



Shire of
Collie

MINUTES

of the

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Tuesday, 8 April 2025



Our Vision

Collie - *A progressive community, rich in opportunities and as diverse as its heritage and landscape.*

Our Values

The core values at the heart of the Council's commitment to the community are:

Integrity

Transparency

Accountability

Collaboration

Respect

Our Commitment to Community

We will lead the delivery of our vision

We will support local business wherever possible

We will consult and engage with our community on issues that affect them

We will encourage, welcome and value feedback

We will encourage, support and advocate for our community

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Collie Shire Council held in the Council Chambers, 87 Throssell Street Collie, on Tuesday, 8 April 2025.

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 7.00pm and welcomed all Councillors, staff, press and those attending as public gallery.

1. OPENING/ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE

PRESENT:	Ian Miffling OAM JP	Councillor (Presiding Member)
	Joe Italiano	Councillor
	Brett Hansen	Councillor
	Paul Moyses	Councillor
	Gary Faries	Councillor
	John Kearney	Councillor
	Michelle Smith	Councillor
	Shane Sadler	Councillor
	Leonie Burton	Councillor
	Phil Anastasakis	Chief Executive Officer
	Nicole Wasmann	Director Corporate Services
	Alex Wiese	Director Development Services
	Scott Geere	Director Operational Services
	Amber Nikola	Executive Assistant/HR

APOLOGY: Dale Hill-Power JP Councillor

GUESTS: Nil

PRESS: 1 member of the press attended

GALLERY: Nil

1.1 Councillors granted Leave of Absence at previous meeting/s.

During the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on the 11 February 2025, Cr Hill Power was granted a Leave of Absence for the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held 8 April 2025.

1.2 Councillors requesting Leave of Absence for future Ordinary Meetings of Council.

Nil

1.3 Councillors who are applying for Leave of Absence for this Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Nil

2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

3. RESPONSES TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

4. DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

Nil

5. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Nil

6. NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

6.1 – Food Organic and Garden Organic (FOGO) Waste

6.2 - Appointment of Director Corporate & Community Services

7. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD DUE TO INTEREST BY ATTENDING PERSONS

Nil

8. CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF COUNCIL MINUTES**8.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 11 March 2025****Officer's Recommendation/Council Decision:****Resolution: 9565****Moved: Cr Italiano****Seconded: Cr Moyses***That Council confirms the Minutes of the Shire of Collie Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 11 March 2025.***Carried: 9/0****For:** Cr Miffing, Cr Italiano, Cr Smith, Cr Moyses, Cr Faries, Cr Burton,
Cr Kearney, Cr Hansen, Cr Sadlier.**Against:** Nil**9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Nil

10. RECEIPT OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF COUNCIL

Nil

11. CEO REPORTS

11.1 2025/26 Rating Strategy	
Reporting Department:	Chief Executive Office
Reporting Officer:	Phil Anastasakis – Chief Executive Officer
Accountable Manager:	Phil Anastasakis – Chief Executive Officer
Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i> <i>Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996</i>
File Number:	GOV/049
Appendices:	Appendix 11.1.A – Rating Strategy 2025/26 – 2034/35
Voting Requirement:	Simple Majority

Report Purpose

This report requests that Council consider and endorse the Rating Strategy which is incorporated within the proposed 2025/26 Budget, four-year Corporate Business Plan and 10 year Long Term Financial Plan.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. *In addition to forecast growth:*
 - a) *Endorse a projected base rate revenue increase of 4.5% for the 2025/26 budget;*
 - b) *Endorse a projected base rate revenue increase of 4.5%, 4.5%, 4.5% and 4.5% for the four year Corporate Business Plan;*
 - c) *Endorse a projected base rate revenue increase of 3.5% for years five to fifteen of the Long Term Financial Plan.*
2. *Endorse the Rating Strategy 2025/26 to 2034/35 (Appendix 11.1.A) including the proposed introduction of Differential Rating from the 2026/27 financial year.*
3. *Endorse the establishment of the following proposed 6 Differential Rates across 11 Rating Categories:*
 - i) *RESIDENTIAL (including Residential Vacant)*
 - ii) *COMMERCIAL (including Commercial Vacant)*
 - iii) *INDUSTRIAL (including Industrial Vacant)*
 - iv) *RURAL RESIDENTIAL (including Rural Residential Vacant)*
 - v) *ACCOMMODATION*
 - vi) *UV Rural (including Mining)*

Change to Officer's Recommendation:

The Officer's recommendation was amended to include the future public workshops be held to explain the differential rating strategy and how it differs from the strategy currently used within the Shire of Collie.

