
2 September	Bundalaguah Branch of The Country Women's Association of Victoria - 80th Birthday Celebration. Mayor Madeley and Cr Stephens Regular Catch Up. Wellington MEMPC Meeting.	Deputy Mayor Foat and Cr Ripper. Mayor Madeley and Cr Stephens. Cr Stephens
3 September	Company Directors Course, Online.	Cr Rossetti
3 – 5 September	Rural Councils Victoria Forum, Swan Hill.	Cr Bannerman
4 September	Launch of Gippsland Art Gallery Spring Season and announcing winners of the John Leslie Art Prize and the Wellington Youth Art Prize. SEATS Executive Meeting.	Mayor Madeley, Cr Tatterson and Cr Ripper. Cr Tatterson

4 September	Pre-Record Interview with Danielle Pope - Producer at ABC Gippsland (Draft Amendment C125well proposes updated flood mapping across Wellington Shire).	Mayor Madeley
5 September	Judge: Battle of the Bands.	Mayor Madeley
7 September	Gippsland Art Gallery Advisory Group meeting. Maffra Recreation Reserve Committee Meeting. Visit to Alberton Primary School. Mayor Madeley and CEO Regular Catch Up.	Cr Ripper Cr Wells Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley
8 September	Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) Meeting. Visit to Cowwarr Primary School. Wellington Tree Planting Session at Flooding Creek. September Wellington Youth Services Network Meeting. Mayor Madeley and Deputy Mayor Foat Regular Catch Up. Monthly Media Training.	Deputy Mayor Foat, Cr Tatterson and Cr Wells. Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley and Deputy Mayor Foat Mayor Madeley and Deputy Mayor Foat.
9 September	30 Year Staff Service Award Presentation. Windicators Introduction - briefing to Wellington Shire Council with Renae Littlejohn, GM Development. Australian Floral Art Convention "Flowers in the Middle of Everywhere".	Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley, Cr Rossetti, Cr Tatterson and Cr Ripper.
10 September	Star of the South CAG#39 Meeting.	Cr Bannerman
11 September	Gippsland Climate Change Network Advisory followed by Directors Meeting. Gippsland Biggest PJ Morning Tea. Yarram Scouts Victoria Annual Report & Awards Presentation.	Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley

14 September	Mayor Madeley and CEO Regular Catch Up.	Mayor Madeley
16 September	Visit to Loch Sport Primary School. Youth Council Meeting.	Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley
17 September	Rural Councils Victoria Committee Meeting. Mayors Institute Annual Oration with Ms Patricia Karvelas. CEO also in attendance.	Cr Bannerman Mayor Madeley and Deputy Mayor Foat.
18 September	One Gippsland Closed CEO & Local Councillor Meetings and One Gippsland Board Meeting. CEO also in attendance. Youth Fest - Youth Gaming Event.	Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley
19 September	Golden Beach Art Gallery and Tourist Information Centre and Official Opening Ceremony. Monthly Men's Breakfast at Stratford.	Mayor Madeley, Cr Stephens and Cr Ripper. Cr Lowe
21 September	Mayor Madeley and CEO Regular Catch Up.	Mayor Madeley
22 September	Councillor Community Conversation – Maffra and Newry. Yarram Lunch Meeting: Cr Stephens and Renae Littlejohn, GM Development. Dinner with Tony Mahar, Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner. CEO also in attendance.	Mayor Madeley, Deputy Mayor Foat, Cr Tatterson, Cr Wells, Cr Lowe and Cr Ripper. Cr Stephens Mayor Madeley
23 September	South Gippsland and Wellington Shire Council: Offshore Wind Conversation.	Mayor Madeley, Deputy Mayor Foat, Cr Tatterson, Cr Stephens and Cr Lowe.
24 September	WSC Audit and Risk Committee Meeting.	Cr Stephens and Cr Bannerman.

28 September	ABC Gippsland Pre-Record re: Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner meets with South Gippsland and Wellington Shire Councils. Mayor Madeley and CEO Regular Catch Up. Mayor Madeley and Comms Team Catch Up. Minute with the Mayor Madeley, Filming.	Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley
29 September	25 Year Staff Service Award Presentation. Meeting with Sale Swim Club. Mayor Madeley and Deputy Mayor Foat Regular Catch Up.	Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley Mayor Madeley and Deputy Mayor Foat.
30 September	Fed Uni: Gippsland Innovation Series event, Meeting our Education and Skills Needs in the Regions.	Mayor Madeley

11. DELEGATES REPORT

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

12.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION	
<i>That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received for September 2026.</i>	

SEPTEMBER 2026

DATE	EVENT
2 September	Met with Department of Transport and Planning – Strategic Liaison Meeting.
3 September	Attended Committee for Wellington. Attended AICD Company Directors Course, online.
4 September	Launch of Gippsland Art Gallery Spring Season and winners of the John Leslie Art Prize. Leslie Art Prize and the Wellington Youth Art Prize. Met with representatives, Star of the South.
7 September	Met with Mayor Madeley, Weekly Catch Up.
8 September	Wellington Staff Planting Session at Flooding Creek.
9 September	Met with Federation University to discuss <i>Windicators</i> Project. Attended Australian Floral Art Convention.
11 September	Attended Gippsland Biggest PJ Morning Tea.
14 September	Met with Mayor Madeley, Weekly Catch Up.
17 September	Attended Mayors Institute Annual Oration with Ms Patricia Karvelas.
18 September	Attended One Gippsland Closed CEO Meeting and One Gippsland Board Meeting.
19 September	Attended MAV Monday Connect meeting.
21 September	Met with the Municipal Association of Victoria – CEO's update and briefing.

22 September	Attended Councillor Community Conversation – Maffra/Newry. Dinner with Mayor Madeley and Tony Mahar, Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner.
23 September	Attended South Gippsland and Wellington Shire Councils Offshore Wind Conversation.
24 September	WSC Audit and Risk Committee Meeting.
28 September	Met with Mayor Madeley, Weekly Catch Up. Renewable Energy Land and Infrastructure Plan and Offshore Wind Auction Briefing Gippsland Regional Partnership Briefing.

13. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

13.1. RECORD OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

PURPOSE

To provide a summary of Council workshops held on Tuesday 6 October 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the attached Council Workshop records for Tuesday 6 October 2026.

BACKGROUND

Council workshops are informal sessions held regularly to provide Councillors with information and updates, including general briefings and matters that may be the subject of future Council decisions.

A summary of each workshop is provided, capturing the workshop title, attendance, and any declared conflicts of interest.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Record of Council Workshops - 6 October 2026 [13.1.1 - 2 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

1. Receive and note the attached Council Workshop records; or
2. Not receive and note the attached Council Workshop records.

PROPOSAL

That Council receive and note the attached Council Workshop records for 6 October 2026.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

While this report does not meet a specific Council Plan strategic objective, it aligns with good governance.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Officers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council, in performing its role, to give effect to the overarching governance principles.

While there is no statutory requirement to provide a summary of Council workshops, this report supports these principles, particularly section 9(i) relating to transparency and accountability.

Councillors and staff attending workshops are required to declare any conflicts of interest, including the nature of the interest, in relation to matters discussed. These disclosures are maintained in the Conflicts of Interest Register, with the name of the Councillor(s) making the declaration included in the Record of Council Workshop.

Recording Councillor attendance at workshops is a requirement under GOV-G6 of the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework. Councillors are recorded as present, on approved leave of absence, or an apology. This data is aggregated over a 12-month period and reported in accordance with Local Government Performance Reporting Framework requirements.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RECORD OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS - COUNCIL DAY

COUNCIL WORKSHOPS – 6 OCTOBER 2026			
COUNCILLOR	ATTENDANCE	OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE	
Cr Cindy Madeley (Mayor)	YES	David Morcom	Chief Executive Officer
Cr Liz Foot (Deputy Mayor)	YES	Arthur Skipitaris	General Manager Corporate Services
Cr Catherine Bannerman	YES	Rena Littlejohn	General Manager Development
Cr Scott Rossetti	YES	Chris Hastie	General Manager Built & Natural Environment
Cr Edward Lowe	YES		
Cr Garry Stephens	YES		
Cr Carmel Ripper (online and in person)	YES		
Cr John Tattersson (leave of absence)	NO		
Cr Geoff Wells	YES		
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST NOTED*			
Item 1.9 - Cr Wells			

* In accordance with Rule 18.5 of the Wellington Shire Council Governance Rules a Councillor who has a conflict of interest must not participate in discussion of matters that will come before Council for a decision, or if a decision will be made by a member of staff acting under delegation.

WORKSHOP DETAILS – 6 OCTOBER 2026		
ITEM NO.	WORKSHOP TITLE	PRESENTERS
1.1	DANNY O'BRIEN BRIEFING	Danny O'Brien MP, Member for Gippsland South Conflict of Interest: NIL
1.2	AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE UPDATE	Tony Smith, Audit and Risk Committee Chair Conflict of Interest: NIL
1.3	COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW AND COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW PROCEDURE MANUAL	- Tony Raven, Consultant, CT Management Group - Carly Bloomfield, Manager Governance - Craig Stewart, Team Leader Local Laws Conflict of Interest: NIL

RECORD OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS - COUNCIL DAY

1.4	NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS QUARTERLY UPDATE	• David Harper, Manager Natural Environment and Parks • Liam Cole, Open Space Planning Officer • Samantha Nock, Coordinator Waste and Sustainability • Alan Hill, Coordinator Parks Services Conflict of Interest: NIL
1.5	PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C125WELL – UPDATED FLOOD PROVISIONS	• Nicole Reynolds, Coordinator Strategic Planning • Barry Hearsey, Manager Planning and Building Conflict of Interest: NIL
1.6	VICGRID UPDATE – GIPPSLAND OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY TRANSMISSION – PREFERRED ROUTE AND INDICATIVE EASEMENT	• Adrian Furner, Program Director- Gippsland Offshore Wind Transmission • Dave Kristy, Communications and Engagement Lead - Gippsland Offshore Wind Transmission • Mandi Davidson, Director, REZ Strategy & Integration Conflict of Interest: NIL
1.7	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND PLANNING PROJECT BRIEFING – SALE ALTERNATE TRUCK ROUTE	• Scott Lawrence, Executive Director – Gippsland, Department of Transport and Planning • Chris Padovan - Manager, Scoping & Development • Harvey Dinelli - Associate Director Transport Planning • Denis Heily - Senior Scoping and Development Engineer Conflict of Interest: NIL
1.8	PLANNING SCHEME REVIEW REPORT – PROGRESS UPDATE	• Nicole Reynolds, Coordinator Strategic Planning • Paul Buxton, Director Plan2Place Conflict of Interest: NIL
1.9	COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS – AUGUST 2026	• Billie-Jo Thorburn, Acting Manager Communities, Facilities and Emergencies • Mark Benfield, Coordinator Community Facilities Planning • Ayla Ramsay, Community Facilities Planning and Grants Conflict of Interest: Cr Wells declared a conflict of interest and left chambers for this workshop.

13.2. BIENNIAL AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE UPDATE

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

PURPOSE

To provide Council with an overview of the activities of Council's Audit and Risk Committee, including findings and recommendations, for the period April 2026 to September 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the biennial report on the Audit and Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2026 to September 2026, as attached.

BACKGROUND

Under section 54(5)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Councils are required, biennially, to receive a report from their Audit and Risk Committee that describes the activities of the Committee, including its findings and recommendations, at a Council meeting.

Accordingly, the Audit and Risk Committee have provided the report that details its activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2026 to September 2026 for Council's review, refer Attachment 13.2.1 - Audit and Risk Committee Summary Report - April 2026 to September 2026.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Audit and Risk Committee Summary Report - April 2026 to September 2026 [13.2.1 - 8 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. To receive and note the biennial report on the Audit and Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2026 to September 2026; or
2. To not receive and note the biennial report on the Audit and Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2026 to September 2026 and seek further information for consideration at a later Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

That Council receive and note the biennial report on the Audit and Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2026 to September 2026.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

While this report does not meet a specific Council Plan strategic objective, it aligns with good governance.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Managers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Under Section 54(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, an Audit and Risk Committee must

- a. prepare a biannual audit and risk report that describes the activities of the Audit and Risk Committee and includes its findings and recommendations; and
- b. provide a copy of the biannual audit and risk report to the Chief Executive Officer for tabling at the next Council meeting.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL

April 2026 – September 2026

INTRODUCTION

The Audit and Risk Committee's objective is to provide appropriate independent advice and recommendations to Council on matters relevant to the Committee's Charter to support Council in discharging its oversight responsibilities. The Audit and Risk Committee (Committee) is also responsible for ensuring that Council's policies and procedures comply with the over-arching Governance Principles, the relevant Acts, Regulations and any Ministerial Directions. The Committee acts in this capacity by monitoring, reviewing, endorsing and advising on matters as set out in the Audit & Risk Committee Charter, developed in accordance with Section 54 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The Committee is an advisory committee to the Council and does not have executive powers or authority to implement actions in areas over which management has responsibility and does not have any delegated financial responsibility. Neither does the Committee have any management functions and is therefore independent of management.

As per Section 54(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020* the Audit and Risk Committee must prepare a biannual report that describes the activities of the Audit and Risk Committee including its findings and recommendations and table a copy of the biannual report at the next Council meeting.

REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

The Committee exists and functions as required by the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic) (the "Act"). The Committee's objectives, authority, composition, tenure, roles and responsibilities along with reporting, administrative and governance arrangements are detailed in the Audit & Risk Committee Charter, updated and adopted by Council on 17 March 2026.

The Chairman of the Committee reports bi-annually to Council on the following matters –

- A summary of the work undertaken by the Committee in discharging its responsibilities;
- A summary of Management's progress in addressing the findings and recommendations made in internal, external and Parliamentary Committee reports;
- An overall assessment of the Council's risk, control and compliance framework, including details of any significant emerging risks or legislative changes impacting Council; and
- A summary of the Committee's performance review (annually).

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee consists of five members appointed by Council: three independent members and two Councillors. Independent members may be reappointed for subsequent terms, to a maximum of nine years. The Chair of the Committee is an independent member.

Member	Date appointed	Conclusion of Term	Meetings attended during period	Meetings eligible during period
Independent Members				
Tony Smith	2 Feb 2022	28 Oct 2029	3	3
Craig Nisbet	29 Oct 2024	28 Oct 2027	3	3
Leanne Mulcahy	29 Oct 2025	28 Oct 2028	3	3
Council Members				
Cr Catherine Bannerman	3 Dec 2024		2	3
Cr Geoff Wells	17 Jun 2025		2	3
Cr Garry Stephens (alternate)	3 Dec 2024		2	2
Management				
David Morcom (CEO)	-	-	3	3
Arthur Skipitaris (GMCS)	-	-	3	3
Ashy Sehgal (CFO)	-	-	3	3

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee met three times during the reporting period: on 27 May 2026, 26 August 2026 and 24 September 2026. A quorum is three (with a minimum of 2 independent members). A quorum of Councillors and Independent Members was achieved for all meetings as outlined in the table above.

Committee Minutes Reported to Council

Minutes of each Committee meeting were presented to Council, at the next practicable ordinary meeting of Council.

Internal Auditor

Representatives from Council's Internal Auditors, HLB Mann Judd, attended two meetings during the period and presented the findings of the Risk Management Framework, Compliance with Child Safe Standards and Aqua Energy Redevelopment (Post Completion) reviews and the Follow-Up Review. All audit issues identified are risk rated. Recommendations are assigned to the responsible officer and tracked in the *Audit Plan* module within Council's reporting software, Pulse.

External Auditor

External Audit representatives (Crowe) from the Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO) attended the May meeting to present the Audit Strategy Memorandum and the September meeting to present the Draft Independent Audit report for 2025/26 including the Financial Report and Performance Statement. The External Auditor gave an unmodified audit opinion that the finance report and performance statement were represented accurately and fairly, and that management were well prepared although several adjustments and reiterations of the financial reports did occur. Four audit findings with one moderate and three low rated implications resulted in recommendations that were considered by Management and the Audit & Risk Committee. Notably, there were no issues in relation to fraud, inefficiencies, probity or prudence.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee meets on a quarterly basis to consider those matters within the scope of its Charter with an additional meeting in September to consider the draft Financial Report, Performance Statement and Council's Annual Report.

At each meeting of the Committee, the following standard items were considered:

- Council policies that are considered strategic in nature;
- Monitoring the progress of internal and external audit recommendations;
- Report of Council financials;
- Register of Commissioned Reports;
- Report of any known instances of fraud;
- Update on information services and cyber security;
- Current legal matters;
- Report of insurance claims;
- Work Health Safety matters across the organisation;
- Internal Audit Status Report;
- Summary of the Gifts Register (bi-annually);
- Credit card expenditure of the Chief Executive Officer (bi-annually); and
- Related Party Transactions (bi-annually); and
- Assessment of meeting conduct.

Highlights of the period

Key Committee highlights during the period were:

- Received the Audit Strategy Memorandum and draft Interim Management Letter for 2025/26;
- Reviewed the Asset Revaluation Methodology Report paper prior to end of financial year and after end of financial year;
- Endorsed the Strategic Internal Audit Plan;
- Reviewed the findings of the internal audits on –
 - Risk Management Framework;
 - Compliance with Child Safe Standards;
 - Aqua Energy Redevelopment (Post Completion);
 - Follow-Up Review;
- Received the Six-Monthly Review of Strategic Risks;
- Received a report on Operational Risks that have a rating of extreme or high;
- Reviewed Council's Risk Appetite Statements;
- Reviewed the performance of the internal auditor;
- Reviewed the draft 2026/27 Budget;
- Received a report on the Risk Management Action Plan;
- Received a report on the BCP Exercise;
- Considered the potential introduction of deep dive presentations on Strategic Risks;
- Conducted the annual evaluation of the Committee's performance (attached);
- Received a report on excess staff leave;
- Received a report on proposed changes to publication of Committee minutes;
- Considered arrangements for election of Chair;

- Received a Chief Executive Officer's report;
- Reviewed the draft Financial Report and Performance Statement 2025/26;
- Received the draft Management Letter for year ending 30 June 2026; and
- Reviewed the draft Annual Report (Report of Operations) 2025/26.

