



Minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Wednesday 25 March 2026 6:00 pm



Table of Contents

Official opening, welcome and acknowledgement	4
Attendance, apologies and leave of absence.....	4
Attendance.....	4
Apologies	4
Leave of absence	4
Applications for leave of absence	5
Disclosures of interest by members	5
Responses to previous public questions taken on notice.....	5
Public question time	5
Petitions.....	6
Deputations.....	6
Presentations.....	6
Confirmation of minutes	6
Elected member communication	7
Reports and recommendations from officers.....	8
Planning reports	8
General Reports.....	9
C2603-19 DUAL USE PATH - LOT 39 DALY STREET, SOUTH FREMANTLE	9
C2603-17 USE OF CASH IN LIEU OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE AND PUBLIC ART	20
C2603-13 REVIEW OF DOG EXERCISE AND PROHIBITED AREAS COUNCIL POLICY AND LOCAL LAWS RELATING TO DOGS.....	28
C2603-14 REVIEW AND REPEAL OF THE SHORT STAY ACCOMMODATION LOCAL LAW AND SIGNS, HOARDINGS AND BILLPOSTINGS MODEL LOCAL LAW.....	42
Items approved en bloc	54
C2603-22 REVIEW OF VARIOUS COUNCIL POLICIES	54
C2603-15 RFQ684-25 PROVISION OF TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES.....	55
C2603-16 PUBLIC ART STRATEGY	61
C2603-18 CHILD SAFE ORGANISATION COMMITMENT STATEMENT.....	68
C2603-20 ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION COUNCIL POLICY.....	74
C2603-21 ADOPTION OF THE LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION COUNCIL POLICY .	78



C2603-22 REVIEW OF VARIOUS COUNCIL POLICIES	81
Statutory reports	88
C2603-23 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS FEBRUARY 2026.....	88
C2603-24 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS FEBRUARY 2026.....	96
C2603-25 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FEBRUARY 2026	99
Committee and working group reports	107
C2603-26 WORKING GROUP INFORMATION REPORT	107
Items approved en bloc	111
ARIC2603-1 AUDIT ACTIONS UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2026.....	112
ARIC2603-2 EMERGING ISSUES REPORT - FEBRUARY 2026.....	116
ARIC2603-3 INFORMATION REPORT - PURCHASE CARD HOLDERS	118
ARIC2603-4 PROCUREMENT POLICY EXEMPTIONS NOVEMBER 2025 TO FEBRUARY 2026	120
Committee and working group reports	124
ARIC2603-5 TENDERS AWARDED UNDER DELEGATION NOVEMBER 2025 TO	124
FEBRUARY 2026.....	
ARIC2603-6 OVERDUE DEBTORS REPORT AS AT FEBRUARY 2026	128
Motion of which previous notice has been given	135
Urgent business.....	135
Late items.....	136
C2603-27 RESPONSE TO WALGAS DISCUSSION PAPER ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL REFORMS	136
Confidential business.....	144
Closure.....	144



Official opening, welcome and acknowledgement

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 6:01pm and welcomed members of the public to the meeting.

The Presiding Member informed members of the public that the meeting was being recorded and streamed live on the internet. They further advised that while all care is taken to maintain privacy, visitors in the public gallery and members of the public submitting a question, may be captured in the recording.

Attendance, apologies and leave of absence

Attendance

Mr Ben Lawver	Mayor/Presiding Member
Cr Fedele Camarda	Deputy Mayor/Central Ward
Cr Geoff Graham	Central Ward
Cr Andrew Sullivan	Coastal Ward
Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong	Coastal Ward
Cr Frank Mofflin	East Ward
Cr Pip Slaughter	East Ward
Cr Melanie Clark	North Ward
Cr Ingrid van Dorssen	North Ward
Mr Glen Dougall	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Matt Hammond	Director City Business
Mr Pete Stone	Director Creative Arts and Community
Mr Graham Tattersall	Director Infrastructure
Mr Russell Kingdom	Director Planning, Place and Urban Development
Ms Melody Foster	Manager Governance
Ms Vikki Barlow	Manager Community Development
Ms Sarah Wilkinson	Manager Arts
Mr Ryan Abbott	Manager Parks and Landscape
Ms Emily Groves	Media and Community Relations Advisor
Ms Jordyn Harvey	Meeting Support Officer
Ms Gabrielle Woulfe	Meeting Support Officer

There were approximately 8 members of the public and nil members of the press in attendance.

Apologies

Nil.

Leave of absence

Nil.



Applications for leave of absence

Nil.

Disclosures of interest by members

Cr Pip Slaughter declared an impartiality interest in item number C2603-14 as she owns a short stay accommodation property. Cr Slaughter stated that she was confident that she could maintain impartiality during consideration of this item and would remain in the meeting.

Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong declared an impartiality interest in item number ARIC2603-5 as she has worked for the tenderer within the last 14 months. Cr Williamson-Wong stated that she was confident that she could maintain impartiality during consideration of this item and would remain in the meeting.

Responses to previous public questions taken on notice

Responses to the questions taken on notice at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 11 March 2026 are presented in the Agenda of this meeting.

Public question time

The following member of the public spoke in relation to item C2603-17:
Emma Livesey

Adin Lang spoke in relation to item C2603-19 and asked the following questions:

1. We are told there is low usage on the path, how was that conclusion made?
2. Has anyone verified the City of Fremantle's own data? We've got a bike counter right next to that site and there's a photo of it in the attachments.
3. Where are the easier and more direct entrances mentioned throughout the report?
4. Will the addition of a bike path increase illegal camping and dumping issues?
5. Why was the first pillar of the cities strategic community plan not considered in the report particularly the connected city objectives?
6. How was it concluded that there was no demand for additional pedestrian route?
7. How was limited anticipated use determined?
8. How much vegetation will actually be cleared?
9. How does the path have the potential to facilitate antisocial behaviour?
10. Has the Council used its own data from its own bike counter on the footpath to verify the independent report?
11. Has the Fremantle BUG been consulted?
12. Why has future use of the area been overlooked?



Response by Mayor Ben Lawver:

This question has been taken on notice. Answers will be provided within the agenda of the next Ordinary Meeting of Council.

The following members of the public spoke in relation to item C2603-19:

Isabella Smith

Rob Wall

Lonnie

Petitions

Cr Fedele Camarda presented a petition signed by approximately 905 residents and visitors, requesting the following:

That the Council make changes to Hampton Road Fremantle (north of South Street) to enable pedestrians and cyclists to cross the road safely.

The petition was accepted by the Chief Executive Officer and will be addressed by relevant officers.

Deputations

Nil.

Presentations

Nil.

Confirmation of minutes

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr Ingrid van Dorssen

Seconded: Cr Geoff Graham

Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council dated 11 March 2026.

Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil

6/144



Elected member communication

Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong made a statement pertaining to her attendance at the 'We Are Women Leadership Summit' on Monday the 16 March 2026, which the City of Fremantle sponsored as part of its ongoing funding and actions addressing violence against women. She noted that 'We Are Women' is an educational charity focused on consent education and healthy relationships for young girls.

Approximately 50 students from various schools, in Years 11 and 12, attended the summit, at which Cr Williamson-Wong spoke about the lessons she has learned in becoming a councillor and a lawyer. She stated that 'We Are Women' is doing important work, and expressed her appreciation for the City's support and for seeing so many young women enthusiastic about becoming leaders.

Cr Melanie Clark stated that she attended the Fremantle Chamber of Commerce CEO Roundtable, which focused on business issues in Fremantle. Noting that more than 30 businesses were present to discuss what is working, what opportunities exist, and what is not working within the local business environment. She also noted that the new Police Superintendent, Dean Snashall, was in attendance, to speak to concerns raised. She further advised that another Roundtable focused on community safety will be held at the end of April.

Mayor Ben Lawver made a statement relating to the recent meeting attended by the City of Fremantle with the Perth South West Metropolitan Alliance (PSWMA). He advised that the South West Group resolved to make a submission to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority recommending the removal of first-generation rat baits and encouraging the Federal Government to ban them. Mayor Lawver noted that the following day, Bunnings announced it would be withdrawing these products from its shelves. Another item supported at the meeting was the proposal for a shared path linking Fremantle to Rockingham, referred to as the Catalpa Bike Path. He stated that this year marks the 150th anniversary of the Catalpa escape from Fremantle Prison, and commented that progressing this path through several local government areas during this milestone year would be a significant achievement.



Reports and recommendations from officers

Planning reports

Nil.



General Reports

C2603-19 DUAL USE PATH - LOT 39 DALY STREET, SOUTH FREMANTLE

Meeting date:	25 March 2026
Responsible officer:	Manager Commercial Services
Voting requirements:	Simple Majority Required
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Email from Lessee raising concerns about construction of dual path2. Traffic consultant report

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to vary the terms of a Lease dated 2 February 2024 between Humich Nominees Pty Ltd, Anilia Pty Ltd and the City for a portion of Lot 39 Daly Street, South Fremantle.

This report recommends that Council approve a variation to remove the Lessee's obligation to construct a dual-use path, increase rent payable and note that the Lessee will be charged backdated rent from the date of the expiration of the rent free period.

BACKGROUND

The subject land is a 7,500m² portion of Lot 39 Daly Street, Fremantle which directly abuts the existing Woolworths carpark at 303 Hampton Road, South Fremantle.

On 8 November 2023 a report was brought to Council for the proposed Lease of a portion of Lot 39 Daly Street, Fremantle. Council resolved to authorise the CEO to finalise a lease between Humich Nominees Pty Ltd and the City of Fremantle.

Immediately following the 8 November 2023 Council meeting, officers met with the Lessee to further negotiate and discuss Council's resolution.

The proponent, while accepting the proposed changes, expressed concerns about the requirement to construct the shared path. They questioned the need for the path given the existing, more direct routes already used by pedestrians and cyclists. Despite reservations about the path, the Lessee agreed to support the path construction to enable delivery of the carpark, which they consider an important improvement for the centre, its tenants, customers, and the broader community.

The terms that were agreed by both parties, subject to Council approval were as follows:

1. Amend the term to 10+5+5 – agreed
2. Include the provision of a redevelopment clause after year 10 – agreed
3. Include a restriction on paid parking – agreed
4. Investigate, construct and fund the proposed shared path – partially agreed.

At the time the Lessee agreed to investigate, construct and fund (up front) a footpath/bicycle route provided that the leased area was extended to include the bitumen area to the south.

The inclusion of an additional leased area (as shown in the image to follow) enabled the space to be fenced, helping to reduce illegal camping and dumping issues that may occur due to the addition of the path. The area was also noted as a potential future carpark expansion site, should demand arise. The additional leased area is currently fenced but not being used.



The Lessee's condition was that the City reimburse the path construction costs through an extended rent free period, with the credit applied to future rent



invoices and the City responsible for overseeing and approving the works. The City would also assume ongoing maintenance of the path.

On 22 November 2023 Council accepted the negotiated position and resolved as follows:

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2311-16
(Amended officer’s recommendation)

Council:

- 1. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise the Lease and Licence between Humich Nominees Pty Ltd and Anilia Pty Ltd and the City of Fremantle for the property at 39 Daly Street, Fremantle based on the following essential terms, subject to compliance with s3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995:**

Key Lease Terms	
Land Description	Portion of Lot 39 on Diagram 20161 Volume 1192 Folio 391
Property	Portion of Lot 39 Daly Street, South Fremantle (Approximately 9,000 m2, plan of premises shown below)
Property Owner	City of Fremantle
Lessor	City of Fremantle
Lessee	Humich Nominees Pty Ltd & Anilia Pty Ltd
Handover Date	The date of execution of the Lease by both parties.
Commencement Date	The date that the construction of the carpark is complete or six months from the Handover date, whichever is earlier.
Rent Commencement Date	12 months from the Commencement Date.
Lease Term	Ten (10) years
Options	2x 5-year options
Annual Rent	\$21,500 plus GST per annum starting on the first anniversary of the Commencement Date.
Carpark	The carpark must be constructed within 24 months of the Handover Date.
Licence Area	Approximately 460m2 shown as ‘Temporary Licence area’ on the Plan of Premises.
Rent Review	Rent to increase by 3% annually and reviewed in line with market every five years from commencement. Rent following any Market Review must not decrease by more than 10% of the previous year’s Rent or increase by more than 10% of the previous year’s Rent
Bank Guarantee	To the value of three (3) month’s rent (inclusive of GST).



Incentives/contributions	One year rent free.
Permitted Use	Carpark
Outgoings	<p>Outgoings payable may include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity usage • Council rates • Land tax
Maintenance	Land only Lease. All maintenance obligations are the responsibility of the Lessee.
Insurance	<p>The Lessee must effect and maintain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Public liability insurance of \$20 million. b) Adequate workers compensation insurance in respect to all employees of the Lessee.
Special Conditions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lessee acknowledges that the property is offered "as is". 2. Lessee's Works The Lessee will construct a carpark on the land in accordance with the plan of premises provided noting that some minor variations may be required once further works are undertaken. Any other variations require written approval from the Lessor. 3. The Lessee shall be responsible for all costs of, or associated with, the Lessee's Works including but not limited to costs of or associated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an application for planning consent; - an application for a building permit; - obtaining any other statutory approval required, including Water Corporation approval where necessary; - construction or installation of the Lessee's Works; and - Installation or upgrade of any services. 4. The Lessor reserves the right to appoint a Lessor representative to oversee all Lessee Works at the Premises and sign off on the completion of key items within the Lessee proposed design. 5. The Lessee will ensure that all Lessee contractors undertaking works at the premises are certified and provide to the Lessor on demand copies of the contractor's public liability insurance.



6. The parties acknowledge and agree that the Lessee's Works shall vest to the Lessor upon expiry or earlier termination of the Lease without cost.

7. Parties to act in good faith

Each party agrees to act in good faith throughout the term of the Lease and to not publicly disparage, denigrate or criticize the other party.

8. Redevelopment

With a minimum of 6 months notice, the Lessor reserves the right to terminate the Lease anytime within the option periods for the purpose of redevelopment.

9. Temporary Licence

(a) The Lessee will construct a shared path on the Licenced Area to the satisfaction of the Lessor.

(b) The Lessee temporarily licences the Licensed Area from the Handover Date until the date a shared path is constructed on the Licensed area to the Lessor's satisfaction.

(c) The Lessee must *complete* construction of the shared path within 24 months of the handover date unless otherwise approved by the Lessor.

(d) The upfront cost of site investigations and construction of the shared path within the Licenced area will be borne by the Lessee and paid back by the Lessor in the form of a credit against rent invoices.

(e) The Lessor will appoint a representative from the City to oversee the works to ensure quality control and to approve all costs.

(f) The Lessee must not undertake work or expend costs within the licenced area without the prior consent of the Lessor.

(g) On receipt of a prior approved invoice from the Lessee for works associated with the shared path, the Lessor will apply a credit to the Lessee to be applied against future rent charges for the Lease.

10. End of Lease

At the end of the Lease the Lessor reserves the right to advertise the premises available to Lease. The Lessee, subject to no default against the Lease, will be entitled to reapply to Lease the premises through the public process.



Plan of Premises



The Lease and Licence were finalised and signed in February 2024.

Construction of the carpark was completed in November 2024. Rent is payable 12 months after completion of the carpark, being November 2025. Rent invoices were not issued, pending an outcome on the footpath construction as rent credits were to be applied for the costs associated with construction.

As no works have commenced, the Lessee has accrued approximately \$9,000 in rent to date. Subject to the outcome of this report, the City will issue an invoice to the Lessee for the full amount outstanding.

The deadline for the construction of the footpath was 2 February 2026.

In March 2025 the Lessee wrote to the City formally requesting that the City reconsider its position on the construction of the footpath. See Attachment 1.

In July 2025 the Lessee submitted a traffic consultant report to support the initial request. See Attachment 2.

Throughout this period, officers engaged with the Lessee, carried out internal assessments, and updated elected members.



The matter is now returned to Council as the Lessee has requested removal of the shared path requirement due to feasibility, safety and cost concerns, and officers have completed technical assessments confirming significant constraints.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Lessee will be charged backdated rent from August 2025, being the expiry of the rent-free period, with monthly invoicing to commence thereafter.

A \$5,000 annual rent increase will apply upon construction of the carpark extension in the additional leased area.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Thriving City - Attraction and retention of diversified investment and talent

- The matters contained in this report align to the intent of this theme's outcome.

Resilient City – A focus on planning for a stronger and more resilient future

- A financially resilient City meets the service delivery needs of the community.

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- The matters contained in this report align to the intent of this theme's outcome.

CONSULTATION

Officers have been in communication with the Lessee since March 2025 in regard to the path construction and have engaged with Elected Members informally.

OFFICER COMMENT

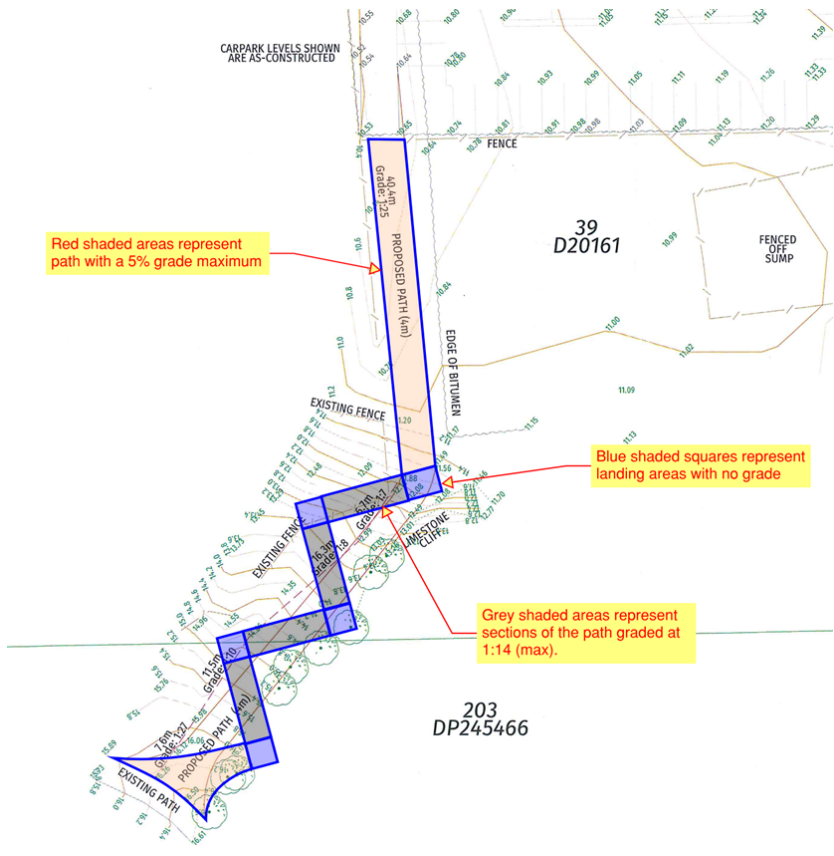
The image below shows the location of the proposed path and the other possible access routes to the shopping complex.



In May 2024 the Lessee engaged with officers and raised concerns about the viability of the footpath. A feature survey of the site was undertaken by Harley Dykstra which noted:

- there is a level difference of approximately 5.3m between the edge of the car park and the edge of the existing dual use path.
- Based on the existing levels, there would be sections of path with a longitudinal grade of approximately 14% (1 in 7) and most of the path would have a grade of 10% (1 in 10) or steeper.
- For cyclists, the preferred maximum grade is 5% (1:20) to allow for abilities.
- For pedestrians, 5% is also the preferred maximum grade.
- For disability access, 7% (1:14) is labelled as a ramp and can only go for 9m before a landing is required.
- A grab rail would also be required for the full length of the ramp.

Officers completed their own assessment and prepared a compliant concept design along with estimated probable costs.



Items	Costs
Preliminary Investigation (Environmental)	\$22,000
Path construction	\$90,000
Decontamination	\$30,000
Lighting (Provisional)	\$15,000
CCTV (Provisional)	\$20,000
Total:	\$177,000

Given the expected construction and ongoing maintenance costs, if the City were to enforce the Lease condition requiring the path to be built, any financial benefit to the City over the 10-year Lease term would be nominal.



Elected Members were briefed in September 2025 on the limitations and issues associated with the existing lease condition. Following this, officers re-engaged with the Lessee and requested that they investigate an option focused solely on formalising the existing informal dirt track at the site. The Lessee again raised concerns noting the drawbacks identified in this report.

While the path would create a link to the shopping centre, there is no indication that there is demand for an additional pedestrian route, particularly given the existing, more direct paths already used by pedestrians and cyclists. In contrast, the proposal presents significant drawbacks, including high construction and maintenance costs, vegetation clearing and replanting requirements, safety and accessibility risks, limited anticipated use, and the potential to facilitate antisocial behaviour. The route is also not bicycle friendly.

As the additional leased area was a negotiated position linked specifically to the dual path requirement, in the event that a shared path is not constructed officers recommend a \$5,000 per annum rent increase from the date the area is first utilised as a carpark (if the additional leased area remains part of the lease). The existing fencing is considered to aid in deterring illegal dumping, and it is therefore recommended that this area remain within the Lease footprint for the Lessee to manage and control.

Should Council not support the officer recommendation, the next step is for officers to issue a breach of lease notice, providing a prescribed timeframe for the Lessee to remedy the default (construct the path). If the breach is not remedied, the City will have the right to consider termination of the Lease.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required



OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong Seconded: Cr Frank Mofflin

Council:

- 1. Approve a variation to the Lease dated 2 February 2024 between Humich Nominees Pty Ltd, Anilia Pty Ltd and the City to:
 - a. Remove the obligation to construct a dual use path; and**
 - b. Increase the annual rent by \$5,000 (ex GST), commencing upon completion of the carpark extension within the additional leased area.****
- 2. Note that backdated rent will be charged to the Lessee calculated from the expiration of the rent free period.**

PROCEDURAL MOTION

At 7:09pm the following procedural motion was moved:

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr Andrew Sullivan Seconded: Cr Fedele Camarda

Council defer the item to the next appropriate Ordinary Meeting of Council to allow officers and the lessee an opportunity to negotiate for the lessee to construct the proposed path in accordance with the terms of the lease and planning approval.

Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorsen**

Against:

Nil

Reason for deferral:

To allow officers and the lessee an opportunity to negotiate for the lessee to construct the proposed path in accordance with the terms of the lease and planning approval.



C2603-17 USE OF CASH IN LIEU OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE AND PUBLIC ART

Meeting date: 25 March 2026
Responsible officer: Manager City Planning
Voting requirements: Simple Majority Required
Additional Information: 1. [Hilton Park Masterplan](#)
(viewed electronically)

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the most appropriate use of cash in lieu contributions from developments that are provided for public open space and public art.

The public open space contribution of \$158,550 was paid by a developer on Jean Street in Beaconsfield, as part of a subdivision application. The public art contribution of \$96,500 is available from the supermarket development at 285 South St, Hilton.

In 2024, Council adopted a Masterplan for Hilton Park. Works associated with this Masterplan are proposed to commence in late 2026 and will include upgrades and repairs to the reserve as well as public art work.