Council Decision:

Resolution: 9566

Moved: Cr Faries

Seconded: Cr Sadlier

That Council:

1. *In line with forecast growth:*
 - a) *Endorse a projected base rate revenue increase of 4.5% for the 2025/26 budget;*
 - b) *Endorse a projected base rate revenue increase of 4.5%, 4.5%, 4.5% and 4.5% for the four year Corporate Business Plan;*
 - c) *Endorse a projected base rate revenue increase of 3.5% for years five to fifteen of the Long Term Financial Plan.*
2. *Endorse the Rating Strategy 2025/26 to 2034/35 (Appendix 11.1.A) including the proposed introduction of Differential Rating from the 2026/27 financial year.*
3. *Endorse the establishment of the following proposed 6 Differential Rates across 11 Rating Categories:*
 - ii) *RESIDENTIAL (including Residential Vacant)*
 - ii) *COMMERCIAL (including Commercial Vacant)*
 - iii) *INDUSTRIAL (including Industrial Vacant)*
 - iv) *RURAL RESIDENTIAL (including Rural Residential Vacant)*
 - v) *ACCOMMODATION*
 - vi) *UV Rural (including Mining)*
4. *Hold future public workshops to explain the differential rating strategy.*

Carried: 9/0

For: *Cr Miffing, Cr Italiano, Cr Smith, Cr Moyses, Cr Faries, Cr Burton, Cr Kearney, Cr Hansen, Cr Sadlier*

Against: *Nil*

Background:

As part of the Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework and legislative requirements, Council is to develop a Long Term Financial Plan for a minimum period of 10 years.

The Long Term Financial Plan is a ten year rolling plan (Council staff have projected the LTFP to 15 years) that incorporates the four-year financial projections accompanying the Corporate Business Plan. It is a key tool for prioritisation and ensuring the financial sustainability of the Local Government. The LTFP identifies key assumptions such as demographic projections,

rating base growth, consumer price index or local government cost index, interest rates and projected rate increases.

The Annual Budget is directly aligned to year one of the Corporate Business Plan and Long Term Financial Plan.

Under Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council is required to prepare and adopt an Annual Budget each year. Industry good practice recommends that Council's annual budget development process includes reviewing the Rating Strategy that has been included in the previous year's Long Term Financial Plan, with these forecast rate increases forming the basis of financial projections associated with the final Long Term Financial Plan, four year Corporate Business Plan and Annual Budget.

Statutory and Policy Implications:

The Local Government Act 1995, Section 2.7 defines the role of Council.

2.7. Role of Council

- (1) *The council governs the local government's affairs and, as the local government's governing body, is responsible for the performance of the local government's functions.*
- (2) *The council's governing role includes the following —*
 - (a) *overseeing the allocation of the local government's finances and resources;*
 - (b) *determining the local government's policies;*
 - (c) *planning strategically for the future of the district;*
 - (d) *determining the services and facilities to be provided by the local government in the district;*
 - (e) *selecting the CEO and reviewing the CEO's performance;*
 - (f) *providing strategic direction to the CEO.*
- (3) *For the purpose of ensuring proper governance of the local government's affairs, the council must have regard to the following principles —*
 - (a) *the council's governing role is separate from the CEO's executive role as described in section 5.41;*
 - (b) *it is important that the council respects that separation.*
- (4) *The council must make its decisions —*
 - (a) *on the basis of evidence, on the merits and in accordance with the law; and*
 - (b) *taking into account the local government's finances and resources.*
- (5) *The council must have regard to the need to support an organisational culture for the local government that promotes the respectful and fair treatment of the local government's employees.*
- (6) *The council has the other functions given to it under this Act or any other written law.*

Local Government Act 1995.

Local Government (Financial Management) 1996

Section 6.2 (4) of the *Local Government Act 1995* states:

6.2. Local government to prepare annual budget

- (4) *The annual budget is to incorporate —*
- (a) *particulars of the estimated expenditure proposed to be incurred by the local government;*

6.32. Rates and service charges

- (1) *When adopting the annual budget, a local government —*
- (a) *in order to make up the budget deficiency, is to impose* a general rate on rateable land within its district, which rate may be imposed either —*
- (i) *uniformly; or*
- (ii) *differentially;*
- and*
- (b) *may impose* on rateable land within its district —*
- (i) *a specified area rate; or*
- (ii) *a minimum payment;*
- and*
- (c) *may impose* a service charge on land within its district.*