Council Risk, Control and Compliance Framework

The Committee members have completed their review of individual strategic risks at each meeting and will continue to review and endorse the suite of risks on a six-monthly basis, as per the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework.

It was also agreed that the relevant executive would provide a short verbal presentation as a deeper dive into key strategic risks at future meetings.

CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS

I would like to thank the management team for their continued diligence and positive contributions in supporting the Committee, and the Members for their oversight in ensuring that the Committee functions well and provides value to Wellington Shire. I also offer a personal note of thanks for the support provided to me during my first 12 months as Committee Chair and for my reappointment as an independent member of the Audit & Risk Committee for another three years. I am a proud resident of this Shire and consider it a real privilege to serve in this capacity.

Since the last update we have focussed on:

- the ongoing reduction of previous internal and external audit actions for which good progress continues;
- review of strategic and high operational risks;
- review of the Risk Appetite Statements;
- review of the OH&S action plan progress;
- review of four council policies: Risk Management; Investment; Acceptance & Declaration of Gifts and Hospitality; and Fraud and Corruption Control
- review of the Strategic Internal Audit Plan and three internal audits (noted above); and
- selection of an Independent Member (thank you!).

The report on Council's business continuity exercise held on 2 July was of particular interest.

In all areas, we look for improvement opportunities to optimise our meeting output.

The Committee's overall assessment for the period is that Council continues to manage its financial and governance responsibilities effectively, with an appropriate focus on organisational risk management. Staff remain responsive to the advice provided by both the Committee and the auditors.

The Committee looks forward to continuing to fulfil our role as set out in our Charter and contributing to the success of Wellington Shire's Community Vision 2041 and 2025-2029 Council Plan.

Mr. Tony Smith
Chair
Wellington Shire Council Audit & Risk Committee



RESULTS OF AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SURVEY 2026

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable
1. The Audit & Risk Committee has a Charter which sets out its role, responsibilities, composition, structure and membership requirements and is reviewed annually.	7		
Comments	•		
2. The Audit & Risk Committee is adequately resourced (receives timely agendas and minutes and has sufficient key Council staff attendance at meetings).	7		
Comments	•		
3. The Audit & Risk Committee is independent and has the technical expertise to perform its functions.	7		
Comments	•		
4. The members have the necessary qualifications and attributes (basic financial literacy, being, amongst other things, honest, accountable, dedicated, objective and possess reasonable knowledge of the Council's risks and controls).	7		
Comments	• The Committee has a good mix of qualifications and skills.		
5. The Audit & Risk Committee has direct access to internal and external auditors without Management present.	7		
Comments	•		

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable
6. The Audit & Risk Committee checks that the audit function has free and effective access to personnel and information.	6	1	
Comments	•		
7. The Audit & Risk Committee is able to seek independent advice and ensure the audit function is independent of the management function.	7		
Comments	•		
8. The Audit & Risk Committee ensures the scope of internal audits are adequate.	7		
Comments	•		
9. The Audit & Risk Committee approves an annual internal audit plan addressing their risk profile.	7		
Comments	•		
10. The Audit & Risk Committee considers internal audit reports, reviews management responses to issues raised and monitors resolution of those issues.	7		
Comments	•		
11. The Audit & Risk Committee reviews major changes to policies and internal control systems.	7		
Comments	•		
12. The Audit & Risk Committee oversees compliance with non-financial legislation and policy.	7		
Comments	•		
13. The Audit & Risk Committee reviews all reported issues of fraud or suspected fraud.	7		
Comments	No instances of fraud have been reported, but red flag reporting is examined and queried as appropriate.		

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable
14. The Audit & Risk Committee reviews the financial statements and other financial information submitted to the Council.		7		
Comments	•			
15. The Audit & Risk Committee liaises appropriately with the Auditor General or their representative (External Auditor) to, amongst other things, ensure the best use of audit resources.		7		
Comments	•			
16. The Audit & Risk Committee fosters an environment in which members are comfortable challenging each other and the Audit & Risk Committee Chair, as appropriate.		7		
Comments	•			
17. The Committee members spend adequate time individually, and as a Committee, on committee responsibilities.		7		
Comments	•			
18. The Audit & Risk Committee has private executive sessions with Management and the internal and external auditors that result in candid discussion of pertinent issues.		7		
Comments	•			
19. Audit & Risk Committee meetings are well run and productive.		7		
Comments	•			

20. Does the Committee have the capacity to fully acquit its obligations under the Charter, or is there a need to review its role, structure and/or operational arrangements?	• Committee is running to fully acquit its obligations • I believe the Committee has the appropriate capacity to fully acquit our obligations. • The Committee is meeting its Charter obligations, I don't believe there is currently value in allocating the resources of time required to conduct a review at this stage. • The Committee has capacity to fully acquit its obligations • No need to review from my perspective at this stage. Although longer serving members may have more insight on this. • Well run Committee, achieving objectives
21. How do you believe the Audit & Risk Committee is functioning?	• I believe that the Committee functions well as a team in meeting our obligations. • Functioning well • As a relatively new member, I am still developing a comprehensive understanding of its effectiveness over time. Based on my experience to date, meetings are conducted professionally with constructive engagement from members and management. • Very well - no deficiencies • Well, with great transparency and attention to detail. • ARC is functioning productively • It is running very well in conjunction with the shire
22. Are there things that the Committee could be doing better?	• Not at this stage • None identified at this time, but always open to improvement opportunities. • A continued focus on ensuring sufficient time is spent on emerging and strategic risks, follow up on actions, risk appetite discussions and training and development. Where appropriate and relevant the opportunity for site visits and/or operational briefings to increase the committee, as a whole, understanding of significant projects, assets or operational risks. • No - operates very effectively • Always take into consideration that Council doesn't have the resources to deliver some of the audit recommendations quickly. • No. • No, very happy with its output

13.3. AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

PURPOSE

To receive and note the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 24 September 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note the Minutes in Brief of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 24 September 2026, as attached, and the confidential Attachment 13.3.3 - Audit and Risk Committee Minutes - 24 September 2026;***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the confidential Attachment 13.3.3 - Audit and Risk Committee Minutes - 24 September 2026, of this Council meeting agenda is designated confidential under Section 3(1) Confidential Information of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Corporate Services on 29 September 2026 because it relates to the following grounds:***
l) information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989.

BACKGROUND

Council maintains an Audit and Risk Committee in accordance with section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The Audit and Risk Committee is an independent Advisory Committee to Council and its primary objective is to assist Council in the effective conduct of its responsibilities for financial reporting, management of risk, maintaining a reliable system of internal controls and facilitating the organisation's ethical development. Minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee are reported directly to Council.

A copy of the Minutes in Brief from the Audit and Risk Committee meeting of 24 September 2026 is attached and is provided for the information of Council and the general public.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Audit and Risk Committee Minutes in Brief - 24 September 2026 [**13.3.1** - 4 pages]
2. Confidential Header - Audit and Risk Committee Minutes - 24 September 2026 [**13.3.2** - 1 page]
3. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED- Audit and Risk Committee Minutes - 24 September 2026 [**13.3.3** - 150 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. To receive and note the minutes from the Audit and Risk Committee meeting of 24 September 2026; or
2. Not to receive and note the minutes and seek further information and reconsider the minutes at a future meeting.

PROPOSAL

To receive and note the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 24 September 2026.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

While this report does not meet a specific Council Plan strategic objective, it aligns with good governance.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Officers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

The *Local Government Act 2020*, section 53(1) requires Council to establish an audit committee. Council's Audit and Risk Committee is an advisory committee to Council and operates within the Terms of Reference and Charter adopted by Council.

The Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference require the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee to be forwarded to an ordinary meeting of the Council, including a report explaining any specific recommendations and key outcomes.

This report complies with the legislative requirements and the Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference requirements.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter identifies the management of risk as one of the primary objectives of the Audit and Risk Committee. The Audit and Risk Committee monitors the risk exposure of Council by determining if management has appropriate risk management processes and adequate management information systems in place.



AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES IN BRIEF
Thursday 24 September 2026 at 1:30pm

**Meeting held at Macalister River Room, 18 Desailly Street, Sale
and via MS Teams**

Present: Mr Tony Smith (Chair) (via Teams)
Dr Craig Nisbet (via Teams)
Ms Leanne Mulcahy (via Teams)
Councillor Catherine Bannerman (via Teams)
Councillor Garry Stephens (via Teams)

In attendance: Mr David Morcom (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr Arthur Skipitaris (General Manager Corporate Services) (via Teams)
Mr Ashy Sehgal (Chief Financial Officer)
Mr Antony Barnett (Crowe) (via Teams)
Ms Jennifer Hasan (Crowe) (via Teams)
Ms Peta Crawford (Coordinator Accounting & Payroll)
Ms Sheryl Saynor (Executive Support Corporate Services)

1 Welcome

David Morcom congratulated Tony Smith on his reappointment to the Committee for a further three-year term. Tony thanked David and stated that he regarded his appointment as a privilege.

2 Apologies

Councillor Geoff Wells

3 Closure of Meeting to Public

Councillor Bannerman/Leanne Mulcahy

That the meeting be closed to the public under Section 66(5) of the Local Government Act 2020 to discuss information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

4 Declaration of Conflict(s) of Interest

Nil

5 Adoption of Previous Minutes - 26 August 2026

Leanne Mulcahy/Craig Nisbet

That the Committee adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 August 2026.

CARRIED

6 In Camera Session (conducted at 1.00pm)

Tony thanked the external auditor representatives for the robust discussion held during the in-camera session and for their responses to Committee questions.

7.1 In Principle Agreement to the draft Financial Report and Performance Statement 2025/26

The Committee reviewed the draft Financial Report and Performance Statement for 2025/26 and received a report from representatives of Council's external auditors, Crowe.

The External Auditor gave an unmodified audit opinion that the finance report and performance statement were represented accurately and fairly, and that management were well prepared although several adjustments and reiterations of the financial reports did occur. Four immaterial audit findings, with one moderate and three low rated implications, resulted in recommendations that were considered by Management and the Audit & Risk Committee. There were no issues identified in relation to fraud, inefficiencies, probity, or prudence.

Leanne Mulcahy/Craig Nisbet

That the Audit & Risk Committee, having considered the draft Financial Report and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2026, recommend to Council that it give its in principle agreement to sign the draft Financial Report and Performance Statement subject to finalising by the Auditor General or their Agents.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 3(1) Confidential Information of the Local Government Act 2020 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 17 September 2026 because it relates to the following grounds:

(I) information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989.

be designated confidential information under Clause 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020.

CARRIED

7.2 Final Management Letter for year ending 30 June 2026

The draft Final Management Letter and draft 2025/26 Closing Report were shared with Committee members prior to the meeting and discussed during the In Camera session.

Leanne Mulcahy/Councillor Bannerman

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report. That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 3(1) Confidential Information of the Local Government Act 2020 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 17 September 2026 because it relates to the following grounds:

(I) information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989. be designated confidential information under Clause 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020.

CARRIED

7.3 Follow up review of Asset Revaluation Methodology Report Paper after end of financial year

The Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO) report *Results of 2022-23 Audits: Local Government* recommended:

That audit and risk committees:

- *prior to balance date, review the finance team's accounting paper;*
- *after balance date and at the time of reviewing the draft financial report:*
 - *determine whether there have been any changes to circumstances that would indicate that key assumptions behind the finance team's initial advice and key judgements no longer hold true; and*
 - *assess the reasonableness of the valuation and fair value assessment outcomes.*

The Committee received the amended Asset Revaluation Methodology Report Paper following the end of the financial year.

Craig Nisbet/Councillor Bannerman

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report. That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 3(1) Confidential Information of the Local Government Act 2020 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 17 September 2026 because it relates to the following grounds:

(I) information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989. be designated confidential information under Clause 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020.

CARRIED

7.4 Draft Annual Report 2025/26

The Committee received the draft Report of Operations which will be included in the Annual Report for 2025/26.

Action: An update is to be provided to the Committee at its February 2027 meeting on the outcome of the budget review and whether a budget variation is required in response to global fuel costs.

Leanne Mulcahy/Craig Nisbet

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report. That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 3(1) Confidential Information of the Local Government Act 2020 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 17 September 2026 because it relates to the following grounds:

(l) information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989. be designated confidential information under Clause 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020.

CARRIED

7.5 General Business

Nil

8.1 Rotating Assessment of and Feedback on Meeting

Committee member, Cr Bannerman lead a review on the conduct of the meeting.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 2.25PM.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 OCTOBER 2026

I declare that the information contained in the attached document **AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 24 SEPTEMBER 2026** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*:

- l) information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

.....
ARTHUR SKIPITARIS
General Manager Corporate Services
29 September 2026

13.4. COUNCIL QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2026

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

PURPOSE

For Council to receive and note the Council Quarterly Performance Report for September 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Council Quarterly Performance Report for September 2026 as attached.

BACKGROUND

The Council Quarterly Performance Report for September 2026 comprises an overview of Council finances. This includes an Income Statement, a Balance Sheet with commentary regarding any major variances, information on cash balances, the level of rates outstanding and a progress update on Council's Capital Works program.

Sections 97(1) and 97(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) require that at least every three months, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a statement comparing budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date is presented to Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public.

It must be noted that the quarter ending 30 September 2026 had no material operating cost impact (estimated less than \$80,000) from the fuel price increase. Commentary regarding fuel price increases and supply challenges will be included in the next quarterly update.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Quarterly Finance Report - September 2026 [13.4.1 - 7 pages]

OPTIONS

Following consideration of the attached Council Quarterly Performance Report for September 2026, Council can resolve to either:

1. To receive and note the Council Quarterly Performance Report for September 2026;
or
2. Not to receive and note the Council Quarterly Performance Report for September 2026 and seek further information for consideration at a later Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

That Council receive and note the attached Council Quarterly Performance Report for September 2026.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

While this report does not meet a specific Council Plan strategic objective, it aligns with good governance.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Officers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Provision of a quarterly financial report to the community facilitates accountability and transparency and ensures that Council and management are able to make informed decisions in a timely manner.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Sections 97(1) and 97(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* require that at least every three months, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a statement comparing budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date is presented to Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

The Council Quarterly Performance Report for September 2026 has been prepared in the context of existing Council policies.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

September 2026

Quarterly Finance Summary

Incorporated in Quarterly Performance Report

OPERATING RESULT STATEMENT
For the period ending 30 September 2026

	YEAR TO DATE			FULL YEAR 2026-27	
	Actual \$000's	Adopted Budget \$000's	Actual Variance to Adopted \$000's	Adopted Budget \$000's	Actual Variance to Adopted \$000's
Income					
Rates and charges	78,836	78,245	591	78,730	106
Statutory fees & fines	297	250	47	1,043	(746)
User fees	2,063	2,376	(313)	12,807	(10,744)
Grants - operating	2,227	3,434	(1,207)	17,922	(15,695)
Grants - capital	1,555	927	628	12,710	(11,155)
Contributions - operating (monetary)	162	92	70	924	(762)
Contributions - capital (monetary)	60	-	60	1,206	(1,146)
Contributions - non monetary	-	-	-	1,700	(1,700)
Other income	2,002	1,701	301	7,900	(5,898)
Total Income (Inc capital income)	87,202	87,025	177	134,942	(47,740)
Expenditure					
Employee costs	10,390	10,386	(4)	39,909	29,519
Materials and services	12,514	12,966	452	49,753	37,239
Bad and doubtful debts	-	3	3	12	12
Depreciation and amortisation	10,080	10,131	51	40,527	30,447
Borrowing costs	52	15	(37)	229	177
Finance cost leases	3	13	10	51	48
Other expenses	174	150	(24)	861	687
Net loss/(gain) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant & equipment	(95)	(161)	(66)	5	100
Total Expenditure	33,118	33,503	385	131,347	98,229
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	54,084	53,522	562	3,595	50,489

Note: The forecast figures reflect any known changes that have arisen since the adoption of the original budget. The forecast enables Council to more accurately monitor financial performance during the year and predict the end of year position. However, Council must report publicly against the original adopted budget on a quarterly basis.

Adopted Budget to YTD Actuals

The result for the quarter ending 30 September 2026 reflects a surplus of \$54.08M against an adopted budget surplus of \$53.52M, resulting in a favourable variance of \$0.56M. The variance is a combination of operating result (operating income less operating expense of (\$0.12M)), and the impact of capital grants and contributions of \$0.68M.