The intent of this report is to seek Council's endorsement and approval to:

- a. Seek approval from the Minister for Planning to spend the collected cash-in-lieu of Public Open Space at Hilton Park; and**
- b. Expend the collected funds for cash in lieu of Public Art in a location near (Hilton Park), but not immediately next to, the development it was collected from.**

BACKGROUND

The *Planning and Development Act 2005* allows local governments to require that 10% of subdivided land involving more than 6 lots be set aside as public open space (POS), or a cash-in-lieu contribution be made for provision of public open space within the locality. The cash-in-lieu contribution is to be set aside in separate funds and may only be spent on public open space works with approval of the Minister for Planning. The WAPC has also issued a Position Statement on Public Open Space outlining more details on collection and spending of such monies. Under the Position Statement, a local government or the WAPC may



impose a lesser POS percentage where an area is already served by public open space.

The City's Local Planning Policy 2.19: Contributions for Public Art and Heritage Works sets out that 1% of the development cost for specified developments in targeted areas is to be collected for the provision of public art in those areas.

Cash in lieu

The collected cash in lieu of public open space and public art, relates to two separate developments.

- Jean Street subdivision background (POS)
Lot 507 Jean Street, Beaconsfield, is a 4911sqm parcel of land zoned Residential, on the corner of Jean Street and Covich Avenue in Beaconsfield. The site has been subdivided by the landowner into 12 lots.

The subdivision approval was subject to a condition requiring a percentage of the land to be provided as public open space, or as occurred in this case, provide the local government with cash in lieu in accordance with Section 153 of the *Planning and Development Act 2005*. The required funds have been paid by the developer, and the purpose of this report is to enable Council to confirm the most appropriate application of the cash in lieu funds. This will then need to be referred to the Western Australian Planning Commission for approval by the Minister for Planning.

- Coles Hilton development approval background (public art)
In January 2020, the DAP approved a development comprising a shop (Coles) liquor store and restaurant at 285 South Street, Hilton. A condition of the approval required a public art contribution of \$100,000. The developer subsequently liaised with the City to investigate a concept design which was ultimately not progressed, but the \$3,500 paid for the concept was deducted from the overall cost.

Hilton Park

Hilton Park is on a 19ha site 4km from Fremantle centre, on the southeast edge of Beaconsfield and is framed by Carrington Street, Lefroy Road, Shepherd Street and Jeffery Street. The City developed a Masterplan (adopted 2024) through engagement with sporting clubs on desired use which highlighted issues with facilities, infrastructure and access to suit current and future sporting requirements. The City's asset renewal information, facility assessment and long-term financial plan also highlighted the need for redevelopment of the facilities to



better cater for the communities current and future use for both active and passive recreation, and other community use.

A "Place Plan" approach was adopted for the review and development of the Masterplan to ensure the City's asset renewal program occurs in a way to meet the current, emerging and future requirements of key stakeholders and the community. It aims to better enable the community's use of the precinct while catering for the increasing demand being placed on City public open space.

Draft Public Art Strategy and Action Plan

The draft Public Art Strategy (2025 – 2035) and draft Public Art Action Plan were sent out for public consultation in late 2025. The Strategy sets out a road map to embed public art within the City of Fremantle and outlines five strategic directions, from strengthening the existing collection by addressing significant gaps – including works by First Nations artists, female artists and subjects, and greater representation of our diverse community – elevating local and early career artists, to expanding temporary art programs, bolstering existing partnerships, forging new ones, and reimagining how public art can engage and educate. The Strategy commits to further establish the City as a leader in the cultivation and nurturing of culturally vibrant places and spaces, setting out indicative locations for public artworks and a clear direction for how public art will be delivered and supported across the City.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Liveable City - Sustainably designed and optimised urban and natural environments

- Urban development and public realm enhancement is coordinated, design-led, and sympathetic to surrounding natural environments.
- The community can access and enjoy natural areas and green spaces for passive and active recreation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cash in lieu funds from the public open space and public art, have been collected and are held by the City.



LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 154 of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* sets out the requirements for money paid in lieu of open space, including the requirement for the local government to seek approval of the Minister to apply the money for the improvement or development as parks, recreation grounds or open spaces generally of any land in that locality vested in or administered by the local government for any of those purposes.

Local Planning Policy 2.19: Contributions for Public Art and Heritage Works provides criteria upon which Council can require certain types of commercial and multiple residential development, in specified areas, to contribute a percentage of the development's total cost to the development of public art works and/or heritage works.

CONSULTATION

Through the Hilton Park Masterplan process and workshops with local Whadjuk Elders, a preliminary proposal for a Cultural Space has been developed with the main artistic element being a roof canopy. Further consultation with local Whadjuk Elders will be required for design development.

OFFICER COMMENT

Public open space cash in lieu

It is proposed, that the cash in lieu collected as part of the Jean Street subdivision, be used for the following, as outlined by the WAPC's Position Statement on Public Open Space (December 2025):

- Improvements to, or development of POS
- Improvements to, or development of, public reserves that have a recreation function provided the land is reserved for a form of recreation purposes including POS recreation or public purpose reserves in the local government local planning scheme, the public has unrestricted access and cash in lieu contributions were sourced from within the suburb, adjoining suburb or locality

As per the WAPC Position Statement on Public Open Space, Hilton Park is a suitable location for expenditure of the cash-in-lieu for the following reasons:



- Hilton Park is the nearest major public open space reserve (less than 900m away) to the site and is classified as District open space under the Classification Framework for Public Open Space.
- Hilton Park accommodates organised sport and recreation, as well as nature space generally on an unrestricted basis except for some sub-leased land.
- Hilton Park is within the suburb where the contribution was collected, and will benefit the future residents of the Jean Street subdivision as they are likely to use Hilton Park as their primary public open space for sport and recreation.
- As per the City's Public Open Space Strategy, the Hilton Park is the most utilised of all the City's Sports parks and this use is only going to increase with the development underway within the area.
- The City's Public Open Space Strategy has identified Beaconsfield as an area that will not meet the capacity of future demand for Sports Space without provision of additional spaces.

The Hilton Park Masterplan (Attachment 1) has been funded for a staged delivery by the City and grant partners. A Stage 1 – Northern Precinct is currently in the planning phase with delivery programmed over the next 2 years. The Masterplan also identifies quick wins which bring immediate benefit to the community. The cash-in-lieu expenditure will be used to improve the public open space for the community by contributing to works identified in the Masterplan such as sporting infrastructure, walk trails, landscaping and other related works.

The City is in the planning, design and procurement phase in early 2026, with works scheduled to commence later in 2026 through to 2027. The delivery of the cash-in-lieu funded works will be timed to align with these works packages (subject to budget approval and receipt of acceptable tenders).

Public art cash in lieu

The public art cash-in-lieu funds were collected from the supermarket development at 285 South Street. The City's arts team investigated the supermarket site and the vicinity of the development and recommended that the work is placed in close proximity at a more suitable site with enhanced community engagement and usage. Hilton Park was identified as a more suitable site.

The draft Public Art Strategy identifies Hilton Park as the location for future public art based on:

- Location and distribution of existing City of Fremantle public artworks



- Potential for artworks to engage frequently with both the community and visitors
- Alignment with City place planning and development
- Alignment with draft City Public Art Strategy Guiding Principles
- Ability of the artwork to enhance the visual appeal of the area
- Cultural or social significance of the area to the local community

The Planning and Development Act 2005 requires contributions to satisfy the need and nexus test, which essentially maintains that a contribution from a development should somehow benefit that development. Expenditure of cash-in-lieu funds for public art at Hilton Park meets this test for the following reasons:

- Hilton Park is within the locality of the Hilton Coles development. Though it is not immediately adjacent, it is within 500m and functions as the district open space for the neighbourhood.
- Public art enhances the visual appeal of the area as a whole and makes it a desirable place to live, work and shop, which has positive flow-on benefits for the supermarket development.
- Artwork has the potential to engage with visitors and enhance the cultural appeal of the area.

There is intent to include public art as part of the stage 1 Hilton Park Masterplan works. This site aligns with the draft Public Art Strategy (2025 – 2035) and Action Plan, as an indicative location. Other existing grants will also contribute to the provision of public art project. Through the Masterplan process and workshops with local Whadjuk Elders, a preliminary proposal for a Cultural Space has been developed with the main artistic element being a roof canopy. It is proposed the public art cash-in-lieu funds will contribute to the Cultural Space.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required



In accordance with clause 9.4 of the [Meeting Procedures Policy](#), Mayor Ben Lawver moved the officer's recommendation to be voted on in two parts:

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-17 - Part 1
(Officer's recommendation)

Moved: Cr Ingrid van Dorssen Seconded: Cr Frank Mofflin

Council:

1. Approve the Chief Executive Officer seek the approval of the Minister of Planning to use the cash in lieu payment from subdivision WAPC 162947 (Lot 507 Jean Street) on open space and recreation improvement works at Hilton Park in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning and Development Act 2005*.

Lost: 4/5

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda,
Cr Geoff Graham and Cr Andrew Sullivan**

Against:

**Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-17 - Part 2
(Officer's recommendation)

Moved: Cr Ingrid van Dorssen Seconded: Cr Frank Mofflin

Council:

2. Approve the future expenditure of the cash in lieu of public art from DAP007/20 for public art in Hilton Park in accordance with the Hilton Park Masterplan.

Lost: 2/7

For:

Cr Geoff Graham and Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong

Against:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Andrew Sullivan,
Cr Frank Mofflin, Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**



COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-17

Moved: Cr Ingrid van Dorssen

Seconded: Cr Frank Mofflin

Council:

1. Approve the Chief Executive Officer seek the approval of the Minister of Planning to use the cash in lieu payment from subdivision WAPC 162947 (Lot 507 Jean Street) on open space and recreation improvement works at Hilton Park in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning and Development Act 2005*.
2. Approve the future expenditure of the cash in lieu of public art from DAP007/20 for public art in Hilton Park in accordance with the Hilton Park Masterplan.

LOST



**C2603-13 REVIEW OF DOG EXERCISE AND PROHIBITED AREAS
COUNCIL POLICY AND LOCAL LAWS RELATING TO DOGS**

Meeting date:	25 March 2026
Responsible officer:	Manager Governance
Voting requirements:	Absolute Majority Required
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Draft City of Fremantle Dogs Amendment Local Law 20262. Draft amended Council Policy - Dog Exercise and Prohibited Areas
Additional Information: <i>(viewed electronically)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Tracked changes - City of Fremantle Local Laws relating to dogs4. Current - City of Fremantle Local Laws relating to dogs

SUMMARY

This report seeks Council approval to amend the Dog Exercise and Prohibited Areas Council Policy, following an internal review of the City’s document review and various petitions by the community in relation to dog exercise areas.

This report also seeks Council approval to initiate an amendment to the *City of Fremantle Local Laws relating to dogs* in accordance with Section 3.12 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, to update redundant sections. That Council determines to initiate the process of making a Local Law.

Simultaneously, the City will invite public submissions on the abovementioned local law in its current form, in line with the local law review schedule adopted by Council on 12 March 2025 (C2503-6) and in accordance with Section 3.16 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, which may influence the proposed amendments further.

Public submissions will also be sought on both the proposed Amendment Local Law and draft amended Council Policy.

BACKGROUND

As part of the Local Government Reforms and commencement of provisions within the *Local Government Amendment Act 2024* following assent, the City of Fremantle is required to review any local laws that are either due or overdue for a review. This must be undertaken within a two-year period, prior to 7 December 2026, unless a review occurred within the last 8 years.



With the decision of Council at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 12 March 2025 (C2503-6) to complete a review of all City local laws, officers consulted with relevant departments which use the local law to identify whether it should be amended, repealed, or remain unchanged. The need for minor amendments was identified, which are discussed within the officer comment section of this report.

The City of Fremantle's Dog Exercise and Prohibited Areas Council Policy, in accordance with section 31 of the *Dog Act 1976*, specifies public places, or classes of a public place, that are under the care, control or management of the City as a dog exercise area or where dogs are prohibited. The format of a Council policy allows for amendments to be made to specified areas without the extensive and costly process of amending a local law. This policy was due for a review by February 2026.

At the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 27 November 2024, a petition was presented which was signed by approximately 187 residents, requesting that the Mills & Wares Park, South Fremantle, be officially designated as an off-lead dog exercise space. Officers presented a report to Council on 26 February 2025 addressing the petition, and Council determined that the request would be considered as part of a review of the relevant policy and local law before the end of 2025.

As both the local law and policy reviews require community consultation prior to a final adoption by Council, completion of the local law and policy review was delayed due to the 2025 Local Government Ordinary Election caretaker period. This additional time enabled officers to undertake internal consultation to ensure the proposed amendments meet operational needs, prior to Council consideration and community consultation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All costs associated with a local law and policy review are included in the adopted budget.

The City has existing operational signage and park infrastructure budgets which will be used to improve signage and dog infrastructure across the city. Should additional projects be identified outside these operational budgets, officers will submit a proposal for consideration through the budget process.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS



Section 3.12 of the Act prescribes the procedure for making local laws, which is the same procedure to amend or repeal a local law. Section 3.5 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) provides the power for local governments to make local laws to help perform their functions.

Section 3.16 requires the City to give local public notice of the proposed review of the *Local Laws relating to dogs* and invite public submissions for a period of no less than 6 weeks. After submissions have been received and considered in accordance with section 3.16, the local government must determine, by absolute majority, whether it considers that the local law should be repealed, be amended or remain unchanged.

This must be completed separately to any new, amendment, or repeal local law being made and associated public consultation periods.

If Council endorse the proposed amendment to the local law and revised policy (Attachment 1 and 2), the City will undertake both the review and amendment public consultation simultaneously to reduce community confusion of the City's intention with the local law, while still complying with the legislative requirements.

Section 31 of the *Dog Act 1976* requires the City to give local public notice of at least 28 days before specifying a place to be where dogs are prohibited or is a dog exercise area. Public notice will be formally given following final adoption.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Inclusive City – A safe and accessible community for all abilities

- The matters contained in this report align to the intent of this theme's outcome.

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- Enable the City to maintain legislative compliance and accountability for organisational decision making.



CONSULTATION

Since 2023, City officers from the Community Engagement, Governance, Parks & Landscape, Community Safety and Recreation teams have been conducting the following activities on this topic:

- Reviewing community feedback on this topic from previous engagement projects over the past 7+ years including:
 - o Dog Exercise Area Policy (2018)
 - o Griffith's Park Upgrade (2021)
 - o South Beach Place Plan (2021)
 - o Virginia Ryan Park & Stevens Reserve (2022)
- Gathering learnings from other local governments in the Perth metro area
- Pre-engaging the community to assess community sentiment on this topic during the following projects:
 - o Hilton Park Precinct Masterplan (2023)
 - o Prawn Bay Ecological Restoration (2024)
 - o Parmelia Park Upgrade & Play Renewal (2024)
 - o Hicks Street Park Renewal (2025)
 - o Samson Park Masterplan (2025)
 - o Ongoing engagement through petitions presented to council and City officers on this topic

Through this work City officers have captured the following outcomes of an updated council policy and local law:

- Clear, consistent dog governance the community can understand
- Improved dog and public safety
- Clearer signage and understanding of dog exercise areas
- Access to community education and responsible dog ownership programs
- Dog access aligned with land management priorities
- Community Safety can enforce laws more fairly and consistently
- Better voluntary compliance thanks to clearer guidance
- Safer and more enjoyable public spaces for the community

City officers will now invite feedback from the public on the draft policy, taking into account community feedback to-date.

The community will have the ability to submit or discuss their feedback via the City's MySay portal, and by booking a 1:1 or small group meeting with staff.



In accordance with both section 3.12 (amendment local law) and 3.16 (periodic review) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, after the public submission period of no less than six (6) weeks has closed, officers will provide a report to Council to consider any submissions made and make a decision.

OFFICER COMMENT

Local Laws relating to dogs

The internal review completed by officers considered the local law's application, effectiveness, lawfulness, and need.

The *Dog Act 1976* provides powers to an authorised person of the local government to impose a penalty for an offence under the Dog Act, including but not limited to allowing a dog to be in a prohibited area, a dog causing a nuisance, a dog attack, and to register a dog. A full list of penalties (infringements) that are not enforced through the Local Law, but rather legislation, can be found in the [Dog Regulations 2013](#). The Council have also delegated powers to the Chief Executive Officer where the Act specifies Council and not an authorised person.

The City's local law, through the powers provided by section 51 of the *Dog Act 1976*, specifies further controls in addition to the Act for the following:

- i. providing for the registration of dogs;
- ii. specifying areas within which it shall be an offence (unless the excreta are removed) for any person liable for the control of a dog to permit that dog to excrete on any street or public place or on any land without the consent of the occupier;
- iii. requiring that in specified areas a portion of the premises where a dog is kept must be fenced in a manner capable of confining the dog;
- iv. providing for the establishment and maintenance of dog management facilities and other services and facilities necessary or expedient for the purposes of this Act;
- v. providing for the detention, maintenance, care and release or disposal of dogs seized; and
- vi. providing for the licensing, regulating, construction, use, and inspection of approved kennel establishments.

Officer's propose minor amendments to the City of Fremantle Local Laws relating to dogs (attachment 1 (gazette copy) and additional information 3 (tracked changes to website copy)), including:



Part/Clause	Proposed Change	Justification
-	Transfer to the City's current local law template.	City documents are to use consistent formatting.
1.1 to 1.5	Included standard clauses and headings (citation, commencement, application, repeal, definitions).	Consistent with other City of Fremantle local laws.
1.5	Updated definition for "authorised officer".	An "authorised person" is appointed by the CEO under section 9.10 of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> .
2.1	Removed reference to previous section 2.1	Administrative addition when removed in 2014. Not included in Amendment Local Law.
2.2	Updated the wording of clause 2.2 (now clause 2.1), without changing the intent.	From 2014 dog prohibited and exercise areas were removed from the Local Laws schedule 7 and instead specified within a policy. Council make determinations of these areas by absolute majority. New wording allows for these determinations to be presented to the community in a format of the City's choice (policy).
5.1	Amended clause 5.1 to remove reference to additional fees imposed for opening of the pound to release a dog.	The fees and charges don't specify this currently. Clause 5.3 (now 5.2) of the local law already allows for fees and charges to be applied related to impounding.
5.2	Removed reference to a redundant act (Veterinary Surgeons Act 1960).	The <i>Dog Act 1976</i> deals with destroying dogs.
-	Updated clause and schedule numbers.	Previous clauses and schedules have been removed through amendments to the local law, however the subsequent numbering was not updated at the time. Removed reference to previous First Schedule and Seventh Schedule. Were administrative additions when removed in 2001 and 2014. Not included in Amendment Local Law.



First schedule	Increase to the modified penalties.	Consistent with other Local Governments and modified penalties in the Regulations.
----------------	-------------------------------------	--

Dog Exercise and Prohibited Areas Council Policy

The City has taken a holistic approach to this review, involving various departments within the organisation, taking into consideration a range of matters such as; equitable use of community spaces, enforcement, education, operational impacts, community needs, health, safety and environmental impacts.

In addition, the City has reviewed and considered feedback from previous engagement held over 7+ years, gathered learning from other local governments, and pre-engaged the community on this topic through several other projects including:

- Dog Exercise Area Policy Engagement (2018)
- Griffith's Park Upgrade (2021)
- South Beach Place Plan (2021)
- Virginia Ryan Park, Stevens Reserve (2022)
- Hilton Park Precinct Masterplan (2023)
- Prawn Bay Ecological Restoration (2024)
- Parmelia Park Upgrade & Renewal (2024)
- Salentina Ridge Playground Renewal (2024)
- Hicks Street Park Renewal (2025)
- Samson Park Masterplan (2025)

This engagement has shown that there is a clear friction between increased and isolated requests for more dog exercise areas, safety for all users, education of responsible dog control, environmental impacts, and consistency in decision making.

The current Dog Exercise and Prohibited Areas Council Policy is inconsistent in its approach for specifying dog exercise or prohibited areas and effective management of dogs in public spaces. It also lacks information for members of the community who seek changes to these areas, sometimes unaware of the various influences that go into decision making.

The following proposed changes have been made to the policy (attachment 2) to address these findings:

Part/Clause	Proposed Change	Justification
Policy Scope	Increased the policy scope from only specifying dog	The increase in scope aims to assist Council in their decision



	<p>exercise and prohibited areas to now providing decision making criteria to enable the City to implement suitable solutions that will provide a balanced outcome for the community.</p> <p>Included reference to the legislation that governs dog exercise and prohibited areas, and responsible dog control.</p>	<p>making, Officers in their recommendations to Council and communication to the community, and community members in understanding the decision-making process.</p>
<p>1. Criteria for Dog Exercise areas</p>	<p>Addition of part 1 Criteria for Dog Exercise Areas</p>	<p>This criteria is consistent with previous recommendations to Council and reasoning when addressing requests and concerns by the community; and by the Council in their decision-making.</p> <p>The criteria still allow for discretion, but clearly articulates the key influences impacting the decision. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The safety of all users of the areas; - The impact on the natural environment; - The primary use of the area; and - The balance of areas in the district. <p>Including detailed criteria provides transparency and encourages a consistent approach.</p>
<p>2. Approach to Land Types</p>	<p>Addition of part 2 Approach to Land Types</p>	<p>This part provides context for decision making in-line with the Public Open Space Strategy (POS), and to encourage a consistent approach.</p> <p>Key additions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog on-lead areas are the default for all areas, indicating that an area being a particular land type doesn't



		<p>automatically make it an appropriate area for a dog exercise area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sporting events and training on sporting fields will be prioritised in determining dog exercise or hybrid areas. - Nature spaces are not suitable for dog exercise areas.
3. Dog Prohibited Areas	<p>Addition of the following as dog prohibited areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Playgrounds and play spaces, including an area within 5 meters. - Sir Fredrick Samson Park (conservation area only) 	<p>The addition of playgrounds and play spaces as dog prohibited areas aligns the City with other Local Governments and addresses the concerns of safety identified through public engagement. Providing a blanket approach assists with user education and enforcement.</p> <p>The addition of Sir Fredrick Samson Park aligns with the recently adopted master plan. The park comprises predominantly bushland (12.8 ha) with a 1.3 ha central parkland spine of grassed recreation space separating the two main bushland precincts. The recreation space is proposed to remain a dog exercise area, with the conservation area protected as a dog prohibited area, and the remaining tracks as dog on-lead.</p>
3. Dog Prohibited Areas	<p>Addition of a location description for "a public building".</p>	<p>The addition assists the enforcement of the <i>Dog Act 1976</i>, to be further supported by signage in problematic areas such as changerooms and public toilets.</p> <p>The specification of Walyalup Fremantle Arts Centre grounds and Fremantle Oval provides clarity for users, as although the building is already specified as a dog prohibited area (a public building owned or managed by</p>



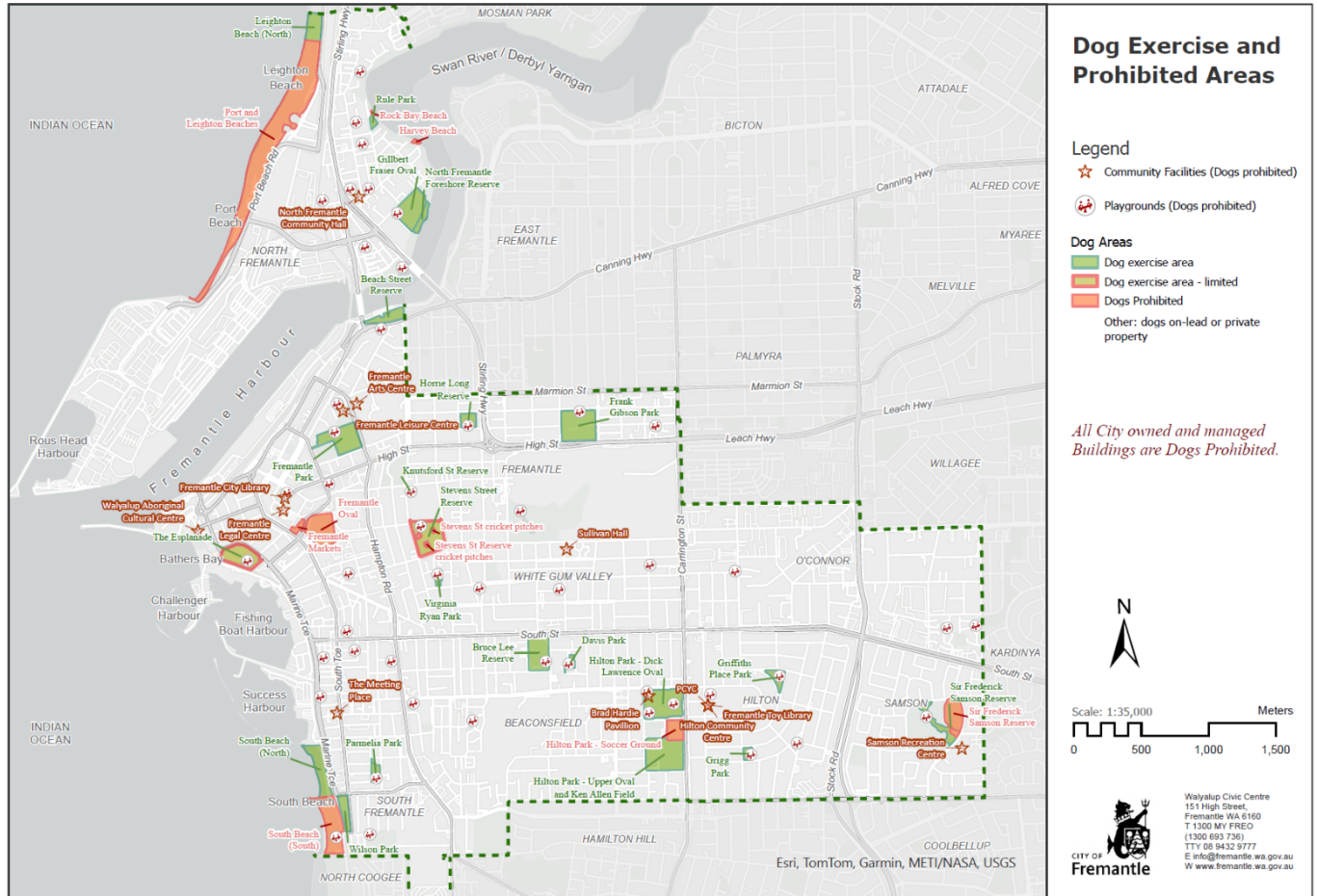
		the City), the grassed area causes confusion. The whole area is recommended to be dog prohibited to assist with the management of the grounds and safety to users.
4. Dog Exercise Areas	Included the following policy statement: 4.4. <i>Areas not identified in this part of the policy as dog exercise areas are considered on-lead dog areas, unless classified as a dog prohibited area (see part 3 of this policy).</i>	The addition provides clarity for the community to assist and educate responsible dog control.
4. Dog Exercise Areas	Addition of the following as dog exercise area: - 36 Rule Street	The addition of 36 Rule Street substitutes Rocky Bay Reserve (recommended to be changed to dog on-lead) and addresses the current use of the area by dog owners unaware that the area is currently on-lead / privately managed. The addition is subject to an MOU with the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage for the management of the area by the City of Fremantle.
4. Dog Exercise Areas	Separation of each Hilton Park area (already dog exercise areas, excluding the soccer ground).	Specifying each area individually allows for effective enforcement, specifically while sporting events are on. For example, this allows the use of South (Upper Oval) as a dog exercise area while a sporting event (including training) is in progress on Ken Allen Field. All areas, including Dick Lawrence Oval, are currently dog exercise areas.
4. Dog Exercise Areas	Removal of the following as dog exercise areas: - Prawn Bay - Rocky Bay Reserve	The removal of Prawn Bay is recommended as it is a natural area and is managed for conservation (Nature Space area



	<p>- Conservation area of Sir Fredrick Samson Park</p>	<p>type). The area will become dog on-lead.</p> <p>The removal of Rocky Bay Reserve is recommended as it is a natural area and is managed for conservation (Nature Space area type). The area will become dog on-lead.</p> <p>The removal of the conservation area of Sir Fredrick Samson Park aligns with the recently adopted master plan. The park comprises predominantly bushland (12.8 ha) with a 1.3 ha central parkland spine of grassed recreation space separating the two main bushland precincts. The recreation space is proposed to remain a dog exercise area, with the conservation area protected as a dog prohibited area, and the remaining tracks as dog on-lead.</p>
Appendix 1	Appendix maps	<p>Maps of the areas depicted across the district provide clear visuals for readers of the policy and also assist with enforcement.</p> <p>The City’s online map system available on the website will mirror this.</p>



Below is the proposed full map, also available in attachment 2:



The City intends to increase education on the topic of responsible dog ownership and control through improving information on the website, interactive signage across the district, and brochures that Community Safety can provide to the community while on patrol. During public consultation of the policy, these initiatives will be explored further and defined.

If the amended policy is adopted by Council, a 28-day notice period will be given after which enforcement will commence, and the roll out of new signage (where not already sufficient), is expected to be completed over a 6-month period. It is intended that community education will be used as the primary way of seeking compliance with the local law and policy.

Mills and Wares Park

As part of the review of dog exercise and prohibited areas above, officers considered the request to specify Mills and Wares Park as a dog exercise area. Based on the criteria for assessment of dog exercise areas, Mills and Wares Park is considered too small to safely specify as a dog exercise area, and there are



walkable options nearby in South Beach Dog Beach and Parmelia Park. On this basis, officers recommend no change to Mills and Wares Park being a dog on leash area.

Next steps

Following Council's decision, public notice will be given and submissions sought via online and face-to-face methods. The community will be able to book 1:1 or small group meetings with City officers subject to staff availability.

A report will be brought back to Council to consider the submissions and whether any further changes are required. If Council approve the amendment local law and amended policy as recommended, a final determination can be made which will result in:

- The local law amendment publication in the *Government Gazette*, notification to the Department, and further public notice.
- Public notice of the amended policy, and more specifically of the specified dog prohibited and exercise areas for a minimum of 28 days.
- Roll out of education material and signage.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority Required



COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-13
(Officer's recommendation)

Moved: Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong

Seconded: Cr Geoff Graham

Council:

- 1. Approves local public notice be given of the review of the City of Fremantle Local Laws relating to dogs (Additional information 4), in accordance with section 3.16 of the Local Government Act 1995, and invite public submissions for a minimum period of 6 weeks.**
- 2. Approves local public notice to be given, in accordance with section 3.12 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, of its intention to make the *City of Fremantle Dogs Amendment Local Law 2026 (Attachment 1)*, the purpose and effect of which is as follows:

Purpose: Amend the City of Fremantle Local Laws relating to dogs (Principal Local Law), to remove redundant provisions and update clauses and definitions to align with current operations.

Effect: The City of Fremantle Local Laws relating to dogs are amended.**
- 3. Endorses the proposed Dog Exercise and Prohibited Areas Council Policy (Attachment 2) for the purpose of community consultation, with the intent to specify a public place, or a class of public place, that is under the care, control or management of the City of Fremantle, to be a place where dogs are prohibited or a dog exercise area.**
- 4. Notes that a further report will be presented to Council after the public submission period, including any submissions received and recommendations for adoption of the Amendment Local Law and final Council Policy.**

Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorsen**

Against:

Nil



Cr Pip Slaughter declared an impartiality interest in the following item, earlier in the meeting.

C2603-14 REVIEW AND REPEAL OF THE SHORT STAY ACCOMMODATION LOCAL LAW AND SIGNS, HOARDINGS AND BILLPOSTINGS MODEL LOCAL LAW

Meeting date:	25 March 2026
Responsible officer:	Manager Governance
Voting requirements:	Absolute Majority Required
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Draft Short Stay Accommodation Repeal Local Law 20252. Draft Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting, No.13 Repeal Local Law 20253. Engagement Report & Submissions
Additional Information: <i>(viewed electronically)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Current Short Stay Accommodation Local Law 20085. Current Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting), No. 13

SUMMARY

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 26 November 2025, Council approved local public notice be given, in accordance with section 3.12 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, of its intention to make the City of Fremantle Short Stay Accommodation Repeal Local Law 2025 and City of Fremantle Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting), No. 13 Repeal Local Law 2025.

Community submissions are considered and addressed within this report, and no changes to the Repeal Local Laws are recommended.

This report seeks final Council approval to repeal the Short Stay Accommodation Local Law 2008 and the Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting), No. 13 as they are obsolete.

BACKGROUND

As part of the Local Government Reforms and commencement of provisions within the *Local Government Amendment Act 2024* following assent, the City of Fremantle is required to review any local laws that are either due or overdue for a review. This must be undertaken within a two-year period, prior to 7 December 2026, unless a review occurred within the last 8 years.



As part of the decision made by Council at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 12 March 2025 (C2503-6) to complete a review of all City local laws, officers considered the local law's application, effectiveness, lawfulness, and need. The short term accommodation local law repeal is timely with legislative changes resulting in its in-operativeness, while the Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting), No. 13 has been redundant for some time.

Short Stay Accommodation Local Law

As of 1 January 2025, the City's Short Stay Accommodation Local Law no longer has effect following the introduction of a mandatory STRA Register under the Short-Term Rental Accommodation Act 2024, which centralises registration for all short-term rentals across WA. This requires all hosted and unhosted accommodation to be registered before advertising or accepting bookings. Hosted accommodation is exempt from requiring planning approval, and unhosted accommodation, can operate for up to 90 nights per year without planning approval, and beyond this, planning approval is required.

Alongside the registration scheme, which sits separately to the planning system and is mandatory for all STRA, amendments to planning regulations were introduced to create a more consistent treatment of STRA from both a legal and practical standpoint across local governments. The planning changes aim to provide greater consistency across the state in relation to what approvals are needed for STRA proposals as well as how these uses are defined in local planning schemes.

The City's Local Planning Scheme No. 4 has been amended to remove the short stay exemption and the Local Planning Policy 2.27: Unhosted Short-term Rental Accommodation was adopted to establish a clear framework to manage unhosted short term rental accommodation within the City of Fremantle. The policy seeks to balance the tourism benefits with residential amenity and urban living, ensuring development and land use aligns with neighbourhood character while not detrimentally impacting the viability of an area through the overabundance of temporary residents.

All short stay accommodation in dwellings are required to register with the state ([more information can be found here](#)). Additionally, unhosted short stay accommodation for more than 90 nights in a year requires planning approval from the City ([more information can be found here](#)).

As a result of the above, the local law is redundant and is recommended for repeal.



Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting) No. 13

During the review of this local law, it was identified that the Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting) No. 13, originally adopted in 1963 under previous legislation, has become largely redundant following the introduction of the Local Government Act 1995 and subsequent local laws. Furthermore, the model by-law ceased to have effect statewide on 17 October 2005, and most councils have since repealed it as part of their local law reviews.

The following instruments now regulate signage, rendering the model by-law obsolete:

- Local Planning Policy 2.14 (Advertisement Policy) – addresses signage on private property within the planning framework.
- Activities in Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2005 – regulates signage in public places and thoroughfares. Further amendments to this local law will be recommended in 2026.
- The *Litter Act 1979* [Litter Act 1979](#) - provides control for authorised officers of the City to infringe for Bill Posting.

As a result of the above, it is recommended the local law be repealed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All costs associated with a local law review are included in the adopted budget.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

As part of the Local Government Reforms and commencement of provisions within the *Local Government Amendment Act 2024* following assent, the City of Fremantle is required to review any local laws that are either due or overdue for a review. This must be undertaken within a two-year period, prior to 7 December 2026, unless a review occurred within the last 8 years.

Section 3.5 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) provides the power for local governments to make local laws to help perform their functions.

Section 3.12 of the Act prescribes the procedure for making local laws, which is the same procedure to amend or repeal a local law.

With the support of Council, the City conducted both the review of the current local laws and proposed repeal local laws public consultation simultaneously to



reduce community confusion of the City's intention, while still complying with the legislative requirements.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- Enable the City to maintain legislative compliance and accountability for organisational decision making.

CONSULTATION

In accordance with Section 3.12 and 3.16, the City gave local public notice of the proposed review and repeal of the local laws and invited public submissions for a minimum period of 6 weeks, from Friday 28 November 2025 until Friday 30 January 2026.

Public submissions were invited for both proposed unchanged local laws, and for the local law review in general.

The public engagement program reached 429 people through online visits to the City's MySay portal. The public engagement program resulted in 17 formal submissions to City officers in the following ways:

- 14 submissions via the MySay survey on the 2025 Local Law Review - Short Stay Accommodation + Signs Model Local Laws project page.
- 3 emails sent to the Community Engagement Team's shared inbox.

93% of respondents to the public engagement program for this project were from a City of Fremantle suburb.

- o Fremantle Central made up the most with 50% of respondents.
- o Hilton was the next major suburb in Fremantle with 22% of respondents.

The comments raised are explored in the Officer Comment section of this report. A full copy of the comments received are provided in Attachment 3.

In accordance with Section 3.12 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the City provided notice to the Minister of Local Government on 28 November 2025 of the Council's intent to repeal the local laws. The Minister's office confirmed that no significant legal or drafting issues were identified.

OFFICER COMMENT



Given that the Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting) No. 13 was last reviewed in 1998, and the Short Term Accommodation Local Law 2008 has not been reviewed since its adoption in 2008, a full review is timely regardless of the reforms.

As part of the 2025/2026 Local Law Review undertaken by the City, internal consultation occurred across departments to ensure all aspects of the local laws were considered in relation to their application, effectiveness, lawfulness, and need. Justification for repeal, as discussed earlier in this report, was agreed to by all departments.

Officers have also given consideration to other Local Government local laws and previous Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation undertakings, for alike local laws, to determine if any additional changes need to be considered. None were identified.

Public submissions, although supportive of a repeal, voiced concerns that not all previously covered aspects of the local laws are now adequately addressed by superceding legislation, local law, or policy. Officer’s have responded to the submissions in the following tables, as follows.

Short Stay Accommodation Local Law

The responses captured during public consultation are summarised below into themes:

Community Comment	City Response
<p>Regulation of short-stay accommodation to protect housing supply and residential character was voiced 4 times. Respondents highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concern that expansion of short-stay accommodation - particularly un-hosted whole-house rentals - may reduce the supply of long-term rental housing, potentially contributing to housing affordability pressures for local residents. - Entire homes used for Short Term Rental Accommodation (STRA) should be restricted or limited. - Short-stay accommodation should primarily occur in hosted arrangements, spare rooms, or 	<p>City approval of unhosted STRA (Short Term Rental Accommodation) applications can be controlled through Council policy.</p> <p>There is a clause in LPP 2.27 that specifically allows Officers to consider whether there is an overabundance of short stay in the City Centre so as to encourage long-term residents. The <i>Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015</i> also provide a range of Matters to be Considered for all development (amenity impact, parking, etc.) and some of these could be used to limit approvals in other areas in Fremantle, if necessary.</p>



<p>secondary dwellings rather than full residential properties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Desire to maintain residential character and liveability of local neighbourhoods - excessive STRA activity could shift housing away from permanent residents toward visitor accommodation. 	<p>Hosted accommodation – where the owner remains on site (ie: renting out a room) – does not require City approval. For unhosted short stay, the Policy limits the number of people per bedroom and states that rooms intended as offices should not be used as bedrooms. The Policy does not otherwise set out restrictions.</p>
<p>Local amenity impacts (parking, neighbours, Strata issues) was voiced 3 times. Respondents highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Day-to-day impacts on neighbouring residents including guest parking congestion, shared driveway access issues and lack of contribution to strata maintenance. - While State frameworks manage registration and planning approvals, local mechanisms may still be needed to address operational impacts such as parking management, complaint processes and neighbour amenity. - Targeted safeguards rather than a fully deregulated approach, particularly where short-stay activity has the potential to affect shared buildings or nearby residents. 	<p>The Local Law does not control parking other than requiring a minimum number of parking bays prior to approval. The City is now unable to control hosted STRA, but LPP 2.27 does require a parking minimum for unhosted STRA. The provision of parking permits has to-date been an internal process.</p> <p>Officers will review relevant policies and procedures to accommodate parking provisions for short stay accommodation.</p> <p>Under the LPP 2.27, where unhosted short stay requires an approval, it is to be accompanied by a management plan including the owner’s contact details and complaint management procedures. The premises are also to include a small plaque or sign providing management contact details. Concerns regarding short stay can be directed to the City’s Compliance Services at info@fremantle.wa.gov.au or via the website customer portal.</p>
<p>Support for repeal and alignment with state framework was voiced 3 times. Respondents highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 2008 local law functioned effectively, providing clear rules for operators and minimising operational issues. - Repealing duplicate local laws is reasonable, but key operational controls should be retained 	<p>Requirements for STRA are regulated by the State, with some provisions related to Development Approvals further controlled by the City’s planning policy. All information can be found on the City’s website: Short term rental accommodation - City of Fremantle</p>



<p>through planning policy or development approvals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support expressed for repealing the existing local law, on the basis that it has been superseded by State STRA regulatory framework and that duplicative local regulation is unnecessary. - Hosted STRA arrangements should involve minimal regulatory intervention, provided they remain consistent with State requirements. 	<p>The Council can amend LPP 2.27 through the policy amendment process.</p>
<p>Clearer rules or limits on STRA operations was voiced 2 times. Respondents highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific operational controls suggested, such as minimum stay requirements or limits on the number of nights properties can be rented as short stay accommodation. - The two-night minimum stay requirement has been effective in limiting nuisance behaviour and maintaining neighbourhood amenity. - Aim should be to balance tourism benefits with reducing the intensity of STRA use in residential areas of Fremantle. - Current minimum stay requirement has contributed to low complaint levels and reduced nuisance behaviour, particularly preventing short-term party-style bookings. 	<p>A two-night stay restriction in the recently adopted LPP 2.27 was not proposed because the City wanted to stay flexible and issues were not largely voiced. Amendments to the policy can be made by Council if desired, through the amendment process.</p> <p>Officer’s note that some public comment was made in support of removing this restriction, on the basis of supporting tourism.</p>
<p>Economic and tourism considerations was voiced 2 times. Respondents highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concern that tighter restrictions on un-hosted STRA—such as limits on nights per year—could discourage property investment and negatively affect tourism accommodation supply. 	<p>As above.</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acknowledgement that the short-stay sector supports local tourism and visiting families, and policy changes should consider the economic role of the industry. - Industry stakeholders should be given adequate opportunity to provide feedback on any new policy framework. 	
<p>Fairness in regulation and rating treatment was voiced 1 time. The respondent highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerns regarding differential rates applied to STRA properties. Regulations and rating approaches should distinguish between occasional short-stay use and full-time STRA operations. 	<p>Differential rates are considered by Council as part of the Annual Budget and will be considered as part of the 2026 process.</p>
<p>Community consultation and neighbour input was voiced 1 time. The respondent highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Application process should be strengthened by requiring neighbour consultation or approval, particularly in strata complexes or properties with shared infrastructure, to ensure local residents can raise concerns early in the approval process. 	<p>Unhosted Short Stay Rental Accommodation (STRA) is classed as an A use, meaning the City must provide notice and consult for a minimum of 14 days before an approval can be given.</p>

Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting) No. 13

The responses captured during public consultation are summarised below into themes:

Community Comment	City Response
<p>Pedestrian access and footpath obstruction was voiced 2 times. Respondents highlighted the following:</p>	<p>Part 3 – Advertising Signs on Thoroughfares of the City of Fremantle Activities in Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2005 provides the City powers to control</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerns about A-frame signs, flags and other temporary signage cluttering Fremantle footpaths, especially in busy areas such as Market St and South Terrace and on weekends and special events. - Such signage creates barriers and obstructions for pedestrians, including wheelchair users and people with vision impairment. 	<p>obstructive signage on footpaths (and thoroughfares generally).</p> <p>Local Planning Policy 2.14 (Advertisement Policy) addresses signage on private property within the planning framework.</p> <p>The Litter Act 1979 provides control for authorised officers of the City to infringe for Bill Posting on any building, fence, furniture, pillar, post, screen, tree, structure, wall or other object on or adjacent to a public place unless the poster has the consent of the owner or occupier.</p>
<p>Visual clutter and streetscape character was voiced 1 time. The respondent highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Importance of ensuring that repealing the by-law does not weaken the City’s ability to manage visual clutter or unauthorised signage, particularly where signage can impact the character of Fremantle’s streetscapes. - Conditional support for repeal if equivalent controls and guidelines are maintained under other legislation or planning policies, including mechanisms to address unsafe or non-compliant signage. 	<p>As above.</p>
<p>Restrictions on public land signage was voiced 1 time. The respondent highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerns about the appropriateness of private advertising occupying shared public space. - Signage should not be placed on public land, particularly 	<p>LPP 2.14 (Advertisement Policy) provides controls for signage on private property. This policy can be amended by the Council as part of the policy amendment process if required.</p> <p>The City intends to review the Activities in Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2005 in</p>



temporary signage such as real estate signs.	the first half of 2026 and will consider this matter as part of the review.
--	---

Next step

No changes to the Repeal Local Laws are proposed following the close of submissions, as it mostly supported by the community. As discussed earlier in the report, the City intends to remain responsive to the concerns raised during public consultation through improving policy, local laws and internal procedures where necessary.

It is recommended that Council receive and consider submissions made and determine, by absolute majority, if it will make the Repeal Local Laws as proposed.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority Required



COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-14
(Officer's recommendation)

Moved: Cr Frank Mofflin

Seconded: Cr Geoff Graham

Council:

- 1. Considers the submissions received during the consultation period, as provided in Attachment 3, for the review of the Short Stay Accommodation Local Law 2008 and Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting) No.13 (Additional Information 4 and 5), in accordance with section 3.16 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and determines that the local laws be repealed.**
- 2. Considers the submissions received during the consultation period, as provided in Attachment 3, for the Short Stay Accommodation Repeal Local Law 2025 (Attachment 1), City of Fremantle Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting), No. 13 Repeal Local Law 2025 (Attachment 2), in accordance with section 3.12 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.**
- 3. Approves to make the City of Fremantle Short Stay Accommodation Repeal Local Law 2025 (Attachment 1) as proposed by Council on 26 November 2025 (C2512-14), the purpose and effect of which is as follows:**
 - Purpose: To repeal the City of Fremantle Short Stay Accommodation Local Law 2008**
 - Effect: To repeal an obsolete local law within the City of Fremantle.**
- 4. Approves to make the City of Fremantle Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting), No. 13 Repeal Local Law 2025 (Attachment 2), as proposed by Council on 26 November 2025 (C2512-14), the purpose and effect of which is as follows:**
 - Purpose: To repeal the City of Fremantle Local Government Model By-laws (Signs, Hoardings and Billposting), No.13.**
 - Effect: To repeal an obsolete local law within the City of Fremantle.**
- 5. Approves publication in the *Gazette* and notice to be given to the community and Department of Local Government in accordance with section 3.12 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.**



Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



Items approved en bloc

ITEMS APPROVED "EN BLOC"

The following items were adopted unopposed and without discussion "en bloc" as recommended.

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr Andrew Sullivan

Seconded: Cr Geoff Graham

The following items be adopted en bloc as recommended:

C2603-15 RFQ684-25 PROVISION OF TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES

C2603-16 PUBLIC ART STRATEGY

C2603-18 CHILD SAFE ORGANISATION COMMITMENT STATEMENT

**C2603-20 ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION
COUNCIL POLICY**

**C2603-21 ADOPTION OF THE LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION COUNCIL
POLICY**

C2603-22 REVIEW OF VARIOUS COUNCIL POLICIES

Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



C2603-15 RFQ684-25 PROVISION OF TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Meeting date:	25 March 2026
Responsible officer:	Manager Parks and Landscape
Voting requirements:	Simple Majority Required
Attachments:	1. CONFIDENTIAL - Qualitative Criteria Scoring Table 2. CONFIDENTIAL – Pricing Evaluation

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to consider quotation number RFQ684/25 Provision of Powerline Clearance Services for trees across the City of Fremantle.

This report recommends that Council accepts the tender submitted by Genus Environmental Pty. Ltd. in accordance with the tender evaluation undertaken as per the selection criteria included in the tender document.

BACKGROUND

The City of Fremantle is responsible for the management of street trees across the City. The management objective in regard to the City's urban forest is to preserve trees, control practices harmful to trees and avoid the removal of trees unless warranted under exceptional circumstance relating to public risk, safety or public works approved by Council.

The scope of works for RFQ684/25 Provision of Powerline Clearance Services is to prune trees growing adjacent to or under powerlines to provide the required clearance stipulated by the Office of Energy Safety. The service includes the following scope areas:

- Perform Western Power utility line(s) clearance.
- Living, dead and defective tree removals including stump removals. This may include removing stump waste and incorporating new tree soils.
- Standard and Emergency call outs.
- Tree part failures during normal work hours and as emergency call outs.
- Root pruning. Where specific root pruning may be required to address infrastructure damages and others.
- Debris pick up/processing. This may be piles of vegetation in need of mulching or stem part failures as required.
- All recycled tree mulch produced onsite from tree works is to be delivered to various locations within the City as directed by the Principal. (Palm mulch to be



removed from site by Contractor, cost recovery from the City can be made by providing copy of tip disposal fee and quantity).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The table below summarises the available budget and current expenditure for tree pruning works:

Budget Account	Account Description	25/26 FY Adopted Budget	25/26 FY Amended Budget	YTD Spend
100319-6510-1001-61123	100319 - Maintain Trees - Recreation Reserves - Contracts - General Contract Expense	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$114,091
100352-6510-1001-61123	100352 - Maintain trees - road reserves and carparks - General Contract Expense	\$490,000	\$640,000	\$453,102
Total per annum		\$605,000	\$755,000	\$567,193

There are two main Contracts which draw down from the budgets above. This scope of works relates almost entirely to 100352 - Maintain trees - road reserves and carparks - General Contract Expense account as the works are predominantly powerline tree clearance pruning within road reserves.

In the 2025/26 budget \$605,000 was adopted for tree pruning contractors to deliver works for the City. The City has been implementing the Urban Forest Plan over the past 9 years and the number of trees under management has increased significantly. Combined with rising industry costs, this has seen the allocated annual budget adjusted for CPI not meeting the requirements for tree pruning under power lines. An additional \$150,000 was added to the budget at midyear review to continue the service. Works will be prioritised and service levels adjusted accordingly to meet the allocated budget.

This service is ongoing and therefore a commitment to suitable budget provision for future years must be considered.



LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

In July 2025 FCC681/25 Provision of Utility Line Clearances was released to the open market (RFT) via public tender on tenderlink to encourage a range of suppliers were able to tender for the contract however no submissions were received.

Minor amendments were made to FCC681/25 and the tender was reissued via WALGAs VendorPanel as WFCC131/25 in August 2025, one submission was received. The recommendation from the evaluation panel was to decline all offers based on price and scope clarifications.

In accordance with Part 4, Division 2 Regulation 11 (2c) of the Regulations the City progressed to direct engagement with suppliers to quote for this contract under the same scope.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Liveable City - Sustainably designed and optimised urban and natural environments

- An increasing tree canopy that enhances biodiversity and helps cool our urban environments.

CONSULTATION

The City has a notification of works process included in the contract to advise residents of upcoming tree pruning works that may impact their property.

OFFICER COMMENT

Detail

Quotation RFQ684/25 Provision of Powerline Clearance Services was advertised on 16 December 2025 for 45 days and closed on 30 Jan 2026.



Essential details of the contract are outlined below:

Contract type	Schedule of Rates
Contract duration	2 years with 2, one year extension options available at the sole discretion of the Principal
Commencement date	1 April 2026
Completion date	31 March 2030

Tender evaluation

Quotation submissions were received from the following contractors and evaluated by the tender evaluation panel:

- Genus Environmental Pty Ltd ABN: 87 094 938 717

The tender evaluation panel establishes whether the tender submissions conform to the conditions for tendering and selects a suitably qualified and experienced contractor.

The tender evaluation panel comprised:

- Manager Parks and Landscape
- Team Leader Natural Areas and Urban Forest
- Senior Urban Forest Officer
- Engineering Team Leader
- Contracts Lead (non-voting).

Quoters were required to disclose information that might be relevant to an actual or potential conflict of interest and disclose if they had any relationship with City of Fremantle employees involved in the tender process. Members of the tender evaluation panel are required to disclose any actual or perceived interest with any of the quotations. No disclosures were made.

To obtain the broadest possible comparison base, the quotation was evaluated against the following tender selection criteria.

Item No	Description	Weighting
1	Relevant Experience, Key Personnel, Skills and Resources	50%
2	Demonstrated Understanding	40%
3	Sustainability and Local Economic Benefit	10%



In line with Procurement Policy and to support value-for-money outcomes, the evaluation panel assessed all submissions qualitatively prior to viewing pricing.

The quotation received from Genus Environmental Pty Ltd was conforming and scored 81.11 points.

The results of the qualitative evaluation and pricing for delivery of quotation number RFQ684/25 Provision of Powerline Clearance Services are shown in the Confidential Attachment.

An assessment was undertaken on the pricing and industry trends to ensure the City is getting value for money given only one response was received. The pricing provided is comparable to previously received rates from the industry.

Environmental considerations

Genus Environmental Pty Ltd utilise battery powered equipment. They will provide tree clipping mulch back to the City for reuse for operational programs and resident use, and recycle logs free of charge for nature play and park uses. The specifications also outlines measures to protect and preserve wildlife within trees during the undertaking of works.

Risk consideration

An assessment undertaken by Illion indicates that Genus Environmental Pty Ltd have the financial capacity to undertake the Contract.

There are no strategic or corporate risks within the City's existing risk registers which relate to the service.

References

The City has received references in respect to the recommended tenderer, as follows:

Reference 1 - Local Government

- Consistently performs to high standards, as directed and to AS4373-2007.
- Very responsive to emergency and urgent tasks.
- No identified personnel or contract issues.

Reference 2 - Local Government

- Very high quality of work and always completed to a high standard.



- Very responsive to call outs.
- No identified personnel or contract issues.

Comment

The tender received by Genus Environmental displayed the necessary experience in similar scope of works for the City and other Local Governments over an extended period of time. They demonstrated the methodology required to perform the works to a good standard for the City. Sustainability offered electric hand tools, mulch re-use and timber recycling for City use in parks and playgrounds.

Genus Environmental are the incumbent Contractor and have worked with the City since January 2026.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-15 **(Officer's recommendation)**

Moved: Cr Andrew Sullivan

Seconded: Cr Geoff Graham

Council:

- 1. Accept the tender from Genus Environmental Pty Ltd for quotation number RFQ684/25 Provision of Powerline Clearance Services at the rates tendered for a period of two years.**
- 2. Delegate Authority to the Chief Executive Officer to approve the option to extend the contract for up to two further years (one year plus one year), providing Genus Environmental Pty Ltd have performed satisfactorily in accordance with the terms of the contract.**

Carried en bloc: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



C2603-16 PUBLIC ART STRATEGY

Meeting date:	25 March 2026
Responsible officer:	Director Creative Arts and Community
Voting requirements:	Simple Majority Required
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Draft Public Art Strategy2. Public Art Strategy 2025 Engagement Report3. Draft Public Art Strategy Action Plan

SUMMARY

The purpose of the City of Fremantle Public Art Strategy 2025 – 2035, and accompanying Action Plan, is to provide a roadmap to embed public art deeper into the fabric of Walyalup | Fremantle, enriching its cultural life, amplifying diverse voices, and celebrating place through creative expression. The Strategy highlights a vision and five strategic objectives.

Vision:

To embed enriching, inclusive and meaningful public art throughout Walyalup | Fremantle – art that reflects place, honours diverse voices, and invites us into a shared experience of connection, creative curiosity and cultural exchange

Strategic objectives:

- **Celebrate, develop, deliver and care for the Public Art Collection, Monuments and Memorials**
- **Promote and deliver high calibre public art in new developments, including both developer-led and City-led initiative**
- **Develop and deliver programs to connect, engage and educate the public about the City’s art in the public realm**
- **Support artists and activate places through temporary and ephemeral art projects**
- **Advocate and strengthen governance, investment and sector development**

This report recommends that Council:

- 1. Adopt the Public Art Strategy 2025-2035**
- 2. Note the Public Art Consultation Report**
- 3. Note the Public Art Action Plan 2025-2030**



BACKGROUND

This Public Art Strategy sets out a clear direction for how public art will be delivered and supported across the City. It is both a roadmap and an invitation: a call to artists, creatives, communities, developers, partners — from both near and far — to work collectively in shaping a vibrant, inclusive and welcoming public realm.

Together, the Strategy and its Action Plan work in tandem: the Strategy sets the vision and strategic direction, while the Action Plan outlines the practical steps to bring it to life. This framework will guide how art in the public realm is supported, planned, commissioned and cared for across the City — ensuring a coordinated, inclusive and imaginative approach that keeps artists, place and community at its heart.

This Public Art Strategy does not sit in isolation. It is underpinned by the Arts, Culture and Creative Strategy 2024 – 2034 and informed by, and works with, a framework of interconnected internal strategies and plans. It is important to note that the Action Plan is operational and intended to be a living document reviewed regularly to adapt to new opportunities and developments in the community.

The City of Fremantle last adopted a Public Art Plan in 2012.

The strategic objectives convey the aspirations of the community identified through the engagement process conducted by the city in 2025.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is an existing annual, municipal operational budget for Public Art. Additional funds are gathered through the Local Planning Policy 2.19 - Contributions for Public Art and/or Heritage Works. Additional funding for major projects will be considered through the annual budget and long-term financial planning processes.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:



Creative City – 50,000 years of First Nations culture and heritage is recognised, celebrated and embraced

- Content creation and program delivery is driven by cultural leaders and First Nations artists.

Creative City – A diverse and resilient arts and culture community

- Emerging artists and creative businesses have access to capacity-building initiatives that incubate, support and grow their creative output.
- A diverse and expanding audience that trusts and engages in Fremantle's arts and culture offering.
- The matters contained in this report align to the intent of this theme's outcome.

Creative City – Industry-leading community arts facilities and programming

- Fremantle is recognised as an industry leader in arts programming, enhancing our strong reputation in the sector.
- The matters contained in this report align to the intent of this theme's outcome.

Inclusive City – Genuine and productive partnerships with members of the community

- The matters contained in this report align to the intent of this theme's outcome.

Creative City – 50,000 years of First Nations culture and heritage is recognised, celebrated and embraced

- A 'First Nations First' approach informs the design of our key programming areas.

CONSULTATION

The Public Art Strategy and Action Plan engagement program promoted the draft Strategy and Action Plan documents to the public and ensured artists, creatives, community and key stakeholders were offered the opportunity to share feedback, ideas and comments. This valuable input from individuals, groups, and organisations helped strengthen, refine and reflect the City's ambition and aspirations for art in the public realm over the next 10 years.

Throughout this public engagement program, the community was encouraged to:

- Review the draft Public Art Strategy, Action Plan, Key Documents and Frequently Asked Questions via the MySay project page.
- Contribute feedback, ideas and comments by completing the online survey.



- Provide a written submission or request a 1:1 or group meeting with a City Officer to discuss feedback.
- Attend the Public Art Walk event.

A detailed engagement report has been provided as an attachment to this item. A snapshot of the engagement program and key takeaways from the community feedback has been summarised below.

The City of Fremantle opened public engagement on the Public Art Strategy 2025-35 project on 6 November 2025 and collected submissions until close-of-business on 12 December 2025.

City officers promoted the public engagement period in the following ways:

Social Media

- The public engagement program for this project was mentioned on the City of Fremantle's Facebook page, as well as its Instagram profile throughout the lifespan of the submission period.

Local Media

- The public engagement program was advertised in the Fremantle Herald throughout the public engagement period.

Electronic Newsletters

- The Community Engagement team deployed a 'Just Launched' email newsletter announcing the opening of the public consultation period on 6 November 2025.
- The Community Engagement team advertised this project via its monthly engagement newsletter in November and December 2025. This email is deployed to over 4,500 people who are subscribed to hear engagement updates from the City of Fremantle.
- The project was also promoted in the City's Freo Weekly newsletter program which is deployed to over 3,500 people.

Direct Contact/Emails:

- City officers utilised stakeholder lists in the Creative Arts & Community teams to contact, socialise, promote and encourage artists, developers and other key organisations to submit their feedback on the project.
- These stakeholders were emailed directly and offered a chance to meet 1:1 with staff to discuss the project.



1:1 or Group Meetings:

- City officers conducted three 1:1 meetings with members of the community who requested the opportunity to discuss the project.

Public Art Walk Event:

- City officers from the Community Engagement and Creative Arts teams conducted a 1.5-hour Public Art Walk event on Friday 5 December. This in person engagement was attended by approximately 25 members of the community who requested the opportunity to view public art and discuss the project.

Key Takeaways from Engagement

- The public engagement program reached more than 725 people online
- 93% of survey respondents either support or somewhat support the Public Art Strategy 2025-35.
- Public Art Strategy viewed as a great vehicle to ensure cultural growth and ongoing artist support.
- Art in the public realm fosters local pride, ownership and belonging in Walyalup | Fremantle, and adds depth and interest to experiencing any place.
- Strong desire for site-responsive public art that reflects Fremantle's layered history, stories, landscapes and evolving identity; important not to oversimplify or permanently fix contested/differing cultural meanings.
- 89% of survey respondents consider the Guiding Priorities outlined in the Public Art Strategy to be very important or important.
- Support for more enduring art in public realm that visibly reshapes urban landscape long-term, and in neighbourhoods and areas not currently represented.
- Support for greater representation of First Nations, female and under-represented artists and subjects.
- Calls to ensure City cares for and maintains current collection of art in public realm.
- 85% of respondents consider City investment in opportunities for local and emerging artists either very important or important, and 78% consider it very important or important for residents and visitors to interact with public art by artists and creatives from outside the region.
- Desire to ensure City has clear mechanisms and delivery pathways that are transparent and inclusive, ensuring artists (early career, established, underrepresented) are at centre of policy and decision-making.



OFFICER COMMENT

The development of the Strategy and Action Plan included extensive research, an assessment of the public art collection, consultation with key community stakeholders and a review of the City's related policies.

The Strategy is a call to artists, community, and city-makers to co-create places of wonder and meaning. It recognises public art as a vital civic language — one that invites dialogue, inspires curiosity, and reflects who we are and who we are becoming. This Strategy sets the stage for Walyalup | Fremantle to continue leading with imagination, placing creativity at the heart of public life, and ensuring every artwork is an open door to connection, story and spirit.

Rooted in a deep respect for First Nations culture, grounded in contemporary practice, and inviting innovation, this Strategy champions public art that is thought-provoking, site-responsive, inclusive and alive to possibility. Some works will purposely challenge the public as part of a considered mix of accessible works.

This Public Art Strategy 2025-2035 aims to:

- Embed public art across Fremantle as an integral part of civic life, enriching cultural identity and ensuring artworks are accessible and inclusive for all.
- Celebrate and strengthen the City's existing public art collection, while addressing gaps such as First Nations representation, female artists, and suburban locations.
- Foster creativity, innovation and excellence by supporting artists, embracing new artforms, and encouraging experimentation and bold artistic expression.
- Connect and engage the community through education, public art trails, events, and participatory projects that build ownership and pride.
- Strengthen governance, investment and partnerships to ensure sustainable funding, best practice commissioning, and collaboration with developers, businesses and cultural organisations.

Looking toward the next five years key initiatives include:

- Deliver major First Nations artwork, Kaarl Boyak Naariny
- Develop a Public Art Trail for self-guided walking tour
- Provide public access to the Public Art Collection and art in public realm via the development of an online Public Art Trail
- Develop and manage the Public Art Fund to deliver public art commissions using City funds and developer contributions (cash-in-lieu)
- Encourage local businesses and other agencies to support public art projects to maximise opportunities across the City



This Strategy reinforces the City of Fremantle's commitment to strengthening its position as a national leader in the arts by creating and sustaining culturally vibrant places and spaces accessible by our community and visitors to Walyalup | Fremantle.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-16 **(Officer's recommendation)**

Moved: Cr Andrew Sullivan

Seconded: Cr Geoff Graham

Council:

- 1. Adopt the Public Art Strategy 2025-2035, as provided in Attachment 1; and**
- 2. Receive the Public Art Consultation Report, provided in Attachment 2, and note the Public Art Action Plan 2025-2030, provided in Attachment 3.**

Carried en bloc: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



C2603-18 CHILD SAFE ORGANISATION COMMITMENT STATEMENT

Meeting date: 25 March 2026
Responsible officer: Manager Community Development
Voting requirements: Simple Majority Required
Attachments: Nil

SUMMARY

In response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, the City of Fremantle has initiated a Child Safe Organisation Project to implement the Commission's recommendations and align with the 10 National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.

This report presents the City's *Statement of Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing* for Council consideration and adoption, a required milestone in progressing toward desktop audit and certification as a Child Safe Organisation.

BACKGROUND

The Royal Commission into the Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, began in 2012, with the final report published in 2019. This report included 409 recommendations, including specific recommendations for local governments (6.12). Following on from the Royal Commission, the 10 national principles have been endorsed by the Council of Australian Governments in February 2019, as per the commissioners' recommendations.

The final report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse provided recommendations for the development of State Government legislation requiring organisations, including local governments, to implement the 10 National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. Further State legislation is anticipated which will require local governments to undertake Child Safe Organisation audits and reporting. This is expected to be introduced within the ten-year implementation period recommended by the Royal Commission; therefore it is reasonable to expect legislation to be introduced before the conclusion of 2027. Additionally, the West Australian Government has appointed, the Ombudsman as the oversight body responsible for administering the Reportable Conduct Scheme. Under this scheme, the heads of Local Government and other organisations, are required to notify the Ombudsman of allegations or convictions relating to child abuse involving employees. The scheme also requires Local Governments to investigate and report on such matters in accordance with the *Parliamentary Commissioner Amendment (Reportable Conduct) Act 2022*.



A Child Safe Organisation is one that takes intentional actions to prevent children from abuse, harm and maltreatment supported through the organisational culture, policies, procedures and practices through implementing the 10 national principles. A Child Safe Organisation will embed a commitment to child safety and wellbeing, into every aspect of the organisation. Allowing the organisation to foster a culture in which children, staff, volunteers, contractors, elected members, and community members feel confident, supported and can safely disclose concerns regarding child safety or wellbeing.

The 10 National Principles, enable organisations to effectively review and develop child safe standards, while encompassing the recommendations from the royal commission. The 10 principles are underpinned by the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of a Child and will be used throughout the auditing process to ensure compliance for City wide policies, plans and procedures.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Adoption of the Statement of Commitment to being a Child Safe Organisation will create ongoing financial commitments for the City beyond 2025/2026 financial year. These are anticipated to include staff training, policy and procedure development, system updates and ongoing compliance monitoring as the City works toward full accreditation against Child Safe Standards.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse made several recommendations directly impacting Local Government Authorities. Of relevance are:

- **Recommendation 6.10** — Implementation of a state oversight body responsible for enforcing Child Safe Standards
- **Recommendation 6.12** — Local governments should operate as child safe organisations and appoint a dedicated Child Safety Officer

The Western Australian State Government has accepted these recommendations. While enabling legislation has not yet been enacted in Western Australia, both the WA Local Government Association and the State Government have indicated that legislation requiring local governments to actively uphold the 10 National Principles for Child Safe Organisations is anticipated prior to the end of 2027, consistent with the Royal Commission's 10-year implementation timeline.

Western Australian local governments are already subject to the Reportable Conduct Scheme, which establishes mandatory reporting obligations in relation to child sexual abuse and certain other conduct involving children. The adoption of a Child Safe Organisation framework builds upon and strengthens the City's existing obligations under this Scheme.



The City is not aware of any other legal implications arising from this report currently.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Inclusive City – A safe and accessible community for all abilities

- The matters contained in this report align to the intent of this theme's outcome.

Inclusive City – A welcoming and inclusive City for all members of community

- The City's services, programs and places are welcoming, safe, accessible, and affordable.

Inclusive City – A platform for engagement and participation for our youth and next generation of community leaders

- The matters contained in this report align to the intent of this theme's outcome.

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- Enable the City to maintain legislative compliance and accountability for organisational decision making.

CONSULTATION

Internal consultation has been undertaken across the organisation in developing the Child Safe Organisation Statement. A project team comprising representatives from each directorate has been established, with key stakeholder groups identified based on their operational contact with children. This includes People and Culture, Governance, Recreation Services, Community Development, Economic Development and Events, Arts, Library Services, Fremantle Leisure Centre, Parks and Landscapes, Strategic Planning and Projects, Customer Service, the Visitors Centre, and Walyalup Aboriginal Cultural Centre.

The Commitment Statement has been developed collaboratively with the wider project team and Governance and reviewed to ensure it reflects the City's legislative obligations, organisational values, and the diverse contexts in which staff and volunteers engage with children.

The Statement has also been reviewed by a child safety specialist and aligns with the requirements of Action 1.1 of National Principle One: *The organisation makes a public commitment to child safety.*



OFFICER COMMENT

The City of Fremantle has engaged Child Focused Safety to undertake a desktop audit and issue certification to the City as a Child Safe Organisation. The desktop audit is a practical and necessary step in preparing for child safe legislation specific to local government.

The audit process will result in a compliance scorecard, recommendations, and policy and procedure development, culminating in desktop certification. At the conclusion of the project, the City will have a Child Safe Organisation Plan, child-appropriate complaint systems, and strengthened recruitment processes for child-related roles.

Statement of Commitment

A prerequisite for the desktop audit is a public statement from the City committing to the 10 National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. The Statement of Commitment to being a Child Safe Organisation is presented in this report for adoption by Council.

Adoption of the Statement by Council fulfils Key Actions 1.1 and 1.2 of National Principle 1, which require organisations to make a public commitment to child safety and champion a child safe culture at all levels. The Statement will be published on the City's website and will sit alongside the Child Safe Organisation Plan once complete.

Project Timeline

The project progresses through the following phases:

- **Document collection** — Completed. All relevant City plans, policies and procedures have been collated for assessment against the 10 National Principles.
- **Desktop audit** — Scheduled for mid-March. Each document will be assessed for compliance, resulting in a scorecard and recommendations.
- **Compliance preparation** — April. Recommendations from the audit will be implemented, including policy and procedure development to address identified gaps.
- **Training** — Final phase. Scheduled for May-June. Tailored training will be delivered to Elected Members, the Executive Leadership Team, and relevant officers to build confidence in current and impending legal responsibilities, including the Reportable Conduct Scheme and Child Safe Organisation legislation. All remaining staff will complete an online induction and acknowledge the City's child safe commitments.



Council's adoption of the Statement of Commitment enables the City to progress to the next phase of the project and demonstrates organisational leadership in embedding a child safe culture across all services, facilities and community interactions

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-18 **(Officer's recommendation)**

Moved: Cr Andrew Sullivan

Seconded: Cr Geoff Graham

Council:

1. Adopt the following Statement of Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing:

The City of Fremantle is committed to the safety, wellbeing and participation of every child and young person who interacts with, accesses or is impacted by our services, facilities and community spaces; and is committed to support and empower every child and young person in our community by:

- actively listening to and value the voices of children and young people***
- engaging families and communities in shaping our child safe practices***
- maintaining safe environments in our services, programs and facilities***
- responding appropriately to concerns, disclosures or allegations involving children***
- continuously reviewing and improve our safeguarding policies, procedures and practices***
- publicly reporting on our progress in maintaining a child safe organisation.***

2. Approve the following guiding principles to support the City of Fremantle's Statement of Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing:

- The City of Fremantle is committed to the safety, wellbeing and participation of every child and young person who interacts with, accesses or is impacted by our services, facilities and community spaces.**



- **The City recognise that children and young people have the right to feel safe, valued, heard and respected. The City of Fremantle has zero tolerance for child abuse, harm or neglect in any form.**
- **This commitment reflects the findings of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and aligns with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, as well as emerging legislative requirements for local governments in Western Australia.**
- **The City acknowledge that some children face additional barriers to safety and participation. We are committed to creating culturally safe and inclusive environments for all children and young people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children with disability, children from diverse cultural backgrounds, and children who may be vulnerable or experiencing disadvantage.**
- **Guided by the City of Fremantle’s values of integrity, collaboration, inclusivity and making a difference, we commit to embedding a strong child safe culture across all levels of the organisation. This includes our elected members, employees, volunteers, contractors and partners, who share responsibility for safeguarding children and young people.**

Carried en bloc: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



C2603-20 ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION COUNCIL POLICY

Meeting date:	25 March 2026
Responsible officer:	Manager Community Development
Voting requirements:	Simple Majority Required
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Draft Council Policy - Community Infrastructure Provision2. Community Infrastructure Provision Guidelines 20263. City of Fremantle Reserve Register

SUMMARY

This report presents the Community Infrastructure Provision Policy for Council adoption. The Policy establishes a consistent framework for the provision, renewal, and funding of community infrastructure across land owned or managed by the City, ensuring equitable access to inclusive and functional public infrastructure. Supporting operational detail is set out in the Community Infrastructure Provision Guidelines and Reserve Register, both administered by the Chief Executive Officer.

BACKGROUND

The City owns and manages a significant portfolio of community infrastructure — including sporting reserves, changerooms, community halls, public toilets, coastal facilities, and playgrounds — without a single overarching policy framework to guide investment decisions. This has created inconsistency in what the City provides, how non-standard requests are assessed, and how renewal is prioritised.

The Community Infrastructure Provision Policy addresses this gap. It has been developed in alignment with the Community Sporting Reserve Plan and the Public Open Space Strategy 2024–2034 and is supported by the Community Infrastructure Provision Guidelines and Reserve Register administered by the Chief Executive Officer.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Policy does not create new unbudgeted financial commitments. Asset renewal funding is incorporated in the City's Long Term Financial Plan and Asset



Management Plans. The Policy provides the framework within which funding is directed, using Needs-based Planning and Responsible Provision principles to ensure investment aligns with local priorities and demand.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Liveable City - Sustainable growth in city centre population

- Infrastructure, services and facilities meet the needs of a growing residential population, and contribute to making the city centre a safe and desirable place to live.

Liveable City - Liveable and socially connected neighbourhoods

- Community participation is encouraged through spaces that enable social connection.

Liveable City - Sustainably designed and optimised urban and natural environments

- Urban development and public realm enhancement is coordinated, design-led, and sympathetic to surrounding natural environments.

Liveable City - Functional and inclusive recreational facilities

- Sporting clubs have access to facilities and greenspace that meet the needs of a broad range of sporting codes and skill levels.

Resilient City – A future-proofed asset base that remains functional and accessible to the community

- The City's facilities are functional and fit for purpose and contribute to improving community well-being.

CONSULTATION

The City will undertake stakeholder and community engagement on projects in accordance with the Community Engagement Policy.



OFFICER COMMENT

The Policy, Guidelines, and Reserve Register form a three-part framework for community infrastructure decision-making. Each document has a distinct role:

The **Policy** is the primary Council document. It establishes a framework guiding what infrastructure the City will provide, how provision levels are assigned and how non-standard requests are assessed. It applies to five infrastructure types: active reserves and sporting infrastructure, community facilities, stand-alone public toilets, coastal amenities, and play infrastructure.

The Policy applies a tiered Provision Framework with three levels — Basic, Standard, and Extended — assigned to each reserve or facility based on its function, catchment, and service role. The assigned level defines the maximum scope of City-funded infrastructure and informs all relevant investment, renewal, and maintenance decisions. Where a proposal seeks infrastructure beyond the assigned level, it requires demonstrated community need, a business case, identified funding, and Council approval.

The **Community Infrastructure Provision Guidelines** translate the Policy into operational detail across three chapters: active reserves and community facilities; public toilets and coastal amenities; and play. For each asset type they set out typologies, design principles, provision levels, material standards, and response to place guidance. They are administered by the Chief Executive Officer and can be updated as standards and community needs change, without requiring Council amendment.

The **Reserve Register** is the City's centralised record of all reserves under City ownership or management, capturing each reserve's classification, hierarchy, and assigned Provision Level. It serves as the primary planning reference for infrastructure investment decisions. The Register is administered by the Chief Executive Officer.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required



COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-20
(Officer's recommendation)

Moved: Cr Andrew Sullivan

Seconded: Cr Geoff Graham

Council:

- 1. Adopt the Community Infrastructure Provision Council Policy, as provided in Attachment 1; and**
- 2. Note that the Chief Executive Officer will administer the Community Infrastructure Provision Guidelines in Attachment 2; and Reserve Register in Attachment 3.**

Carried en bloc: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



C2603-21 ADOPTION OF THE LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION COUNCIL POLICY

Meeting date: 25 March 2026
Responsible officer: Director Creative Arts and Community
Voting requirements: Simple Majority Required
Attachments: 1. Draft Council Policy - Local History Collection

SUMMARY

The City of Fremantle Local History Collection exists to collect, preserve, manage, and make accessible materials that document the history of the City of Fremantle. The Collection serves as a permanent historical resource for the benefit of present and future community. It is maintained to the highest possible standard, within the limits of available resources, to ensure its long-term growth, preservation and accessibility.

The draft Council Policy establishes the criteria for the acquisition, de-accessioning, and access of items in the City of Fremantle Local History Collection.

This report recommends that Council adopt the Local History Collection Council Policy, provided in Attachment 1.

BACKGROUND

The Fremantle History Centre is a source of historical information on Fremantle and East Fremantle. The collection includes publications, photographs, oral histories, biographical files, newspapers, etc.

The City of Fremantle Local History Collection scope covers:

- a. Social, cultural and community life;
- b. Physical environment;
- c. Economic and industrial development;
- d. Political and civic activity; and
- e. Geographic and urban planning developments

The Local History service has operated since 1958 with the current physical site officially opened on 18 April 2024 at Walyalup Civic Centre. The service receives thousands of inquiries each year. The Centre enables the city to showcase parts of the collection throughout the year in the exhibition space and service public and staff requests by appointment or walk in.



Although managed through internal procedures, the City does not currently have a policy which confirms the Council’s criteria for the acquisition, de-accessioning, and access of items in the City of Fremantle Local History Collection.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle’s Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Thriving City - Partnerships and pathways for learning and education

- The matters contained in this report align to the intent of this theme's outcome.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OFFICER COMMENT

The objectives of the City of Fremantle Local History Centre are to:

- a. Collect materials that document the historical, social, political, geographic, and economic development of Fremantle, spanning from the earliest recorded information to the present day;
- b. Preserve and maintain appropriate archival standards including the storage, conservation, and protection to materials — including both physical and digital formats — to ensure long-term preservation; and
- c. Promote digital access and to make the collection accessible to residents, researchers, students, council officers, and the wider public, while protecting original materials.

The proposed policy establishes the criteria for the acquisition, de-accessioning, and access of items in the City of Fremantle Local History Collection and is provided in Attachment 1 for consideration.



VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-21 (Officer's recommendation)

Moved: Cr Andrew Sullivan

Seconded: Cr Geoff Graham

Council adopt the Local History Collection Council Policy, provided in Attachment 1.

Carried en bloc: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



C2603-22 REVIEW OF VARIOUS COUNCIL POLICIES

Meeting date:	25 March 2026
Responsible officer:	Manager Governance
Voting requirements:	Simple Majority Required
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Draft Amended Council Policy Civic Collections Policy2. Draft Amended Council Policy Flying of Flags3. Draft Amended Council Policy Granting and Exercising Freedom of Entry4. Draft Amended Council Policy Internal Groups5. Draft Amended Council Policy International Relations (previously Sister Cities)6. Draft Amended Council Policy Library and Information Service7. Council Policy - Recreation (to be revoked)8. Council Policy - Strategic Planning Framework (to be revoked)

SUMMARY

Various Council policies have been reviewed in line with the City's commitment to review City documents every four years, grouped together due to the impact of the proposed changes being administrative or minor in nature.

This report recommends that Council adopt the following amended Council Policies, as provided in the attachments:

- a. Civic collections**
- b. Flying of flags**
- c. Granting and exercising Freedom of Entry**
- d. Internal groups**
- e. International Relations**
- f. Library information services**

This report also recommends that Council revoke the following Council Policies:

- a. Recreation Council Policy**
- b. Strategic Planning Framework**

BACKGROUND

A key role of the Council is to make policies to guide its decision making, as specified in section 2.7 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

The City is committed to reviewing City documents (policy, plans, etc) every four years to ensure they reflect current operations and requirements. Variable factors



may influence these reviews to occur earlier than scheduled, such as changes in policy application required to achieve desired outcomes, or later than anticipated, such as prioritisation of resources to other projects or timing of contributing projects or legislation changes. The City have an internal procedure to support officers to achieve thorough reviews, avoiding a “tick box” approach and prioritising collaboration across the City, stakeholders, and the community where required.

The following Council policies don't require significant amendments or community consultation on the proposed amendments, and as such have been grouped in this report for consideration by Council. The following were last reviewed in 2021, apart from the International Relations Council Policy and Recreation Council Policy (2011).

- Civic collections
- Flying of flags
- Granting and exercising Freedom of Entry
- Internal groups
- International Relations
- Library and Information Service
- Recreation Council Policy
- Strategic Planning Framework

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

International Relations Council Policy (Sister Cities)

The international relations budget is adopted every financial year and considers planned and potential travel, known delegations visiting the City of Fremantle, sponsorship opportunities, and relevant events. The draft amended council policy requires that all expenditure of international relation funds are subject to the approval of Council, assessed in accordance with the policy.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Council policies establish principles to guide decision making, particularly in areas where legislation does not provide specific requirements for the City to follow.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- The matters contained in this report align to the intent of this theme's outcome.



CONSULTATION

Nil.

OFFICER COMMENT

The recommended amendments to the Council Policies are tracked within **Attachments 1-6**. The following table lists the proposed amendments and the justification for each.

Civic Collections (Attachment 1)	
Change	Reason
Amended part 1 "memorabilia collection" to remove inclusion of "related to sister cities activities".	Captured in "international, national and community relations" already in part 1.
Flying of Flags (Attachment 2)	
Change	Reason
Addition of part 5.3	Inclusion of an already followed procedure, to obtain CEO and Mayor approval to fly flags outside of a pre-approved occasion.
Addition of part 6 "communication with the community"	Where flags are flown at half-mast separate to pre-approved occasions, the City is to provide notice via socials and corporate website (unless inappropriate or already adequately communicated by the State or Federal Government).
Granting and Exercising 'Freedom of Entry' (Attachment 3)	
Change	Reason
Addition of part 2.1	Military units granted Freedom of Entry previously are to request approval to exercise Freedom of Entry thereafter to ensure the City is able to facilitate the event. Addition of clause provides clarity for the military unit.
Internal Groups (Attachment 4)	
Change	Reason
Addition of Technical Advisory Groups	Provides an option for Council or the CEO to form a Advisory Group.
Addition of part 1.3	To ensure Council guide the inclusion of external members, which can be influenced by officer recommendation



	as part of the terms of reference adoption process.
Addition of part 1.5	Inclusion of requirement for groups to report to Council regularly, which is already current practice.
Amended part 1.6	<p>Terms of reference for technical advisory, reference or liaison groups should be approached similarly to working groups, but due to the purpose of the group, can be formed by the CEO.</p> <p>Previously these groups were only formed by the CEO, but Council may decide to form this type of group, in consultation with the CEO.</p>
Addition of part 2	Provisions which clarify when and how a group member can be remunerated, and how administrative expenses are to be treated.
Amendments to Appendix 1	Administrative amendments to align with the current approach to internal group terms of reference.
International Relations (Attachment 5)	
Change	
	<p>The Sister Cities Council Policy was adopted in 1988, with the objective to promote international friendship, tourism, economic, cultural, educational, recreational and other beneficial exchanges. The current policy provides limited guidance on how to establish and maintain a sister city or friendship city relationship, and rather lists the sister cities at the time of policy adoption and the objectives of the relationships.</p> <p>The International Relations Working Group requested the Sister Cities Council Policy be reviewed and amended to provide clear criteria on establishing and maintaining these relationships, and guidelines for how the international relations budget can be spent including travel and sponsorship.</p>



	<p>In 2025 officers presented a draft copy of the amended policy for review and feedback to the Working Group. The Working Group requested minor changes to the draft and recommended the amended policy be brought to Council for consideration.</p> <p>The recommended amendments to the Council Policy are tracked within Attachment 1. Changes align with how the City of Fremantle has approached sister city relationships for many years, therefore considered minor in nature.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connection to the Strategic Community Plan Establishing a relationship which aligns with key themes in the Strategic Community Plan, which is the City’s most significant guiding document and establishes the community’s long-term aspirations and vision for Fremantle’s future, is fundamental.• Clear criteria for establishing and maintaining relationships The City of Fremantle, echoed by members of the working group, is committed to fostering, appreciating, and creating awareness of the traditions, customs, and culture of Fremantle, and those of cities/regions with a connection to Fremantle through a formal or informal relationship. Specific outcomes to achieve as part of the relationship are listed to guide establishment and maintenance of the relationships, these include cultural/social, economic, educational, and environmental.
--	---



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions for relationship types Depending on the level of engagement and commitment expected from both parties, there are different relationship types which can be entered into. The hierarchy of Sister City to Friendship City is important to guide interaction and outcomes. • An updated list of existing relationships • Since the council policy’s adoption in 1988, the City of Fremantle now has an additional 6 international relationships. This relationship table should be amended as relationships are entered into or terminated, without requiring an approved amendment to the policy, to improve document currency. • Clear guidelines for expenditure Providing clear provisions for use of expenditure for international relations activities.
Library and Information Service (Attachment 6)	
Change	
Statement amended	Expanded the library and information service purpose and offering, consistent with current operations.

The following Council Policies are proposed to be revoked:

- **Recreation Council Policy (Attachment 7)**
The Active Reserves Council Policy, Public Open Spaces Strategy, and Community Sporting Reserves Plan replace this policy, in its current form. The City intend to introduce a new Recreation Council Policy in 2027, but until the review can be completed, the policy is causing confusion as the content is not current.
- **Strategic Planning Framework (Attachment 8)**
This policy is recommended for revocation as it no longer provides operational value and largely duplicates requirements already prescribed under the *Local*



Government Act 1995 and the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996. The policy primarily restates the City's statutory obligations relating to Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements, which are already addressed through the City's Corporate Planning Framework and Document Management Administration Policy. As such, this policy is no longer required.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-22 **(Officer's recommendation)**

Moved: Cr Andrew Sullivan

Seconded: Cr Geoff Graham

Council:

- 1. Adopt the following amended Council policies, as provided in the Attachments:**
 - a. Civic collections**
 - b. Flying of flags**
 - c. Granting and exercising Freedom of Entry**
 - d. Internal groups**
 - e. International Relations**
 - f. Library and Information Service**
- 2. Approve to revoke the following Council policies, as provided in the Attachments:**
 - a. Recreation**
 - b. Strategic Planning Framework**

Carried en bloc: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorsen**

Against:

Nil



Statutory reports

C2603-23 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS FEBRUARY 2026

Meeting date:	25 March 2026
Responsible officer:	Director City Business
Voting requirements:	Simple Majority Required
Attachments:	1. Investment Report - Feb 2026

SUMMARY

This report outlines the investment of surplus funds for the month ending 28 February 2026 and provides information on these investments for Council consideration.

This report recommends that Council receive the Investment Report for the month ending 28 February 2026, as provided in Attachment 1.

The investment report provides a snapshot of the City's investment portfolio and includes information as at months ending 28 February 2026 in relation to:

- **Portfolio details;**
- **Portfolio credit framework;**
- **Portfolio liquidity;**
- **Portfolio fossil fuel summary;**
- **Interest income; and**
- **Investing activities.**

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the Investment Policy adopted by Council, the City of Fremantle invests its surplus funds, long term cash, current assets and other funds in authorised investments as outlined in the policy.

Due to timing differences between receiving revenue and the expenditure of funds, surplus funds may be held by the City for a period of time. To maximise returns and maintain a low level of credit risk, the City invests these funds into appropriately rated and liquid investments, until the City requires the money for operational expenditure.

The City's investment policy seeks to limit investments in financial institutions which support, either directly or indirectly, fossil fuel companies, while balancing



compliance with the Investment Policy, and achieving a suitable return on those investments.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Investment interest earned year to date is \$1.72m against a full year budget of \$1.85m. Interest earnings year to date are higher than YTD budget by \$0.48m with \$0.2m being earned in February 2026. The strong investment performance is due to the attractive interest rates in the current market.

Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) increased the cash rate by 25 basis points to 3.85% at its February 2026 meeting, reflecting concerns that inflationary pressures had strengthened and economic demand remained resilient. Recent data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) shows annual CPI inflation rising to 3.8%, up from 3.4% in November, indicating broad-based price pressures, particularly in housing and electricity. These developments have reduced market expectations of further rate cuts in the near term. Current forecasts suggest interest rates may remain elevated through 2026, with some economists expecting the cash rate to stay around current levels or potentially increase modestly if inflation persists.

The City's investment portfolio is invested in highly secure investments with a low level of risk yielding a weighted average rate of return of 4.30% for the month of February 2026. The City's actual portfolio return in the last 12 months is 3.94%, comparing on par with the benchmark Bloomberg AusBond Bill Index reference rate of 3.83% (refer to Attachment 1 point 8).

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The following legislation is relevant to this report:

- *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* Regulation 19 – Management of Investments; and
- *Trustee Act 1962* (Part 3)

Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions are authorised under the *Banking Act 1959* and are subject to Prudential Standards which are overviewed by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA).



STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- Support the City through financial, procurement and revenue functions whilst ensuring legislative compliance and providing excellent customer service.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OFFICER COMMENT

The City's Investment Portfolio Manager has provided comprehensive Investment Reports for the months ending February 2026 which can be viewed in the Attachments. A summary of the investment reports is provided below.

1. Portfolio Details

As at 28 February 2026 the City's investment portfolio totalled \$61.48m. The market value of this investment was \$62.28m at that time, which takes into account accrued interest.

The investment portfolio is made up of:

Cash Investments (<= 3 months)	\$8.28m
Term Deposits (> 3 months)	\$53.20m
TOTAL	\$61.48m

Of which:

Unrestricted cash	\$43.75m
Restricted cash (Reserve Funds)	\$17.73m
TOTAL	\$61.48m

The current amount of \$43.75m held as unrestricted cash represents 40.05% of the total adopted budget for operating revenue \$109.23m.



2. Portfolio Credit Framework

The City’s Investment policy determines the maximum amount to be invested in any one Tier, or any one financial institution within a Tier, based on the credit rating of the financial institution. Council adopted amendments to this policy at its Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 November 2020, and the current adopted Counterparty Credit Framework is noted below.

Portfolio Credit Framework limits

The Portfolio Credit Framework limits prescribe the limit of investments that may be made within any Tier of financial institutions. The maximum allocation to be invested in each Tier, and the City’s actual investment allocation in those Tiers as at 28 February 2026 shows that the distribution of the City’s investments across the four Tiers is compliant with the City’s investment policy.

Tier	Allocation	Allocation %	Maximum Allocation %	% Used of Maximum Allocation	% Available of Maximum Allocation	% Exceeded of Maximum Allocation
Tier 1	44,477,093.76	72.35%	100.00%	72.35%	27.65%	0.00%
Tier 2	11,000,032.68	17.89%	60.00%	29.82%	70.18%	0.00%
Tier 3	6,000,000.00	9.76%	35.00%	27.89%	72.11%	0.00%
Tier 4	0.00	0.00%	15.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
	61,477,126.44					

Values used in the above calculations exclude interest for term deposits and other simple interest securities.

Within each Tier, the Counterparty Credit Framework limits prescribe the limit of investments that may be made with any one financial institution. The maximum percentage of investments to be held with any one financial institution, within a given Tier, are outlined below.

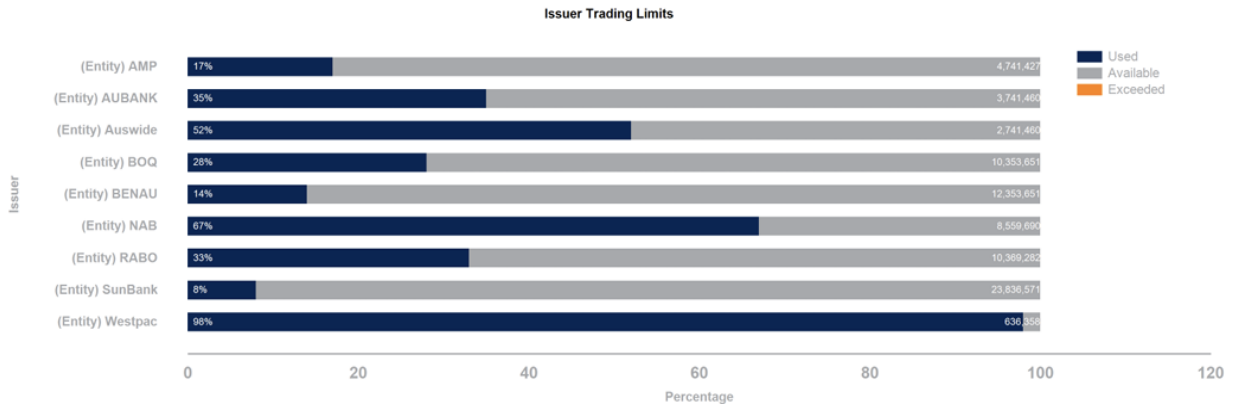
Counterparty credit framework

Investments are not to exceed the following percentages of average annual funds invested with any one financial institution and consideration should be given to the relationship between credit rating and interest rate.

Credit quality	Maximum % of total investments
Tier 1 (excl. AAA government) AAA to AA-	45%
Tier 2 A+ to A-	25%
Tier 3 BBB+ to BBB-	10%
Tier 4 Unrated	(\$1m)



The City’s funds invested as at 28 February 2026 relative to the Counterparty Credit Framework limits were as follows:



As shown in the above graph, the portfolio was compliant with the issuer trading limit.

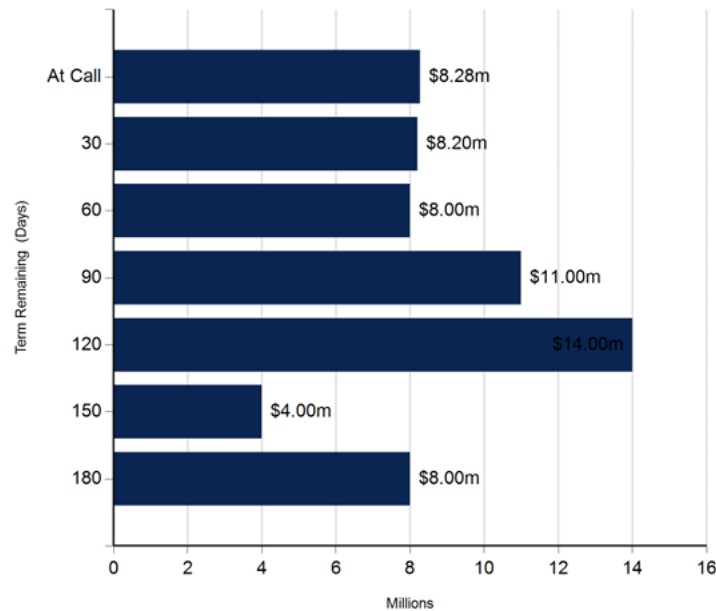
3. Portfolio Liquidity Indicator

The City’s investments are to be made in a manner to ensure sufficient liquidity to meet all reasonably anticipated cash flow requirements, without incurring significant costs due to the unanticipated sale of an investment.

The below graph provides details on the maturity timing of the City’s investment portfolio as at 28 February 2026. Currently, all investments will mature in one year or less.



Face Value by Term Remaining



4. Portfolio Summary by Fossil Fuels Lending Authorised Deposit-Taking Institutions (ADIs)

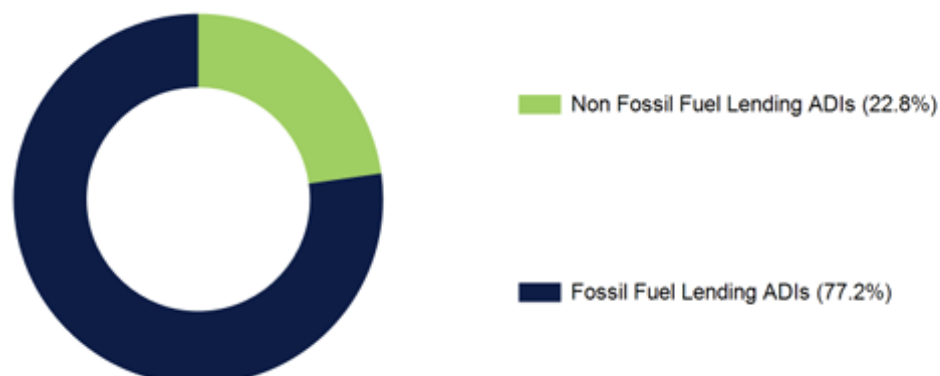
To support the City’s ability to undertake greater fossil fuel divestment, a review of the Investment Policy was presented and adopted by Council on 25 November 2020 which incorporated a minor change to the investment framework to increase the percentages allocated to Tier 3 and Tier 4 categories, allowing greater flexibility.

Since December 2020 investments have been made in accordance with the revised policy to increase the percentage invested in “Green Investments”; being ADIs that do not lend to industries engaged in the exploration for, or production of, fossil fuels (Non-Fossil Fuel Lending ADIs).

As at 28 February 2026, \$14m (22.8%) of the City’s portfolio was invested in “Green Investments”.



**Fossil Fuel vs
Non Fossil Fuel
Lending ADI**



Refer to Attachment 1 (Note 7) for details on which financial institutions these investments are held in.

Noting the decrease in non-fossil fuel lending ADIs, this was due to a number of green investments maturing during the prior reporting period with additional re-investments yet to be finalised before the end of current reporting period. Two key green investments have been finalised recently and will appear in the next reporting period, increasing the current percentage of non-fossil fuel ADIs.

Management of Financial Stability Risks

The City regularly reviews risks associated with the financial stability of the Australian and global financial system. Based on the current assessment the City implements the following investment strategies:

1. Diversify investment portfolio across different banks - continue to prioritise higher rated banks (Tier 1 & 2) when it comes to investment activity. If a non-fossil fuel lender is providing competitive rates that will generate a suitable return, and fall within a tier 1 or 2 category, these lenders will be prioritised.
2. Implement risk management strategies to protect the investment portfolio against downside risks - The City will prioritise low risk investment activity across higher tier banks in order to limit the City's exposure to the risk being faced across the sector.
3. Regular review and rebalance of investment portfolio to ensure alignment with the investment goals, risk tolerance and market conditions.

5. Interest Income for Matured Investments

Per Attachment 1 (Note 9), interest income earned during February 2026 from matured investments was \$123k.



6. Investing Activities

There were 2 new term deposits totalling \$11m. Full details of the Institutions invested in, interest rates, number of days and maturity date for investments held as at 28 February 2026 are provided in Attachment 1 (Note 10).

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-23 (Officer's recommendation)

Moved: Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong

Seconded: Cr Frank Mofflin

Council receive the Investment Report for the month ending 28 February 2026 as provided in Attachment 1.

Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



C2603-24 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS FEBRUARY 2026

Meeting date:	25 March 2026
Responsible officer:	Director City Business
Voting requirements:	Simple Majority Required
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Schedule of Payments and Listings - February 20262. Purchase Card Transactions Report - February 20263. Summary of Payments and Listings - February 2026

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present to Council a list of accounts paid by the Chief Executive Officer under delegated authority for the month ending 28 February 2026 as required by the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

This report recommends that Council accept the list of payments made under delegated authority and accept the detailed transaction listing of Purchase Card expenditure.

BACKGROUND

Council has delegated, to the Chief Executive Officer, the exercise of its power to make payments from the City's municipal or trust fund. In accordance with regulation 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, a list of accounts paid under delegation for the month of 28 February 2026 is provided within Attachments 1 and 2.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A total of \$7,779,764.75 in payments were made in the month of February 2026, from the City's municipal and trust fund accounts.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Regulation 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* states:

13. *Payments from municipal fund or trust fund by CEO, CEO's duties as to etc.*
 - (1) *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 showing for each account paid since the last such list was prepared —*



- (a) *the payee's name; and*
 - (b) *the amount of the payment; and*
 - (c) *the date of the payment; and*
 - (d) *sufficient information to identify the transaction.*
- (2) *A list of accounts for approval to be paid is to be prepared each month showing*
- (a) *for each account which requires council authorisation in that month*
 -
 - (i) *the payee's name;*
 - (ii) *the amount of the payment; and*
 - (iii) *sufficient information to identify the transaction; and*
 - (b) *the date of the meeting of the council to which the list is to be presented.*
- (3) *A list prepared under sub-regulation (1) or (2) is to be —*
- (a) *presented to the council at the next ordinary meeting of the council after the list is prepared; and*
 - (b) *recorded in the minutes of that meeting.*

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- Support the City through financial, procurement and revenue functions whilst ensuring legislative compliance and providing excellent customer service.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OFFICER COMMENT

The following table summarises the payments for the month ending 28 February 2026 by payment type:

<i>Payment Type</i>	<i>Amount (\$)</i>
<i>Cheque / EFT / Direct Debit/International Payments</i>	<i>4,789,243.53</i>
<i>Purchase card transactions</i>	<i>41,770.52</i>
<i>Salary / Wages / Superannuation</i>	<i>2,948,750.70</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$7,779,764.75</i>



Attachment 1 provides a detailed listing of the payments by Cheque, EFT and Direct Debit, while Attachment 2 provides a detailed listing of Purchase Card transactions for the month ending 28 February 2026.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-24 **(Officer's recommendation)**

Moved: Cr Geoff Graham

Seconded: Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong

Council:

- 1. Accept the list of payments made under delegated authority, totalling \$4,789,243.53 for the month ending 28 February 2026 including the Cheque /EFT/ Direct Debits/ International Payments as contained within Attachment 1.**
- 2. Accept the detailed transaction listing of Purchase Card expenditure, totalling \$41,770.52 for the month ending 28 February 2026, as contained within Attachment 2.**
- 3. Accept the Salary / Wages / Superannuation payments made under delegated authority, totalling \$2,948,750.70 for the month ending 28 February 2026 as contained within Attachment 3.**

Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorsen**

Against:

Nil



C2603-25 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FEBRUARY 2026

Meeting date: 25 March 2026
Responsible officer: Director City Business
Voting requirements: Simple Majority Required
Attachments: 1. Monthly Financial Report - Feb 2026

SUMMARY

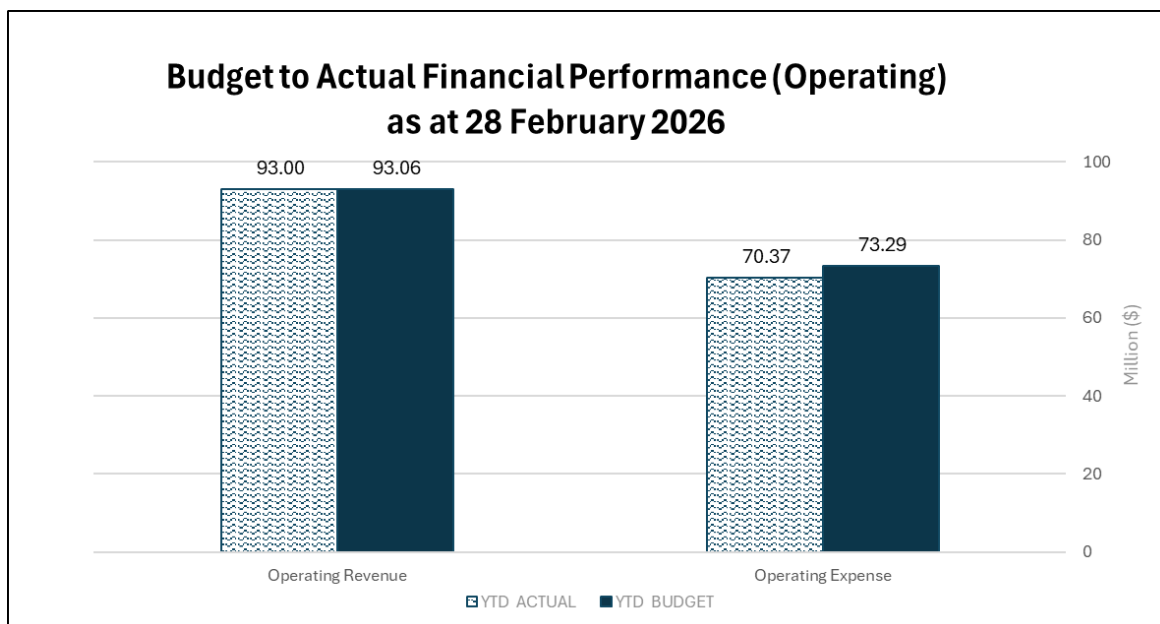
The monthly financial report for the period ending 28 February 2026 has been prepared and tabled in accordance with the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

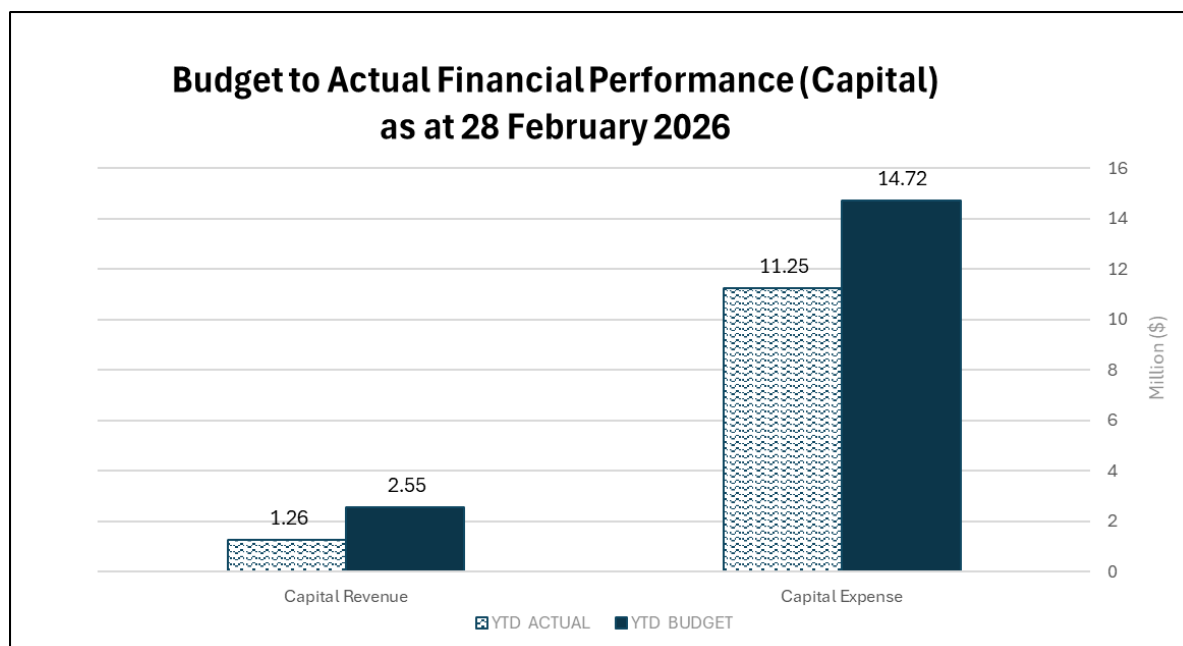
This report provides an analysis of financial performance up to 28 February 2026 based on the following statements:

- Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature;
- Statement of Financial Activity by Nature and by Directorate; and
- Statement of Financial Position with Net Current Assets.

BACKGROUND

The following charts and table provide a high-level summary of the Council’s year to date financial performance as at 28 February 2026.





STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY – BY NATURE FOR THE PERIOD TO 28 FEBRUARY 2026

The table provides a variance summary of the operating revenue and expenses for the Statement of Financial Activity by Nature, to 28 February 2026. The detailed Statement can be found in the attached Monthly Financial Report.

Description	YTD Adopted Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	Variance \$	Variance %
Operating Revenue				
Rates	67,538,194	66,719,929	(818,265)	(1.21%)
Service Charges	1,808,804	1,876,376	67,572	3.74%
Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	2,862,184	2,566,147	(296,037)	(10.34%)
Fees and Charges	17,771,097	18,001,161	230,064	1.29%
Interest Earnings	1,772,000	2,282,971	510,971	28.84%
Other Income	1,306,688	1,526,023	219,335	16.79%
Total	93,058,967	92,972,608	(86,359)	(0.09%)
Operating Expenses				
Employee Costs	(34,128,212)	(31,862,241)	2,265,971	6.64%



Materials and Contracts	(21,177,330)	(21,227,458)	(50,128)	(0.24%)
Depreciation	(14,390,594)	(13,934,598)	455,996	3.17%
Interest Expenses	(235,391)	(247,049)	(11,658)	(4.95%)
Utility Charges	(1,640,848)	(1,329,027)	311,821	19.00%
Insurance Expenses	(830,856)	(746,870)	83,986	10.11%
Other Expenditure	(888,832)	(974,397)	(85,565)	(9.63%)
Total	(73,292,063)	(70,321,641)	2,970,422	4.05%

Further explanation of material variances can be found within the Officer's Comment section of this report.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - FOR THE PERIOD TO 28 FEBRUARY 2026

The detailed Statement can be found in the attached Monthly Financial Report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report is provided to enable Council to assess how revenue and expenditure are tracking against budget, and to identify any material variances of which the Council should be informed.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 34 requires a monthly financial activity statement and an explanation of any material variances to be prepared and presented to an Ordinary Council meeting within 2 months after the end of the relevant month.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 35 requires a monthly statement of financial position to be prepared and presented to an Ordinary Council meeting within 2 months after the end of the previous month.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:



Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- Support the City through financial, procurement and revenue functions whilst ensuring legislative compliance and providing excellent customer service.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OFFICER COMMENT

Summary of financial performance

As at the end of February 2026, the City demonstrated strong financial performance with a closing funding position of \$37.10m.

In summary, as at the end of February 2026, the current closing position exceeds the YTD amended budget by \$5.70m.

This is mainly due to favourable variances against the year-to-date budget across the following areas:

- Fees and charges of \$0.23m;
- Interest earnings of \$0.51m;
- Employee costs of \$2.27m;
- Depreciation of \$0.46m;
- Utility charges \$0.31m;
- Capital expenditure of \$3.47m;
- Increased carry forward funds from the 2024/25 financial year of \$1.22m;

These favourable variances are offset by:

- General rates of \$0.82m behind YTD Budget;
- Operating grants, Subsidies and Contributions of \$0.30m behind budget;
- Capital revenue \$1.30m behind YTD budget.

Explanation of Material Variances & YTD Performance

In accordance with regulation 34(5) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 and AASB 1031 Materiality, Council adopted the level to be used in Statements of Financial Activity by Nature in the 2025-26



financial year for reporting material variances as 10% together with the minimum value of \$100,000 (Refer Item C2506-13 from Council meeting on 25 June 2025).

The material variance thresholds are adopted annually by Council and indicate whether actual expenditure or revenue varies materially from the year-to-date budget. The following is an explanation of significant operating and capital variances to budget as identified in the Statements of Financial Activity by Nature.

Building on the favourable opening net position for the year, the following items explain the City’s major variances in operating performance for this financial year, as highlighted in the year-to-date Financial Activity Statement as at 28 February 2026:

Description	Variance Amount (\$)	Comment
Grants, subsidies and contributions	(296,037)	▼ (10.34%)
Major Variances:		
Receive general purpose grants and contributions	(510,685)	Timing: awaiting payment of second instalment for 25/26.
Operate Fremantle arts centre	(361,725)	Timing: awaiting payment of second instalment.
Design and construct - Green linkage projects	224,718	Timing: Forward works undertaken in readiness for planting winter 2026. Grant income recognised earlier in line with expenditure.
Provide legal aid - Baseline	198,678	Received grant income earlier than anticipated.
Maintain roads	135,337	Received grant income earlier than anticipated.
Interest earnings	510,971	▲ 28.84%
Major Variances:		
Receive investment income	412,200	Favourable interest rates have resulted in higher than expected interest earnings.
Other revenue	219,335	▲ 16.79%
Major Variances:		



Containers for change WARRRL scheme EFT GST	121,192	Unbudgeted recognition of Income as required by ATO. Offset by matching expenditure.
Conduct South lawn events	40,143	Unbudgeted reimbursement for event costs.
Utilities	311,821	▲ 19.00%
Major Variances:		
Contribute to public street lighting	171,097	Timing of invoices. Adjusted in budget review.
Operate Fremantle Leisure centre	30,863	
Maintain Hard Landscaping	43,565	
Capital grants, subsidies and contributions	(1,248,645)	▼ (50.90%)
Major Variances:		
Design and construct - Arts Centre Creative Hub	(730,400)	Grant milestone payment dates revised.
Program - R2R Works	(317,066)	Awaiting payment. R2R projects are complete.
Bathers Beach - Safe Swimming Area	(224,767)	The City is in the process of acquitting the project and receiving the Grant from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.
Payments for investment properties	515,296	▲ 29.09%
Major Variances:		
Design and construct - Arts Centre Creative Hub	603,351	Project contracted. Works to commence March.
Tenancy Fitout	(135,697)	Landlord contributions for Level 3 tenancies – adjusted as part of budget review.
Payments for construction of infrastructure	2,852,065	▲ 38.97%
Major Variances:		
Walyalup Koort Public Realm - Public Artwork	484,069	Progressing to final contracting stages, contract to commence before June 2026.



Road safety - Low-cost urban road safety upgrades	440,565	Scope of work increased to include Stevens St. The project has been rescheduled and is now expected to be delivered by May.
Program - Irrigation	436,972	Gilbert Fraser irrigation spend to be rephased based on tank location Council decision.
Ken Allen Reserve Sports Lighting Upgrade	287,913	Some delays to the project due to unfavourable geotechnical discoveries during delivery.
Program - MRRG Works	266,575	Projects were rescheduled due to delays from MRWA in approving variations.
Hilton Park Master Plan - Northern Projects	213,426	Procurement delays to progress detailed design phase. Expression Of Interest is currently advertised.
Program - Playgrounds	205,163	Invoice timing variance for Parmelia Park and Plane Tree Grove playgrounds.
Program - Street Lighting	153,839	Procurement stage impacted by long lead times for material orders.
Douro Road Traffic Calming and Design Program	80,000	Construction delayed allowing for community consultation.

Accounting methods

The City manages its finances in line with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1995*, associated regulations and Australian accounting standards.

The City carries out accounting on both an accrual basis and a cash basis.

Accrual accounting requires accounting transactions to be recognised and recorded when they occur, regardless of whether payment/receipt has been made at that time, in accordance with the Australian Accounting standards.

The City accounts for Rates, Service Charges, Interest income on term deposits, Insurance expenses and Interest expenses on borrowings (loans) & leases on an accrual basis.



The remainder of income and expenditure items are recognised and recorded at the period they are encountered.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-25 **(Officer's recommendation)**

Moved: Cr Melanie Clark

Seconded: Cr Frank Mofflin

Council receive the Monthly Financial Reports, as provided in Attachment 1, including the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Activity, Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Net Current Assets, for the period ended 28 February 2026.

Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



Committee and working group reports

C2603-26 WORKING GROUP INFORMATION REPORT

1. NORTH FREMANTLE PLAN WORKING GROUP

WG meeting date:	4 March 2026
WG Chair:	Cr Ingrid van Dorssen
Responsible officer:	Manager City Design
Attachments:	1. Minutes - North Fremantle Plan Working Group - 4 March 2026

Community engagement feedback was presented, showing broad support for Options 2 and 3 and strong opposition to Option 1 (the 4-lane Curtin Link flyover). Concept scenarios were discussed, with the group expressing general support for the overall direction of the project.

Concern was raised about coastal setback alignment indicated within the plans and recommended that this be addressed in future material presented.

On transport planning for Curtin Avenue – Working Group discussed an additional scenario where Curtin Avenue bends earlier into the peninsula (around the existing freight corridor) allowing two separate access points into the port redevelopment zone – and a significant precinct amenity near the proposed train station.

On the State Government engagement aspect of this project, the City noted that so far there had been limited options discussed by government agencies, besides the Curtin Link flyover.

Officers updated the Working Group on the proposal to develop a City-led North Fremantle Integrated Transport Strategy to enhance, test and model the scenarios developed through the City Plan, complementing the strategic urban design work with traffic data and modelling expertise.

The group agreed that officers would prepare a more detailed Report to Council in April covering community engagement outcomes, draft concept scenarios, transport study updates, and advocacy, noting the next Working Group meeting is scheduled for 6 May 2026.



2. DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP

WG meeting date:	25 February 2026
WG Chair:	Linda Wayman
Responsible officer:	Manager Economic Development and Events
Attachments:	1. Minutes - Destination Development Working Group – 25 February 2026

The DDWG discussed current focus areas and initiatives being delivered as part of the City's Economic Development Strategy. City Officers provided updates on current marketing initiatives including the 50 Ways to Freo Campaign and associated small business grants program. DDWG members provided feedback on approaches to pivoting the This is Fremantle brand towards an investment attraction proposition whilst still maintaining the momentum it has built in the tourism space.

3. WALYALUP RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN 2024-27 WORKING GROUP

WG meeting date:	24 February 2026
WG Chair:	Brendan Moore, Senior Aboriginal Engagement Officer
Responsible officer:	Manager Community Development
Attachments:	Nil

WRAP Meeting Overview

Opening and Acknowledgments

The meeting opened with a Welcome to Country by a WRAP Working Group Elder. A minute of silence was observed to remember those who have passed away.

Standing WRAP Update

The chair reported on the positive progress of WRAP, noting that 17 actions and 95 deliverables are currently underway. Highlights include nominations to the WRAP Working Group, recent meetings with Reconciliation Australia and discussions with the Whadjuk Aboriginal Corporation on treaty.

Truth-Telling Program & FOCUS First Nation Films

The Events Producer – Truth-Telling, led reflections on the FOCUS First Nation Films Event, which received a total attendance of 600 people across the weekend and was safe, respectful and well received. The Walyalup Oration, delivered by Thomas Mayo, had 200 attendees, and was broadcast nationally and internationally via Radio National's Big Ideas program. The Truth-Telling Online Resource Hub was Launched.

Plans for the Backyard Truth-Telling program were outlined, with storytelling workshops facilitated by Ron Bradfield Jnr launching from 7 March. Strong support was shown from the group towards an approach that distils a historical theme,



while inviting participants to share person truths connected to Walyalup. Proposed venues include Walyalup Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Samson House, Randwick Stables and an Anglicare site on Stirling Street.

Noongar Road Naming

The Chair provided an update on the Noongar Road Naming List, acknowledging that it had been passed through the WRAP Working Group in 2022, representing the necessary reference group endorsement for naming local streets. The Chair confirmed intent to clarify which name was removed from the original list of 22, explain why it was removed, and submit a final list of 21 Noongar road names to Landgate via council.

Stirling Street was identified as a street to potentially rename, given the fact that it has been named after Captain James Stirling, who was officially recognized by the Governor of Western Australia as having led a massacre of Noongar Pinjareb people. A Working Group member expressed that changing the name would help restore a sense of belonging to the Noongar community. A majority of the group (7-1) voted to investigate the potential renaming through a formal submission to Landgate.

Action: The Chair to raise this project with the Executive Leadership Team and investigate any financial and other planning requirements, including community consultation with key stakeholders, before submitting any official application to Landgate.

Kambarang Careers

Jeannie Jones, Acting Manager of Enhanced Aboriginal Engagement at South Metro TAFE provided an update on the Kambarang Careers collaboration with Walyalup Aboriginal Cultural Centre. Kambarang Careers aims to bring together employers and job seekers to address the gaps in First Nations employment. Monthly planning meetings have been scheduled for the collaboration, and the preparation of communications for schools and vendors is underway. An invitation was extended to WRAP Working Group Members to attend an Elder tour of the South Metro TAFE Jobs and Skills Centre in Fremantle.

New Member Nominations

The group considered nominations for the two vacancies for Aboriginal Elders. Under the Terms of Reference, nominations are brought to the Working Group, with a recommendation forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer for ratification. The Working Group members proposed the recommendation of two new members for appointment, and this was unanimously agreed upon.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 2 June 2026



VOTING AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-26 **(Officer's recommendation)**

Moved: Cr Ingrid van Dorssen

Seconded: Cr Fedele Camarda

Council receive the following working group updates for March 2026:

- 1. NORTH FREMANTLE PLAN WORKING GROUP**
- 2. DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**
- 3. WALYALUP RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN 2024-27 WORKING GROUP**

Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



Items approved en bloc

ITEMS APPROVED "EN BLOC"

The following items were adopted unopposed and without discussion "en bloc" as recommended.

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr Geoff Graham

Seconded: Cr Fedele Camarda

The following items be adopted en bloc as recommended:
ARIC2603-1 AUDIT ACTIONS UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2026
ARIC2603-2 EMERGING ISSUES REPORT - FEBRUARY 2026
ARIC2603-3 INFORMATION REPORT - PURCHASE CARD HOLDERS
ARIC2603-4 PROCUREMENT POLICY EXEMPTIONS NOVEMBER 2025 TO
FEBRUARY 2026

Carried: 9/0

For:

Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen

Against:

Nil



ARIC2603-1 AUDIT ACTIONS UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2026

Meeting date: 25 March 2026
Responsible officer: Director City Business
Voting requirements: Simple Majority Required
Attachments: 1. CONFIDENTIAL - Audit Action Register

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the status of actions arising from annual audits carried out in line with statutory requirements.

The report requests the Council receive and note the current list of audit actions and status associated with each.

BACKGROUND

Currently the City of Fremantle participates in or undertakes the following audits as required under the *Local Government Act 1995*:

- Audit of annual financial statements
- Audit of General computer controls and information systems
- Audit of Financial management (Regulation 5)
- Audit of general systems, procedures and controls (Regulation 17)

The Financial Audit and General Computer Controls Audit are carried out by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) and assess both financial and information technology related compliance and controls.

The Regulation 5 and Regulation 17 audits are carried out by external auditors engaged by the City.

The OAG also carries out Performance audits from time to time on topics selected by the Auditor General. These audits assess the efficiency and effectiveness of entity activities, services and programs.

Each audit results in a series of recommendations being made by the auditor, which the City reviews, tracks and actions accordingly. Recommendations are rated based on risk and severity and the city prioritises any remediation required on that basis.



The audit register, as provided in confidential attachment 1, provides information regarding the status of each action and progress associated with each.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The City considers and actions audit recommendations in line with its requirements under the *Local Government Act 1995*.

If the Auditor General or a local government's appointed auditor reports a significant matter in an audit report, section 7.12A of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) requires a response from the local government.

The requirements of this response are:

1. Upon receipt of the auditor's report, the local government must prepare a report for its Audit Committee to address the significant matters raised and outline what action(s) the local government has taken or intends to take in respect of each of the matters raised.
2. The Audit Committee minutes and the report to the Minister are referred to Council for proper review and endorsement of any proposed actions.
3. Within 3 months of receipt of the auditor's report, a copy of the Council-endorsed report must be provided to the Minister.
4. Within 14 days of providing a copy of the report to the Minister, a copy must be published on the local government's website.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- Support the City through financial, procurement and revenue functions whilst ensuring legislative compliance and providing excellent customer service.



CONSULTATION

Audit recommendations are implemented and actioned in consultation with auditors to ensure accurate interpretation and understanding of audit recommendations.

OFFICER COMMENT

The audit action register has been developed as part of the continuous improvement of the City's management and reporting of audit activities and findings.

The audit action register provides a summary report of all the current open audit findings, recommendations, and progress comments from the various audit activities.

Noting that full audit reports are presented to the Audit and Risk Management Committee upon completion of each audit, the register provides an ongoing summary update on status and includes the following information:

- The core finding identified by the relevant audit.
- The associated risk rating as identified by the auditor.
- The auditor's core recommended actions.
- The officer responsible for implementing the action.
- Indications of which audits resulted in the core finding, whether it be the OAG financial, performance or IT audits, Regulation 5 or 17.
- Comments on progress made, and current status of action being taken by the City.
- Estimated completion date and actual completion date for the items that have been resolved.

In the audit register presented to the June 2025 Audit and Risk Committee, 18 outstanding items were reported. Eleven were completed by December 2025. Since then, two more items were resolved and 14 new items were added. A total of 19 items remain outstanding. The majority of these are on track to be addressed and closed out prior to the end of June 2026.

Summary of outstanding items:

- 12 items relate to the OAG GCC (IT) Audit:
 - one finding assessed as significant;
 - nine findings assessed as moderate;
 - two findings assessed as minor.



- One item relates to the OAG Performance Audit – Management of Purchasing Cards:
 - one finding assessed as moderate.
- Eight items relate to the Regulation 17 Audit:
 - one finding assessed as high;
 - three findings assessed as moderate;
 - two findings assessed as minor;
 - one finding assessed as improvement opportunity.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM ARIC2603-1 **(Committee recommendation)**

Moved: Cr Geoff Graham

Seconded: Cr Fedele Camarda

Council receive the updated Audit Actions Register as provided in confidential attachment 1.

Carried en bloc: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorsen**

Against:

Nil



ARIC2603-2 EMERGING ISSUES REPORT - FEBRUARY 2026

Meeting date: 25 March 2026
Responsible officer: Manager Governance
Voting requirements: Simple Majority Required
Attachments: 1. CONFIDENTIAL - Emerging Issues Summary Report

SUMMARY

This report highlights the relevant issues which are either current or emerging and may significantly affect the operation, financial, legal, or reputational operation of the City.

These matters are raised to inform the committee of any significant issues identified by officers and allow for any further feedback or questions on the actions currently being taken or under consideration to address and resolve them.

BACKGROUND

Part of the role of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee is to be aware of any significant financial, political, and corporate issues being identified by the organisation and to understand, review or advise on the possible actions to address these.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Some of the issues and potential mitigation actions outlined in this report may include financial implications for the City. Order of magnitude estimates of financial implications based on information available at the time of the report is included in the issues table attached.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The City actively seeks legal advice and support where issues and risks identified have potential legal implications.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:



Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- Enable the City to maintain legislative compliance and accountability for organisational decision making.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OFFICER COMMENT

The table provided in confidential attachment 1 identifies the current or emerging issues which are considered significant by the organisation. Some are in action, and some are under review by the organisation and will continue to be updated to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee over time.

In conjunction with the organisation's Risk Management Framework, the City's issues log will provide a consistent and effective means of tracking, managing, and resolving significant issues.

The City's emerging issues log is populated and maintained by officers. This document is maintained live in the City's corporate document management system and is reviewed and discussed by the Executive Leadership Team as a standing agenda item monthly.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM ARIC2603-2
(Committee recommendation)

Moved: Cr Geoff Graham

Seconded: Cr Fedele Camarda

Council receive the Emerging Issues report up to February 2026 as detailed in confidential attachment 1.

Carried en bloc: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



ARIC2603-3 INFORMATION REPORT - PURCHASE CARD HOLDERS

Meeting date: 25 March 2026
Responsible officer: Director City Business
Voting requirements: Simple Majority Required
Attachments: 1. Active Purchase Cards

At the September 2025 meeting of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC), Council requested a list of purchase card holders to be provided to the next meeting of the ARIC (ARMC2509-1). In response to that request a list of purchase card holders has been provided in Attachment 1.

Purchase Cards are used and issued in accordance with the requirements of the City's procurement policy and the relevant guidelines within the associated Procurement Procedures Manual.

The use of purchase cards is limited to purchases where:

- The total value of the purchase does not exceed \$1,000; and
- The establishment of a supplier agreement (or account with the supplier) is not possible or practical due to purchases with the supplier being a one off or likely to be very infrequent; or
- The only purchasing option available is via use of a purchase card Purchases requiring the use of a purchase card that exceed \$1,000 will require the approval of the relevant Director.

Where operationally appropriate, the City seeks to minimise the number of purchase cards that are issued across the organisation.

Issuing of purchase cards is be subject to cardholders demonstrating the ability to meet the requirements of the procurment policy and the relevant guidelines within the Procurement Procedures Manual.

Purchase cards are only issued as per the criteria outlined in the Procurement Procedures and Guidelines, and is subject to cardholders demonstrating the ability to meet those requirements. Approval from the Director Corporate Services or CEO is required prior to a purchasing card being issued.

The Policy also requires purchase card holders to have regard for what is generally considered to be appropriate and reasonable when making food, beverage, alcohol and hospitality related purchases. These purchases are only to



be for the purpose of carrying out official activities of the City, and should adhere to value for money principles outlined in the policy.

Purchase cards can be cancelled or revoked as per the criteria outlined in in the Procurement Procedures and Guidelines.

There are currently 38 active purchase card holders at the City of Fremantle, with 2 additional cards currently in the process of cancellation and reissued due to staff changeover in thsoe positions. As such there is typically up to 40 cardholders at any given time.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM ARIC2603-3 **(Committee recommendation)**

Moved: Cr Geoff Graham

Seconded: Cr Fedele Camarda

Council receive the information relating to purchase card holders as provided in attachment 1.

Carried en bloc: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



ARIC2603-4 PROCUREMENT POLICY EXEMPTIONS NOVEMBER 2025 TO FEBRUARY 2026

Meeting date: 25 March 2026
Responsible officer: Director City Business
Voting requirements: Simple Majority Required
Attachments: 1. Purchasing Policy Exemptions November 2025-
January 2026

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of purchases made by the City that were exempted from the requirements of the Procurement Policy, during the period November 2025 and January 2026.

This report recommends that Council receive the Procurement Policy Exemptions report from November 2025 to February 2026.

BACKGROUND

The City's Procurement Policy outlines the requirements and decision-making process for each Policy threshold. The Policy also contains a list of tender exemptions (exempt under Regulation 11(2) of the *Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996*) and other Policy exemptions.

The City's Purchasing Policy was amended in August 2025, with Council adopting the new Procurement Policy (C2508-22). The updated procurement policy reflects the consideration of best practice procurement principles, the City's obligations under the *Local Government Act 1995*, and independent advice sought from procurement professionals. It also recognises and responds to the City's ongoing work to develop and maintain efficient, responsive and thorough business processes that improve City response times, supplier experience and ensure compliance.

Under this policy all exemptions applied by the City are to be reported to the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.



STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- Support the City through financial, procurement and revenue functions whilst ensuring legislative compliance and providing excellent customer service.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OFFICER COMMENT

November 2025

The total value of spending exempt from the City of Fremantle Procurement Policy was **\$146,834.00** for the month of November 2025.

The value of exemptions by category is:

Exemption Category	Value
Purchases from Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM)	\$0.00
Specialist Legal or Consultant Advice	\$0.00
Sole Source of Supply	\$49,959.00
Fixed or Statutory Cost	\$50,000.00
Software License Renewal	\$0.00
Subscriptions	\$46,875.00
Total	\$146,834.00

Details regarding individual exemptions can be found in Attachment 1.

December 2025

The total value of spending exempt from the City of Fremantle Procurement Policy was **\$755,610.00** for the month of December 2025.

The value of exemptions by category is:



Exemption Category	Value
Purchases from Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM)	\$0.00
Specialist Legal or Consultant Advice	\$30,000.00
Sole Source of Supply	\$666,000.00
Fixed or Statutory Cost	\$0.00
Software License Renewal	\$89,610
Total	\$785,610.00

Details regarding individual exemptions can be found in Attachment 1.

January 2026

The total value of spending exempt from the City of Fremantle Procurement Policy was **\$31,977.00** for the month of January 2026.

The value of exemptions by category is:

Exemption Category	Value
Purchases from Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM)	\$0.00
Specialist Legal or Consultant Advice	\$31,977.00
Sole Source of Supply	\$0.00
Fixed or Statutory Cost	\$0.00
Software License Renewal	\$0.00
Total	\$31,977.00

Details regarding individual exemptions can be found in Attachment 1.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required



COUNCIL DECISION ITEM ARIC2603-4
(Committee recommendation)

Moved: Cr Geoff Graham

Seconded: Cr Fedele Camarda

Council receive the information report on Procurement Policy Exemptions for November 2025 to February 2026.

Carried en bloc: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



Committee and working group reports

Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong declared an impartiality interest in the following item, earlier in the meeting.

ARIC2603-5 TENDERS AWARDED UNDER DELEGATION NOVEMBER 2025 TO FEBRUARY 2026

Meeting date: 25 March 2026
Responsible officer: Director City Business
Voting requirements: Simple Majority Required
Attachments: Nil

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to summarise tenders awarded under delegation by various delegated Officers and Committees during the period November 2025 to February 2026.

This report recommends that Council receive the report on tenders awarded under delegation between November 2025 to February 2026.

BACKGROUND

Tenders awarded by the City are awarded under the following delegations, approved at Council on 25 June 2025 (C2506-15):

Delegated Authority	Amount of Delegation
Ordinary Meeting of Council	\$1,000,000+ (if within budget)
CEO	Up to \$1,000,000
Directors	Up to \$500,000

Items identified under 'Officer Comment' of this report detail tenders awarded under delegation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All tenders were awarded in line with the adopted 2025-26 budget.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS



All tenders awarded met the requirements of Regulations 11A – 24AJ of the *Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996* and S3.57 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Under delegation 2.11 Expressions of interest and tenders, of the City’s Register of Delegated Authority 2025-26, the Chief Executive Officer is required to report the use of this delegation to the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This is in keeping with the City of Fremantle’s Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- Support the City through financial, procurement and revenue functions whilst ensuring legislative compliance and providing excellent customer service.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OFFICER COMMENT

Below is a list of tenders awarded under delegation between November 2025 and February 2026.

November 2025

Tender Description	Procurement Method	Awarded By	Contractor(s)	Contract Term	Contract Value
FCC685/25 - WFAC Alcohol and non-alcohol beverages	Public Tender (Panel Agreement)	Director	The Beer Farm Pty Ltd and The Trustee for JayJane Trust, The Trustee for JayMark Trust, The Trustee for TobyMeg Trust	Up to 2 years	\$481,000

December 2025

Tender Description	Procurement Method	Awarded By	Contractor(s)	Contract Term	Contract Value

City of Fremantle
Ordinary Meeting of Council - Minutes
25 March 2026



FCC694/25 – Cleaning Services at WCC, Library, Town Hall and Visitor Centre	Public Tender	Council	Uniting Global Pty Ltd	Up to 5 years	\$1,613,000
FCC695/25 – Destination Marketing Campaign & Business Grants Program	Public Tender	Director	Detail Marketing Communications Pty Ltd	Up to 14 months	\$360,000
FCC684/25 - Electrical Services	Public Tender	Council	Surun Services	Up to 7 years	\$4,200,000
FCC682/25 - Stage 3 & 4 Town Hall Service Upgrades – Heritage Architectural Services	Public Tender	Director	Dar Studio Pty Ltd	Up to 7 months	\$328,000

January 2026

Tender Description	Procurement Method	Awarded By	Contractor(s)	Contract Term	Contract Value
RFQ68125 – Fremantle Arts Centre – Creative Hub Construction Works	Public Tender (declined offers) Direct Request for Quote	CEO	Molivi Construction Pty Ltd	Up to 5 months	\$898,000
WFCC132/25 - Provision of consumable hardware	WALGA Tender Exempt Request for Quote	Director	Bunnings Group Limited	Up to 5 years	\$350,000

February 2026

Tender Description	Procurement Method	Awarded By	Contractor(s)	Contract Term	Contract Value
FCC683/25 – Provision of Uniforms & Specialised Personal	Public Tender	Director	Thorny Devil Access Pty Ltd	Up to 5 years	\$483,000



Protective Equipment (PPE) for Operations Staff					
FCC698/25 – M-Files License Renewal	Public Tender	CEO	Cadmus Consulting Pty Ltd	Up to 3 years	\$507,000
FCC693/25 – HVAC Services	Public Tender	Council	Australian HVAC Services Pty Ltd	Up to 7 years	\$2,275,000
FCC696/25 – Landscape Services	Public Tender	Council	Landscape and Maintenance Solutions Pty Ltd	Up to 4 years	\$1,213,000
FCC697/25 - Supply and Delivery of Compact Sweeper	Public Tender	Director	Enviropath Pty Ltd	One off purchase	\$240,000

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM ARIC2603-5
(Committee recommendation)

Moved: Cr Frank Mofflin

Seconded: Cr Geoff Graham

Council received the information report on Tenders Awarded under Delegation for November 2025 to February 2026.

Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
 Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
 Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



ARIC2603-6 OVERDUE DEBTORS REPORT AS AT FEBRUARY 2026

Meeting date:	25 March 2026
Responsible officer:	Director City Business
Voting requirements:	Simple Majority Required
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CONFIDENTIAL - Summary of Outstanding Debtors as at 28 February 20262. CONFIDENTIAL - Summary of Debtors Written Off - February 2026

SUMMARY

This Overdue Debtors Report, with confidential attachment, is provided to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee to report overdue debts outstanding as at 28 February 2026. The report identifies debts overdue by more than 90 days where the total value owing is greater than \$10,000.

This report recommends that Council receive the Overdue Debtors Report and acknowledge the overdue debts exceeding 90 days where the total value owing is greater than \$10,000 as at 28 February 2026.

BACKGROUND

This report provides the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee the following information:

- The total outstanding debt aged from current to over 90 days, with comparison to the same period for the previous year.
- Delegated authority usage for waivers or write offs of debts valued at \$1,000 or above.
- A confidential attachment detailing debtor balances exceeding 90 days and \$10,000 and a summary of debts written off.
- The Debtor Day Ratio, representing the average number of days for payment collection.
-

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

An allowance for impairment of receivables must be recognised in annual financial statements as a cost to the budget in the year in which the impairment is made. As at 28 February 2026, \$65,420 has been held as an allowance for impairment of sundry receivables. A total of \$40,298 in waivers or write offs has occurred during the 2025/26 financial year.



LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 6.12 (1) (c) of the *Local Government Act 1995* provides authority for the Council to write off outstanding monies.

In accordance with section 5.42 and 5.44 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following delegated authority applies:

- The Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority to write off debts (not including rates or infringement) considered unrecoverable up to \$50,000 per account where, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, all other reasonable avenues of recovery have been exhausted.
- Directors and Managers have various sub-delegated authority to write off debts (not including rates or infringement) considered unrecoverable up to \$20,000 per account where, in the opinion of the Director or Manager, all other reasonable avenues of recovery have been exhausted.

All waivers or write-offs valued at \$1,000 or above, per debtor, must be reported to the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Any amount more than \$50,000 is to be written off by Council resolution. A Council resolution authorising the write-off of any debt does not prevent Council from reinstating the debt if the future circumstances change and the debt becomes collectable.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- Support the City through financial, procurement and revenue functions whilst ensuring legislative compliance and providing excellent customer service.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OFFICER COMMENT

Total outstanding debts as at 28 February 2026 were \$509,476, increased from \$420,848 reported to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee



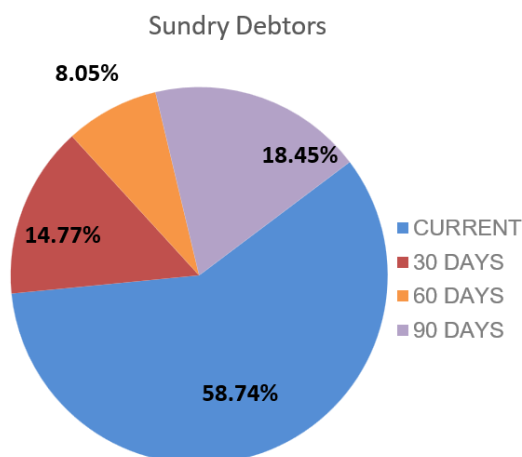
in December 2025. Debts over 90 days have decreased from \$117,161 to \$94,004 over the same period.

There is one debtor with a balance that exceeds both the 90-day threshold and the \$10,000 reporting limit. In total, they owe \$58,126, of which \$57,426 is more than 90 days overdue. Further individual debtor details are included in the confidential attachment.

A breakdown of aged debt for the current period compared to prior year is tabled below.

Period Ending February 2026	Current	30 Days	60 Days	90+ Days	Total
Feb 2026 Total Debtors	59%	15%	8%	18%	100%
Feb 2026 Excl. Commercial Properties	34%	22%	29%	15%	100%
	46,256	29,851	38,855	20,161	135,123
Feb 2025 Total Debtors	49%	22%	3%	25%	100%
	336,203	151,629	22,585	170,022	680,439

The graph below shows the aged debt balances as at 28 February 2026:



Key Performance Indicators

When determining status or risk associated with outstanding debtors, officers typically consider and assess the following metrics:

- Total amount of outstanding debt
- Age of outstanding debt (and value of that debt)



- Frequency of payment of outstanding debt
- Outstanding debt per individual debtor
- Outstanding debt per type of debtor

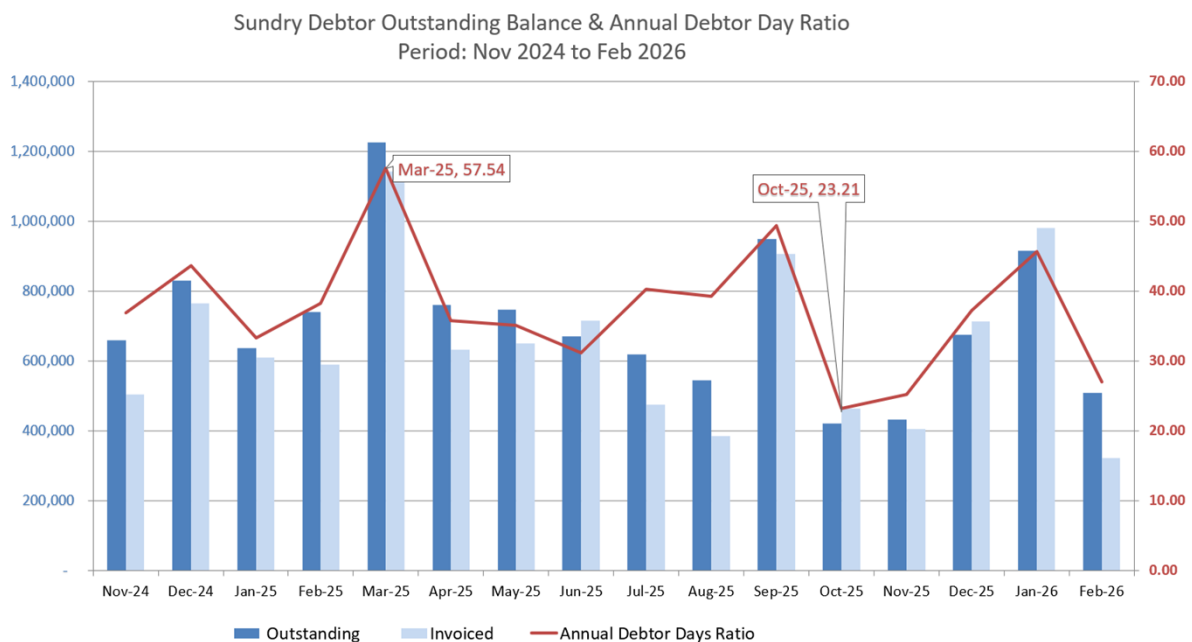
Officers consider all of these metrics alongside each other as well as the debtor day ratio to assist in providing an overarching assessment of general performance of outstanding debtors. The debtor day ratio measures how quickly cash is being collected from debtors regardless of the level of total outstanding amount of debt or the type of debt, allowing for a consistent metric that will identify periods where debtors are taking longer to pay down outstanding debt.

A number of metrics have been provided to follow that provide an initial snapshot of performance and or status of outstanding debtors to follow.

Debtor Day Ratio

The Debtor Day Ratio measures how quickly cash is being collected from debtors. The longer it takes for an organisation to collect, the greater the number of debtor days.

The following chart indicates the debtor days over the last 12 months. Debtor days have steadily decreased over the past 12 months, with a ratio of 27.05 being reported for February 2026.

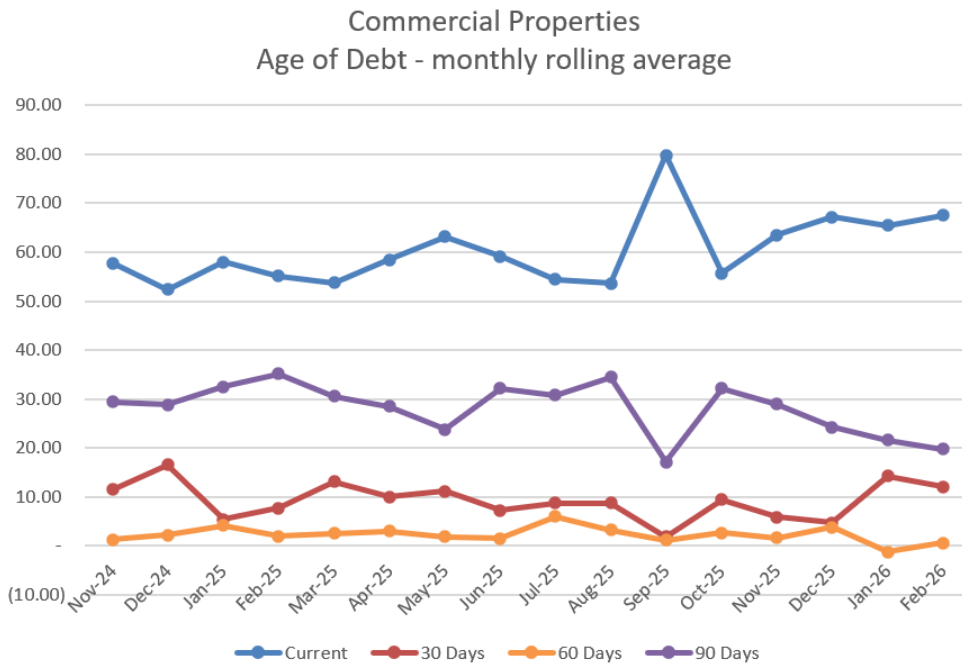


Age of Debt

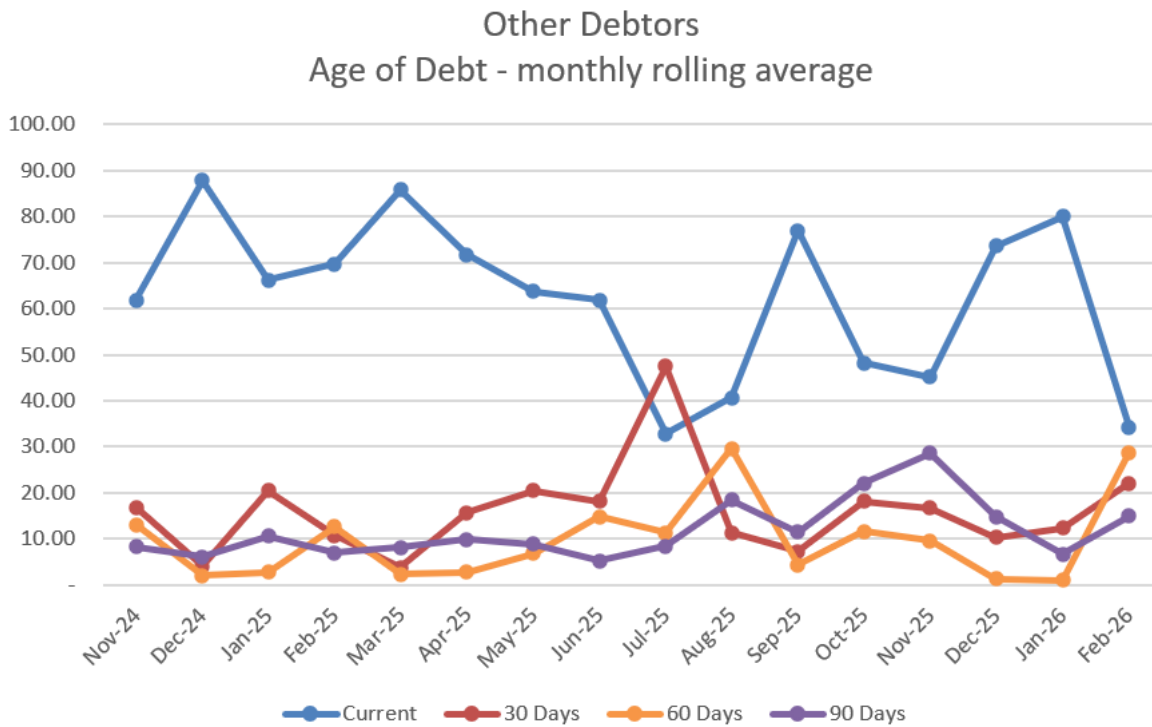


The following graphs show the rolling month average of debt by age category for both Commercial and Other (non-commercial) accounts. This provides a clear view of trends in the City’s aged debt portfolio over time.

For commercial debt, 67% of debt was current as of February 2026. Debt over 90 days has decreased from 32.17% to 19.73% since the last reporting period, while debt in the 30-59 day and 60-89 day categories remains low.

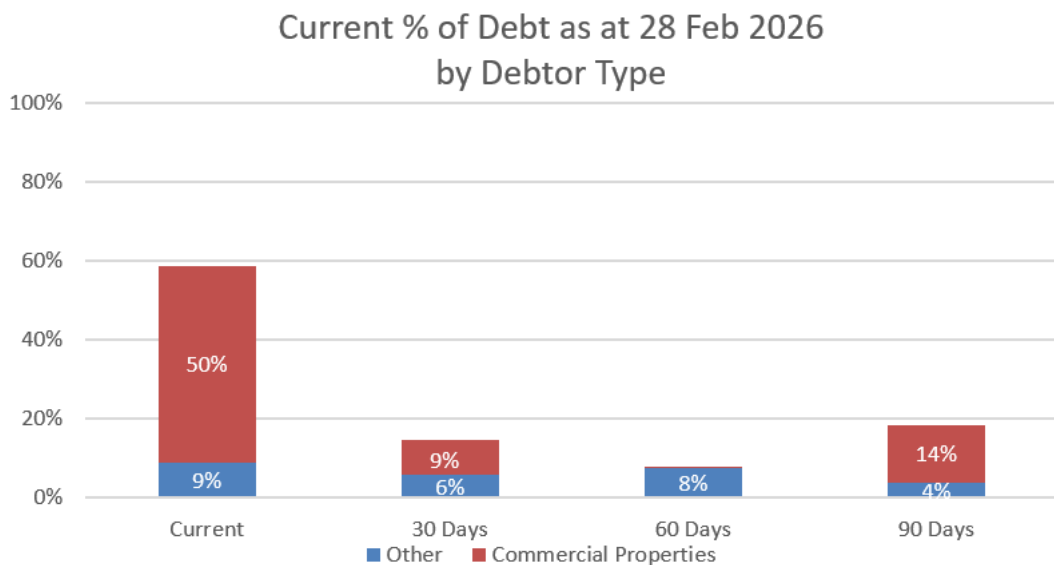


For other debtors, 34% of debt was current as of February 2026. Debt over 90 days has decreased since the last reporting period from 22.07% to 14.92%, while debt 60-89 days has increased from 11.6% to 28.75%.



The next graph shows the current value of debt by age category, split between commercial properties and other debtors. Commercial properties make up 50% of current debt and 14% of debt over 90 days, whilst other debtors make up 9% of current, and 4% of debt over 90 days.

City officers continue working with commercial tenants to provide support, including payment arrangements where appropriate.





Delegation 2.3 - Defer payment, grant a concession, waive fees and write-off of Debts

During the reported period there was one waiver/write off.

1. Write off \$17,251.45 for Debtor 2090654 Western Power Corporation Electricity Networks Corporation (refer to confidential attachment).

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM ARIC2603-6 (Committee recommendation)

Moved: Cr Frank Mofflin

Seconded: Cr Pip Slaughter

Council receives the Overdue Debtors Report as at 28 February 2026, and the confidential attachments listing overdue debts exceeding 90 days with the combined value, by debtor, exceeding \$10,000 and debts written off as at 28 February 2026.

Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,
Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen**

Against:

Nil



Motion of which previous notice has been given

Nil.

Urgent business

Nil.



Late items

C2603-27 RESPONSE TO WALGAS DISCUSSION PAPER ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL REFORMS

Meeting date: 25 March 2026
Responsible officer: Manager Governance
Voting requirements: Simple Majority Required
Attachments: 1. Discussion Paper

SUMMARY

This report is presented to Council in response to the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Electoral Reform Discussion Paper (February 2026), inviting Council to endorse and forward a position on the anticipated State Government electoral reforms changes, being:

- **Full spill elections every four years (replacing the current half spill elections every two years); and**
- **Compulsory voting at Local Government elections (replacing the current voluntary voting model).**

Local Governments are invited to provide Council-endorsed feedback so that WALGA can form its position to form its advocacy with the State Government ahead of anticipated formal legislative proposals.

BACKGROUND

The Western Australian State Government, through the Minister for Local Government, Hon Hannah Beazley MLA, has signalled its intention to propose electoral reforms for Local Government in WA. While no formal consultation proposals have been released, WALGA is conducting early engagement with the sector to ensure its advocacy position reflects current sector views.

Western Australia currently differs in electoral arrangements among Australian jurisdictions in two ways:

- It holds biennial half spill elections, where half of Council positions are up for election every two years (with four-year terms). All other Australian jurisdictions hold full spill elections every four years.



- It is one of two Australian jurisdictions where voting in Local Government elections is voluntary (South Australia being the only other); all other states have compulsory voting.

WALGA has an existing advocacy position to support half spill elections (Advocacy Position 2.5.16) and voluntary voting (Advocacy Position 2.5.15), both of which were confirmed following sector consultation in late 2024. However, a continuing sector led investigation into compulsory versus voluntary voting was continuing when the Minister signalled these reforms.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this item. However, it is noted that the anticipated electoral reforms will result in future financial implications on the City.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This item is in keeping with the City of Fremantle's Strategic Community Plan 2024 – 2034:

Corporate - Lead and empower the organisation to deliver the vision of 'strong reputation, stronger future'

- The matters contained in this report align to the intent of this theme's outcome.

CONSULTATION

This issue was raised with Elected Members at an informal meeting on Monday, 23 March 2026.

OFFICER COMMENT

As provided in WALGA's Electoral Reform Discussion Paper (shown in Attachment 1), WALGA has posed the following questions for Local Government feedback:

1. *Does your Local Government support half spill elections every two years or full spill elections every four years?*



2. *What are the key considerations informing this view?*
3. *If full spill elections every four years were introduced, what transitional arrangements and consequential amendments may be required?*
4. *Any other comments?*
5. *Does your Local Government support compulsory voting or voluntary voting in Local Government elections?*
6. *If the frequency of Local Government elections were changed to every 4 years, would your Local Government support compulsory or voluntary voting?*
7. *What are the key considerations informing this view?*
8. *Any other comments?*

In responding to these questions, the following analysis is provided for council consideration.

1. Election Frequency

Western Australia is the only jurisdiction in Australia that currently holds elections every two years, with half of Council positions up for election at each cycle. Under the proposed changes to election frequency, all positions on Council would be contested at a single election and held every four years thereafter.

The table below summarises how other jurisdictions in Australia manage election frequency:

Jurisdiction	Election Frequency
Western Australia	Half spill / 2 years
South Australia	Full spill / 4 years
Queensland	Full spill / 4 years
New South Wales	Full spill / 4 years
Victoria	Full spill / 4 years
Tasmania	Full spill / 4 years
Northern Territory	Full spill / 4 years

WALGA’s current advocacy position on election frequency is as follows:

2.5.16 Elections	The Local Government sector supports:
------------------	---------------------------------------



	1. Councillors serve four-year terms with elections every two years and half of the Council positions spilled at each election.
--	---

Recommended position:

Whilst there are some administrative benefits to the proposed election frequency changes, it is recommended that Council support to retain the current election frequency of half spill elections every two years.

Recommended key consideration for this position:

It is noted that the current election frequency helps retain a balance of experience and knowledge on current/ongoing matters being considered by Council, which can support consistency in decision making and provide a smooth transition through election cycles.

2. Compulsory or Voluntary Voting

As noted in the discussion paper by WALGA, Western Australia and South Australia are the only Australian jurisdictions that retain voluntary voting at the Local Government level, with all other Australian jurisdictions require compulsory voting.

Further investigation into participation rates for voluntary and compulsory voting was undertaken was WALGA. This investigation found participation rates differ noticeably between voluntary and compulsory voting across each jurisdiction, as summarised in the table below:

Jurisdiction	2022-24 Participation	Previous Rate	Voting Type
Western Australia	31.2% (2023)	30.2% (2021)	Voluntary
South Australia	32.9% (2022)	31.6% (2018)	Voluntary
Tasmania	84.79% (2022*)	58.72% (2018)	Compulsory from 2022
New South Wales	84.54% (2024)	83.56% (2021)	Compulsory
Queensland	82.31% (2024)	77.71% (2020)	Compulsory
Victoria	81.46% (2024)	81.47% (2020)	Compulsory

WALGA’s current advocacy position is as follows:



<p>2.5.15 Participation in Local Government Elections</p>	<p>The Local Government sector supports voluntary participation in Local Government elections.</p> <p><i>Noting that State Council at its 6 December 2024 State Council meeting resolved that the WALGA Secretariat further investigate implications of compulsory and voluntary participation in Local Government elections and report back to State Council.</i></p>
---	---

Recommended position:

It is recommended that Council support retaining voluntary participation in Local Government election.

Recommended key consideration for this position:

Whilst participation rates would improve as a result of compulsory voting, this approach is not recommended. It may not necessarily reflect community sentiment, where we currently see participation by those actively engaged in the election process. This may also result in an increase in “donkey” voting. Additionally, this approach may cause additional administrative burden such as an increase in resourcing, enforcement, and processing requirements.

Recommendation in relation to transitional arrangements:

Should the proposed electoral reform changes be imposed on Local Governments in WA, it is recommended that the following transitional clause be considered by State Government.

1. That an option be available to Local Governments, to adopt a transitional arrangement with State Government that enables:
 - i. Council Members elected in 2025, to complete their remaining term of officer (ending in 2029);
 - ii. Full spill elections every four years to commence at the Local Government election in either 2029 or 2031; providing a maximum two-year term for council members elected at the 2027 or 2029 Local Government election.

Whilst it is acknowledged that State Government have not formally announced the proposed electoral reform changes discussed in this report and in the WALGA



discussion paper, there is strong support to provide an endorsed position of Council to WALGA for the purpose of future advocacy in relation to electoral changes on behalf of all WA Local Governments.

VOTING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required



COUNCIL DECISION ITEM C2603-27
(Officer's recommendation)

Moved: Cr Geoff Graham

Seconded: Cr Pip Slaughter

Council:

- 1. Adopt the following position in response to the questions posed by WALGA in the Electoral Reform Discussion Paper:**
 - a. The City of Fremantle supports retaining the current election frequency of half spill elections every two years; noting that:**
 - i. The current election frequency helps retain a balance of experience and knowledge on current/ongoing matters being considered by Council, which supports newly elected members with their induction and transition into their role, and assists with effective and consistent decision making.**
 - ii. Full spill elections every four years, to commence at the Local Government election in either 2029 or 2031; providing a maximum two-year term for council members elected at the 2027 or 2029 Local Government election.**
 - b. The City of Fremantle supports an option be available for Local Governments to adopt transitional arrangement that enables:**
 - i. Council Members elected in 2025, to complete their remaining term of office (ending in 2029);**
 - ii. Full spill elections every four years, to commence at the Local Government election in either 2029 or 2031; providing a maximum two-year term for council members elected at the 2027 or 2029 Local Government election.**
 - c. The City of Fremantle supports retaining voluntary voting.**
 - d. Should the frequency of Local Government elections change to every 4 years, the City of Fremantle supports retaining voluntary voting.**
- 2. Request the Chief Executive Officer to submit Council's endorsed position (in part 1) to WALGA in response to the Electoral Reform Discussion Paper.**

Carried: 9/0

For:

**Mayor Ben Lawver, Cr Fedele Camarda, Cr Geoff Graham,
Cr Andrew Sullivan, Cr Jemima Williamson-Wong, Cr Frank Mofflin,**

**City of Fremantle
Ordinary Meeting of Council - Minutes
25 March 2026**



Cr Pip Slaughter, Cr Melanie Clark and Cr Ingrid van Dorssen

Against:

Nil



Confidential business

Nil.

Closure

The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 8:20pm.