** Absolute majority required.*

- (2) *Where a local government resolves to impose a rate it is required to —*
- (a) *set a rate which is expressed as a rate in the dollar of the gross rental value of rateable land within its district to be rated on gross rental value; and*
- (b) *set a rate which is expressed as a rate in the dollar of the unimproved value of rateable land within its district to be rated on unimproved value.*
- (3) *A local government —*
- (a) *may, at any time after the imposition of rates in a financial year, in an emergency, impose* a supplementary general rate or specified area rate for the unexpired portion of the current financial year; and*
- (b) *is to, after a court or the State Administrative Tribunal has quashed a general valuation, rate or service charge, impose* a new general rate, specified area rate or service charge.*

** Absolute majority required.*

- (4) *Where a court or the State Administrative Tribunal has quashed a general valuation the quashing does not render invalid a rate imposed on the basis of the quashed valuation in respect of any financial year prior to the financial year in which the proceedings which resulted in that quashing were commenced.*

[Section 6.32 amended: No. 55 of 2004 s. 690.]

6.33. Differential general rates

- (1) *A local government may impose differential general rates according to any, or a combination, of the following characteristics —*
- (a) *the purpose for which the land is zoned, whether or not under a planning scheme as defined in the Planning and Development Act 2005; or*

- (b) *a purpose for which the land is held or used as determined by the local government; or*
 - (c) *whether or not the land is vacant land; or*
 - (d) *any other characteristic or combination of characteristics prescribed.*
- (2) *Regulations may —*
 - (a) *specify the characteristics under subsection (1) which a local government is to use; or*
 - (b) *limit the characteristics under subsection (1) which a local government is permitted to use.*
- (3) *In imposing a differential general rate a local government is not to, without the approval of the Minister, impose a differential general rate which is more than twice the lowest differential general rate imposed by it.*
- (4) *If during a financial year, the characteristics of any land which form the basis for the imposition of a differential general rate have changed, the local government is not to, on account of that change, amend the assessment of rates payable on that land in respect of that financial year but this subsection does not apply in any case where section 6.40(1)(a) applies.*
- (5) *A differential general rate that a local government purported to impose under this Act before the Local Government Amendment Act 2009 section 39(1)(a) came into operation is to be taken to have been as valid as if the amendment made by that paragraph had been made before the purported imposition of that rate.*

[Section 6.33 amended: No. 38 of 2005 s. 15; No. 17 of 2009 s. 39; No. 28 of 2010 s. 34; No. 45 of 2020 s. 113.]

[Section 6.33 modified: SL 2020/57^{1M}.]

6.34. Limit on revenue or income from general rates

Unless the Minister otherwise approves, the amount shown in the annual budget as being the amount it is estimated will be yielded by the general rate is not to —

- (a) *be more than 110% of the amount of the budget deficiency; or*
- (b) *be less than 90% of the amount of the budget deficiency.*

[Section 6.34 modified: SL 2020/57^{1M}.]

6.35. Minimum payment

- (1) *Subject to this section, a local government may impose on any rateable land in its district a minimum payment which is greater than the general rate which would otherwise be payable on that land.*
- (2) *A minimum payment is to be a general minimum but, subject to subsection (3), a lesser minimum may be imposed in respect of any portion of the district.*
- (3) *In applying subsection (2) the local government is to ensure the general minimum is imposed on not less than —*
 - (a) *50% of the total number of separately rated properties in the district; or*
 - (b) *50% of the number of properties in each category referred to in subsection (6),*

on which a minimum payment is imposed.

- (4) *A minimum payment is not to be imposed on more than the prescribed percentage of —*
- (a) *the number of separately rated properties in the district; or*
 - (b) *the number of properties in each category referred to in subsection (6),*
- unless the general minimum does not exceed the prescribed amount.*
- (5) *If a local government imposes a differential general rate on any land on the basis that the land is vacant land it may, with the approval of the Minister, impose a minimum payment in a manner that does not comply with subsections (2), (3) and (4) for that land.*
- (6) *For the purposes of this section a minimum payment is to be applied separately, in accordance with the principles set forth in subsections (2), (3) and (4) in respect of each of the following categories —*
- (a) *to land rated on gross rental value; and*
 - (b) *to land rated on unimproved value; and*
 - (c) *to each differential rating category where a differential general rate is imposed.*

[Section 6.35 amended: No. 49 of 2004 s. 61.]

[Section 6.35 modified: SL 2020/57^{1M}.]

Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996:

19C. Strategic community plans, requirements for (Acts. 5.56)

19DA. Corporate business plans, requirements for (Acts. 5.56)

- (1) *A local government is to ensure that a corporate business plan is made for its district in accordance with this regulation in respect of each financial year after the financial year ending 30 June 2013.*
- (2) *A corporate business plan for a district is to cover the period specified in the plan, which is to be at least 4 financial years.*
- (3) *A corporate business plan for a district is to —*
- (a) *set out, consistently with any relevant priorities set out in the strategic community plan for the district, a local government's priorities for dealing with the objectives and aspirations of the community in the district; and*
 - (b) *govern a local government's internal business planning by expressing a local government's priorities by reference to operations that are within the capacity of the local government's resources; and*
 - (c) *develop and integrate matters relating to resources, including asset management, workforce planning and long-term financial planning.*
- (4) *A local government is to review the current corporate business plan for its district every year.*
- (5) *A local government may modify a corporate business plan, including extending the period the plan is made in respect of and modifying the plan if required because of modification of the local government's strategic community plan.*

- (6) A council is to consider a corporate business plan, or modifications of such a plan, submitted to it and is to determine* whether or not to adopt the plan or the modifications.

**Absolute majority required.*

- (7) If a corporate business plan is, or modifications of a corporate business plan are, adopted by the council, the plan or modified plan applies to the district for the period specified in the plan.

5.56AA. Rates and revenue policy

- (1) A local government must prepare and adopt* a policy (a **rates and revenue policy**) setting out information about the local government's projected revenue from rates and other sources of projected revenue.

** Absolute majority required.*

- (2) The rates and revenue policy must be adopted every calendar year before 1 March.

- (3) The local government may amend* the rates and revenue policy.

** Absolute majority required.*

- (4) The regulations may prescribe information and other content that must be contained in a rates and revenue policy.

- (5) The CEO must publish an up-to-date version of the rates and revenue policy on the local government's official website.

Budget Implications:

After taking into consideration all other sources of income, Council is required to raise sufficient rates to meet its total expenditure. While Council is permitted to adopt a budget that has a surplus or deficit that does not exceed 10% of its rate revenue, it is not a sustainable long term strategy.

When considering the amount to be raised from Council rates, reference should be made to the Council's ten year Long Term Financial Plan. This draft LTFP Plan is based on a rate increase of 4.5% for 2025/26 or 4 years and 3.5% from 2029/30 thereafter.

Draft 2025/26 Long Term Financial Plan Projections										
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
Rate Increase	6.0%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%

The Rates Model for 2025/26 has been formulated at this time using a 4.5% increase in overall rates revenue (excluding growth through 2024/25 interim rates and rates written off), which is forecast to generate rate income of approximately \$8,092,379, compared to a forecast \$7,700,747 for 2024/25. This is an increase of \$391,632 on the total rates income. Currently a one percent rate increase raises approximately \$77,000 in additional rates income.

- *Annual Percentage Rate Increases*

Factors such as the growth of the Shire, need for additional resources to meet growth demands, the rising cost of labour and materials, previous rate increases approved and a perception of the affordability of a reasonable rate increase are some of the factors taken into account when considering the percentage by which rates in the dollar and minimum rates have to be increased.

It has also been widely recognised that increasing rates solely based on a factor equivalent to the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) is not prudent financial management, as the CPI provides a good estimate of a household's expectation of the price changes (increases) to the goods and services they consume but it does not provide a good estimate of all of the cost pressures faced by Local Government. In the past, indices such as the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI), together with other cost factors, have also been used as a guide for rate increases as the use of this index has been advocated by the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA).

Budget – Whole of Life Cost

As no new assets have been created, there are no direct whole of life or ongoing cost implications.

The rating strategy deployed by Council in the 2025/26 financial year will form part of a long term financial planning strategy to maintain the sustainable operations of Council. If Council is not able to adequately fund operations in the 2025/26 financial year, then the financial position of Council will potentially deteriorate in future years as assets age further and demand for services increase with projected population growth.

Communications Requirements:

N/A

Strategic Community Plan/Corporate Business Plan Implications:

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN – ADOPTED DECEMBER 2022		
GOAL:	5	Our Business
Outcome:	5.1	Innovative leadership, forward planning and mutually beneficial partnerships

Relevant Precedents:

Each year as part of the Strategic Financial Plan review and development process, it is proposed for Council to re-adopt the Rating Strategy which establishes the basis of rate increases for the next 10-15 years. These forecast rate increases are reflected in the interrelated Annual Budget / Corporate Business Plan / Long Term Financial Plan.