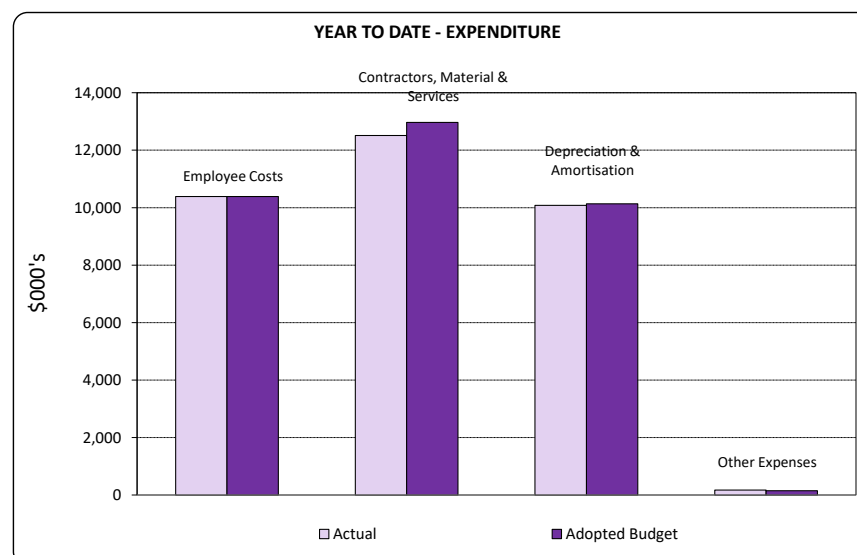
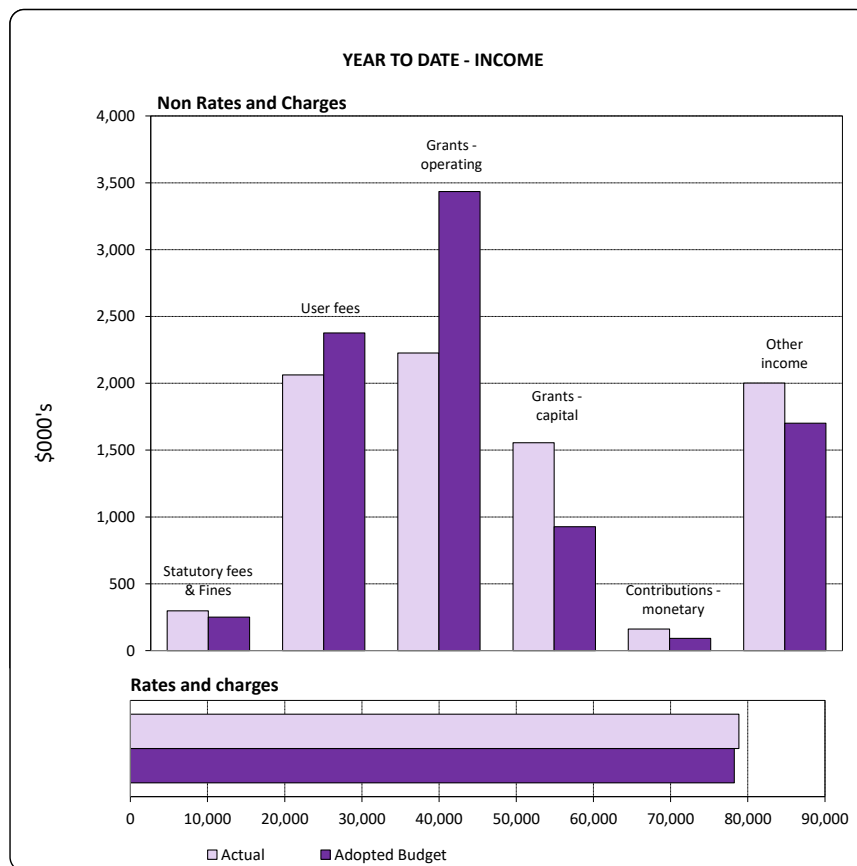
A summary of major variances that have occurred to date include:**Income**

- **\$0.59 million** **Rates & Charges** - The majority of the variance represents additional supplementary rates struck since the 2026/27 budget adoption, due to increased demand for new residential developments throughout the Shire.
- **(\$0.31 million)** **User Fees** - This mainly relates to landfill gate fees that have been lower than expected due to lower waste volumes being processed through landfills during the initial months of the financial year. Fees earned from reimbursements and registration and other permits were slightly below projection.
- **(\$1.21 million)** **Grants (Operating)** - The unfavourable variance primarily relates to Victorian Grant Commission funding received for the first quarter in 2026/27 have been lower than anticipated, but the full year budget allocation of \$13.9M is expected by 30 June 2027. Partly offset by additional grants received for past natural disaster claims of \$0.36M for two flood events back in 2023 and receipt of annual funding for library support services earlier than expected.
- **\$0.63 million** **Grants (Capital)** - This represents roads to recovery funding received towards Evelyn/Donald Street rehabilitation of \$0.37M and Longford Central Township upgrades of \$0.29M, which are nearing completion.
- **\$0.30 million** **Other Income** - This primarily relates to interest earned from short term investments for the September quarter being higher than expected due to increase in market rates.

Expenditure

- **\$0.46 million** **Contractors, Materials and Services:**
Some listed below are related to the timing of expenditure and are not expected to impact the year end results;
 - a. **\$0.57M** - Consultant expenses for major and strategic planning projects were underspend for the period ending 30 September 2026, mainly due to project commencement delays.
 - b. **\$0.22M** - Expenditure incurred on building, road infrastructure and parks maintenance was lower than budgeted, but approximately 60% of these costs are raised as commitments to be expended in the coming months.
 - c. **\$0.16M** - Annual insurance premiums incurred for the year 2026/27 were slightly lower than expected.
 - d. **(\$0.45M)** - Expenses associated with parks and tree maintenance and seasonal relief mowing were higher to date due to pro active works. Also programs such as Urban Forest Renewal and infrastructure planning works are progressing ahead of schedule.

SEPTEMBER 2026 COMPONENTS AT A GLANCE

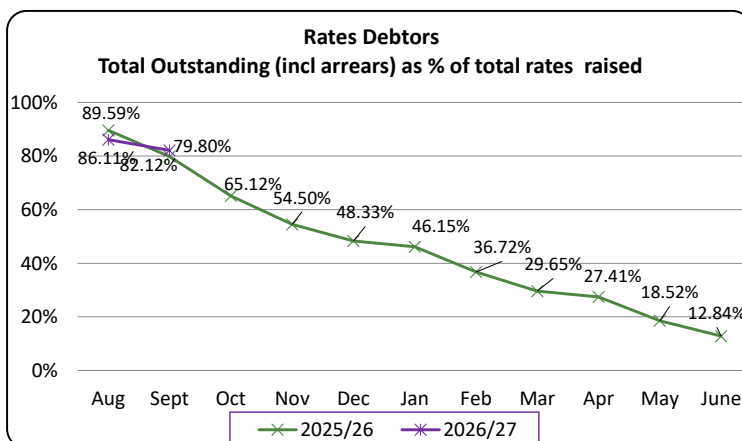


BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 September 2026

Actual		Actual	Adopted Budget
June 26		September 26	June 27
\$000's		\$000's	\$000's
Assets			
173,909	Total Current Assets	197,504	147,281
1,588,293	Total Non Current Assets	1,621,311	1,519,694
1,762,202	Total Assets	1,818,815	1,666,975
Liabilities			
36,654	Total Current Liabilities	30,169	28,531
24,234	Total Non Current Liabilities	23,153	24,192
60,888	Total Liabilities	53,322	52,723
1,701,314	Net Assets	1,765,493	1,614,252

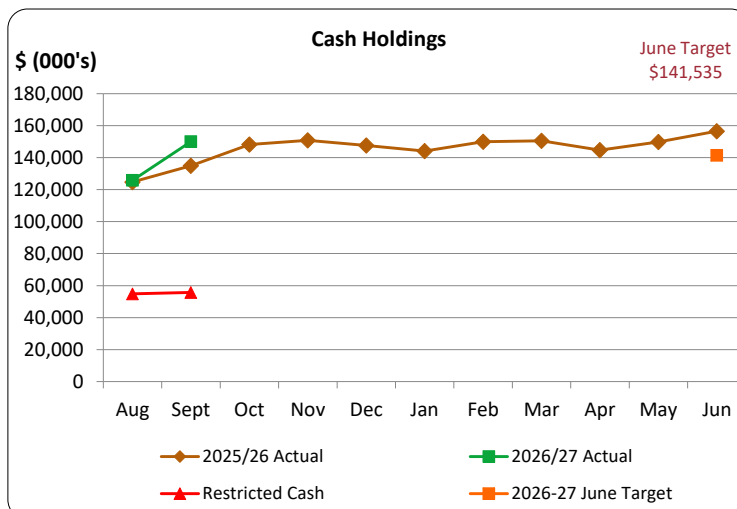
Note: Removed Forecast 2027 figures as currently reviewing the methodology of calculations.



The rate debtors outstanding at the end of 30 September 2026 were \$65.0M (82.1%) compared to 30 September 2025 of \$60.0M (79.8%).

[Note: Based on total unclaimed rate debtors for the year, does not represent any payment plans or instalments undertaken].

The first rate instalment was due on 30 September 2026 and second rate instalment will be sent in October 2026, which is due on 30 November 2026.



Council cash holdings at the end of September 2026 are \$150.0M, slightly lower than June 2026 of \$156.6M, mainly due to increase in short term investments during the first quarter.

Current cash holdings include \$55.7M in restricted funds: \$14.8M to cover reserves, \$39.2M to cover provisions and trusts, \$1.7M associated with carried forwards.

The balance is generally working capital for ongoing operations.

Restricted cash is money that is reserved for specific purposes and therefore not available for general business use.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 September 2026

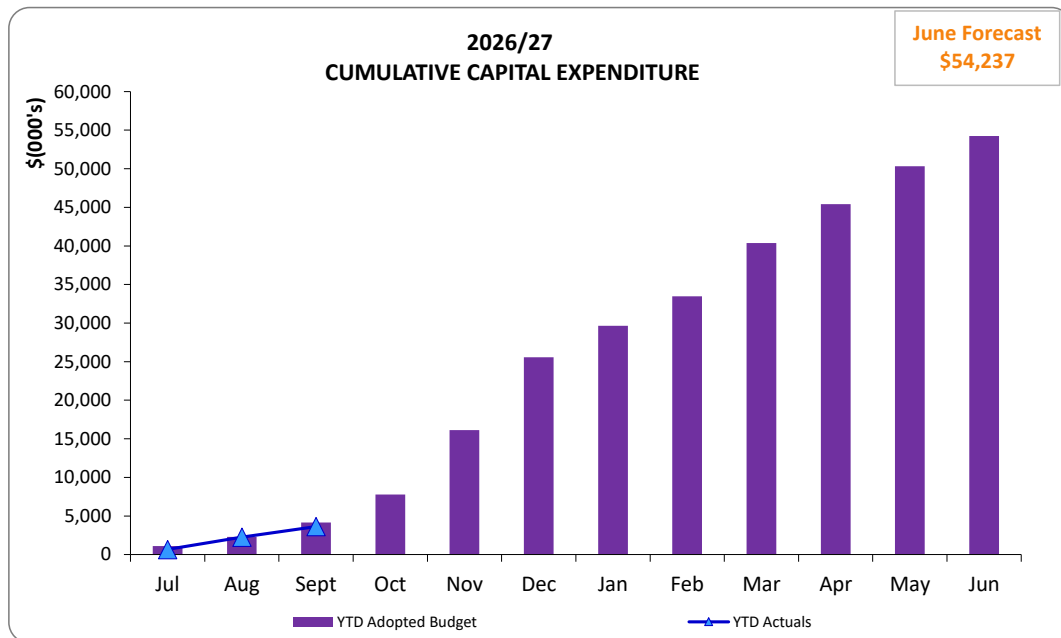
	YEAR TO DATE 2026-27			FULL YEAR 2026-27	
	Actual	Adopted Budget	Variance	Adopted Budget	Actual Variance to Adopted
	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Property	278	880	602	10,809	(10,531)
Infrastructure	2,751	2,136	(615)	37,562	(34,811)
Plant and Equipment	591	1,142	551	5,866	(5,275)
Grand Total	3,620	4,158	538	54,237	(50,617)

	YEAR TO DATE 2026-27			FULL YEAR 2026-27	
	Actual	Adopted Budget	Variance	Adopted Budget	Actual Variance to Adopted
	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Renewal	1,675	2,851	1,176	34,333	(32,658)
Upgrade	1,731	1,026	(705)	11,015	(9,284)
Expansion	214	281	67	8,889	(8,675)
New Assets	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	3,620	4,158	538	54,237	(50,617)

Capital Works Summary - Period Ending 30 September 2026

- Overall 5 projects are at practical completion, 35 more projects have started, 3 projects are close to finish and 6 projects are on track for completion being over 50% complete. 56 projects are in pre-planning (development of the concept design, the detail design, community consultation and seeking quotes or tenders).
- Cameron Social Cricket Clubroom redevelopment works are progressing well with works 85% completed.
- Works will be commencing on the Maffra Lawn Tennis Club LED Lighting after being successful in receiving Grant funding.
- The Playground Renewal works are underway for the Boisdale Recreation Reserve and Woodside Beach with components ordered and installation to be completed in October 2026.
- The Southern Rural Water Channel works have been completed for the Gibson and Cobains Road Roundabout works. The construction works of the Roundabout are currently out of tender.
- Delta Bridge Strengthening works were completed in July 2026.
- Longford Central Special Charge Scheme works are nearing completion.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 September 2026



13.5. CONSIDERATION OF 2025/26 ANNUAL REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER GOVERNANCE

PURPOSE

To receive and consider Wellington Shire Council's Annual Report 2025/26, as attached.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and consider the Annual Report 2025/26, as attached, presented by the Mayor, in accordance with Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 2020.

BACKGROUND

Each financial year, Council prepares an annual report which meets legislative requirements and informs the community about Council's previous year's financial performance and achievements, particularly against the strategic objectives and initiatives outlined in the Council Plan.

The Annual Report includes:

- the Report of Operations
- the audited Performance Statement
- the audited Financial Statements.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Consideration of 2025/26 Annual Report [**13.5.1** - 1 page]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. To receive and consider the Annual Report 2025/26; or
2. Not to receive and consider the Annual Report 2025/26 at this meeting and refer it to another council meeting.

PROPOSAL

That Council receive and consider the Annual Report 2025/26 in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

While this report does not meet a specific Council Plan strategic objective, it aligns with good governance.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

The Annual Report is being presented in accordance with Council's obligations under Section 100 of the *Local Government Act 2020* which states *'the Mayor must report on the implementation of the Council Plan by presenting the annual report at a Council meeting open to the public within 4 months of the end of the financial year'*.

Council's Annual Report 2025/26 has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

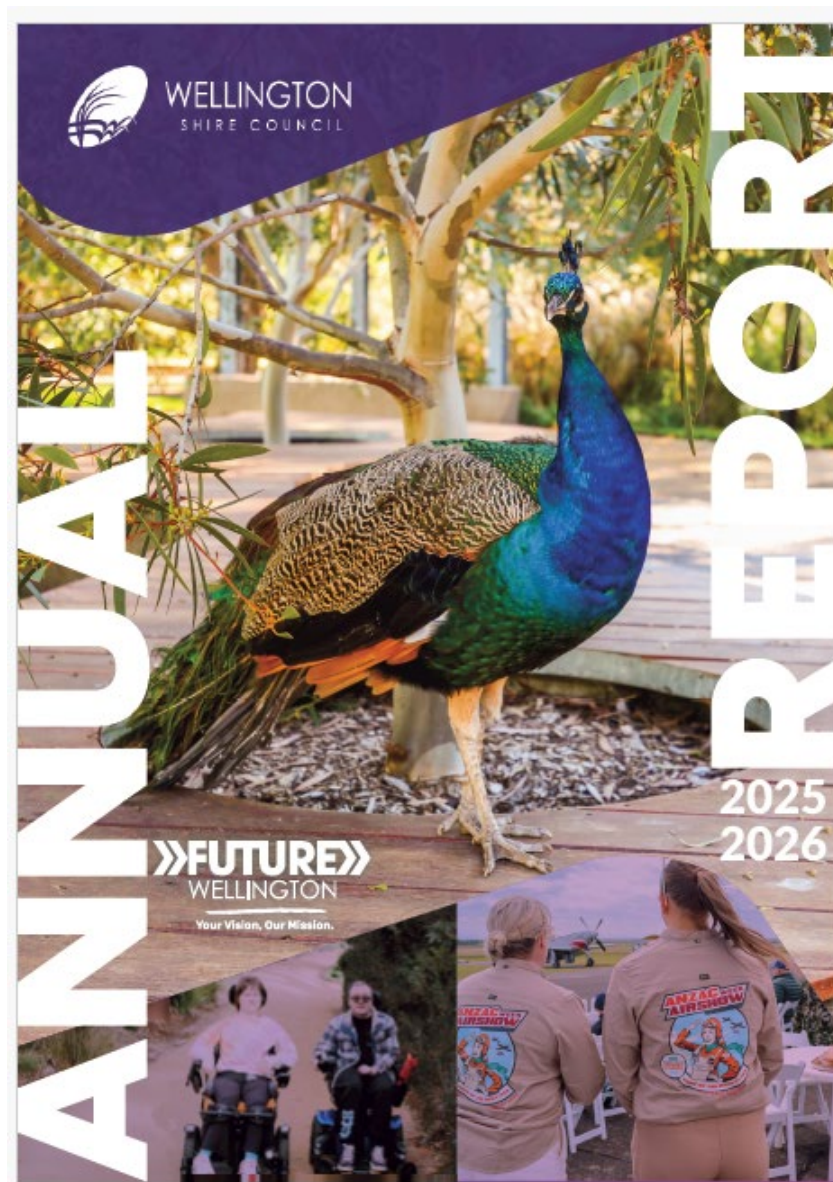
This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

Consideration of 2025/26 Annual Report

Link to attachment: [Draft 2025/26 Annual Report](#)



14. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

14.1. MONTHLY PLANNING DECISIONS - AUGUST 2026

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER PLANNING AND BUILDING

PURPOSE

To provide a report to Council on recent planning permit trends and planning decisions made under delegation by Statutory Planners during the month of August 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report on recent Planning Permit trends and Planning Application determinations between 1 August 2026 and 31 August 2026.