Comment:

As part of preparing the annual budget, Corporate Business Plan and Long Term Financial Plan, Council considers community needs in relation to its available income requirements for the coming years before deciding how much it should raise in general rates. Council will also consider the extent of the rate burden on rate payers and may decide to forgo some activities and services in order to avoid high rate rises.

The Rating Strategy for 2025/26 requires Council to strike a balance between competing principles to come up with a mixture of rates and charges that provides the income needed for its annual budget while meeting the tests of equity, efficiency and simplicity.

- *Purpose of the Rating Strategy*

The purpose of the Rating Strategy is to provide Council's preferred position on the following:

- i) *Method of Rates Calculation;*
- ii) *Annual percentage rate increase;*
- iii) *Minimum rates; and*
- iv) *Method of Rates Calculation*

In broad terms the total amount of money to be raised in general rates is divided by the total value of all rateable properties. The resulting figure is called the "rate in the dollar". Council determines the amount to be paid in rates by applying a rate in the dollar to the assessed value of each property. When that total value of all properties increases, the Council reduces the rate in the dollar to compensate. There is no windfall gain.

- *How a "Rate in the Dollar" is calculated?*

For a Council using only a "Uniform General Rate", the rate in the dollar is calculated as follows:

If Council plans to raise the total GRV rate revenue of \$10 million, and the total Gross Rental Value of all rateable properties in the municipality is \$2.38 billion, then the rate in the dollar is calculated by dividing \$10 million by \$2.38 billion = 0.42 cents in the dollar.

- *How are Property's Rates calculated?*

The basis for calculating property rates are the gross rental values (GRV) or unimproved values (UV) for individual properties provided by Landgate's Property and Valuations area multiplied by the relevant rate in the dollar.

A property's GRV represents the amount of the gross annual rental the land might obtain if it is let on a tenancy basis from year to year. A property's UV means the amount the land may reasonably be expected to obtain if it was sold and assuming no improvements to the land had been made.

For example if the Gross Rental Value of a property is \$16,000 and the Council rate in the dollar is set at 10.0662 cents, the rate bill would be \$1,610.59 (\$16,000 x \$0.100662).

- *Property Valuations.*

Property values affect the amount paid in municipal rates. State legislation requires that all properties in every municipality are revalued every 3-5 years. Collie is required to revalue its GRV properties every 3 years and its UV properties every year.

Changes in property values will vary across a municipality. These will be reflected in each property's rate bill. A general revaluation may result in the rates for some properties going up while others go down. If a property's value increases by less than the average increase across the municipality, the rates for that property will be relatively lower. Rates will be relatively higher if a property's value increases by more than the average increase in valuation.

Councils do not collect extra revenue as a result of the revaluation process. Valuations are simply used as an apportioning tool to assess the rates payable for each individual property.

Information about a property's value is included on the rate notice issued by the Council.

12. CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

12.1 Accounts Paid – March 2025	
Reporting Department:	Corporate Services
Reporting Officer:	Tash Mellegers – Finance Officer
Accountable Manager:	Nicole Wasmann – Director Corporate Services
Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1995 & Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996</i>
File Number:	FIN/024
Appendices:	Appendix 12.1.A – Accounts Paid –March 2025
Voting Requirement	Simple Majority

Report Purpose

To present the accounts paid during the month of March 2025.

Officer's Recommendation/Council Decision:

Resolution: 9567

Moved: Cr Burton

Seconded: Cr Sadlier

That Council receive the list of accounts paid in the month of March 2025 as presented in Appendix 12.1.A totalling \$871,337.63.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr Miffling, Cr Italiano, Cr Smith, Cr Moyses, Cr Faries, Cr Burton,
Cr Kearney, Cr Hansen, Cr Sadlier.

Against: Nil

Background:

In accordance with Delegation 2.2.21- payments from the Municipal or Trust Funds adopted by Council on 8 August 2023, the Chief Executive Officer is authorised to incur expenditure in accordance with the Annual Budget provisions and limited over-expenditure, subject to subsequent budget amendment. In doing so, section 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* (the Regulations) is to be adhered to with a list of accounts for approval to be presented to the Council each month.

Statutory and Policy Implications:

The Regulations, if the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the Municipal fund or the Trust fund, a list of accounts paid by the CEO is to be prepared each month. The list is to include the payee's name; the amount of the payment; the date of the payment; and sufficient information to identify the transaction.

Council Policy CS3.7 relates to the payment of creditors, and in particular item 5.0 which relates to the presentation of accounts paid. A list of all accounts paid shall be presented to Council within two months. The list shall comprise of details as prescribed in the Regulations.

Budget Implications:

All liabilities settled have been in accordance with the annual budget provisions.

Communications Requirements: (Policy No. CS1.7)

Nil

Strategic Community Plan/Corporate Business Plan Implications:

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN – ADOPTED DECEMBER 2022		
GOAL:	5	Our Organisation
Objective:	5.1	Innovative leadership, forward planning, and mutually beneficial partnerships
Strategic Priority:	5.1.5	To imbed our strategic priorities throughout the organisation

Relevant Precedents:

Each month Council is presented a list of accounts paid during the preceding month.

Comment:

A listing of payments is included in Appendix 12.1.A.

Where possible, questions on specific payments should be submitted to the Director Corporate Services before noon on the day of the scheduled meeting. This will ensure a response can be provided at the Council Meeting.

12.2 Financial Management Report – February 2025

Reporting Department:	Corporate Services
Reporting Officer:	Nicole Wasmann – Director Corporate Services
Accountable Manager:	Phil Anastasakis – Chief Executive Officer
Legislation	<i>Local Government Act 1995 & Financial Management Regulations 1996</i>
File Number:	FIN/024
Appendices:	Appendix 12.2.A – Financial Report – February 2025
Voting Requirement	Simple Majority

Report Purpose

To provide a summary of the financial position for the Shire of Collie for the month ending 28 February 2025.

Officer's Recommendation/Council Decision:

Resolution: 9568

Moved: Cr Hansen

Seconded: Cr Smith

That Council receive the Financial Management Reports for February 2025 as presented in Appendix 12.2.A.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr Miffling, Cr Italiano, Cr Smith, Cr Moyses, Cr Faries, Cr Burton,
Cr Kearney, Cr Hansen, Cr Sadlier

Against: Nil

Background:

In accordance with Council policy and the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Financial Report required for the end of the period is presented to Council for information. Refer to Appendix 12.2.A.

Statutory and Policy Implications:

Regulation 34 (1) (a) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* (the Regulations) states that a Local Government is to prepare monthly statement of financial activity including annual budget estimates; budget estimates to the end of the month to which the statement relates; actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income to the end of the month to which the statement relates, material variances between monthly budget and actual figures, and net current assets on a monthly basis.

In accordance with section 34(5) of the Regulations, each year a local government is to adopt a percentage or value to be used in statements of financial activity for reporting material variances. In this case, the Shire of Collie has adopted the material variance of 10% or \$10,000, whichever is greater, for reporting variations to the Budget in the monthly statement of financial activity reported to Council.

Budget Implications:

The monthly Financial Management Report provides Council with an overview of budget compared to actual expenditure and revenue. Ongoing financial forecasts to the end of the financial year are being introduced to enable Council employees to closely monitor revenue and expenditure, and provide up to date forecasts for the end of the financial year. This will provide more accurate budget monitoring, assist the mid-year budget review analysis, and will form a solid foundation for the estimated Surplus/(Deficit) at 30 June, which informs the future Budget and Long Term Financial Plan development process.

Communications Requirements: (Policy No. CS 1.7)

Nil

Strategic Community Plan/Corporate Business Plan Implications:

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN – ADOPTED DECEMBER 2022		
GOAL:	5	Our Organisation
Objective:	5.1	Innovative leadership, forward planning, and mutually beneficial partnerships
Strategic Priority:	5.1.5	To imbed our strategic priorities throughout the organisation

Relevant Precedents:

Each month Council is presented a monthly Financial Management Report for the preceding month.

Comment:

The financial statements provided in Appendix 12.2.A reports on the following information for the reporting period:

- Statement of Financial Accounts by Nature
- Statement of Finance Accounts by Program

Due to the need to focus on the end of financial year audit and the 2023/2024 Annual Financial Statements, the Monthly Financial Statement does not incorporate all of the detail anticipated in future reports, it does include the identification of variances and a forecast end of year financial position.

With the 2023/2024 Annual Financial Statements finalised, it is anticipated that the March 2025 Monthly Financial Statement will incorporate additional reporting elements associated with Program and sub-Program Reporting, which will provide greater detail on specific income and expenditure line items.