BACKGROUND

Statutory Planners have delegated authority under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to make planning decisions in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the Wellington Planning Scheme, including the issue of planning permits, amended permits, extensions of time, refusal of planning permits and notices of decision to grant a planning permit.

A copy of planning permit decisions made between 1 August 2026 and 31 August 2026 is included in Attachment 14.1.1 - Planning Decisions Report - August 2026.

An overview of recent planning permit trends including decisions made, efficiency of decision making and the estimated value of approved development (derived from monthly planning permit activity reporting data) is included in Attachment 14.1.2 - Planning Trends Report - August 2026.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Planning Decisions Report - August 2026 [**14.1.1** - 5 pages]
2. Planning Trends Report - August 2026 [**14.1.2** - 3 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Receive and note the 1 August 2026 to 31 August 2026 planning decisions report; or
2. Not receive and note the 1 August 2026 to 31 August 2026 planning decisions report and seek further information for consideration at a future Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

That Council receive and note the report on recent planning permit trends and planning application determinations between 1 August 2026 and 31 August 2026.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

This report supports the achievement of the following Council Plan 2025-29 Strategic Objective/s:

Strategic Objective Two: Dynamic and Diverse Economy – *An economy that enables sustainable growth, and enhances the social environment, lifestyle and unique characteristics of our communities* – states the following strategy:

- *Supporting job growth and diversification of our economy.*
- *Planning to support future growth and changing needs of our community.*
- *Guiding responsible, sustainable development that protects, values and celebrates our unique heritage.*

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Officers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

The monthly report communicates information about planning trends and determinations including the issuing of planning permits, amended permits, refusal of planning permits, and notices of decision to grant a planning permit.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

All planning decisions have been processed and issued in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the Wellington Planning Scheme.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

All planning decisions have been issued after due consideration of relevant Council policy, including Council's Heritage Policy, and the requirements of the Planning Policy Framework in the Wellington Planning Scheme.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Planning decisions are made in accordance with the relevant environmental standards to ensure that environmental impacts are minimised.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

**PLANNING APPLICATION DETERMINATIONS
BETWEEN 1/08/2026 AND 31/08/2026**

Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
100-3.00/2018	17/02/2025	Assessment No. 344259 LOT: 2 PS: 545543U 148 BREWERS HILL RD MAFFRA	Use & development of land for a renewable energy facility (Solar Farm)	Withdrawn 12/08/2026
345-3.00/2021	13/02/2026	Assessment No. 206995 LOT: 2 LP: 97183 245 SEASPRAY RD LONGFORD	Staged subdivision/access to TZ2/remove vegetation per endorsed plans.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 14/08/2026
77-2.00/2023	13/08/2026	Assessment No. 23937 LOT: 5 LP: 40673 223-225 GUTHRIDGE PDE SALE	4 Lot Subdivision, development of 4 dwellings and creation of easement	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 25/08/2026
12-3.00/2024	2/07/2026	Assessment No. 231332 LOT: 2614 LP: 70942 75 GOODLETT AVE LOCH SPORT	B&Ws associated with the extension of an existing dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 12/08/2026
43-3.00/2025	30/06/2026	Assessment No. 276907 LOT: 1 PS: 134544 4 BRISBANE ST PORT ALBERT	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 17/08/2026
196-1.00/2025	30/06/2025	Assessment No. 336701 LOT: 1 TP: 447580W 29 CARPENTER ST MAFFRA	B&Ws associated with construction of 2nd dwelling & 2 lot subdivision.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 17/08/2026
322-1.00/2025	10/10/2025	Assessment No. 86827 CA: 21 LIND AVE DARGO	2 Lot Re-subdivision of the Land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 28/08/2026
335-1.00/2025	23/10/2025	Assessment No. 446518 LOT: 1 LP: 216390 MEWBURN PARK RD TINAMBA	Two lot subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 25/08/2026
383-1.00/2025	26/11/2025	Assessment No. 466060 LOT: 4 PS: 846505A 102 FIREBRACE RD HEYFIELD	Use and development of the land for a Sawmill.	Withdrawn 24/08/2026
25-1.00/2026	4/02/2026	Assessment No. 102632 LOT: 2 PS: 804079C 139 HOPKINS RD FULHAM	Use and development of the land for a golf driving range.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 4/08/2026
29-1.00/2026	11/02/2026	Assessment No. 369546 PLANNING & BUILDING ST WELLINGTON	Removal of native vegetation (road upgrade).	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 14/08/2026

Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
33-1.00/2026	16/02/2026	Assessment No. 390583 CA: 20 89 LIND AVE DARGO	Buildings and works associated with an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 13/08/2026
35-1.00/2026	18/02/2026	Assessment No. 467159 LOT: 1 TP: 957659N 36 OLD PORT FORESHORE PORT ALBERT	Buildings & works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 7/08/2026
53-1.00/2026	12/03/2026	Assessment No. 192658 LOT: 1 TP: 417340N 17-19 PRINCE ST ROSEDALE	B&Ws associated w extension to existing building & reduce car parking.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 3/08/2026
56-1.00/2026	13/03/2026	Assessment No. 11833 PC: 158263 288-290 RAYMOND ST SALE	Use and development of the land for container deposit scheme.	Lapsed 12/08/2026
97-1.00/2026	24/04/2026	Assessment No. 18259 LOT: 1 TP: 533597Y 90 BARKLY ST SALE	Construction of 2 dwellings & 3 lot subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 14/08/2026
104-1.00/2026	28/04/2026	Assessment No. 354407 LOT: 1 TP: 513755V BUNDALAGUAH RD MAFRA	B&Ws assoc with construction of fishway and removal of native veg.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 14/08/2026
105-2.00/2026	28/07/2026	Assessment No. 212969 LOT: 186 LP: 52647 28 SPINDRIFT AVE GOLDEN BEACH	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 5/08/2026
119-1.00/2026	8/05/2026	Assessment No. 438796 LOT: 1 PS: 724770L 1/19 STEPHENSON ST SALE	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 14/08/2026
124-1.00/2026	18/05/2026	Assessment No. 274613 PC: 377343C 2-30 RANKIN ST ALBERTON	Use land for sawmill / buildings & works for timber processing plant.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 31/08/2026
127-2.00/2026	30/07/2026	Assessment No. 278168 CA: 1 SEC: 1 68 SOUTH ST PORT ALBERT	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 28/08/2026
132-1.00/2026	28/05/2026	Assessment No. 430777 LOT: 1334 LP: 58872 17 BREAM RD LOCH SPORT	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 3/08/2026
136-1.00/2026	3/06/2026	Assessment No. 127563 LOT: 2885 LP: 56682 482 SHORELINE DR GOLDEN BEACH	Removal of Vegetation	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 5/08/2026

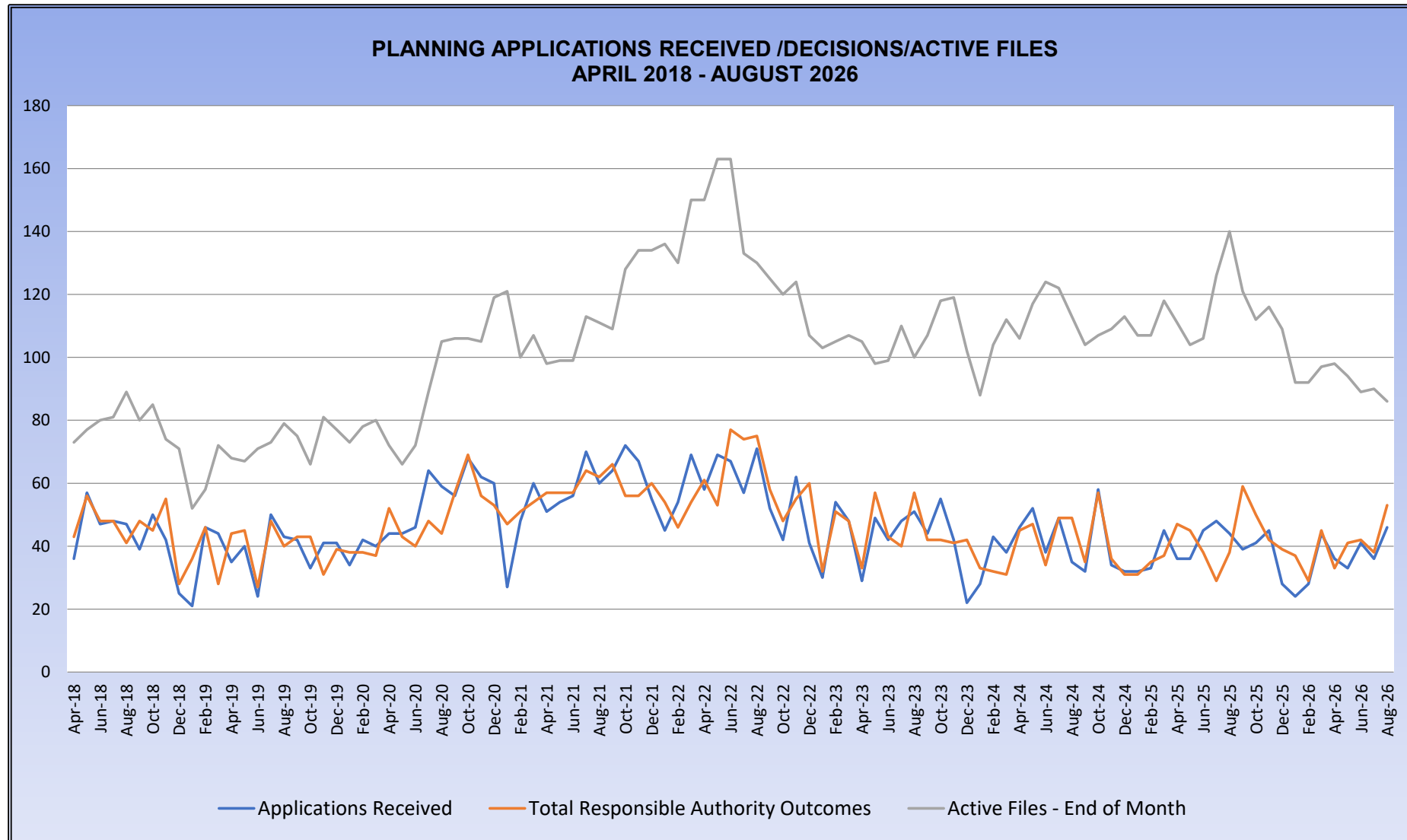
Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
140-1.00/2026	4/06/2026	Assessment No. 202283 LOT: 8 LP: 138727 203 HUFFERS LANE ROSEDALE	Use and development of the land for a second dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 7/08/2026
144-1.00/2026	10/06/2026	Assessment No. 213942 PC: 357078H 9-11 SPINDRIFT AVE GOLDEN BEACH	Buildings & works / construct an extension to an existing dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 7/08/2026
151-1.00/2026	17/06/2026	Assessment No. 361360 LOT: 1 TP: 533434 MAFFRA-BRIAGOLONG RD MAFFRA	Multi lot staged subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/08/2026
156-1.00/2026	22/06/2026	Assessment No. 463927 LOT: 190 LP: 54201 28 BEN CRUACHAN PDE COONGULLA	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 7/08/2026
159-1.00/2026	22/06/2026	Assessment No. 451963 LOT: 1 TP: 815116Y 21 DESAILLY ST SALE	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 28/08/2026
160-1.00/2026	23/06/2026	Assessment No. 372417 LOT: 6 PS: 346383A 49 HIGHFIELD DR LONGFORD	Use of the land for a public event.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 7/08/2026
163-1.00/2026	23/06/2026	Assessment No. 463778 LOT: 5 PS: 846472N 31 THE RIDGE WURRUK	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/08/2026
169-1.00/2026	30/06/2026	Assessment No. 460444 LOT: 1 PS: 905315E 862 LLOWALONG RD LLOWALONG	B&Ws associated with construction of extension to existing dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 19/08/2026
171-1.00/2026	2/07/2026	Assessment No. 220517 LOT: 1 TP: 139800D 20 MOONRISE RD GOLDEN BEACH	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 13/08/2026
173-1.00/2026	6/07/2026	Assessment No. 71159 LOT: 1 TP: 820226M 14 SOUTH GIPPSLAND HWY SALE	Buildings & works / extension to an existing dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 19/08/2026
180-1.00/2026	10/07/2026	Assessment No. 283986 CA: 35C 8 ASKEWS RD ALBERTON WEST	Use and development of the land for a dwelling.	Withdrawn 10/08/2026
185-1.00/2026	17/07/2026	Assessment No. 256305 LOT: 853 LP: 40160 50 SEVENTH AVE PARADISE BEACH	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 6/08/2026

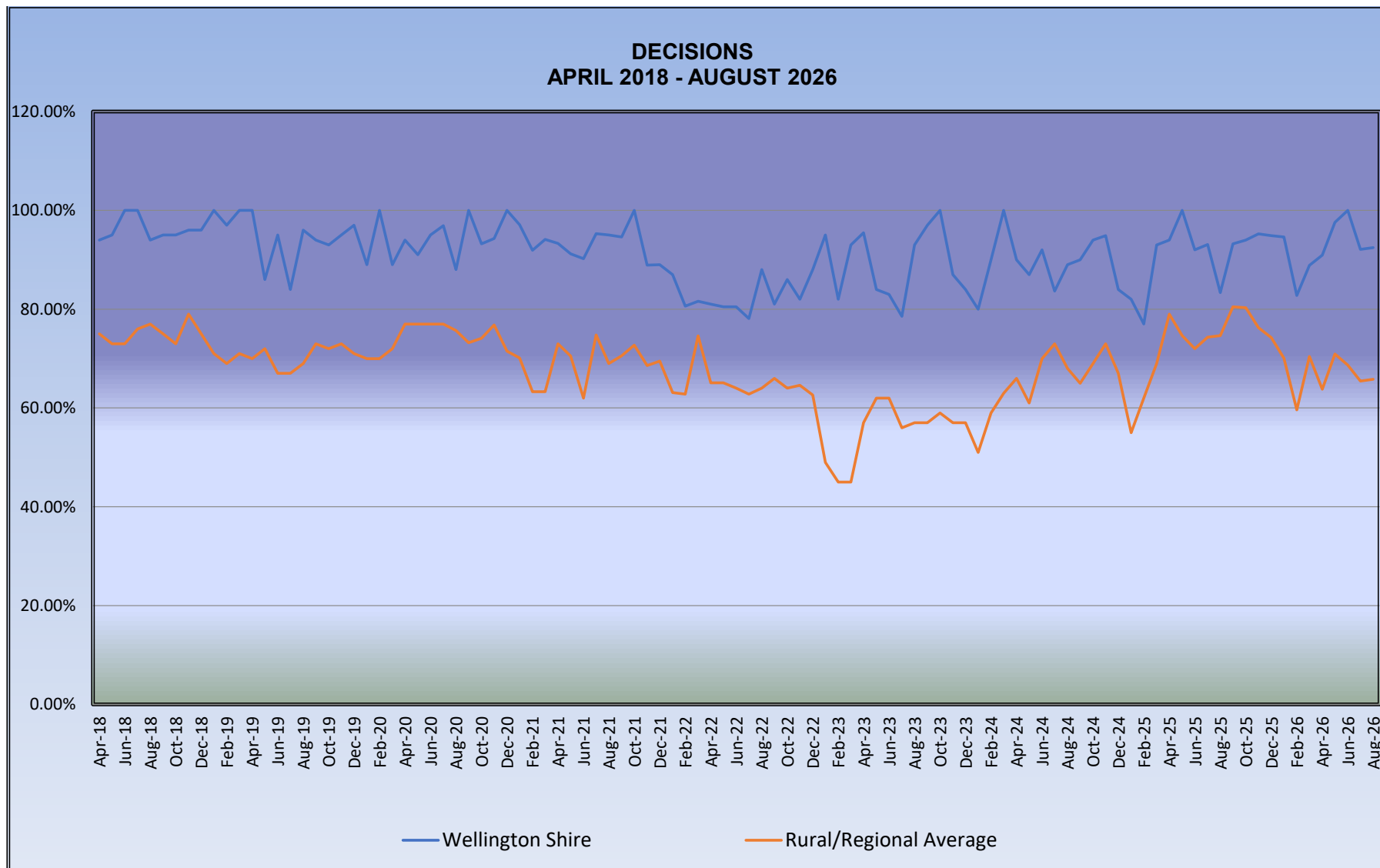
Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
189-1.00/2026	23/07/2026	Assessment No. 413906 LOT: 2 PS: 602211G 510 KENTUCKY RD NEWRY	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 18/08/2026
190-1.00/2026	23/07/2026	Assessment No. 48801 LOT: 2 LP: 90774 STEVENS ST SALE	B&Ws associated with the construction of an agricultural building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 25/08/2026
192-1.00/2026	24/07/2026	Assessment No. 258160 PC: 353937F 19 FIRST ST PARADISE BEACH	Buildings & works associated with the construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 18/08/2026
194-1.00/2026	27/07/2026	Assessment No. 390948 LOT: 3 PS: 515579R 18 KING ST PORT ALBERT	2 Lot Subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 7/08/2026
195-1.00/2026	30/07/2026	Assessment No. 272625 LOT: 4 PS: 346945H 67 STARLINGS LANE WOODSIDE	Buildings & works / construction of an agricultural building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 7/08/2026
196-1.00/2026	31/07/2026	Assessment No. 358952 CA: 61D 258 CORNWELLS RD RIVERSLEA	Buildings & works / construct an agricultural building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 7/08/2026
198-1.00/2026	4/08/2026	Assessment No. 359539 LOT: 2 PS: 644790Y 27 HARPERS RD NEWRY	Buildings & works associated with the construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 25/08/2026
199-1.00/2026	5/08/2026	Assessment No. 283796 PTP: 1 TP: 578908F 6,950 SOUTH GIPPSLAND HEDLEY	Buildings & works / construction of an agricultural building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 28/08/2026
200-1.00/2026	5/08/2026	Assessment No. 196923 CP: 103571 17 ROWLEY ST SEASPRAY	Buildings and works associated with the extension of a building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 13/08/2026
205-1.00/2026	6/08/2026	Assessment No. 212837 PC: 385307L 64 SHORELINE DR GOLDEN BEACH	Buildings and works associated with the construction of an outbuilding	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/08/2026
208-1.00/2026	7/08/2026	Assessment No. 398248 LOT: 3 PS: 69864 10 GIBSONS RD SALE	Buildings & works associated with the construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 19/08/2026
211-1.00/2026	10/08/2026	Assessment No. 185470 CA: 14C 31 BOYLE RD LONGFORD	B&Ws associated with the construction of an agricultural building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/08/2026