Through the financialisation of the 2023/2024 Annual Financial Statements, the Carried Forward Surplus from the 30 June 2024 into the 2024/2025 financial year has been established as \$2,930,453, compared to the budgeted Carried Forward Surplus of \$3,009,447. The resulting current forecast surplus at the 30 June 2025 is \$162,488 compared to a budgeted surplus of \$26,498. This improved position will form the basis of the 2025/26 budget.

13. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORTS

Nil

14. OPERATIONS REPORTS

Nil

15. MOTIONS FOR WHICH PRIOR NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

16. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS FOR WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Cr Hansen submitted the following questions, with due notice to the Chief Executive Officer.

1. What are Council policies on pruning Street trees?

The Director Operations provided a copy of the Council policy for Street Trees - TS1.8 to Cr Hansen and discussed the general parameters provided within the policy, including the following statement "*Trees should only be pruned using natural target pruning techniques. Trees should not be lopped*"

2. Are the policies up for renewal?

The Director Operations advised that the policy was due for renewal November 2021 (as per all eleven (11) Tech. Services policies).

3. Who do Council get their information from in regard to pruning trees, i.e. expert's, greenies, university's? The trees throughout Collie are unsightly, close to power lines and causing visibility problems to some residents. I can give more information at the meeting if allowed to or if needed.

The Director Operations advised that in the first instance information is sought from the Parks & Gardens Supervisor, being a qualified horticulturist. In the second instance the Shire contractor, Ozarb, being a qualified Arborist.

Shire staff action all street trees causing sight line issues, and power line proximity issues. Western Power provides an action list on a frequent basis of all trees too close to powerlines, which staff can contract to Ozarb to resolve if they are beyond the capacity of the Parks & Garden team.

This policy approach of restricting topping/lopping of street trees is not uncommon at other Local Governments. However, the Collie street trees have apparently not been subject to targeted pruning to maintain a particular shape/height (only actioned for encroachment / powerlines dangerous limbs / sigh-lines which is a policy requirement), compounded by the fact they were lopped many years ago. This has led to poor epicormic/sucker style structural re-growth.

17. URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDING MEMBER OR BY DECISION

Nil

18. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING MEMBER AND COUNCILLORSShire President Cr Miffing

- 12 March - attended a briefing session at the Collie Hospital regarding hospital services;
- 15 March - represented Council at the Rotary Club of Collie Adventure Race and welcomed participants and visitors to Collie;
- 21 April - along with Deputy Shire Presidents and Director of Development Services met with Executives of Greensteel WA and their potential investors from Vietnam;
- 24 March - along with the Deputy Shire President and CEO and relevant staff, attended a briefing on the swimming pool chlorine incident
- 25 March - attended a Just Transition Working Group meeting;
- 27 March - along with the Deputy Shire Presidents, CEO and relevant staff, attended an 'Incident Recovery Meeting' regarding the swimming pool chlorine incident;
- 3 April - along with Councillors and staff, met with the new Minister for Energy Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA;
- 8 April - represented Council at the Collie schools' ANZAC service in Soldiers' Park.

Deputy Shire President Cr Joe Italiano

- 17 March – Met with First responders, IXOM and staff re chlorine incident at the swimming pool;
- 22 March – Met with Vietnamese investors interested in the proposed Green Steel project;
- 24 March – Met with Shire President, CEO and staff for an update on the swimming pool chlorine leak incident;
- 27 March - Attended swimming pool incident recovery meeting;
- 3 April – Attended briefing session with new Energy Minister Sanderson.

Cr Hansen

- 3 April – along with other Councillors met with the new Minister for Energy Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA;

Cr Smith

- 12 March – DHAC meeting at the Collie Hospital regarding hospital services.
- 3 April – along with other Councillors met with the new Minister for Energy Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA;

Cr Moyses

- 3 April – along with other Councillors met with the new Minister for Energy Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA;

Cr Sadlier

- 28 March – attended the WALGA CEO review training in Donnybrook

Cr Burton

- 3 April - along with other Councillors met with the new Minister for Energy Hon Amber-

Jade Sanderson MLA;

- 8 April – 20th meeting for the Collie Adventure Trails reference group.

19. STATUS REPORT ON COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

Summary reports on the status of Council's resolutions are:

- 'Closed Since Last Meeting' at Appendix 19.1.A
- 'All Open' at Appendix 19.1.B

20. CLOSURE OF MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

It is the recommendation of the Responsible Officer that this item be considered behind closed doors due to the private and confidential nature of its contents.