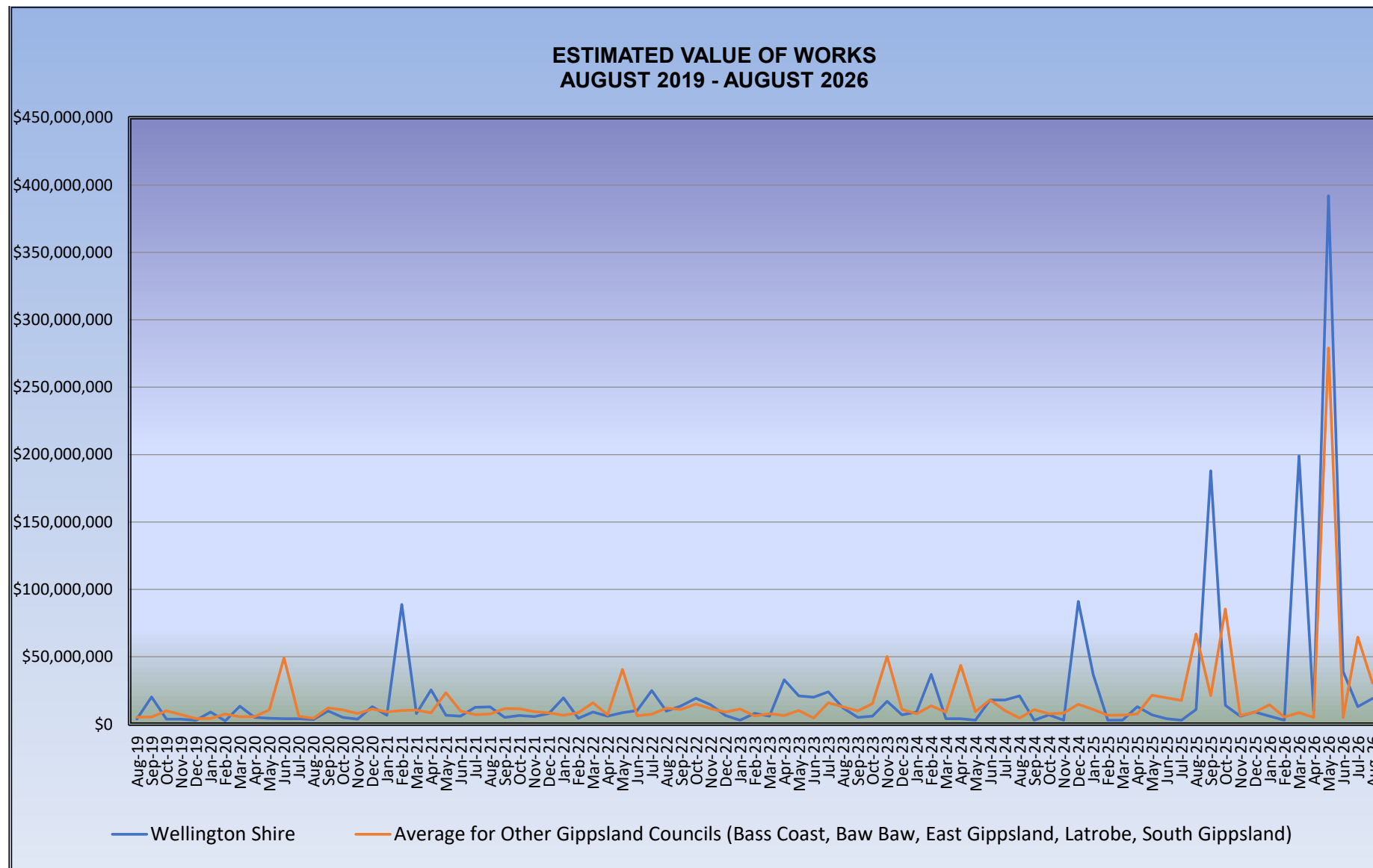
ATTACHMENT 14.1.1

Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
212-1.00/2026	11/08/2026	Assessment No. 200345 LOT: 3 TP: 4140A 514 GARRETTS RD LONGFORD	B&Ws assoc with construction of industrial building- Helicopter hanger	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/08/2026
214-1.00/2026	12/08/2026	Assessment No. 37853 LOT: 1 PS: 915366E 190 FOSTER ST SALE	B&Ws assoc with construction of extension to existing building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/08/2026
215-1.00/2026	12/08/2026	Assessment No. 467795 LOT: 1 PS: 927684W 668 MAFFRA-SALE RD BUNDALAGUAH	Buildings and works associated with an outbuilding	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 18/08/2026
216-1.00/2026	14/08/2026	Assessment No. 20362 LOT: 82 LP: 141310 38 COVERDALE DR SALE	Buildings & works / construction of a 2nd dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/08/2026
221-1.00/2026	17/08/2026	Assessment No. 55228 CA: 1A SEC: 5 79-87 FOSTER ST SALE	Buildings & works / extension and alteration of a building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 28/08/2026
224-1.00/2026	20/08/2026	Assessment No. 247924 LOT: 2707 LP: 70943 89 WHITE CRES LOCH SPORT	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a carport.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 25/08/2026

Total No of Decisions Made: 53







14.2. STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE REPORT, QUARTER 3 - JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2026

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER PLANNING AND BUILDING

PURPOSE

To provide Council and the community with an update on the strategic planning work program for Quarter 3, July to September 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Strategic Planning Committee Update Report for Quarter 3, July to September 2026, as attached.

BACKGROUND

Wellington Shire Council is responsible for the delivery of strategic land use planning. Strategic Planning is broadly defined as the long-term, high-level process that defines the future vision, policies, and land-use strategies for a city or region, to guide sustainable growth, development and settlement outcomes.

The strategic planning work program is reviewed by Council's Strategic Planning Committee (SPC), which meets on a quarterly basis. The Councillor representation for the SPC is appointed by Council as per the [Register of Council Committees and Advisory Groups](#).

The SPC considered it beneficial to provide Council and the community with a quarterly update of the strategic planning work program. It comprises various prioritised planning projects, Planning Scheme Amendments and Development Plan applications. For the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) update, refer Attachment 14.2.1 - Strategic Planning Committee Update Report, Quarter 3.

Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) - September Meeting Update

The third quarterly meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) was held on Tuesday 8 September 2026 and comprised of the following members:

- Deputy Mayor (Chair) - Councillor Foat
- Councillor Tatterson
- Councillor Wells
- General Manager Development - Renae Littlejohn
- General Manager Built & Natural Environment - Chris Hastie
- Manager Planning and Building - Barry Hearsey
- Manager Built Environment - Sam Pye
- Acting Coordinator Infrastructure Development - Zac Elliman
- Major Projects and Principal Strategic Planner - Joshua Clydesdale
- Coordinator Strategic Planning - Nicole Reynolds
- Strategic Planner - Caragh Button
- Strategic Planner - Miriam Turner

At the meeting, the following conflicts of interest were noted:

- Councillor Foat (Chair) declared an ongoing conflict of interest relating to *current Council Initiated Planning Scheme Amendment - C122Well - PAO (Cobains Road Widening)*.
- Councillor Foat (Chair) declared a conflict of interest at the 8 September 2026 Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) Meeting regarding *Item 3, Update 4: Planning Scheme Amendment C124well*, and left the room at 10.44am, returning at 10.51am.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Strategic Planning Committee Update Report, Quarter 3 [**14.2.1** - 5 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Receive and note the Strategic Planning Committee Update Report for Quarter 3, July to September 2026, or
2. Not receive and note the Strategic Planning Committee Update Report for Quarter 3, July to September 2026 and seek further information for consideration at a future Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

To receive and note the Strategic Planning Committee Update Report for Quarter 3, July to September 2026.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

This report supports the achievement of the following Council Plan 2025-29 Strategic Objective/s:

Strategic Objective Two: Dynamic and Diverse Economy – *An economy that enables sustainable growth, and enhances the social environment, lifestyle and unique characteristics of our communities* – states the following strategy:

- *Supporting job growth and diversification of our economy.*
- *Planning to support future growth and changing needs of our community.*
- *Guiding responsible, sustainable development that protects, values and celebrates our unique heritage.*

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Officers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

All strategic land use planning matters are considered in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and/or any relevant legislation.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.



STRATEGIC PLANNING

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (SPC) UPDATE REPORT
Quarter 3: July – September 2026

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROJECTS	CURRENT STATUS
<u>West Sale Industrial Land – Development Plan</u> Project Details: A recommended action of the ‘<i>West Sale and Wurruk Industrial Land Supply Strategy</i>’ was the preparation of several detailed technical reports to address issues relating to cultural heritage, vegetation, drainage and traffic in the West Sale Industrial precinct. A Development Plan is also required to guide the layout and form of future development of the West Sale Industrial precinct.	Current Status: Council approved the ‘<i>West Sale Industrial Development Plan</i>’, at its 21 April 2026 Council meeting.
<u>North Sale Development Plan/Infrastructure Funding Arrangement Report - Review</u> Project Details: Following the adoption of the ‘<i>North Sale Development Plan (2018)</i>’ and the adoption of the related ‘<i>North Sale Infrastructure Funding Arrangement Report (2022)</i>’ by Council, both these documents now require review and updating to reflect current strategic land use intentions in the North Sale Growth Area and to ensure that up-to-date infrastructure cost estimates are applied moving forward.	Current Status: Mesh consultancy has undertaken an initial review of current growth area conditions and rezoning proposals, with further analysis and proponent engagement underway to inform next steps with the Review. Relevant landowners will be consulted when the Review is further advanced.
<u>Maffra Structure Plan Implementation - Development Contributions and Servicing Strategy</u> Project Details: • Preparation of a funding mechanism to equitably apportion costs associated with the provision of key infrastructure items as detailed in ‘Action 6’ of the <i>Maffra Structure Plan</i> (Mesh 2022, updated 2025). • Involves the preparation of a high-level strategic ‘<i>Servicing Strategy</i>’ for the Residential Growth Areas within Maffra in consultation with Gippsland Water, Southern Rural Water and other key service authorities, as detailed in ‘Action 4’ of the <i>Maffra Structure Plan</i> (Mesh 2022, updated 2025).	Current Status: Project brief to engage a consultancy to prepare the required work has been finalised. Procurement process to engage a consultant is currently underway. The Development Contributions Mechanism and Servicing Strategy will assist Council and proponents/landowners of future proponent-led Planning Scheme Amendments.
<u>Funding and Procurement of Public Infrastructure Works Policy</u> Project Details: At the Council Meeting of 1 February 2022, Council resolved to adopt the ‘<i>Residential Stocktake and Facilitation Strategy Report</i>’ (‘<i>Report</i>’). Arising from this	Current Status: No current applications have been submitted to Council for forward funding support.

	Report, Council adopted the ' <i>Funding and Procurement of Public Infrastructure Works Policy</i> ', at the Ordinary Meeting of 3 May 2022 to better support new greenfield development dependent on costly infrastructure requirements/challenges.	
	<u>Renewable Energy Land and Infrastructure Plan (RELIP)</u> Project Details: The Renewable Energy Land and Infrastructure Plan (RELIP) aims to ensure that the region is 'land and infrastructure ready' for planned renewable energy investment, including offshore wind. This includes responding to issues such as the need for zoned and serviced land for new worker housing, and consideration of physical and community infrastructure needs (e.g. road upgrades and childcare provision).	Current Status: The consultant team have commenced stage 1 of RELIP – Analysis, Issues and Opportunities - which will include stakeholder and community engagement and preparation of an Issues and Options paper (planned for November 2026). A joint briefing of Wellington and South Gippsland Shire Councils was held on 23 September 2026 where the consultant team was in attendance to meet Councillors, discuss the delivery of RELIP and provide an opportunity for Councillors to provide input into the Issues and Opportunities paper.
	<u>Stratford Structure Plan (Preparation)</u> Project Details: The Stratford Structure Plan will provide a 20 year 'strategic vision' to guide future growth, infrastructure, local services, and better connectivity to define the preferred direction for future growth and how change will be managed.	Current Status: Two additional technical reports, being a Flora and Fauna Assessment and Preliminary Site Investigation were prepared and draft revisions to implement these into the draft Stratford Structure Plan are underway. The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) have reviewed the draft Stratford Structure Plan and provided feedback, and revisions are being prepared to include these. Following completion of the above actions, the final round of community consultation will occur, followed by a Councillor workshop and Meeting to consider adopting the Plan and proceeding to implement it into the Wellington Planning Scheme through a Council-led Planning Scheme Amendment.
	<u>Planning Scheme Review Report (Section 12B)</u> Project Details: The preparation of the Planning Scheme Review Report is a key Action of the Council Plan 2025 - 29 and is a legislative requirement of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>.	Current Status: A draft Planning Scheme Review Report is currently being reviewed by Council Officers, with a final version imminent.
<u>CURRENT COUNCIL INITIATED PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENTS</u>		<u>CURRENT STATUS</u>
	<u>C120well: Maffra Structure Plan Translation (and Associated Work)</u>	Current Status:

	Amendment Details: Formally translate the key land use planning policy components of the adopted <i>Maffra Structure Plan</i> (Mesh 2022) into the Wellington Planning Scheme.	Request for approval lodged with the Minister for Planning on 24 June 2026. Council was advised of the approval of Amendment C120well with changes on 24 September 2026. Council is now awaiting gazettal of Amendment C120well to be advised of the full list of changes. A timeframe for gazettal is not known at this stage.
	<u>C122well: Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO) – Cobain’s Road Widening</u> Amendment Details: Application of a Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO2) to land on three properties that is required to facilitate growth within the North Sale Development Plan area.	Current Status: The amendment went to a council meeting on 18 August 2026 where a resolution was passed to proceed to a planning panel. Subsequently, a Panel was appointed on 27 August 2026, and it is anticipated that a directions hearing and panel hearing will occur in early 2027.
	<u>C123well: Wellington Growth Management Strategy Implementation</u> Amendment Details: Policy changes to the Planning Scheme to implement the previously adopted Wellington Growth Management Strategy.	Current Status: Amendment C123 has recently been ‘authorised’ by the Minister for Planning’s delegate. Once the Amendment has been updated in accordance with the authorisation requirements, the Amendment will be publicly exhibited.
	<u>C125well: Flood Provisions Updates</u> Amendment Details: Updates to flood mapping across the Wellington Shire to accurately identify land assessed as being flood prone. It is a requirement of both state government planning policy and the ‘<i>Victorian Floodplain Management Strategy</i>’, to ensure that flood-prone land is mapped in the Wellington Planning Scheme (the Scheme), including land predicted to be inundated by future sea-level rise, using the most up-to-date data and modelling available. Wellington Shire Council has a statutory duty to ensure that flood risk and community safety in flood prone areas is appropriately and effectively managed.	Current Status: Draft Amendment C125well is currently on public exhibition. At the conclusion of the exhibition period, next step is for Council to inform the Minister for Planning of all submissions and request the Minister appoint the Flood-related Amendments Standing Advisory Committee to review relevant unresolved submissions. The Committee is an independent advisory body that will consider submissions in accordance with its Terms of Reference. Following the Committee’s review of draft Planning Scheme Amendment C125well, the Committee will make recommendations to the Minister before the draft Amendment is considered by the Minister for Planning.

Privately Initiated Planning Scheme Amendments	Current Status
<u>C124well: S.96A – Gibsons Road, Sale</u> Amendment Details: The land subject to the proposed Amendment comprises 10 private and publicly owned properties within the Farming Zone (FZ) and Public Use Zone 6 (PUZ6) and are subject to a Design & Development Overlay Schedule 6 (DDO6-RAAF), located north of Cobain’s Road, between Swan Lake Drive to the west, and Gibsons Road to the east. The Amendment seeks to rezone the subject properties from Farming Zone (FZ) to General Residential Zone Schedule 1 (GRZ1), Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z), and apply the Development Plan Overlay Schedule 15 (DPO15). Additionally, it is proposed to apply PUZ1 (service and utility – managed by Southern Rural Water) over the Main Heart Channel as it weaves in a north-easterly direction across the precinct.	Current Status: A resolution to seek authorisation and exhibition of Planning Scheme Amendment C124well (Gibsons Road) was passed at the ordinary council meeting on 17 July 2026. Subsequent to this resolution, Council has been finalising the authorisation application in conjunction with the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) and anticipate a response to this to occur in late 2026.
<u>C126well: S.96A – Grassdale (North Sale)</u> Amendment Details: 8 Grassdale Road, Sale - residential rezoning (GRZ1) and multi lot staged subdivision (est 5229 lots), access to a road in a Transport Zone 2 (TRZ2) and native vegetation removal.	Current Status: Amendment C126well (Grassdale) is currently being considered for authorisation and exhibition with the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP).

Development Plan Applications	Current Status
<u>DPO8: Rural Living Area Bound By Williams Road, Willung Road, Hoopers Road and Friends Road, Rosedale - Development Plan</u> Development Plan Application Details: the Development Plan application has been prepared to demonstrate, in detail, how the land can be developed for rural living purposes, in accordance with the relevant planning provisions contained in the Development Plan Overlay Schedule 8 (DPO8). The draft Development Plan proposes 85 rural residential lots (average lot size 8,279m² in area) in the Rural Living Zone 1 (RLZ1).	Current Status: Development Plan application DP1/2026 approved on 19 August 2026.

14.3. PETITION - P139/2026 REJECT PROPOSED USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAND FOR A 2206 HEAD CATTLE FEEDLOT IN LLOWALONG - UPDATE

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the petition received at the Council meeting of 6 October 2026 in relation to planning permit application P139/2026, which proposes a Cattle Feedlot at 852 Llowalong Road, Llowalong.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Note the subject petition presented at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 6 October 2026;***
- 2. Include the petition as an objection to planning permit application P139/2026; and***
- 3. Acknowledge that the statutory planning process will consider the issues raised in the petition.***

BACKGROUND

Planning permit application P139/2026, for the use and development of the land as a 2,206-head cattle feedlot, was received on 4 June 2026. Notice of the application was sent to all landholders within 2 km of the proposed feedlot boundary.

In response to the application, Council received a petition on 4 September 2026.

The petition raised the following key concerns:

- The feedlot would be located in an area with a relatively high population density.
- The development would be inconsistent with the character of the area.
- The development would set an undesirable precedent for future proposals.
- Increased truck movements to and from the site would damage local roads.
- Potential odour and noise impacts.
- Potential impacts from dust and flies, and reduced air quality.
- Potential harm to biodiversity and natural ecosystems.
- Potential harm to agritourism and the area's reputation.

The petition calls for Council to:

- Refuse to issue a planning permit for the proposal.
- Prioritise community health and wellbeing.
- Support agricultural practices appropriate for populated areas.
- Protect the local environment and biodiversity.

In accordance with the statutory planning process, the petition (and all other objections received to the application) have been forwarded to the applicant for consideration and response.

Once the applicant has provided a written response to the issues raised in the objections, (including to the petition), it will be sent to all objectors including the head petitioner. All objectors, including the head petitioner, will have the opportunity to meet with the applicant to discuss concerns and where able, to seek resolutions to their issues prior to a formal decision being made on the proposal.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Include the petition as an objection to planning permit application P139/2026 and acknowledge the statutory planning process which will consider the issues raised in the petition; or
2. Seek further information and consider at a future Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

Include the petition as an objection to the planning permit application P139/2026 and allow the statutory planning process to consider the issues raised in the petition.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

This report supports the achievement of the following Council Plan 2025-29 Strategic Objective/s:

Strategic Objective Two: Dynamic and Diverse Economy – *An economy that enables sustainable growth, and enhances the social environment, lifestyle and unique characteristics of our communities* – states the following strategy:

- *Planning to support future growth and changing needs of our community.*

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Officers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

Under the provisions of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, the petition is being treated as a single objection and, as such, has been provided to the planning permit applicant for a response to the issues that are raised within it.

If, after fully assessing the application, Council is minded to issue a Notice of Decision to grant a planning permit, the head petitioner and other objectors will have the opportunity to challenge Council's decision at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

All communication about the petition will be sent directly to the head petitioner.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

The petition is being treated as a single objection under the provisions of Section 57 (3) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

Treating a petition as a single objection is in accordance with Item 7.8 of Wellington Shire Council's Governance Rules.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

Treating a petition as a single objection aligns with the current statutory planning process and therefore any additional impact on resources will be minimised.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The community impacts of the planning permit application will be assessed as part of the planning permit process.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The environmental impacts of the planning permit application will be assessed as part of the statutory planning process.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Engagement will occur through the head petitioner as part of the statutory planning process. The head petitioner may then forward any correspondence to other petition signatories.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

Risk will be managed through the legislated statutory planning process.

15. GENERAL MANAGER BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

15.1. PROPOSED LAND LEASE - BOISDALE STREET, MAFFRA

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER FACILITIES AND EMERGENCIES

PURPOSE

To seek Council authorisation to offer for to lease land at the corner of Thomson and Boisdale Street, Maffra, as shown in Figure 1 - Proposed Lease Area.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to offer to lease Council land at the corner of Thomson and Boisdale Street, Maffra as shown in Figure 1 - Proposed Lease Area; and***
- 2. Advertise its intention to lease land to Maffra Dramatic Society at a community rental amount for a period of ten years, subject to the provisions of Section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020, including calling for submissions in relation to the proposed lease.***

BACKGROUND

Girl Guides Victoria (GGV) entered into an agreement in 1963 with the Shire of Maffra to erect the Maffra Guide Hall on Council land at the corner of Thomson and Boisdale Street, Maffra.

The terms of the agreement included:

- Ownership of the building remained with GGV.
- Council took no responsibility for the building's construction or maintenance.
- On termination of the agreement GGV may remove the building and return the land to Council.

Council was notified by GGV in April 2025 that Maffra Girl Guides was no longer in operation and they were seeking to end the agreement. A Deed of Termination was fully executed in February 2026 requiring GGV to remove the building and make good the land. The Deed of Termination was not enacted.

Maffra Dramatic Society (MDS) approached GGV seeking to take ownership of the Maffra Guide Hall and approached Council to seek a lease for the land. MDS are committed to undertaking a staged refurbishment project and managing ongoing maintenance and operational expenses.



**Figure 1 – Proposed Lease area (land only)
Corner of Thomson and Boisdale Street, Maffra.**

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Progress establishing a new lease for the land at the corner of Thomson and Boisdale Street, Maffra as shown in Figure 1 - Proposed Lease Area; or
2. Not progress establishing a new lease and enact the Deed of Termination with GGV.

PROPOSAL

That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to offer to lease Council land on the corner of Thomson and Boisdale Street, Maffra as shown in Figure 1 - Proposed Lease Area and advertise its intention to lease land to Maffra Dramatic Society at a community rental amount for a period of 10 years, subject to the provisions of Section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, including calling for submissions in relation to the proposed lease.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

This report supports the achievement of the following Council Plan 2025-29 Strategic Objective/s:

Strategic Objective Three: Infrastructure, Spaces and Places – *Strategically planned, designed and well-maintained infrastructure, spaces and places* – states the following strategy:

- *Fostering inclusive and accessible spaces for community connection, creativity and activities.*

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Managers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

In accordance with section 115(4) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council will provide public notice of the intention to lease land and then consider any submissions.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

The requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* must be addressed when Council considers entering into any lease as governed by section 115. Council is required to comply with section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. These provisions require Council to notify its intent to enter into a lease and also invite and then consider any submissions for a term of 10 years or longer. As provided for in section 115(1) Council's power to lease land is limited to leases of a term of 50 years or less.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Implementation of this report's recommendations will result in a transparent leasing process that allows community feedback on Council's intention to lease the land.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Formal consultation will take place in the form of seeking submissions in accordance with section 115(4) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

Risks will be managed within the context of the lease document.

15.2. COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS – AUGUST 2026

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER FACILITIES AND EMERGENCIES

PURPOSE

For Council to approve the allocation round of Community Assistance Grants August 2026, as detailed in the Confidential Attachment 15.2.2 - Recommendations - Community Assistance Grants - August 2026 with applicants being notified of the outcome of their applications.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note this report;***
- 2. Approve the allocation of Community Assistance Grants August 2026, as detailed in the Confidential Attachment 15.2.2 - Recommendations - Community Assistance Grants - August 2026, with applicants being notified of the outcome of their applications; and***
- 3. Note that the information contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.2.2 - Recommendations - Community Assistance Grants - August 2026, of this Council meeting agenda, is designated confidential under section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 6 October 2026 because it relates to the following grounds; (f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful applicants can be made public.***

BACKGROUND

The Wellington Shire Council Community Assistance Grants Scheme encourages community outcomes in line with the Council's Wellington 2031 vision, the Council Plan 2025-29 and Live Well in Wellington 2025-29.

It aims to build community capacity by encouraging participation, promoting inclusion, growing partnerships, providing learning opportunities, and supporting social connectedness by utilising and activating our open spaces, community, and cultural facilities.

Not for profit community groups operating in the Wellington Shire can apply for a Community Assistance Grant between \$2,501 to \$6,000. On an annual basis, there are two Community Assistance Grant rounds in March and August.

Applications which successfully meet the criteria are eligible to be prioritised for funding.

For the August 2026 round, 42 applications totalling \$216,724.53 were received, 27 applications are recommended for funding of \$140,976.90. For full application and recommendation details refer Attachment 15.2.2 - Recommendations - Community Assistance Grants - August 2026.

Applications are assessed by a panel made up of staff from Council's leadership team. The applications are initially assessed against guidelines and then prioritised using assessment criteria, as outlined in Attachment 15.2.3 - Guidelines and Assessment Criteria - Community Assistance Grants - August 2026.

Each application is assessed on its benefit to the community, ability to fulfill a community need, project planning and capacity of the applicant to deliver the project.

The panel provides advice and recommendations to Council based on assessment criteria and funding guidelines.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Header - Community Assistance Grants - August 2026 [**15.2.1** - 1 page]
2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Recommendations - Community Assistance Grants - August 2026 [**15.2.2** - 8 pages]
3. Guidelines and Assessment Criteria - Community Assistance Grants - August 2026 [**15.2.3** - 7 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Approve the recommendations to allocate Community Assistance Grants August 2026 funds as detailed in the Confidential Attachment 15.2.2 - Recommendations - Community Assistance Grants - August 2026 with applicants being notified of the outcome of their applications; or
2. Not approve the recommendations to allocate the funds and seek further information for consideration at a future meeting of Council.

PROPOSAL

That Council approve the allocation of Community Assistance Grants August 2026 round, as detailed in the Confidential Attachment 15.2.2 - Recommendations - Community Assistance Grants - August 2026 with applicants being notified of the outcome of their applications.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Billie-Jo Thorburn, acting Manager of Facilities and Emergencies had declared a conflict of interest for the Yarram and District Adult Riding Club Inc application.

Sam Pye, Manager Built Environment completed the assessment of this application on her behalf.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

Alignment to the following Council Plan 2025-29 initiatives was identified during the Community Assistance Grant application assessment process:

Strategic Objective One: Healthy Connected Communities - *Vibrant, healthy, connected and inclusive communities. Quality services are accessible to everyone* - states the following strategy:

- *Enriching community experiences through creativity, culture and history for all ages and abilities.*

Strategic Objective Three: Infrastructure, Spaces and Places - *Strategically planned, designed and well-maintained infrastructure, spaces and places* - states the following strategy:

- *Fostering inclusive and accessible spaces for community connection, creativity and activities*

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding will be through the Community Assistance Grant Scheme within the Community Wellbeing budget. The total available budget for the 2026/27 Community Assistance Grant and Quick Response Scheme is \$402,000.

The following applications are recommended for the August 2026 funding round:

- 27 applications received totalling \$140,976.90.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

The funding of these events and projects will facilitate positive community relationships for the Wellington Shire, highlighting Council's commitment to supporting not for profit community organisations in the delivery of their activities, projects and events that benefit the wider community.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The funding of these Events, Projects and Facilities projects will have a significant positive impact on the community and provide assistance to increase the range of activities that the wider Wellington community can access and be a part of. Successful applicants have demonstrated a community need that will be filled through receiving the funding and show a community benefit through project outcomes.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

All Events, Projects and Facilities projects' applicants are encouraged to consider the environmental impacts that will be produced through delivering their grant outcomes and have appropriate measures in place to manage them.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Council officers were involved in consultation with grant applicants to provide advice and assistance in the completion of event grant applications.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

The events industry is strongly legislated and all events are encouraged to comply with current occupational health and safety legislative and best practice safety standards. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that their projects comply with all current rules and regulations.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 October 2026

I declare that the information contained in the attached document **COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*;

(f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs



CHRIS HASTIE
General Manager Built and Natural Environment
6/10/2026



Community Assistance Grants August 2026 Guidelines and Assessment Criteria

Introduction

Our Community Assistance Grants Scheme supports projects that deliver positive community outcomes in line with Wellington Shire Council [Community Vision](#), the [Council Plan](#), and [Municipal Health & Wellbeing Plan](#).

Through this program, Council provides funding to initiatives that contribute to building community capacity by encouraging:

- Safe, inclusive and connected communities
- Healthy, active and resilient lifestyles
- Active community spaces and places for wellbeing and participation
- Protection and connection to the natural environment
- Connection to nature, culture, country and environmental stewardship for current and future generations

Overview

Not-for-profit community groups operating in the Wellington Shire can apply for a Community Assistance Grant of \$2,501 to \$6,000.

Applications Open: **9.00am Wednesday 17th June 2026**
Applications Close: **4.00pm Wednesday 5th August 2026**

If you require assistance in completing this application, please contact Council's Grants Officer on 1300 366 244.

Please see below reference to our Helpful Resources for Applicants:

[Sample Answers for Grant Applications](#)

[Tips for Preparing your Project Budget](#)

Important things to note

What will not be funded:

- Scholarships, awards, trophies or prizes for participating and/or attending.
- Activities that deliver a direct and focused religious or political party message.
- Activities associated with or hosted at areas/facilities with or designed for gaming machines, gambling and betting.
- Requests for ongoing operational costs such as but not limited to, insurance, salaries, electricity, water and other utilities.
- Appliances that do not meet minimum 4-star energy rating; consideration can be made for specialised appliances/equipment - see Climate Change and Sustainability Guidance Sheet.
- Activities which focus on or promote unhealthy food, sugary drinks, alcohol consumption, gambling or tobacco, e-cigarette or vaping industries.

- Wages will not be funded but can be used as evidence of contribution towards the project.

- The not-for-profit community group applying for the grant will be referred to as the 'organisation' throughout the application.

- The applicant is the organisation, not the individual representative or person completing the application form.

- The event or project will be referred to as 'activity' in the Assessment Criteria and Guidelines, Application Form, Funding Agreement and Acquittal Report

Criteria – General

After reading the funding guidelines, please contact the **Grants Officer 1300 366 244** to seek feedback on your proposal. This will ensure you are eligible to apply, and your application meets the guidelines.

1. Grants are available to not-for-profit community groups operating in the Wellington Shire.
2. Schools are not eligible to be an applicant, however, can be a community partner in project proposal.
 - a. Grants are available to Volunteer groups associated with Schools who are eligible to apply, applicants will be required to demonstrate the benefits and outcomes to the broad community outside the school community.
3. Applicants must be incorporated bodies or have an established legal entity. If your organisation is not incorporated or doesn't have an ABN, you will be required to provide the details of an auspice organisation. The auspice organisation will receive the grant funding on your behalf and will ultimately be responsible for the Acquittal Report.
4. Sub-groups of umbrella organisations are eligible to apply.
 - a. Umbrella organisation definition: An umbrella organisation is a centralised entity that oversees and coordinates the activities of multiple affiliated sub-groups, typically sharing a common purpose, mission, or interest. An organisation that consolidates administrative duties and expenses while still maintaining separate roles and functions within the community.
5. Activities must commence after **1 November 2026 and take place by 30 November 2027**. Acquittal Report forms must be submitted to Council within 8 weeks of the activity completion.
6. If your organisation is incorporated but does not have an ABN, a 'Statement by a Supplier – Reason for Not Quoting an ABN' form must be included with your funding agreement. This form is available from the Australian Tax Office website.

7. Grants are subject to GST. If your club/organisation is registered for GST, you will be paid the grant amount, plus GST. If your club/organisation is not registered for GST, you will be paid the grant amount only (no GST applies). Please take this into consideration when submitting your budget and calculating your funding request.
8. In December 2025 the Wellington Shire Council adopted a Fair Access Policy (the Policy) <https://www.wellington.vic.gov.au/policies/fair-access-policy> that seeks to address known barriers experienced by women and girls in accessing and using community and sporting infrastructure. The Policy aims to progressively build capacity and capabilities of Wellington Shire Council in the identification, and elimination of systemic causes of gender inequality in policy, programs, communications, and delivery of services in relation to community sports infrastructure. The Policy is designed to comply with the Gender Equality Act 2020, and the wider Victorian Government gender equality strategy and the Wellington Shire Council Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP). Council will undertake the necessary and proportionate steps towards implementation of the Fair Access Policy which includes collecting and analysing data to ensure diverse representation on Committee's. The community group/committee purpose and committee numbers questions are mandatory, remaining gender and diversity questions are optional. Responses are not used as part of the application assessment but will help inform industry training to committees and sporting clubs in partnership with key stakeholder including Change Our Game, GippsSport and Gippsland Women's Health to inform them of Council's Fair Access Policy.
9. Applicants providing services to children must complete the Child Wellbeing and Safety Declaration in the application form. Organisations must comply with the Child Safety and Wellbeing Act 2005, which includes implementing child safe standards. All children have the right to feel safe and be safe, but safety does not just happen. Victorian organisations that provide services or facilities for children (anyone under 18 years old) are required by law to implement Child Safe Standards to protect children from harm. A child safe organisation takes deliberate steps to safeguard children from physical, sexual, emotional and psychological abuse and neglect. It puts children's safety and wellbeing first and embeds a commitment to child safety in every aspect of the organisation. Victoria's mandatory Child Safe Standards (the Standards) have been in effect since 2016. Following a Royal Commission, the Victorian Government reviewed the Standards. The review found strong support for the Standards and recommended a number of changes to better align the Standards with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, and to strengthen administration of the Standards. In line with these recommendations, the new Standards were released by the Victorian Government in 2021. They consist of 11 updated Standards and apply from 1 July 2022. More information on the Child Safe Standards and the Reportable Conduct Scheme can be found on the Commission for Children and Young People website or at <https://ccyp.vic.gov.au/child-safety/>

Within the grant application, applicants will need to confirm the following two statements.