Officer's Recommendation/Council Decision:

Resolution: 9569

Moved: Cr Kearney

Seconded: Cr Hansen

That in accordance with Section 5.23 (2) of the Local Government Act 1995 the meeting is closed to members of the public with the following aspect(s) of the Act being applicable to this matter:

- (a) A matter affecting an employee or employees; and*
- (c) a contract entered into, or which may be entered into, by the local government and which relates to a matter to be discussed at the meeting.*

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr Miffling, Cr Italiano, Cr Smith, Cr Moyses, Cr Faries, Cr Burton,
Cr Kearney, Cr Hansen, Cr Sadlier

Against: Nil

Member of the press exited the chambers at 8.06pm.

Item 20.2 was brought forward and discussed first at request of the Shire President.

20.2 Appointment of Director Corporate & Community Services	
Reporting Department:	Chief Executive Office
Reporting Officer:	Phil Anastasakis - Chief Executive Officer
Accountable Manager:	Phil Anastasakis - Chief Executive Officer
Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
File Number:	GOV/001
Appendices:	N/A
Voting Requirement:	Absolute Majority

A confidential report was circulated to members under separate cover (Confidential Report 20.2.A).

Officer's Recommendation/Council Decision:	Resolution: 9570
Moved: Cr Hansen	Seconded: Cr Burton
<i>That Council accept the recommendation for appointment to the position of Director Corporate & Community Services as contained within the assessment report and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the terms of offer and appointment.</i>	
	Carried: 9/0
For:	<i>Cr Miffing, Cr Italiano, Cr Kearney, Cr Smith, Cr Hansen, Cr Moyses, Cr Faries, Cr Sadlier & Cr Burton.</i>
Against:	<i>Nil</i>

Council Decision:	Resolution: 9571
Moved: Cr Smith	Seconded: Cr Italiano
<i>That Council suspend Standing Orders.</i>	
	Carried: 9/0
For:	<i>Cr Miffing, Cr Italiano, Cr Smith, Cr Moyses, Cr Faries, Cr Burton, Cr Kearney, Cr Hansen, Cr Sadlier.</i>
Against:	<i>Nil.</i>

20.1 Food Organic and Garden Organic (FOGO) Waste

Reporting Department:	Operational Services
Reporting Officer:	Jackie Robinson – Environment & Waste Co-ordinator
Accountable Manager:	Scott Geere – Director Operations Phil Anastasakis – Chief Executive Officer
Legislation	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
File Number:	N/A
Appendices:	Confidential Attachment 20.1.A
Voting Requirement	Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Resolution: 9572

Moved: Cr Burton

Seconded: Cr Sadlier

That Council resume Standing Orders.

Carried: 9/0

For: Cr Miffling, Cr Italiano, Cr Smith, Cr Moyses, Cr Faries, Cr Burton,
Cr Kearney, Cr Hansen, Cr Sadlier.

Against: Nil.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

- 1. Continue with the 3-bin FOGO collection service to households in Collie in accordance with Option 4 for the remainder of 2025, with the FOGO collection service diverted to Shire of Collie Waste Transfer site;*
- 2. Request that the CEO provides a further report at the January 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting on the longer term future of the FOGO service in the Shire of Collie.*

Change to Officer's Recommendation:

The Officer's recommendation was changed due to consideration of the number of bin pickups associated with Option 4 being less than Option 1.

Council Decision:

Resolution: 9573

Moved: Cr Faries

Seconded: Cr Moyses

That Council:

- 1. Continue with the 3-bin FOGO collection service to households in Collie in accordance with Option 1 for the remainder of 2025, with the FOGO collection service diverted to Shire of Collie Waste Transfer site;*
- 2. Request that the CEO provides a further report at the December 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting on the longer term future of the FOGO service in the Shire of Collie.*

3. *Communicate to the community the continued support for the FOGO service and the separation of waste as it is anticipated that this temporary diversion to the Shire's Waste facility is an interim arrangement due to factors outside of the control of the Shire of Collie.*

Carried: 5/4**For:** Cr Faries, Cr Hansen, Cr Moyses, Cr Sadlier, Cr Burton.**Against:** Cr Kearney, Cr Smith, Cr Italiano, Cr Miffling.**Officer's Recommendation/Council Decision:****Resolution: 9574****Moved: Cr Kearney****Seconded: Cr Burton***That Council return from behind closed doors.***Carried: 9/0****For:** Cr Miffling, Cr Italiano, Cr Smith, Cr Moyses, Cr Faries, Cr Burton,
Cr Kearney, Cr Hansen, Cr Sadlier.**Against:** Nil**21. CLOSE**

There being no further business the Shire President declared the meeting closed at 9.31pm.