- *Our project involving direct contact with children and young people under the age of 18 will be compliant with legislation and regulations relating to child safety including but not limited to the Child Wellbeing Safety Act (2005). In addition, I have read and understand Council's Child Wellbeing and Safety Policy and I agree to work in compliance with Wellington Shire Council's requirements and /or Victorian Child Safe Standards.*
- *All staff, committee/board members and volunteers who have direct contact with children via the funded project understand the Child Safe Standards and their requirements and will have a Working With Children Check (WWCC) in place prior to the commencement of the funded project. Routine systems are also in place to monitor WWCC's including that your organisation details are registered on individuals WWCC.*

10. Activities must be administered in the Wellington Shire, please note activities at licensed venues, applicants will be asked to demonstrate that there is no appropriate alternative venue and that they have considered the potential impact to participants.
11. **Applicants who have previously been successful in receiving funding MUST have completed all due Acquittal Reports and complied with Council requirements prior to being considered for the current funding round.**
12. All applicants must provide a copy of a current Public Liability Insurance certificate of currency with activity/event details, where applicable. (For an event the P/L certificate of currency must include the event name, date and location).
13. All activities **MUST** align with Key Council Plans and Strategies:
 - a. [Wellington Shire Council Plan](#)
 - b. [Municipal Health & Wellbeing Plan](#)
 - c. [Sustainability Strategy](#)
14. All activities must ensure inclusivity, social connectedness and accessibility has been considered. This includes improved opportunities for inclusion for groups who can sometimes be excluded due to gender, age, cultural background, sexual orientation, financial vulnerability, or disability.
15. All activities are encouraged to consider the waste that will be produced through delivering their grant outcomes and have appropriate measures in place to manage waste.
16. Multiple applications for the same activity will not be accepted.
17. A limit of two Community Assistance Grant applications per round (2 rounds per financial year) for different activities will be accepted, although applicants must prioritise applications before submission.
 - a. Each demonstrated sub-group of an umbrella organisation may apply for a limit of two Community Assistance Grant applications per round (2 rounds per financial year) for different activities will be accepted, although applicants must prioritise applications before submission.
18. Priority will be given to groups who haven't received Council funding during the current financial year.
19. Applications must be completed in full and have sufficient evidence to make a reasonable assessment of the application. Council reserves the right to further investigate aspects of the application. Applications and Acquittal Reports must be on the correct form.
20. Where possible, the goods and services used in the funded activity (suppliers and contractors) be sourced from within the Wellington Shire.
21. Activities that are primarily for the purpose of fundraising will be required to demonstrate the Community benefits in addition to the fundraising outcome.
22. No set amount of contribution will be required. A contribution (monetary, donated or volunteer labour) will assist with assessment. Applicants will be required to identify their contribution capacity.
23. For all expenditure items of \$1,000 or more you must include a quote or evidence of the item cost.
24. Applications deemed to be for commercial benefit will not be considered. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis. This will include applications where the main beneficiary is a business.
25. Funding must not be regarded as a recurrent commitment from Council. There is no guarantee a recurring activity will be funded in the future. Funding is limited.
26. The applicant is responsible for all ongoing maintenance and running costs of any equipment purchases resulting from a successful application.
27. Council may reduce the amount allocated to you if the funding applied for is considered unsubstantiated and/or excessive.
28. Council may reduce the amount allocated to you if the funding round is oversubscribed; additionally, if Council is aware of an alternative option available to you, it will recommend it as an alternative to funding.
29. Successful applicants will be required to complete a Funding Agreement, which includes the conditions of grant funding. You may also be asked to comply with additional conditions.

30. You are required to acknowledge Wellington Shire Council's support of your activity as specified in the Funding Agreement.
 - a. This may include the Middle of Everywhere.
31. Funding must be returned if the activity is not completed in line with the Funding Agreement. Any excess funding must be returned.
32. Wellington Shire Council is committed to upholding the Human Rights principles as outlined in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic) and has referred to Council's Human Rights Policy to develop the WSC CAG program Guidelines and Assessment Criteria.
33. Applications must be completed and returned by 4.00pm on Wednesday 5 August 2026. The closing date will apply for all applications. No late applications will be accepted.
34. You will be notified via SmartyGrants of the outcome of your grant by 21 October 2026. You are welcome to contact the Grants Officer for further feedback. Please note once a completed Funding Agreement is received it can take up to six weeks for the funding to arrive in your bank.
35. Applicants must complete a Harmful Industries Declaration as part of their application. Harmful industries include any businesses deriving significant benefit or income from any one or more of the following: unhealthy foods (high in saturated fats, sugar, salt and/or energy), sugary drinks, alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes and vaping, and gambling. Council is collecting this information to help form educational opportunities on the impacts of harmful industries for Wellington Shire community groups.

Assessment Process

Applications undergo an initial eligibility check to determine whether they meet the funding guidelines and will then be scored against the criteria.

Criteria	Maximum Points 100%
Community Benefit and Alignment to Council Initiatives	40%
Planning and Capacity to Deliver	20%
Accessibility and Inclusion	20%
Marketing, Promotion and Evaluation	10%
Contribution	10%

Based on the score received against the assessment criteria, applications are prioritised by a panel from the Wellington Shire Council. This panel provides advice and recommendations to Council. During a Council meeting, Councillors make the final decision on which applications will be funded under the scheme.

Applicants can have special funding conditions placed on their application. These conditions will be included on the Funding Agreement form. These can be conditions that must be met prior to receiving funding and included in the Acquittal Report phase of the activity to ensure compliance.

Assessment Criteria and Assessment Scoring Details

Community Benefit and Alignment to Council Initiatives 40% of the application assessment	
Benefit to the Community	
Poor demonstration of community needs and how the activity will benefit the community.	1
Limited demonstration of community needs and how the activity will benefit the community.	2
Standard demonstration of community needs and how the activity will benefit the community.	3
Above standard demonstration of community needs and how the activity will benefit the community.	4
Very high standard demonstrated of community needs and how the activity will benefit the community. Detailed evidence provided; additional information provided eg project or event plan, activity risk management plan, volunteer, ABS data, letter/s of support from beneficiaries, etc.	5
Alignment to Council Plan Initiatives	
Poor demonstration of how the activity aligns to council initiatives.	1
Limited demonstration of how the activity aligns to council initiatives.	2
Standard demonstration of how the activity aligns to council initiatives.	3
Above standard demonstration of how the activity aligns to council initiatives.	4
Very high standard demonstrated of how the activity aligns to council initiatives. Detailed evidence provided outlining strong alignment to Council Plan and Live Well in Wellington initiatives	5
Planning and Capacity to Deliver 20% of the application assessment	
Organisation and/or Committee details	
Poor details and information provided about the organisation.	1
Limited details and information provided about the organisation.	2
Standard details and information provided about the organisation.	3
Above standard details and information provided about the organisation	4
Very high standard of details and information provided about the organisation. Detailed evidence provided, additional information provided eg strategic plan, alignment with strategic plan, participation plan, governance overview, succession plan, copies of articles, etc.	5
Project Planning	
Poor details and information provided about planning undertaken to deliver the activity.	1
Limited details and information provided about planning undertaken to deliver the activity.	2
Standard details and information provided about planning undertaken to deliver the activity.	3
Above standard details and information provided planning undertaken to deliver the activity.	4
Very high standard of details and information provided planning undertaken to deliver the activity. Detailed evidence provided, additional information provided eg project plan, engagement plan, risk assessment, required approvals, etc.	5
Accessibility and Inclusion 20% of the application assessment	
Accessibility and Inclusivity	
Poor demonstration of Access and Inclusion considerations, and how the activity engages with broad segments of the community.	1
Limited demonstration of Access and Inclusion considerations and how the activity engages with broad segments of the community.	2
Standard demonstration of Access and Inclusion considerations and how the activity engages with broad segments of the community.	3
Above standard demonstration of Access and Inclusion considerations and how the activity engages with broad segments of the community.	4
Very high demonstration of Access and Inclusion considerations and how the activity engages with broad segments of the community.	5

Detailed and evidence provided, additional information provided eg accessible action plan, gender impact assessment, images, signage, etc	
Marketing, Promotion and Evaluation 10% of the application assessment	
Marketing	
Poor details of promotion and marketing initiatives.	1
Limited details of promotion and marketing initiatives.	2
Adequate details of promotion and marketing initiatives.	3
Above standard details of promotion and marketing initiatives.	4
Very high standard of detail provided of promotion and marketing initiatives. Detailed evidence provided, additional information provided eg draft media articles, copies of previous marketing, marketing or promotion strategy, etc.	5
Evaluation	
Poor details of evaluation planning have been presented and considered.	1
Limited details of evaluation planning have been presented and considered.	2
Standard details of evaluation planning have been presented and considered.	3
Above standard details of evaluation planning have been presented and considered.	4
Very high standard of detail of evaluation planning have been presented and considered. Detailed evidence provided; additional information provided eg. Survey examples, previous survey results, committee review meeting notes, etc	5
Contribution 10% of the application assessment	
Has the applicant:	
• Demonstrated other contributions towards the activity? (Contributions can be monetary, volunteer hours, in-kind support, and/or sponsorship. • Demonstrated sufficiently the restricted access to funds towards the activity. • Sourced goods and services for the delivery of the activity (suppliers and contractors) from within the Wellington Shire, where possible. • Demonstrated why local suppliers were not used? (Quotes supplied, evidence the service or expertise is not supported in Wellington Shire and/or limited availability).	
Contribution Assessment	
No evidence of contribution provided.	1
Minimal evidence of contribution provided.	2
Standard evidence of contribution provided.	3
Above standard evidence of contribution provided.	4
Significant evidence of contribution provided.	5

Contact

For general grant enquiries or if you require assistance in completing the application form please contact:

Community Facilities Planning and Grants Officer

Phone: 1300 366 244

Email: grants@wellington.vic.gov.au

15.3. CONTRACT 2027-002 GEORGE STREET DRAINAGE STAGE 2 AND 3, MAFFRA

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ASSETS AND PROJECTS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider entering into a contract for the George Street Drainage Upgrade – Stage 2 and 3 - Maffra.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.3.2 - 2027-002 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - George Street Drainage Upgrade – Stage 2 and 3 - Maffra; and***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.3.2 - 2027-002 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - George Street Drainage Upgrade – Stage 2 and 3 - Maffra was designated confidential by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 05 October 2026 because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020;
(g)(ii) 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;
except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer can be made public.***

BACKGROUND

The proposed installation of an upgraded trunk drainage system along George Street, Maffra, is a critical infrastructure upgrade aimed at improving stormwater management in the area. The existing drainage network has been identified for improvement to accommodate emerging stormwater requirements. Designs have been completed for a 1350mm diameter pipe to be installed along George Street which replaces the existing stormwater pipe.

Accordingly, a tender was advertised for these works and has been evaluated and a contract has now been prepared for Council's consideration.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Header - 2027-002 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - George Street Drainage Upgrade - Stage 2 and 3 - Maffra [**15.3.1** - 1 page]
2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - 2027-002 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - George Street Drainage Upgrade - Stage 2 and 3 - Maffra [**15.3.2** - 7 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.3.2 - 2027-002 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - George Street Drainage Upgrade - Stage 2 and 3 - Maffra; or
2. Not enter into a contract and not proceed with these works at this time.

PROPOSAL

That Council adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment - 15.3.2 2027-002 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - George Street Drainage Upgrade – Stage 2 and 3 - Maffra.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

This report supports the achievement of the following Council Plan 2025-29 Strategic Objective/s:

Strategic Objective Three: Infrastructure, Spaces and Places – *Strategically planned, designed and well-maintained infrastructure, spaces and places* – states the following strategy:

- *Coordinating facilities and infrastructure to meet growth and evolving needs.*

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Managers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

COLLABORATION

Pursuant to section 109(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, collaborative opportunities have been identified for this tender as follows:

Considering value for money, complexities and requirements, Council will not be considering collaboration.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

These works have been budgeted for under the 2026-2027 capital works program.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council is committed to ensuring the Contract tendering process complies with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Best Practice Procurement Guidelines for Victorian Local Government.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

These works are in line with Council's policies of maintaining and enhancing Council's infrastructure.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This project will be undertaken with the resources of the Assets and Projects unit.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

These works will have a positive community impact because it will improve infrastructure and allow for more land to be released for residential development in Maffra.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact will have minimal environmental impact, with the contractors providing an Environmental Management Plan which will be strictly monitored.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council's standard consultation practices will be implemented on this project.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

It is considered that the proposed contract works will not expose Wellington Shire Council to any significant risks. All Occupational Health and Safety risks will be discussed with the contractor and allocated to the party in the best position to manage each risk.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 OCTOBER 2026

I declare that the information contained in the attached document **CONTRACT 2027-002 GEORGE STREET DRAINAGE STAGE 2 and 3, MAFFRA** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*;

(g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that - relates to trade secrets; or - if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage



CHRIS HASTIE
General Manager Built and Natural Environment
5/10/2026

15.4. CONTRACT 2027-048 WOORARRA ROAD AND YARRAM-MORWELL ROAD LANDSLIP RECTIFICATION WORKS

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ASSETS AND PROJECTS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider entering into a contract for the Woorarra Road and Yarram-Morwell Road Landslip Rectification.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.4.2 - 2027-048 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Woorarra Road and Yarram-Morwell Road Landslip Rectification Works; and***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.4.2 - 2027-048 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Woorarra Road and Yarram-Morwell Road Landslip Rectification Works was designated confidential by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 05 October 2026 because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020; (g)(ii) 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; except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer can be made public.***

BACKGROUND

Sections of road on both Yarram-Morwell Road and Woorarra Road have been identified for repair following failure of the fill embankment. These works are focussed on the repair of four sites on the Yarram-Morwell Road and one site on Woorarra Road.

Accordingly, a tender was advertised for these works and has been evaluated and a contract has now been prepared for Council's consideration.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Header - 2027-048 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Woorarra Road and Yarram-Morwell Road Landslip Rectification Works [**15.4.1** - 1 page]
2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED- 2027-048 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Woorarra Road and Yarram-Morwell Road Landslip Rectification Works [**15.4.2** - 7 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.4.2 - 2027-048 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Woorarra Road and Yarram-Morwell Road Landslip Rectification Works; or
2. Not enter into a contract and not proceed with these works at this time.

PROPOSAL

That Council adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.4.2 - 2027-048 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Woorarra Road and Yarram-Morwell Road Landslip Rectification Works.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

This report supports the achievement of the following Council Plan 2025-29 Strategic Objective/s:

Strategic Objective Three: Infrastructure, Spaces and Places – *Strategically planned, designed and well-maintained infrastructure, spaces and places* – states the following strategy:

- *Coordinating facilities and infrastructure to meet growth and evolving needs.*

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Managers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

COLLABORATION

Pursuant to section 109(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, collaborative opportunities have been identified for this tender as follows:

Considering value for money, complexities and requirements, Council will not be considering collaboration.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

These works have been budgeted for under the 2026-2027 capital works program.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council is committed to ensuring the Contract tendering process complies with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Best Practice Procurement Guidelines for Victorian Local Government.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

These works are in line with Council's policies of maintaining and enhancing Council's infrastructure.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This project will be undertaken with the resources of the Assets and Projects unit.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

These works will have a positive community impact by stabilising the affected road sections, improving safety and access, reducing the risk of further road damage or closures, and providing a more reliable route for residents, emergency services, agricultural operators and other road users.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact will have minimal environmental impact, with the contractors providing an Environmental Management Plan which will be strictly monitored.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council's standard consultation practices will be implemented on this project.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

It is considered that the proposed contract works will not expose Wellington Shire Council to any significant risks. All Occupational Health and Safety risks will be discussed with the contractor and allocated to the party in the best position to manage each risk.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 OCTOBER 2026

I declare that the information contained in the attached document **CONTRACT 2027-048 TENDER EVALUATION REPORT** relating to **WOORARRA ROAD AND YARRAM MORWELL ROAD LANDSLIP RECTIFICATION WORKS** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*;

(g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that - relates to trade secrets; or - if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage

CHRIS HASTIE
General Manager Built and Natural Environment
5/10/2026

15.5. CONTRACT 2027-019 GRAVEL RE-SHEETING PROGRAM - EAST

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ASSETS AND PROJECTS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider entering into a contract for the reconstruction of unsealed roads in the Eastern Areas of Wellington Shire Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential Attachment 15.5.2 - 2027-019 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program – East; and***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the confidential Attachment 15.5.2 - 2027-019 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - East was designated confidential by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 05 October 2026 because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020; (g)(ii) 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; except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer can be made public.***

BACKGROUND

Wellington Shire Council maintains approximately 1560km of unsealed roads and in line with good asset management practices, conducts an annual program of gravel road reconstruction and re-sheets on selected roads. The criteria for choosing roads is based on pavement condition, traffic volumes and usage and is intended to maintain the overall condition of the network. Each year the roads selected are grouped together into separate contracts based on their location. This year, four contracts have been tendered covering the Southern, Western, Eastern, and Urban maintenance Areas. The work under this contract in the Eastern area includes Wonnangatta Road – Dargo along with Cochranes Road in Seaspray. Accordingly, a tender was advertised for these works and has been evaluated and a contract has now been prepared for Council's consideration.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Header - 2027-019 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - East [15.5.1 - 1 page]
2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - 2027-019 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - East [15.5.2 - 6 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential Attachment 15.5.2 - 2027-019 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program – East; or
2. Not enter into a contract and not proceed with these works at this time.

PROPOSAL

That Council adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.5.2 - Contract 2027-019 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program – East.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

This report supports the achievement of the following Council Plan 2025-29 Strategic Objective/s:

Strategic Objective Three: Infrastructure, Spaces and Places – *Strategically planned, designed and well-maintained infrastructure, spaces and places* – states the following strategy:

- *Coordinating facilities and infrastructure to meet growth and evolving needs.*

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Managers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

COLLABORATION

Pursuant to section 109(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, collaborative opportunities have been identified for this tender as follows:

Considering value for money, complexities and requirements, Council will not be considering collaboration.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

These works have been budgeted for under the 2026-2027 capital works program.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council is committed to ensuring the Contract tendering process complies with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Best Practice Procurement Guidelines for Victorian Local Government.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

These works are in line with Council's policies of maintaining and enhancing Council's infrastructure.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This project will be undertaken with the resources of the Assets and Projects unit.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

These works will have a positive community impact because they will improve road safety, ride quality and accessibility by restoring the gravel surface, reducing potholes and corrugations, and supporting more reliable travel for residents, businesses and emergency services.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact will have minimal environmental impact, with the contractors providing an Environmental Management Plan which will be strictly monitored.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council's standard consultation practices will be implemented on this project.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

It is considered that the proposed contract works will not expose Wellington Shire Council to any significant risks. All Occupational Health and Safety risks will be discussed with the contractor and allocated to the party in the best position to manage each risk.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 OCTOBER 2026

I declare that the information contained in the attached document **CONTRACT 2027-019 GRAVEL ROADS PROGRAM - EAST** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*;

(g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that - relates to trade secrets; or - if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage

CHRIS HASTIE
General Manager Built and Natural Environment
5/10/2026

15.6. CONTRACT 2027-020 GRAVEL RE-SHEETING PROGRAM - SOUTH

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ASSETS AND PROJECTS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider entering into a contract for the reconstruction of unsealed roads in the Southern Areas of Wellington Shire Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential Attachment 15.6.2 - 2027-020 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - South; and***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the confidential Attachment 15.6.2 - 2027-020 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - South was designated confidential by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 05 October 2026 because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020; (g)(ii) 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; except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer can be made public.***

BACKGROUND

Wellington Shire Council maintains approximately 1560km of unsealed roads and in line with good asset management practices, conducts an annual program of gravel road reconstruction and re-sheets on selected roads. The criteria for choosing roads is based on pavement condition, traffic volumes and usage and is intended to maintain the overall condition of the network. Each year the roads selected are grouped together into separate contracts based on their location. This year, four contracts have been tendered covering the Southern, Western, Eastern, and Urban maintenance Areas. The work under this contract in the Eastern area includes Brewery Road, Alberton and Bulga Park Road, Macks Creek. Accordingly, a tender was advertised for these works and has been evaluated, and a contract has now been prepared for Council's consideration.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Header - 2027-020 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - South [15.6.1 - 1 page]
2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - 2027-020 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - South [15.6.2 - 5 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential Attachment 15.6.2 - 2027-020 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - South; or
2. Not enter into a contract and not proceed with these works at this time.

PROPOSAL

That Council adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.6.2 - 2027-020 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - South.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

This report supports the achievement of the following Council Plan 2025-29 Strategic Objective/s:

Strategic Objective Three: Infrastructure, Spaces and Places – *Strategically planned, designed and well-maintained infrastructure, spaces and places* – states the following strategy:

- *Coordinating facilities and infrastructure to meet growth and evolving needs.*

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Managers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

COLLABORATION

Pursuant to section 109(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, collaborative opportunities have been identified for this tender as follows:

Considering value for money, complexities and requirements, Council will not be considering collaboration.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

These works have been budgeted for under the 2026-2027 capital works program.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council is committed to ensuring the Contract tendering process complies with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Best Practice Procurement Guidelines for Victorian Local Government.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

These works are in line with Council's policies of maintaining and enhancing Council's infrastructure.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This project will be undertaken with the resources of the Assets and Projects unit.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

These works will have a positive community impact because they will improve road safety, ride quality and accessibility by restoring the gravel surface, reducing potholes and corrugations, and supporting more reliable travel for residents, businesses and emergency services.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact will have minimal environmental impact, with the contractors providing an Environmental Management Plan which will be strictly monitored.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council's standard consultation practices will be implemented on this project.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

It is considered that the proposed contract works will not expose Wellington Shire Council to any significant risks. All Occupational Health and Safety risks will be discussed with the contractor and allocated to the party in the best position to manage each risk.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 OCTOBER 2026

I declare that the information contained in the attached document **CONTRACT 2027-020 TENDER EVALUATION REPORT** relating to **GRAVEL RE-SHEETING PROGRAM - SOUTH** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*;

(g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that - relates to trade secrets; or - if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage

CHRIS HASTIE
General Manager Built and Natural Environment
5/10/2026

15.7. CONTRACT 2027-021 GRAVEL RE-SHEETING PROGRAM - WEST

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ASSETS AND PROJECTS PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider entering into a contract for the reconstruction of unsealed roads in the Western Areas of Wellington Shire Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential Attachment 15.7.2 - 2027-021 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - West; and***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the confidential Attachment 15.7.2 - 2027-021 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - West was designated confidential by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 05 October 2026 because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020; (g)(ii) 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; except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer can be made public.***

BACKGROUND

Wellington Shire Council maintains approximately 1560km of unsealed roads and in line with good asset management practices, conducts an annual program of gravel road reconstruction and re-sheets on selected roads. The criteria for choosing roads is based on pavement condition, traffic volumes and usage and is intended to maintain the overall condition of the network. Each year the roads selected are grouped together into separate contracts based on their location. This year, four contracts have been tendered covering the Southern, Western, Eastern, and Urban maintenance Areas. The work under this contract in the Western area includes Pikes Lane in Flynn, Ronalds Road along with Kyle and Merriman Streets in Rosedale. Accordingly, a tender was advertised for these works and has been evaluated, and a contract has now been prepared for Council's consideration.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Header - 2027-021 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - West [15.7.1 - 1 page]
2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - 2027-021 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - West [15.7.2 - 6 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.7.2 - 2027-021 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - West; or
2. Not enter into a contract and not proceed with these works at this time.

PROPOSAL

That Council adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.7.2 - 2027-021 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Gravel Re-sheeting Program - West.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

This report supports the achievement of the following Council Plan 2025-29 Strategic Objective/s:

Strategic Objective Three: Infrastructure, Spaces and Places – *Strategically planned, designed and well-maintained infrastructure, spaces and places* – states the following strategy:

- *Coordinating facilities and infrastructure to meet growth and evolving needs.*

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Managers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

COLLABORATION

Pursuant to section 109(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, collaborative opportunities have been identified for this tender as follows:

Considering value for money, complexities and requirements, Council will not be considering collaboration.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

These works have been budgeted for under the 2026-2027 capital works program.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council is committed to ensuring the Contract tendering process complies with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Best Practice Procurement Guidelines for Victorian Local Government.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

These works are in line with Council's policies of maintaining and enhancing Council's infrastructure.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This project will be undertaken with the resources of the Assets and Projects unit.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

These works will have a positive community impact because they will improve road safety, ride quality and accessibility by restoring the gravel surface, reducing potholes and corrugations, and supporting more reliable travel for residents, businesses and emergency services.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact will have minimal environmental impact, with the contractors providing an Environmental Management Plan which will be strictly monitored.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council's standard consultation practices will be implemented on this project.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

It is considered that the proposed contract works will not expose Wellington Shire Council to any significant risks. All Occupational Health and Safety risks will be discussed with the contractor and allocated to the party in the best position to manage each risk.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 OCTOBER 2026

I declare that the information contained in the attached document **CONTRACT 2027-021 TENDER EVALUATION REPORT** relating to **GRAVEL RE-SHEETING PROGRAM - WEST** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*;

(g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that - relates to trade secrets; or - if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage

CHRIS HASTIE
General Manager Built and Natural Environment
5/10/2026

15.8. CONTRACT 2027-022 LIONS PARK, SALE PAVILLION REFURBISHMENT

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ASSETS AND PROJECTS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider entering into a contract for the Lions Park, Sale Pavillion Refurbishment.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential Attachment 15.8.2 - 2027-022 Contract Tender Evaluation Report – Sale Lions Park Pavilion Refurbishment; and***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the confidential Attachment 15.8.2 - 2027-022 Contract Tender Evaluation Report – Sale Lions Park Pavilion Refurbishment was designated confidential by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 05 October 2026 because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020;
(g)(ii) 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;
except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer can be made public.***

BACKGROUND

The existing pavilion at Lions Park, Sale is in poor condition. The project will deliver minor upgrades to the existing buildings to meet current standards. The Lions Park Pavilion Refurbishment will renew the existing infrastructure to increase the use, functionality and safety of the facility. Refurbishing the unutilised social room and kitchen creating a greater connection to outdoor activity spaces. Improved storeroom and changing provision will be created within the existing building footprint and the external amenities will be refurbished. Once completed the pavilion will accommodate the Sale Little Athletics Centre, Wellington Athletics Club and Gippsland Track Club, and provide a more functional space for school groups and additional meeting/multipurpose room space for broader community use.

Accordingly, a tender was advertised for these works and has been evaluated, and a contract has now been prepared for Council's consideration.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Header - 2027-022 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Sale Lions Park Pavillion Refurbishment [15.8.1 - 1 page]
2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - 2027-022 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Sale Lions Park Pavilion Refurbishment [15.8.2 - 6 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential Attachment 15.8.2 - 2027-022 Contract Tender Evaluation Report – Sale Lions Park Pavilion Refurbishment; or
2. Not enter into a contract and not proceed with these works at this time.

PROPOSAL

That Council adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.8.2 - 2027-022 Contract Tender Evaluation Report – Sale Lions Park Pavilion Refurbishment.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

This report supports the achievement of the following Council Plan 2025-29 Strategic Objective/s:

Strategic Objective Three: Infrastructure, Spaces and Places – *Strategically planned, designed and well-maintained infrastructure, spaces and places* – states the following strategy:

- *Coordinating facilities and infrastructure to meet growth and evolving needs.*

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Officers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

COLLABORATION

Pursuant to section 109(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, collaborative opportunities have been identified for this tender as follows:

Considering value for money, complexities and requirements, Council will not be considering collaboration.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

These works have been budgeted for under the 2026-2027 capital works program.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council is committed to ensuring the Contract tendering process complies with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Best Practice Procurement Guidelines for Victorian Local Government.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

These works are in line with Council's policies of maintaining and enhancing Council's infrastructure.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This project will be undertaken with the resources of the Assets and Projects unit.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

These works will have a positive community impact because the refurbished pavilion will provide safer, more accessible and fit-for-purpose facilities that support continued and increased participation in community sport.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact will have minimal environmental impact, with the contractors providing an Environmental Management Plan which will be strictly monitored.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council's standard consultation practices will be implemented on this project.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

It is considered that the proposed contract works will not expose Wellington Shire Council to any significant risks. All Occupational Health and Safety risks will be discussed with the contractor and allocated to the party in the best position to manage each risk.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 OCTOBER 2026

I declare that the information contained in the attached document **CONTRACT 2027-022 TENDER EVALUATION REPORT** relating to **LIONS PARK, SALE PAVILLION REFURBISHMENT** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*;

(g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that - relates to trade secrets; or - if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage

CHRIS HASTIE
General Manager Built and Natural Environment
5/10/2026

15.9. CONTRACT 2027-017 RODGERS STREET RECONSTRUCTION YARRAM

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ASSETS AND PROJECTS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider entering into a contract for the replacement of kerb and channel and pavement reconstruction on the western portion of Rodgers Street, Yarram.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential Attachment 15.9.2 - 2027-017 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Rodgers Street Reconstruction Yarram; and***
- 2. Note that the information contained in the confidential Attachment 15.9.2 - 2027-017 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Rodgers Street Reconstruction Yarram, was designated confidential by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment on 05 October 2026 because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020; (g)(ii) 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; except that once this recommendation has been adopted the name of the successful tenderer can be made public.***

BACKGROUND

Rodgers Street in Yarram is beginning to fail in several locations with kerb and channel at the end of its life and beyond maintenance intervention. The works under this contract involve the replacement of kerb and channel and pavement reconstruction on the western portion of Rodgers Street.

Accordingly, a tender was advertised for these works and has been evaluated, and a contract has now been prepared for Council's consideration.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Header - 2027-017 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Roger Street Reconstruction Yarram [**15.9.1** - 1 page]
2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Contract 2027-017 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Rodgers Street Reconstruction Yarram [**15.9.2** - 8 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Adopt the recommendations contained in the Confidential Attachment 15.9.2 - 2027-017 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Rodgers Street Reconstruction Yarram;
2. Not enter into a contract and not proceed with these works at this time.

PROPOSAL

That Council adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential Attachment 15.9.2 - 2027-017 Contract Tender Evaluation Report - Rodgers Street Reconstruction Yarram.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29

This report supports the achievement of the following Council Plan 2025-29 Strategic Objective/s:

Strategic Objective Three: Infrastructure, Spaces and Places – *Strategically planned, designed and well-maintained infrastructure, spaces and places* – states the following strategy:

- *Coordinating facilities and infrastructure to meet growth and evolving needs.*

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT (GIA)

Officers understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The following determination was made.

Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted as the policy, program or service does not meet the assessment requirement criteria.

COLLABORATION

Pursuant to section 109(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, collaborative opportunities have been identified for this tender as follows:

Considering value for money, complexities and requirements, Council will not be considering collaboration.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

These works have been budgeted for under the 2026-2027 capital works program.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council is committed to ensuring the Contract tendering process complies with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Best Practice Procurement Guidelines for Victorian Local Government.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

These works are in line with Council's policies of maintaining and enhancing Council's infrastructure.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This project will be undertaken with the resources of the Assets and Projects unit.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

These works will have a positive community impact because it is improving the standard of community infrastructure.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact will have minimal environmental impact, with the contractors providing an Environmental Management Plan which will be strictly monitored.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council's standard consultation practices will be implemented on this project.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

It is considered that the proposed contract works will not expose Wellington Shire Council to any significant risks. All Occupational Health and Safety risks will be discussed with the contractor and allocated to the party in the best position to manage each risk.



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 6 OCTOBER 2026

I declare that the information contained in the attached document **CONTRACT 2027-017 TENDER EVALUATION REPORT** relating to **ROGER STREET RECONSTRUCTION YARRAM** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*;

(g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that - relates to trade secrets; or - if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage

CHRIS HASTIE
General Manager Built and Natural Environment
30/09/2026

16. FURTHER GALLERY AND ONLINE COMMENTS

Gallery comments are an opportunity for members of the public to raise any particular matter they wish. This allows those in the gallery to speak directly to Councillors but is not a forum designed for open discussion or debate. We will listen respectfully to what you have to say and make the commitment that if your query requires a written response, we will advise you that a response will be forthcoming, and a copy of that response will be circulated to all Councillors.

This is not a forum for members of the public to lodge complaints against individuals, including Councillors and staff, particularly as that individual gets no public right of reply to any matter raised. We take complaints seriously, and in line with the guidance from the Victorian Ombudsman and the local Government Inspectorate, we request that any specific complaint against an individual be put in writing. This way, your concern can be properly dealt with while ensuring fairness to all parties concerned.

If you wish to speak, we remind you that this part of the meeting is being recorded and broadcast on our website. Council's official Minutes will record that you have spoken to Council and the subject you spoke to Council about but will not record specific comments. We ask you to state your name in full, where you are from, and you have three minutes.

ONLINE COMMENTS

FURTHER GALLERY COMMENTS

Meeting declared closed at:

The live streaming of this Council meeting will now come to a close.

17. IN CLOSED SESSION

17.1. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR

1. *That the meeting be closed to the public to consider confidential information pursuant to section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 and defined in section 3(1) as involving personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs and private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that – relates to trade secrets; or – if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.*
2. *The further explanation for the closure of the meeting is due to;*
 - *Item 17.2 relates to information that is deemed confidential to protect the privacy and personal information about any person or their personal affairs*
 - *Item 17.3 relates to information that is deemed confidential due to the private commercial information relating to a Third Party Agreement.*

IN CLOSED SESSION

This Ordinary Meeting of Council declared closed to the public at:

The live streaming of this Council meeting will now come to a close.

17.2. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CONTRACT



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 OCTOBER 2026

Under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public.

I declare that the information contained in this report **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CONTRACT** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*;

(f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs

I further declare that the circumstances of this report necessitate consideration in a meeting closed to the public pursuant to sections 66(2)(a) and 66(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Further explanation:

The grounds for designation under section 3(1)(f) have been made as the information is deemed confidential to protect the privacy and personal information about any person or their personal affairs.

.....
ARTHUR SKIPITARIS
GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES
12/10/2026

17.3. THIRD PARTY AGREEMENT



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 20 OCTOBER 2026

Under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public.

I declare that the information contained in this report **THIRD PARTY AGREEMENT** is confidential because it contains confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*;

(g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that - relates to trade secrets; or - if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage

I further declare that the circumstances of this report necessitate consideration in a meeting closed to the public pursuant to sections 66(2)(a) and 66(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Further explanation:

The information being considered is private commercial information, i.e. information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that, if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

.....
ARTHUR SKIPITARIS
GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES
12/10/2026

17.4. MOVE OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR

That Council move into open session and ratify the decision made in closed session.

Meeting declared closed at: