ANNUAL REPORT
2025/2026



WEST
WIMMERA
SHIRE COUNCIL



Acknowledgement of Country

West Wimmera Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, and pays respect to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

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About our Annual Report

The 2025-26 Annual Report reviews our strategic, operational, and financial performance for the financial year from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026. This important document demonstrates our commitment to open and accountable governance, showing our community how we have performed and whether we fulfilled our promises.

The report aligns our highlights and achievements with the strategic goals and strategies set out in our Council Plan 2025-26. It meets legislative and compliance reporting requirements under section 98 of the Local Government Act 2020 including:

(a) a report of operations of the Council

(b) an audited performance statement

(c) audited financial statements

(d) a copy of the auditor's report on the financial statements under part three of the Audit Act 1994

(e) any other matters prescribed by the regulations.

This year, our Annual Report goes beyond statutory requirements, providing a comprehensive and engaging account of our activities. It serves as an essential tool to inform all stakeholders of our performance and plans, reflecting our vision to create a community where people choose to live, work, visit, and invest.



Photo: Crowd at the Kaniva Muster Dogs event

Our Shire

West Wimmera Shire is located along the Victorian-South Australian border, covering 9108 square kilometres. The region spans from the southern towns of Apsley, Edenhope and Harrow to Goroke, Kaniva and Serviceton in the north.

Home to about 4,000 residents, the shire is known for its welcoming communities, thriving local industries and diverse natural landscapes.

A defining feature of West Wimmera is its environmental variety. The Little Desert National Park runs through the region and marks a natural divide between landscapes. Northern areas are characterised by western mallee country, bordering the Big Desert National Park and renowned for producing some of Australia's finest durum wheat. In contrast, the southern part of the shire is red gum country, rich in wetlands, lakes, and the Glenelg River.

With its high environmental diversity and low population density, much of West Wimmera is native environment. It is home to rare and regionally significant flora and fauna, including the critically endangered spiny rice-flower and the recently rediscovered golden-rayed blue butterfly. Nature-based tourism is steadily growing as visitors seek out the region's wildlife, open spaces, and unspoilt beauty.

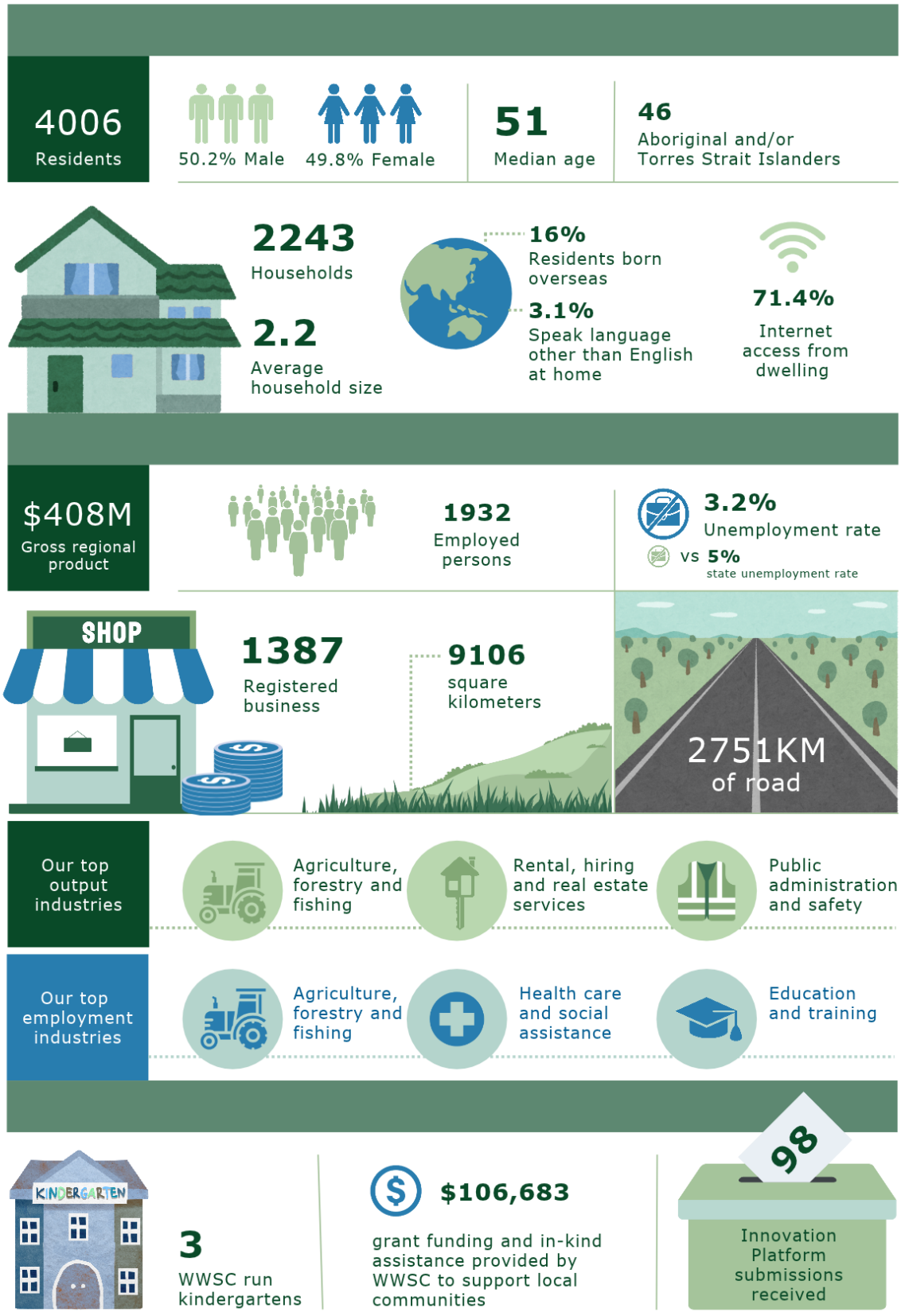
Agriculture and forestry remain the backbone of the local economy, contributing an estimated annual output of $370.699 million (58.3%) of West Wimmera's total estimated economic output of $635.991 million. Fertile soils and reliable rainfall continue to support these key industries.

The region boasts high quality education, healthcare services, alongside a range of sporting and recreational facilities. These include motorsports venues, equestrian complexes, and netball, football, hockey and tennis clubs.

A Mediterranean-style climate, strong community spirit and high levels of volunteerism make West Wimmera a healthy and connected place to live, work and play.



About West Wimmera



Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census all persons QuickStats, 2021. Available at: https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats
Remplan Economy 2024 Release 2





Mayor and Chief Executive Officer's message

It is with pride that we present the 2025-26 Annual Report, reflecting on a year of progress, achievement and change across West Wimmera Shire.

During 2025-26, Council established an important strategic foundation for the next four years with the adoption of the Council Plan 2025-2029. Developed following extensive community consultation and engagement, the Council Plan sets the strategic direction for Council and guides the delivery of services, infrastructure and community outcomes throughout the current Council term. Council also adopted a suite of key strategic documents, including the Long Term Financial Plan, Revenue and Rating Plan and Asset Management Plan, strengthening the organisation's approach to long-term planning, financial sustainability and asset management.

Council continued to invest in projects that support the liveability, accessibility and future growth of our communities. Funding was secured for a range of important projects, including all-abilities upgrades at Serviceton Bowls Club, scoreboard upgrades at Harrow and District Recreation Reserve, design work for improvements to Edenhope Swimming Pool, a new shelter at Lake Wallace and facility upgrades at Apsley Hall.

A number of significant projects were also completed during the year. The Goroke Kindergarten playground and inclusion upgrade was delivered, providing an improved and more inclusive space for children and families. Council also completed a strategic master plan and facilities design for Kaniva Recreation Reserve, providing a clear framework for the future development of one of the municipality's important community recreation precincts.

The Kaniva water supply was formally declared potable, or suitable for drinking, on 26 June 2026. The declaration followed many years of advocacy and work and provides a reliable drinking water supply for the Kaniva community, supporting the town's ongoing needs.

Council also continued to work closely with partners to respond to changing community needs. On 1 November 2025, Maternal and Child Health services successfully transitioned to West Wimmera Health Service. Council worked in partnership with West Wimmera Health Service and the Victorian Department of Health throughout the transition, supporting continuity of care and ensuring local families continued to have access to high-quality services. The successful transition reflects the value of strong local partnerships and collaboration.

Within the organisation, Council also reviewed and strengthened its procurement arrangements to ensure they remained appropriate for current and future needs. The review has strengthened procurement oversight, contract management and governance, supporting Council's ongoing commitment to responsible, transparent and effective operations.

These achievements reflect Council's commitment to responsible planning, strong governance and investment in the infrastructure, services and facilities that matter to our communities. They also demonstrate the importance of working collaboratively with residents, community organisations, local businesses and government partners to deliver meaningful outcomes across West Wimmera.

We thank our Councillors, staff, community members, volunteers and partners for their contribution throughout the year. Together, we continue to build on the strengths of West Wimmera and work towards a sustainable, connected and thriving future for our communities.

Cr Tim Meyer
Mayor

David Bezuidenhout
Chief Executive Officer

VISION

In 2041 West Wimmera is a great place to live, work and play. We are growing and we are known for our natural environment, resilience and sense of community. We are proud of our heritage and are building new economic capacity based on innovation and tourism, which is creating local employment. Our towns are vibrant and welcoming, offering the services and facilities that meet the needs of our community and visitors. We are a confident community and will empower everyone to be part of our future.

Innovative

We will proactively respond to change, are optimistic about our future and pursue continuous improvement in everything we do

Accountable

We will be responsible, take ownership of our actions and are committed to good governance, excellence, transparency, achievement of goals and advocating for our community.

United

We will do everything within our ability to encourage and form trusting relationships, to work together as one team to achieve our goals and advocate for "One West Wimmera".

Collaborative

We will actively and openly consult with you and work constructively with community organisations, agencies, the business community and other levels of government to our community's benefit



Photo: Yoga and Bird Observing workshop in Harrow, part of the Love Over the Farm Gate initiative

Major changes

MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

Council transitioned Maternal and Child Health (MCH) services to the local provider, West Wimmera Health Service, on 1 November 2025. Working in partnership with the Victorian Department of Health and West Wimmera Health Service, Council continued to support the establishment and ongoing delivery of high-quality MCH services across the municipality. The transition was completed smoothly, ensuring continuity of care for local families and a seamless transfer of services, knowledge and operational responsibilities. This collaborative approach has supported the integration of MCH services within the local health system, maintaining accessible, high-quality care for children and families across West Wimmera Shire.

REVIEW AND STRENGTHENING OF PROCUREMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Council reviewed its procurement model to ensure it remained appropriate for organisational needs and future contractual requirements. Following this review, the position of Contracts and Procurement Manager was reinstated to strengthen procurement oversight, support contract management and enhance governance.

Major achievements

- Adoption of the Council Plan 2025-2029 - following an extensive community consultation and engagement process, Council adopted its new four-year Council Plan, establishing the strategic direction for the organisation and guiding the delivery of services, infrastructure and community outcomes for the next four-year Council term.
- Adoption of Council's strategic documents including Long Term Financial Plan, Revenue and Rating Plan and Asset Management Plan as a part of the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework.
- Application submitted for major works to the Kaniva Poolside Caravan Park, Kaniva Memorial Swimming Pool and various other areas through the Kaniva Tourism & Wellbeing Precinct Project.
- Completion of the Goroke Kindergarten Playground and Inclusion Upgrade, Kaniva Recreation Reserve Strategic Master Plan 2025-2035 and Kaniva Recreation Reserve Facilities Design.
- Kaniva's water was formally declared potable/drinking water on 26 June 2026, following many years of advocacy.

Successful funding applications for:

- Serviceton Bowls All Abilities Green and Facilities Upgrade
- Harrow and District Recreation Reserve Scoreboards Upgrade
- Edenhope Swimming Pool Facilities Design
- Edenhope Lake Wallace Shelter Project
- Apsley Hall Facilities Upgrade Project



Photo: 2024/25 West Wimmera Shire Councillors

Our Council

This section presents the profiles of the elected members and a financial summary for 2025-26. It outlines the Council's financial position. The report covers key aspects such as cash reserves, income sources, and the completion of capital works projects. It also highlights the Council's ongoing investment in infrastructure and community initiatives, aimed at maintaining assets and supporting community needs, while indicating a focus on long-term financial sustainability.

Elected Member Profiles



Mayor Tim Meyer

First term: 18 Oct 2020

Current term: 2024-2028

Mayor since: Nov 2023

M | 0437 219 818
E | TimMeyer@westwimmera.vic.gov.au

- West Wimmera Shire Cemeteries Trust
- Rural Councils Victoria
- Municipal Association of Victoria
- CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee
- Audit and Risk Committee
- Timber Towns Victoria
- Wimmera Southern Mallee Council Alliance
- Wimmera Mallee Sustainability Alliance



Deputy Mayor Jodie Pretlove

First term: 22 Oct 2016

Current term: 2024-2028

M | 0437 238 902
E | JodiePretlove@westwimmera.vic.gov.au

- West Wimmera Shire Cemeteries Trust
- CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee
- Audit and Risk Committee
- Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Transport Group



Deputy Mayor Councillor Helen Hobbs

First term: 7 Nov 2024

Current term: 2024-2028

Deputy Mayor since: Nov 2025

M | 0476 220 186
E | HelenHobbs@westwimmera.vic.gov.au

- CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee
- West Wimmera Shire Cemeteries Trust
- Kaniva Community Sporting Complex



Councillor Tom Houlihan

First term: 22 Oct 2016

Current term: 2024-2028

M | 0437 219 881
E | TomHoulihan@westwimmera.vic.gov.au

- CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee
- Johnny Mullagh Interpretive Centre Inc
- Local Government Statewide Forum – Recycling & Waste Matters
- West Wimmera Shire Cemeteries Trust
- West Grampians Community Consultative Committee



Councillor Richard Hicks

First term: 22 Oct 2016

Current term: 2024-2028

M | 0408 906 033
E | RichardHicks@westwimmera.vic.gov.au

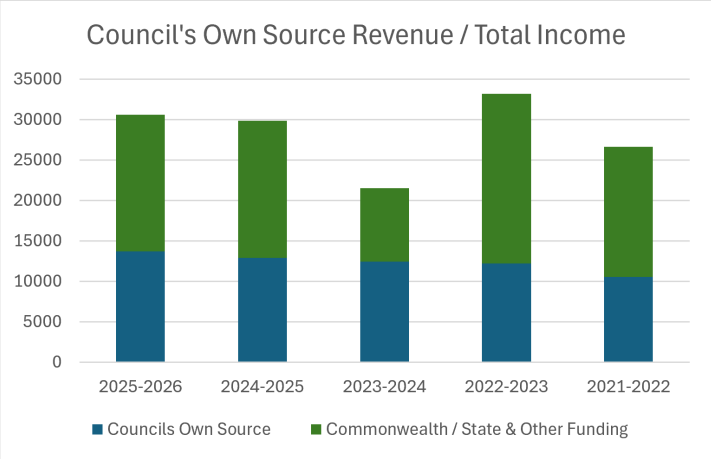
- CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee
- Rail Freight Alliance
- West Wimmera Shire Cemeteries Trust
- Western Highway Action Committee

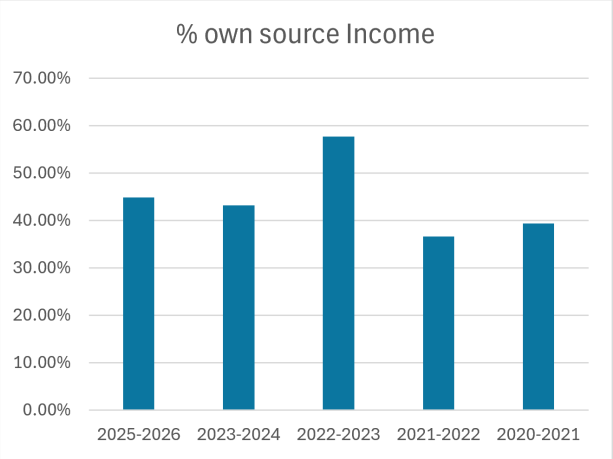
2025-26 Financial Summary

Council's financial position continues to remain sound with strong performance in Council's operations and service delivery. Council's audited Financial Statements and Performance Statement are included herein as part of the annual report.

Council's operating results reflect a deficit of $1.919 million (FY 2024-25: $ 2.857 million deficit) for the year, the result includes a prepayment of the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) by the Federal Government for 2026-27. This resulted in a net allocation of $2.666 million greater than budgeted as cash inflows for 2026-27.

The Federal Government has released $6.622 million of the 2026-27 FAGs during June 2026 with balance to be funded in four equal instalments during the year. Due to this early payment of FAGs, Council has reported $17.424 million in cash reserves and reflects Council's strong ability to meet its current liabilities.

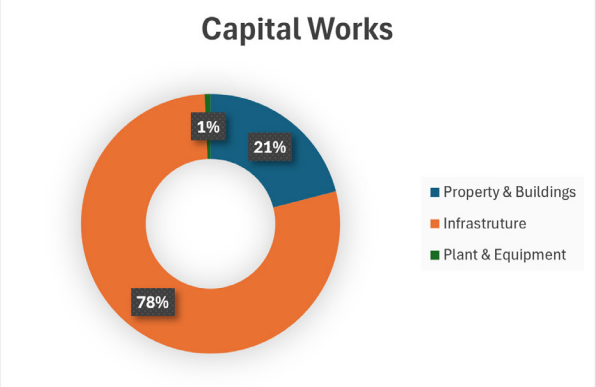


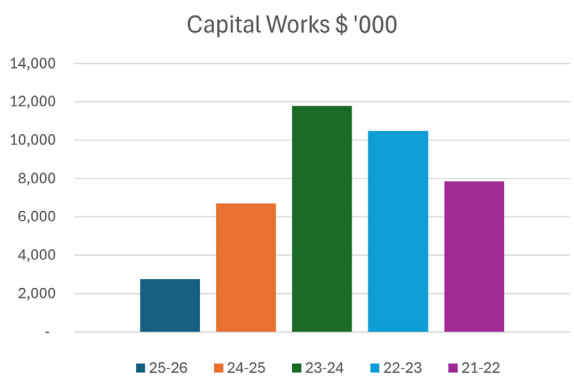


Council's own source income for the year is reported at 44.83% of the total income aggregating to $13.715 million with another $16.879 million received in federal and state government grants and subsidies. Council raised $9.2176 million in rates and charges, $3.762 million in reimbursements and other income, $0.736 million in user fees, and $0.350 million in interest. Council has demonstrated significant year on year growth in utilisation of its assets and generating better financial outcome for the Council.

Operating grants aggregated to $13.798 million – exceeding the budgeted estimates due to FAGs released in June 2026 and as per directive released for accounting, this amount has been recognised in financial year 2025-26. Capital grants for 2025-26 are reported at $3.081 million and have also remained lower than our budgeted projections. Council continues to rely on grants and funding from federal and state government for sustainable delivery of its operations and services to the community.

Council has delivered $2.747 million in capital projects – as part of Council's Annual Plan and these projects are vital for community wellbeing and recreation activity needs of the community. This program delivery includes $2.151 million spent on Council roads and infrastructure and another $0.576 million spent on community projects.





Council's reported expenses for the year are represented by employee costs of $10.324 million and account for 32% of the total expenses. Materials and services aggregate to $9.743 million, the combined total of employee costs and materials and services have made a significant value-added contribution towards Council's objectives and commitments to the community.

Depreciation for the year is reported at $11.334 million, and Council has $294.476 million worth of non-current assets and have a comprehensive condition assessment and management plan to maintain these assets over their useful life. Statewide condition assessment comparison demonstrates that West Wimmera Shire Council is amongst the top performing councils for road and infrastructure assets conditions. The community surveys also reflect higher satisfaction level for Council's delivery services to its residents and rate payers.

Council's current assets of $19.363 million provide a strong capacity to meet current liabilities of $8.256 million and demonstrate a balanced current ratio of 2.35. Council's cash reserves stand at $17.424 million.

Current liabilities at close of financial year remained $8.286 million represented by $2.139 million in trade and other payables. An amount of $2.165 million in Council's current liabilities provide coverage to employee leave entitlements. Contract liabilities of $1.504 million reflect initial funding released for projects planned for 2026-27 and community contributions towards these projects.

Council's working capital adequacy is reflected by its current assets adequacy to meet financial obligations. The working capital for 2024-25 is considered strong and is reflective of changes in grants disbursements by the Federal Government and Council's financial indicators also demonstrate these sustainability measures.

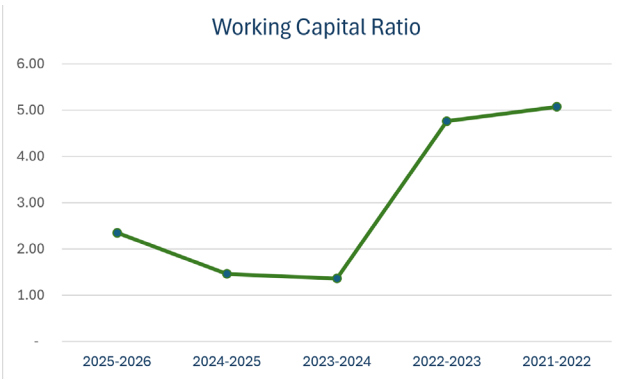






Photo: Council meeting in Harrow



Photo: West Wimmera Shire Council Edenhope Customer Service Centre

Our Organisation

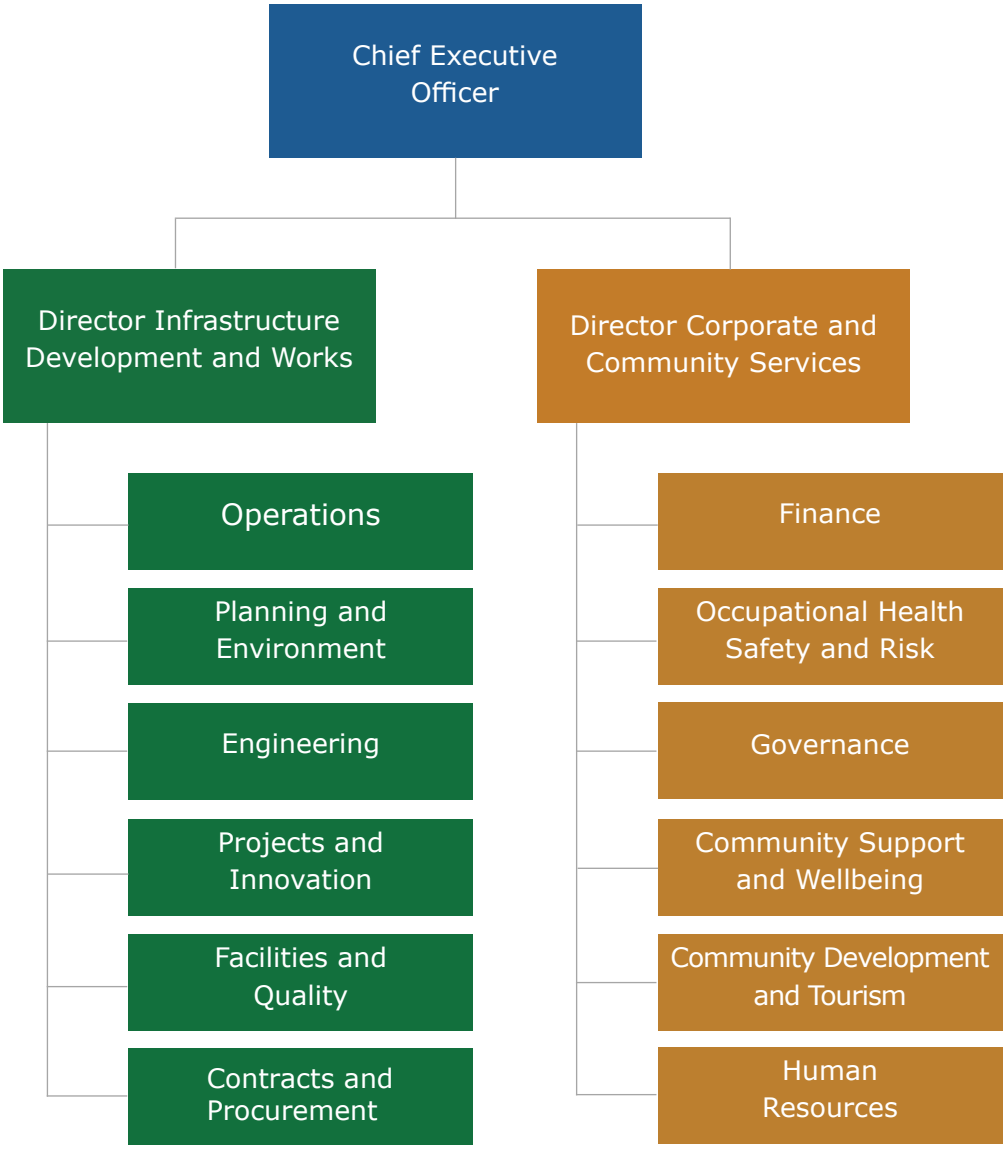
This section provides an overview of West Wimmera Shire Council's structure and leadership, focusing on the roles within the Executive Leadership Team and business units. It highlights Council's commitment to occupational health and safety, gender equality, and equal employment opportunity. Detailed human resource data, including employee distribution and workplace diversity, is presented through diagrams and tables to offer a clear picture of the organisation's workforce.

Organisational structure

West Wimmera Shire Council is divided into two directorates: Infrastructure, Development and Works and Corporate and Community Services, each led by a Director who reports to the Chief Executive Officer.

Each directorate includes a number of business units, led by a business unit manager, each overseeing their individual areas of responsibility while working collaboratively across the organisation. Council is the governing body that appoints the Chief Executive Officer. The CEO has responsibility for the day-to-day management of operations in accordance with the strategic directions of the Council Plan. Two directors and the CEO form the executive leadership team.

Organisational chart as at 30 June 2026





2026 Australia Day award winners

Edenhope resident Cath McDonald is West Wimmera Shire's Australia Day 2026 Citizen of the Year.

The award winners were be presented to Mrs McDonald at West Wimmera Shire's Australia Day celebrations on Monday, January 26.

Other Australia Day award recipients include Young Citizen of the Year Lucinda Smith; Community Event of the Year, the Edenhope Motorcycle Club; and Community Group of the Year, the Edenhope Lions Club.

Cath has made an extraordinary contribution to Edenhope through her professional work and her tireless volunteer efforts.

For almost 37 years she has served as a community health nurse, and well beyond her role she has worked to identify local needs, secure funding and deliver programs that strengthen wellbeing and connection.

The Young Citizen of the Year Award was presented to Lucinda Smith.

Miss Smith has made a significant contribution to Goroke and the surrounding district through leadership, volunteering and service across agriculture, sport and education.

The Community Event of the Year Award was presented to the Edenhope Motorcycle Club for its outstanding program of motorcycle events delivered across Edenhope and Harrow.

Over the past year, the club delivered a series of volunteer-led events attracting hundreds of participants and generating strong social and economic benefits for local communities.

The Community Group of the Year Award was presented to the Edenhope Lions Club.

With fewer than 18 members, the club delivers an extraordinary level of support to the Edenhope community, with all funds raised reinvested locally.

The Edenhope Lions Club operates the Opportunity Shop, supports health screening programs, assists individuals and families in need, supports young people, and plays a key role in local events and emergency response.

Executive profiles

David Bezuidenhout



Chief Executive Officer

Master of Project Management
Graduate Company Director
Law degree
Admitted as Legal Practitioner in Supreme Court of Queensland and High Court of Australia.

David Bezuidenhout was born in South Africa and spent nearly 20 years in the defence force. David is qualified as a lawyer and worked in private practice for 16 years in South Africa and later in Queensland after migrating to Australia in 2006. Over the next 12 years, David worked in both the legal space and in senior projects and general management roles for firms including, Worley Parsons and Spotless in Queensland.

David made the transition into the public sector in 2015 as Head of Capital Projects for the Gladstone Area Water Board and in 2018 joined Cloncurry Shire Council in northwest Queensland as its CEO.

Brendan Pearce



Director Infrastructure Development and Works

Bachelor of Engineering (Civil)

Brendan Pearce was born in Hopetoun and was raised on a wheat/sheep farm near Woomelang. He attended school at Woomelang Primary School and Sea Lake High School (now Tyrell College).

Since graduation, Brendan has worked in engineering roles for councils in Victoria (Bairnsdale Shire, Macedon Ranges Shire), Queensland (Kilcoy Shire, Burnett Shire, North Burnett Shire, Cloncurry Shire) and Northern Territory (Katherine Town Council).

Brendan has two children, who are now young adults and live in Brisbane, and a small dachshund that is probably too spoiled. Brendan enjoys living in 'real' Australia and throughout his career and travels has gravitated to smaller country communities.

Areas of responsibility:

- Infrastructure & Assets – roads, footpaths, drainage, buildings, facilities, aerodrome, quarries
- Environment & Community Services – waste, recycling, health, local laws, emergency management, parks, pools
- Planning & Development – statutory and strategic planning, building, property, economic growth
- Projects & Innovation – project delivery, innovation

Dalton Burns



Director Corporate and Community Services

Bachelor of Commerce
Master of Business Administration

Dalton grew up in Horsham and spent much of his spare time at the family farm at Douglas with both his mother and father growing up on properties in Douglas and Harrow respectively.

He attended Deakin University studying a Bachelor of Commerce and later obtained his CPA and more recently a Masters of Business Administration. During his working life he has spent time in financial and business management in education, training and public health. Spending time in rural and remote parts of the Wimmera leading to developing a particular understanding of the challenges facing rural and regional communities.

At home Dalton is supported by his wife and is a devoted dad who enjoys sport, being a member of the successful Harrow Balmoral Senior Football side in 2018, 2019, 2023, 2024 and 2025.

Dalton is following in his grandfather's footsteps where he was long standing councillor and 'president' of the Kowree Shire in the mid-1960s and 1970s.

Areas of responsibility:

- Finance, rates and revenue
- Customer service
- Human resources
- Governance
- Occupational health, safety and risk
- Kindergartens, early years services
- Risk management, audit committee
- Information technology
- Cemeteries
- Community development and tourism

Our people

West Wimmera Shire Council is divided into two directorates: Infrastructure, Development and Works and Corporate and Community Services, each led by a Director who reports to the Chief Executive Officer.

Council recognises the value of a diverse and skilled workforce and continues to maintain its commitment to the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity and Human Rights through recruitment and selection and employment arrangements.

Council reviewed and approved the Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) 2026-2030 which aims to guide and promote gender equality within our workforce and improve outcomes for people of all genders.

In December 2025, Council participated in a Workplace Gender Audit and created a workforce plan. Following on from this, a progress report was developed to document Council's work towards the strategies and measures outlined in the GEAP 2021-2025 as well as progress against the workplace gender equality indicators. The findings and insights from this process provided a comprehensive foundation for the development of council's GEAP 2026-2030.

Ongoing training assisted Council staff to ensure the principles of gender equality are embedded in our policy and program development, according to the requirements of the Gender Equality Act.

West Wimmera Shire Council continues to participate in Women's Health Grampians' Communities and respect for Equality (CoRE) program. CoRE is a partnership of organisations, businesses, clubs and groups working together towards a shared vision of Safe, equal and respectful communities in the Grampians region.

Table 1: Employee distribution by organisational structure by employment type by gender

Row lables	Corporate and Community Services	Executive	Infrastructure Development and Works	Total
Casual	**1.3**		**0.3**	**1.6**
Female	1.3		0.3	1.6
Male				
Full Time	**18.0**	**4.0**	**48.0**	**70.0**
Female	14.0	1.0	4.0	19.0
Male	4.0	3.0	44.0	51.0
Part Time	**15.9**		**7.7**	**23.6**
Female	15.1		3.9	19.0
Male	0.8		3.8	4.6
Grand Total	**35.2**	**4.0**	**56.0**	**95.2**

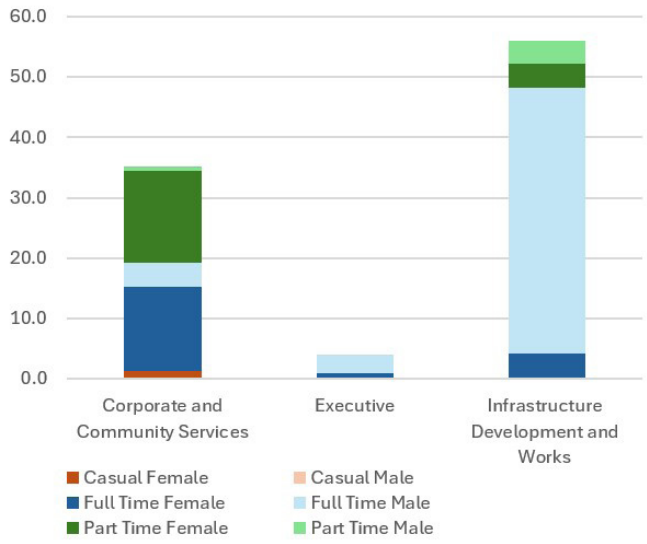


Figure 1: Employee distribution by organisational structure by employment type by gender (Executive, Corporate and Community and Infrastructure Development and Works)

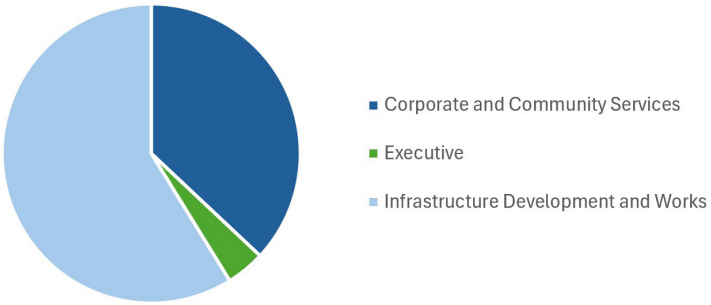


Figure 2: Percentage distribution of enrolment type within organisational structure (Executive, Corporate and Community and Infrastructure Development and Works)

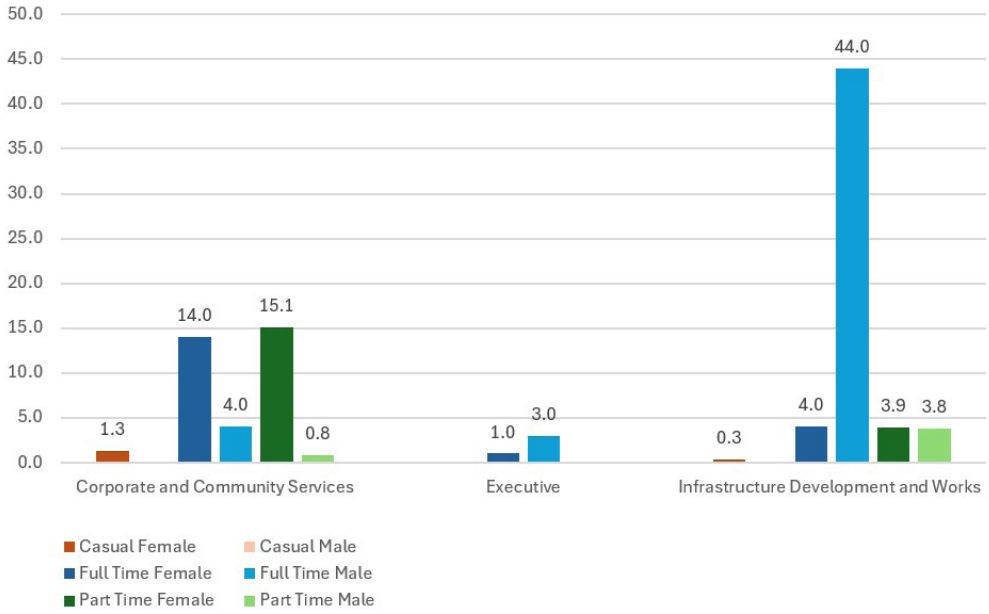


Figure 3: Distribution of employees by organisational structure, employment type and gender (Executive, Corporate and Community and Infrastructure Development and Works)

Table 2: Employee distribution by banding by gender

Row Labels	Female	Male	Unspecified	Total
Band 2	1.6	2.1		3.7
Band 3	2.4	27.6		30
Band 4	6.2	5		11.2
Band 5	6.8	5.6		12.4
Band 6	3.5	2		5.5
Band 7	4	3.5		7.5
Band 8	5.4	6		11.4
Band not applicable	9.7	3.8		13.5
Grand Total	**39.6**	**55.6**		**95.20**

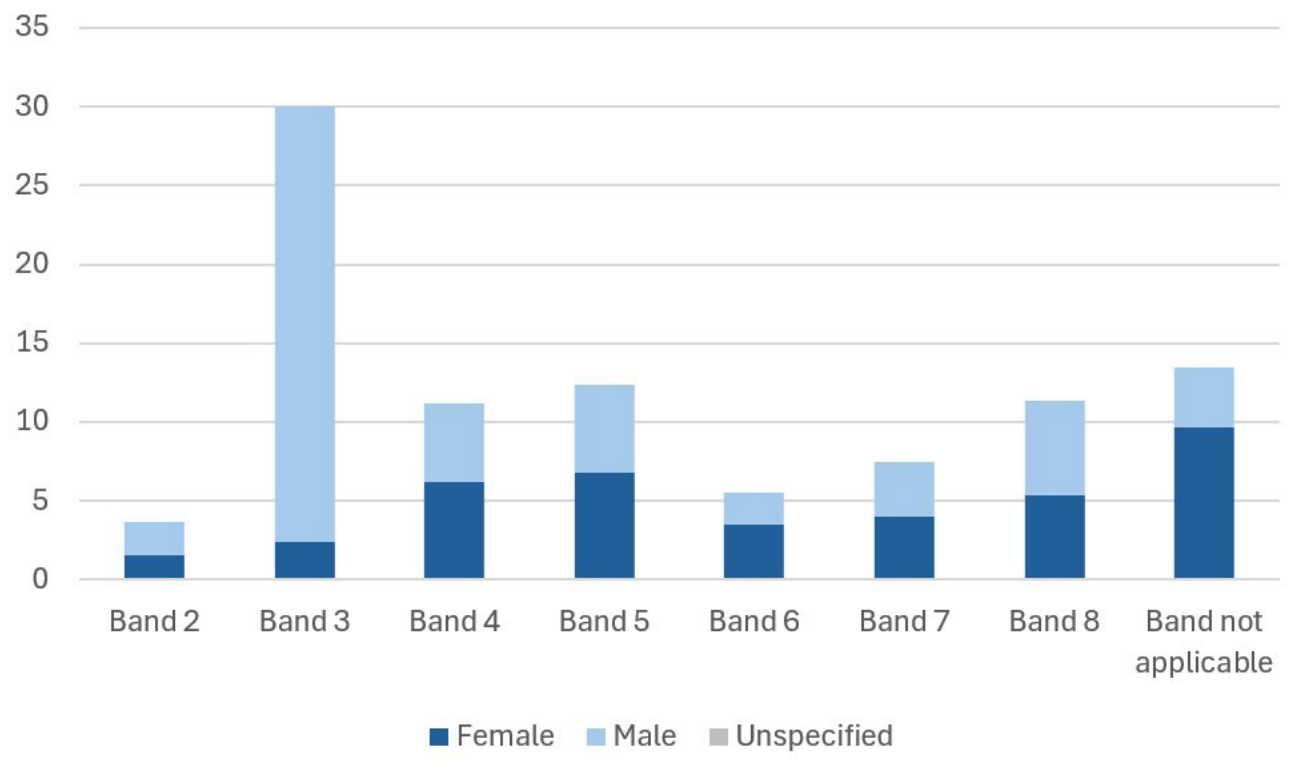


Figure 4: Employee distribution by banding by gender

Occupational Health and Safety

Council's aim is to maintain a strong safety culture that supports an incident and injury free workplace for all employees, Councillors, contractors, visitors and members of the public.

Council is committed to continually improving our safety management system Elumina, which is actively monitored and enhanced to ensure accountability and best practice is upheld.

In 2025-26 this commitment led to several significant improvements:

- Completion of 17 psychosocial risk assessments in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety (Psychological Health) Regulations 2025
- Improved incident reporting, risk assessment and investigation process
- Review of the OHS committee to improve communication and consultation process
- Ten (10) OHS procedures reviewed
- Quarterly reports to both the executive team and the audit and risk committee
- OHS trivia quiz, which is held in October to coincide with WorkSafe week
- Annual skin cancer checks
- Ongoing support from AEGIS Risk Management Services
- Council's work cover insurer is EML, which continue to provide exceptional services and resources to support injury management

Council continues to deliver an extensive training program to maintain staff skills and compliance including but not limited to:

- chain saw
- traffic management
- forklift
- construction induction (white card)
- first aid
- chemical handling
- health and safety representative training
- truck licenses
- forklift operation
- traffic management
- manual handling and fire warden responsibilities.

This ongoing commitment to safety is reflected in both the downward trend of the number of injuries and severity of injuries.

Council's Workcover performance rating significantly improved in the previous three years from 150.26% in 2024-25, 124.16% in 2025-26 to 92.30% for the coming year.



Photo: Council Plan drop-in session in Kaniva



Photo: Crowd at the Kaniva Seniors Concert

Our Community

This section highlights West Wimmera Shire Council's role in supporting and engaging with the community. It covers the celebration of community events, advocacy efforts on behalf of residents, and the Council's communication strategies, including newsletters, social media, and website. The section also provides insights from the Community Satisfaction Survey and other data, offering an overview of how these efforts have supported the community.

Our communications

West Wimmera Shire Council remains focused on ensuring residents and ratepayers are kept informed and connected through a range of communication channels and engagement opportunities.

Our stakeholders include:
Residents
Ratepayers
Community groups and volunteers
Customers
Government
Visitors

During 2025-26, communications and engagement supported the delivery of a broad range of Council projects, initiatives and community programs. Major projects promoted throughout the year included installation of the Kaniva Dog Park, upgrades to Edenhope Recreation Reserve changerooms, and the completion of Serviceton Silo Art.

Communications also supported key campaigns and community initiatives including Australia Day, National Volunteer Week, International Women's Day, 16 Days of Activism, community grant programs, kindergarten enrolments, emergency preparedness messaging, and a range of community consultation activities.

Engagement and communications also played a vital role in the development and delivery of strategic documents including Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan, Kaniva Rec Reserve Master Plan and the West Wimmera Small Towns Plan.

Council's fortnightly electronic newsletter continues to be an important communications channel, providing residents with timely updates on projects, services, events and community engagement opportunities. The newsletter currently reaches more than 1,000 subscribers. A monthly printed edition is also produced and distributed through post offices and Council customer service centres across the municipality, ensuring residents who prefer a hard copy can continue to access Council news and information.

Council issued 76 media releases during the year, shared with media outlets and community subscribers, and published on the Council website. Regular advertising continued in key regional and local publications, including the Nhill Free Press, Kaniva Times, Edenhope and District Echo, Wimmera Mail-Times, Weekly Advertiser, Goroke Free Press, Servi Snippets, Maggie Chatter (Apsley), Harrow Happenings and Casterton News.

WEBSITE

The Council website and tourism microsite remain important platforms for information and access to services. These websites continue to see strong engagement, with the most visited pages including:

- Employment
- Landfill and transfer stations
- Contact us
- Mayors and councillors
- About us

Council's event calendar remains open to community submissions, and over 70 local events were featured in the past year, supporting local participation and tourism.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Council's social media presence continues to grow. Key figures from Council's social media platform in 2025-26 included:

Platform	Description
Facebook	Facebook followers increased by 13.2% to 3418, with 714 posts shared across the year
Instagram	Council increased its Instagram follows by 15.9% per cent and published 66 posts
Other	Other Council-affiliated social media accounts include: • Visit West Wimmera Facebook Page (219 followers) • Visit West Wimmera Instagram Page (469 followers)

These channels support Council's efforts to communicate in real time, promote events and services, and share community updates with a broad audience.

Advocacy

Advocacy is a critical function of Council as a small rural shire with a small population, limited rate base and long road network. Council's ability to deliver major infrastructure and transformational projects often depends on funding, policy support and partnerships with the Victorian and Australian governments.

During 2025–26, Council strengthened its approach to advocacy through the development of the Council Plan 2025–2029. For the first time, the plan includes a dedicated advocacy section based on priorities identified through community engagement.

The six high-level advocacy priorities identified by the community were:

- Support for our farming community
- Maintenance of critical road infrastructure
- Increasing housing availability
- Water access, quality and security
- Digital connectivity
- Power supply

These priorities recognise the fundamental infrastructure, services and economic conditions required to sustain West Wimmera's communities and support future growth.

Council also developed its 2026 State Election Priorities document, providing a clear and coordinated platform to advocate for investment in priority community infrastructure, housing, roads, emergency services and water security. Key priorities include the Kaniva pool precinct redevelopment, Edenhope Lions Park redevelopment, Kaniva netball courts, Apsley football oval lighting, key worker accommodation, the West Grampians Pipeline, improved maintenance of the state road network and the reinstatement of the Country Roads and Bridges Program.

In addition to Council's local advocacy program, West Wimmera Shire Council worked collaboratively with other councils across the Wimmera Southern Mallee to develop a coordinated regional advocacy approach ahead of the 2026 Victorian state election.

This regional collaboration also supported the development of Resource Ready:

North-Western Victoria Energy and Mining Impact and Readiness Strategy. The strategy considers the potential impacts and opportunities arising from major renewable energy, transmission and mining developments and identifies the investment, planning and government support required to ensure local communities are prepared and able to achieve lasting benefits.

Throughout the year, the mayor, councillors, chief executive officer and Council officers continued to meet with government ministers, members of parliament, government departments, agencies, regional organisations and other stakeholders. These meetings provided important opportunities to raise West Wimmera's priorities, communicate the challenges faced by small rural communities and seek funding and policy outcomes that support the future sustainability of our shire.



Serviceton's Les Millikin recognised as Senior Citizen of the Year

West Wimmera Shire Council has named Serviceton's Les Millikin as the 2025 Senior Citizen of the Year.

Mr Millikin was presented the award at West Wimmera Shire's Seniors Concert at Kaniva.

Since moving to Serviceton in 2002, Mr Millikin has made an enormous contribution to the local community through his volunteer work at the historic Serviceton Railway Station.

He has spent countless hours maintaining and cleaning the station, tending the gardens, and keeping the grounds neat and tidy.

Mr Millikin is a wealth of knowledge on the history of the station – he has uncovered memorabilia over the years and willingly guides visitors on tours.

On many occasions, he spends whole days at the station, sharing its history with locals and tourists alike.

His community spirit extends well beyond the railway station.

Mr Millikin regularly mows around the trees in Serviceton to reduce fire risk, helps clean common areas, and assists residents in need with gardening and maintenance.

He is an active member of the Leeor Fire Brigade and the Serviceton Bowling Club, where he contributes to working bees and supports club activities.

Known for his friendly nature and tireless work ethic, Mr Millikin is highly respected across the community.

West Wimmera Shire Council Mayor Tim Meyer presented Mr Millikin with his award and praised his service to the community.

"Les is an extraordinary volunteer who embodies what it means to serve quietly and wholeheartedly," he said.

"His commitment to maintaining the heritage of the Serviceton Railway Station and supporting the wider community is truly remarkable.

Innovation Platform

The Innovation Platform initiative continues to capture ideas from both the community and Council staff. In 2025-26, 98 submissions were received. Of these, 75 focused on business improvements designed to enhance service delivery. The remaining 23 submissions related to projects, some of which aligned with existing initiatives, while others proposed new, standalone concepts.

Two examples were the proposals for a new shelter at the Lake Wallace parkrun 5km mark in Edenhope and upgrades to the accessibility and facilities at the Apsley Hall. Council has collaborated with local representatives for both projects to submit two successful funding applications to the round 3 of the Tiny Towns funding. The Edenhope Lake Wallace Shelter project is jointly funded by the Regional Development Victoria and West Wimmera Shire Council and is scheduled for completion in late 2026. The Apsley Hall Facilities Upgrade project is jointly funded by the Regional Development Victoria, West Wimmera Shire Council and the Apsley Hall Committee and is expected to be completed also by late 2026.

Other major infrastructure-related submissions, including previous years submissions, such as increasing the availability of worker accommodation and proposed upgrades to the Kaniva Memorial Swimming Pool, have been incorporated into Council's advocacy planning and continue to be key advocacy points for Council. These initiatives guide engagement with state and federal governments to attract investment and support.

All project submissions are formally assessed through this concept planning process (assessed by PMO and councillors). Where feasible, suitable funding opportunities are sought to progress ideas toward delivery.

Community satisfaction survey

West Wimmera Shire Council again achieved community satisfaction results above both the Victorian small shire average and the state average across Council's key services in the 2026 Community Satisfaction Survey.

The independent survey, conducted annually by JWS Research on behalf of Local Government Victoria, asked residents to rate Council's performance across a range of core measures and service areas.

Across the 12 key Council service areas measured, West Wimmera recorded an average score of 56.75, compared with 55.25 for small shires and 56.58 for the Victorian average.

Council's highest-rated service areas were the appearance of public areas, waste management, enforcement of local laws, the condition of footpaths and keeping the community informed. Customer service also remained a key strength, with residents rating their most recent customer service experience at 78, significantly above both the small shire average (65) and the Victorian average (68).

While the condition of sealed local streets, roadside slashing and weed control, and maintenance of unsealed roads were identified as the lowest-rated service areas, West Wimmera continues to perform above the small shire average for unsealed roads despite managing one of the largest local road networks in Victoria.

The survey provides valuable feedback to help guide Council's future planning, service delivery and advocacy efforts, ensuring resources continue to be directed towards the areas that matter most to the community.

Our volunteers

West Wimmera Shire continues to have one of the highest rates of volunteerism in Victoria. Volunteers contribute to nearly every aspect of community life, driving the success of sporting clubs, interest groups, events, and emergency services. Their efforts are critical to the shire's ongoing vitality. To celebrate National Volunteers Week in May, a morning tea was held for our volunteers who continue to provide their time to assist others. This year was "Your Year to Volunteer" something the people who reside in the West Wimmera Shire know is extremely important to ensure our communities continue to thrive in every aspect.

KANIVA FAUNA PARK

The Kaniva Fauna Park attracts people who live locally to visit birds and animals, but it also attracts a huge number of travellers, some who are visiting for the first time and others who call in to the Kaniva Fauna Park every time they drive through Kaniva. The dedicated band of volunteers who look after the birds and animals often report that the star of the show is our white cockatoo. He is a talker and loves nothing more than to entertain often a crowd of travellers with his antics. The volunteers are the lifeblood of the fauna park keeping a watchful eye on our birds and animals, feeding them and keeping their enclosures clean but also enjoying the peace and quiet they bring. Wildlife Victoria inspected the park recently and was very impressed at how well looked after it was. They were also impressed to learn that the Kaniva Fauna Park was run by a band of 11 volunteers who love what they do. As a tribute to the volunteers, Council held a light tea to thank them for their dedication and commitment to a huge community asset in Kaniva.

WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE BUS

The Wimmera Southern Mallee Bus, a partnership between West Wimmera Shire Council and the Centre for Participation, continues to provide vital transport links for residents. Since 2018, the service has run every Wednesday, transporting passengers from Kaniva, Nhill, Dimboola, and Pimpinio to Horsham. From February 2026 through to July 2026, 67 people have used this service from Kaniva, 17 people have used this service from Nhill and 28 people from Dimboola with a total of 112 people.

Contrary to the trends of volunteering generally, West Wimmera Shire Council's rate of volunteerism for people to drive and host on the Wimmera Southern Mallee Bus continues to thrive. Every Wednesday two volunteers from Kaniva commit to driving and hosting travellers who use this vital service to access services in Horsham.



Photo: Kaniva Fauna Park volunteer Doug with a Red-tail black Cockatoo

Community grants

Council's community grant programs continued to support local groups and initiatives throughout 2025-26, with a strong focus on building connection, inclusion and wellbeing across the shire. In 2025, the grant framework was reviewed and refined to better reflect community priorities and ensure funding reaches the projects that make the greatest social impact.

	Total Grants 2025-26
Community Strengthening Grants	$39,318.83
Community Support Grant contributions	$25,000.00
Community Support Grant insurances	$20,000.00 building and contents $12,000.00 public and products liability
Quick Response Grant	$2,500.00
Support for Events Grant	$32,251.00 (in-kind support directly from Council)
Sponsorship and Contributions Grant	$3,200.00 direct financial support $970.00 direct in-kind support
The total spend on community grants:	$106,683.52 $73,462.52 (financial support) $33,221.00 (In-kind support)

Council provided a total of $106,683.52 in grant funding and in-kind assistance to support local communities.

Of this total, $73,462.52 was distributed directly to community organisations, supporting a diverse range of local events, programs and initiatives. These projects contributed to the social, cultural and economic vitality of the region, enhancing quality of life and strengthening community connections.

Council also provided $33,221 in in-kind assistance to help deliver community events. This practical support included:

- Additional rubbish and recycling bins
- Traffic signage and event notifications
- Traffic management plans prepared by Council staff

As part of the program refresh, Council also updated its grant guidelines to make the application process clearer and more accessible. The revised criteria aim to support projects that:

- Strengthen social cohesion
- Promote inclusion and participation
- Build local capacity and leadership
- Create positive health and wellbeing outcomes

To support applicants through these changes, Council will deliver a series of interactive community grant workshops in Kaniva and Edenhope. These sessions will guide community members through the application and acquittal process, explain the updated requirements, and provide space for questions and discussion.

The community grants program remains a key way Council supports grassroots action, helping residents to shape and lead the projects that matter most in their towns and communities.



Photo: Lake Bringalbert sign purchased through a Community Strengthening Grant

Events

Lake Charlegrark Country Music Marathon

The 33rd annual Lake Charlegrark Country Music Marathon ran from February 20 to 22. The event received funding through Visit Victoria's Regional Event Fund to help with running costs.

West Wimmera Shire Council facilitated a meeting between the Lake Charlegrark Country Music Marathon Committee and Grampians Wimmera Mallee Tourism to discuss the Regional Event Fund stream and funding opportunities. The 2026 Country music marathon was headlined by The Wolfe Brothers.

ANZAC Day West Wimmera

Anzac Day services were held in Kaniva, Edenhope and Goroke, with special guest speakers and a community barbecue breakfast. Apsley and Harrow commemorated Anzac Day with a community lunch and the Dergholm community gathered to remember fallen soldiers with a dawn service followed by a gunfire breakfast.

Seniors Festival

West Wimmera Shire Council's 2025 Seniors Festival celebrated the contributions and achievements of seniors through a month-long program of activities, events and performances.

Highlights included regional day trips, Men's Shed visits, sheep dog demonstrations and live music, including a Kevin Sporer concert in Apsley and an Everly Brothers and Buddy Holly Tribute Show in Kaniva.

The festival provided valuable opportunities for social connection, learning and community participation, with support from the Victorian Government and Department of Families, Fairness and Housing.

Kaniva Fauna Park

To recognise the excellent result following an inspection in June by the Conservation Regulator. inspection outcome and thank volunteers for their ongoing commitment, Council had a special get together for the volunteers.

16 Days of Activism

West Wimmera Shire Council hosted community events in Edenhope, Goroke and Kaniva as part of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign, held from 25 November to 10 December.

Supported by Safe and Equal on behalf of Respect Victoria, the events featured guest speakers from Grampians Health, Women's Health Grampians, The Orange Door, the Wimmera Southwest Family Violence Partnership and Victoria Police.

Whipcracking entertainment at Kaniva

World-record whipcracker Nathan "Whippy" Griggs wowed crowds at Kaniva Recreation Reserve in February, delivering a fast-paced show of precision tricks, comedy and whip demonstrations. The free Council event also gave young volunteers the chance to try their hand at whip cracking, with strong support from local community groups and volunteers.

Griggs is a five-time Guinness World Record holder, based in the Northern Territory. The event was supported by Kaniva Cricket Club and Kaniva Leeor United Football Netball Club.

Support to community events

During 2025–26, Council provided in-kind support to 25 community groups to assist with the delivery of local events and activities.

Support included the provision of rubbish and recycling bins, traffic management plans, signage and other practical assistance. The total value of Council's in-kind contribution to these community events was $15,854.







Muster Dogs Showcase draws a crowd for Seniors Festival

More than 200 people attended a special Muster Dogs showcase at Kaniva in October, celebrating the 2025 Victorian Seniors Festival.

The event featured three contestants from the hit ABC series Muster Dogs – Kim Dodson from Kaniva, Rob Tuncks from Edenhope and Helen McDonald from Keith.

The trainers shared stories about how the program began, their time filming, and their experiences working with their dogs.

This was followed by a Q&A session with the audience.

In the afternoon, the three contestants and their dogs took to the arena for working dog demonstrations, moving cows, goats and sheep

The Muster Dogs showcase was part of West Wimmera Shire Council’s month-long Seniors Festival celebrations.



Photo: Council staff completing works.

Our Performance

This section reviews West Wimmera Shire Council's performance, highlighting how it meets its strategic goals and legislative requirements. It covers the Council Plan 2025-2029 and its alignment with community priorities. Performance is assessed through various indicators and measures, with detailed reports on each of the Council's four strategic goals: Healthy, Inviting and Connected Community, Diverse and Growing Economy, Resilient and Sustainable Environment and Operational Excellence. Detailed reports on major initiatives and service delivery provide insights into the Council's achievements and focus areas.

Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework

Part 4 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires Councils to prepare the following:

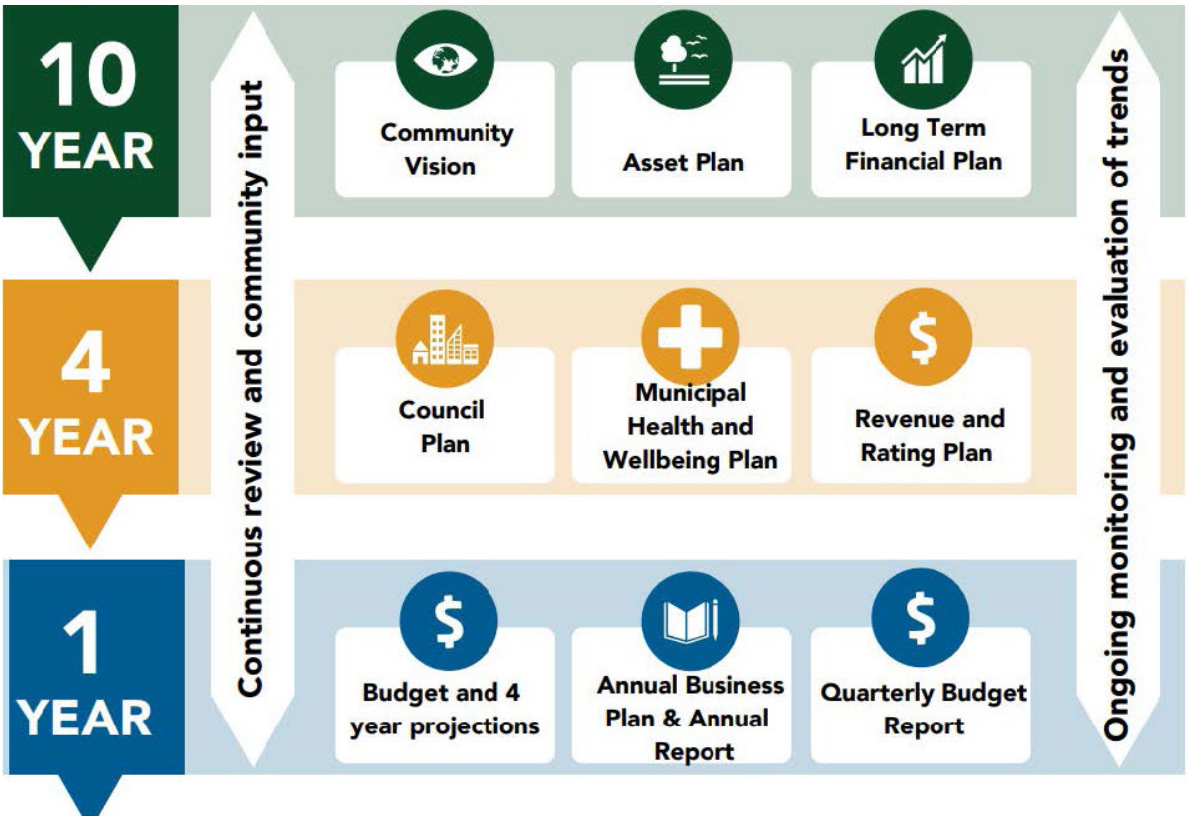
- A community vision (for at least the next 10 financial years)
- A council plan (for at least the next four financial years)
- A financial plan (for at least the next 10 financial years)
- An asset plan (for at least the next 10 financial years)
- A revenue and rating plan (for at least the next four financial years)
- An annual budget (for the next four financial years)
- A quarterly budget report
- An annual report (for each financial year) and
- Financial policies

The Act also requires councils to prepare:

- A Workforce Plan (including projected staffing requirements for at least four years).

The following diagram shows the relationships between the key planning and reporting documents that make up the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework for Local Government.

Diagram 4: Integrated planning and reporting framework



Council plan 2025-2029 at a glance

Under the Victorian Local Government Act 2020, a council plan must be prepared every four years. The West Wimmera Shire Council Plan is our key strategic document and incorporates the Disability Action Plan and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

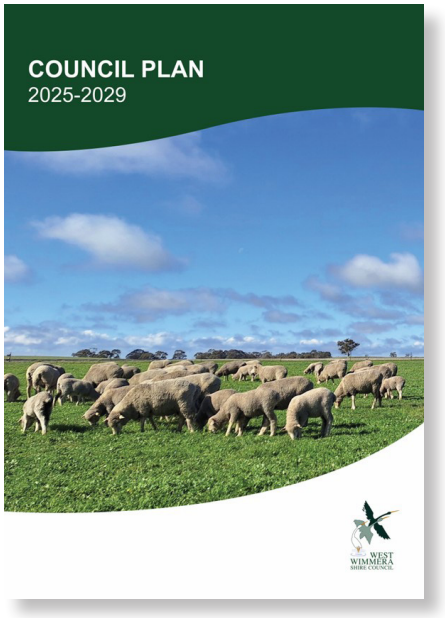
While this legislation sets the framework, the real strength of our plan comes from the voices of our community. Through extensive engagement with residents, businesses and stakeholders, the plan has been shaped to guide decision-making, allocate resources, and focus our efforts where they will have the greatest impact.

To remain responsive and accountable, the Council Plan and its indicators are reviewed annually to ensure they continue to reflect the evolving needs and opportunities of

West Wimmera. Progress is reported quarterly through our Annual Plan, which provides more detail on the specific projects and initiatives being delivered each year. Ultimately, the Council Plan is more than a statutory requirement - it is a roadmap for West Wimmera Shire. It captures our shared vision, outlines our priorities, and sets out the practical steps we will take together to achieve positive outcomes for our community now and into the future.

The Council Plan:

- States the Council's long-term vision and goals
- Integrates the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, emphasising health and wellbeing
- Reviews and updates indicators annually to align with Council and community priorities
- Reports quarterly on detailed annual projects and actions
- Reflects community and stakeholder consultation outcomes
- Complies with legislative requirements under the Victorian Local Government Act 2020



Four goals have been identified as the focus for Council and community activity to achieve the vision:

Goal 1: Healthy, inviting and connected community

Goal 2: Diverse and growing economy

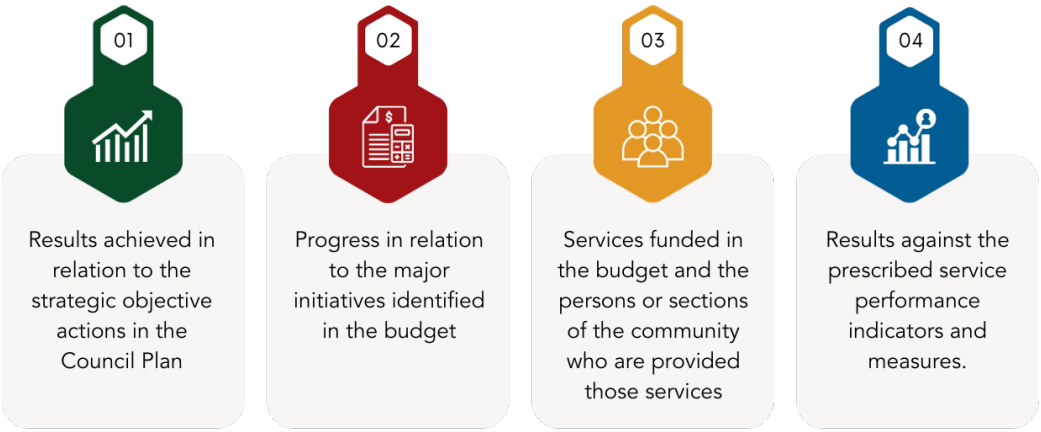
Goal 3: Resilient and sustainable environment

Goal 4: Operational excellence

The Council Plan is available to view on Council's website www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au. The implementation of the Council Plan will drive improvements in service delivery and contribute to achieving the community's vision for West Wimmera Shire as a vibrant and sustainable region.

Reporting performance

Council's performance for the 2025-26 year has been reported against each strategic goal and strategy to demonstrate how Council is performing in achieving the 2025-2029 Council Plan. Performance can be measured as follows:



Description of operations

Council delivers a wide range of business-as-usual (BAU) services that keep our Shire running, meet statutory requirements, and support community wellbeing. These are our ongoing responsibilities and differ from the special initiatives listed in this Plan.

DIRECTORATE: INFRASTRUCTURE & PLANNING

Engineering

- Strategic and technical asset management
- Civil design and engineering support
- Road, bridge and drainage planning
- Delivery of Capital Works Program

Operations

- Maintenance of 2,759 km of local roads, bridges, footpaths and drainage
- Parks, gardens, recreation reserves, and public amenities upkeep
- Fleet and plant management
- Delivery of VicRoads Maintenance Contract

Waste Management

- Operation for Transfer Stations across the shire
- Management of roadside collection service

Quality & Facilities

- Maintenance of Council buildings, halls, and public facilities
- Cleaning, safety and asset compliance checks
- Continuous improvement of service standards
- Optimise and make available the use of council facilities

Contract & Procurement

- Purchasing, contracts and tenders
- Supplier compliance and probity management

Projects & Innovations

- Delivery of capital works program
- Project management and design coordination
- Innovation in service delivery and infrastructure renewal
- Strategic Development Projects

Planning & Development

- Statutory planning and building permits
- Local laws administration
- Environmental health and compliance (food safety, septic, housing health)

DIRECTORATE: CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Human Resources (HR)

- Workforce planning, recruitment, and training
- Payroll, employee relations, and staff wellbeing
- Organisational culture development

Occupational Health & Safety (OHS)

- Workplace safety management
- Risk assessments and incident response
- Compliance with WorkSafe and legislative standards

Community Support Services

- Early Years services (Childcare, Kindergarten, Playgroups)
- Youth engagement and inclusion programs

Community Development & Tourism

- Community & Business grants and event support
- Tourism marketing, visitor information and regional partnerships
- Emergency management coordination and recovery

Finance & Transactions

- Financial planning, budgets and audits
- Rates and property valuation
- Treasury, accounting and reporting

Governance & Compliance

- Council meetings, decision-making and records management
- Policy, risk and audit oversight

Information Technology

- Management of Council's information systems, including records management, data protection, and supporting ongoing business improvement initiatives.

Communications

- Community engagement and communications

Customer Service

- Customer service (phone & in person)
- Vic Roads Agency
- Centrelink Agency
- Hosting Court

Library

- Open Access Library Services across Edenhope, Kaniva, Goroke & Harrow

This broad range of community services and infrastructure for residents, supports the wellbeing and prosperity of our community. Council's vision, strategic goals and strategies to further improve services and facilities are described in our Council Plan 2025-2029. The associated Annual Plan 2025-26 and the Budget 2025-26 are guided and reported upon in this document.

Refer to the section on Our Performance for more information about Council services. The delivery of services, facilities, support and advocacy to achieve the strategic goals and strategies is measured by a set of service performance indicators and measures. Council also has a wide range of responsibilities under Victorian and Australian legislations.

Council Goal 1

Healthy, inviting and connected community

Strategic Indicators

Indicators/measures	Comments/results
West Wimmera population (ABS)	2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census indicated population growth for West Wimmera Shire Council from 3,810 to 4,006.
Annual Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey	Maternal Child Health Services transferred November 2025. The index score recorded for family support services for the West Wimmera Shire was 60 compared with the state-wide score of 62.
Proportion of residents engaged in volunteering	Persons undertaking voluntary work for an organisation or group was 33% (2021 census)
Number of general practitioners per 1,000 residents in the shire	Two general practitioners within Shire
Utilisation of community health and wellbeing facilities	14,625 visits to aquatic facilities, a 30% increase on previous year

Major initiatives

Goal 1: Healthy, inviting and connected community

Action	% Complete	Comments
Continue to roll out Community Grants Program (Quick Response Grant, Sponsorships, Community Strengthening and Community Support Grant)	100%	Ongoing management and maintenance of the grants program including updates to guidelines and the SmartyGrants software
Partner with service providers to improve access to health and community services within the shire (general health, oral health, mental health, MCH services, early years care and education, youth service)	100%	Kinders commenced Healthy Achievement Program, Be You Mental Health Program including partnering with local stakeholders. Headspace sessions with youth implemented. Continuation of support for WWHS for MCH.
Supporting and recognising volunteers across the shire with annual volunteer morning teas, seek funding for additional event to recognise all volunteers	100%	Readdressing what volunteering will look like into the future
Delivery of supported playgroups program	100%	Supported playgroups run in Harrow and Goroke
Engagement with schools and key stakeholders (health service providers, headspace) across the shire to promote Western Bulldogs Community Foundation Program.	100%	Ongoing regular meetings with Western Bulldogs Community Foundation Program and stakeholders
Deliver Freeza and Engage youth funding through Western Bulldogs Community Foundation Program.	100%	Year 1.5 of 3-year program complete
16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence campaign with local events in November 2025	100%	Continue to seek funding to run this event
Active participation of CoRe alliance membership	100%	Ongoing participation via regular meetings and networking
Intergenerational playgroup/gardening program in Edenhope	100%	This program was completed and no longer applicable due to new strict child safe regulations.
Annual Working with Children's check audit	100%	Audit completed as of 30 June 2026, continual reviews of renewals
Support community groups with funding applications	100%	Ongoing and including public meetings to discuss grant opportunities Support for Tiny Towns applications
Training for committees of management (DEECA) and modern rules for committee training	100%	Ongoing with two community meetings planned for 2026 and follow up meetings planned
Delivery of Johnny Mullagh Discovery Centre floor leveling Connection of Council properties into Goroke sewer Kaniva pool painting Goroke pool painting Apsley men's toilet repair Goroke pool leak repair and water chlorinator Kaniva depot - fuel tank removal	100%	Completed delivery of Johnny Mullagh Discovery Centre floor leveling. Completed connection of Council properties into Goroke sewer. Completed painting of Kaniva and Goroke pools. Issues at Apsley men's toilet has been resolved Repaired leak at Goroke pool leak repair but water chlorinator repair was held off due to planned pool upgrade Fuel tank scheduled for removal at Kaniva depot

Complete fire-fighting facilities upgrade at Edenhope Aerodrome (funded)	100%	Works completed & funding acquitted
Complete asset inspections as per plan	100%	Completed as per schedule
Seek funding for solar on government owned buildings (if available) – potentially - Kaniva Community Hub and/or pools	100%	Projects have scoped several key identified assets and concepts have been provided to Council. Investigating suitable funding opportunities and none have been identified to date.
Advocate for upgrading – rail crossing signals at Serviceton and pedestrian crossings at Maddern and Farmer Street Kaniva	100%	Added to Advocacy Plan. Serviceton crossing has been on Victrack program for a number of years. Design complete and funding has previously been advised to have been allocated. The CEO of the Rail Freight Alliance has again raised the Serviceton Crossing in discussions with the Vic Govt. Brought up in discussions with Road Safety Victoria during workshop re Safer Roads and Streets Program. Rail crossing projects not applicable to this project. Emma Kealy office contacted re promise of Serviceton rail upgrade in 2019, with no works done to date. Emma Kealy raised the matter in State Parliament 15 Oct 2024. Most recent advice was that the project was to be completed by Oct 2026.
Delivery of Goroke Kinder playground project Delivery of Kaniva Dog Park Delivery of Kaniva Recreation Reserve facilities design Delivery of Goroke aquatic facility design (subject to funding) Delivery of Open Access Library Fitout Project Advocate and seek funding for Streetscape upgrades West Wimmera housing projects, Goroke kinder building upgrade, Edenhope childcare playground, Kaniva pool upgrade, Kaniva Recreation Reserve facility upgrades and other key projects as they arise.	100%	Goroke kindergarten playground largely completed. Kaniva dog park, Kaniva Recreation Reserve facilities design and Goroke aquatic facility design projects are all nearing completion. The Open Access Library Fitout Project's in progress. Funding applications for the Goroke kindergarten building upgrade and the Edenhope kindergarten service yard upgrades has been submitted and unsuccessful this round. We are still awaiting the outcome of the Kaniva Tourism & Wellbeing Precinct funding application to the Regional Precinct & Partnership Program incorporates upgrades to the Kaniva Pool. Seeking of funding for other key projects has continued applications will be submitted in July 2026 for Kaniva Cricket Training Nets and Edenhope Netball Tennis Courts and Facilities Planning
Delivery of Edenhope football changerooms Delivery of Serviceton Silo Art Delivery of Kaniva Bowling Club green (subject to funding) Delivery of Goroke irrigation and lighting (subject to funding) Continue to seek suitable grant funding as it becomes available for community infrastructure projects, including: Edenhope Recreation Reserve oval lighting Edenhope netball court and lighting upgrade Apsley Recreation Reserve oval lighting Additional projects to be added as they are approved through the PMO	100%	Edenhope changerooms, Serviceton Silo Art and Goroke irrigation and lighting are nearing completion by September 2026. The Kaniva Bowling Club upgrade will commence in September 2026. Design and delivery of Harrow and district recreation reserve scoreboards upgrade project, Edenhope swimming pool facilities design project and Serviceton Bowls Club all-abilities green and sports pavilion upgrade will commence in mid to late 2026.
Advocate for the requirement for school bus services for all school children	100%	Ongoing, have discussed with Department of Transport and Planning

Continue to run/support and promote volunteer taxi service in Kaniva and Centre for Participation bus from Kaniva to Horsham weekly	100%	Further discussions to take place regarding the viability of this service for Council and Centre for Participation
Continue to run/support and promote companion transport program Harrow, Kaniva and Edenhope	100%	This will be dependent on the availability of pool vehicles now that the Home and Community Care Program is no longer a Council responsibility.
Meet with funding and/or service partners every six months to assist with regional advocacy for childcare/early years services	100%	Regular meetings with Department of Education and MAV working groups
Advocate for childcare in Goroke	100%	Application for Building Early Education Fund progress. Have been notified that the grant was unsuccessful. Additional grant submissions may be applicable in the future.
Training calendar on Council's website with business training opportunities	100%	Promoted business training opportunities, workshops, webinars and courses through Council's website.
Advocate for the requirement for potable water in Harrow, Goroke and Apsley	100%	Attend GWMWater stakeholders meetings as they occur. Acting Director IDW participated online in GWMWater's customer and stakeholder workshop on Friday 24 April 2026.
Continuing to provide library services for the community	100%	Library contract in place and services being provided
Community fire awareness, through social media and Wimmera Emergency Management Team	100%	New Municipal Emergency Management Plan to be put to the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee in March for approval. To be forwarded to Regional Emergency Management Planning Committees for assurance
Attend meetings and actively participate in the Wimmera Emergency Management Resources Sharing Partnership and work with the staff or the Wimmera Emergency Management Team	100%	New Municipal Emergency Management Plan to be put to the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee in March for approval. To be forwarded to Regional Emergency Management Planning Committees for assurance
Advocate for multi-agency depot in Kaniva (CFA, SES and ambulance) and Goroke (CFA and SES)	100%	Work in progress Advocation plans being drawn up for Goroke and Kaniva Met with all parties and Goroke has been offered some options for station build. CFA Region 17 and Goroke will discuss the options of a new station or a station refurbishment. Included in State Government Election Advocacy Plan
Attend and actively participate in the planning of the Grampians Regional Emergency Management team regional and local plans	100%	Ongoing
Plan for and deliver emergency services as required in conjunction with REMP and MEMP, as per the three tiers of emergency management planning in Victoria and the Emergency Management Act 2013	100%	Ongoing
Involvement in Wimmera Southern Mallee Development Housing Project Kaniva airport redevelopment (subject to funding)	100%	Ongoing

Services funded in budget

Service Area	Net Cost ($ '000)		
	Budget	Actual	Variance
Parks and reserves	701	561	(140)
Projects innovation	723	1,081	359
Community support and wellbeing	107	202	95
Aerodromes	1	17	16
Buildings and property	471	478	7
Bridges and culverts	14	9	(5)
Assets and engineering	744	734	(10)
Private works	(22)	(1,435)	(1,413)
Roads and footpaths*	(1,862)	(471)	1,391
Facilities and quality	1,058	958	(100)
Depot operations	1,488	1,322	(166)

*Roads and footpaths were a net gain of 471k with income of 2.688m against expenditure of 2.217m. 471k of road projects have been carried forward for completion.

Service performance indicators

Results					
Service / indicator / measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	Comments
LIBRARIES					
Utilisation					
Loans per head of population [Number of library collection item loans / Population]	New	4.14	3.73	3.94	
Resource currency					
Recently purchased library collection [Number of library collection items purchased in the last five years / Number of library collection items] x100	42.14%	36.43%	37.81%	40.57%	
Participation					
Library membership [Number of registered library members / Population] x100	New	23%	24%	23.60%	
Library visits per head of population [Number of library visits / Population]	New	2.10	2.00	1.99	
Service cost					
Cost of library service per population [Direct cost of the library service / Population]	$48.90	$55.59	$77.00	$82.80	

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (MCH)					
Service standard					
Infant enrolments in the MCH service [Number of infants enrolled in the MCH service (from birth notifications received) / Number of birth notifications received] x100	202.21%	145.16%	160.87%	127.78%	Maternal Child Health Service was transferred to West Wimmera Health in November 2025
Service cost					
Cost of the MCH service [Cost of the MCH service / Hours worked by MCH nurses]	$63.18	$58.21	$92.11	$279.48	Maternal Child Health Service was transferred to West Wimmera Health in November 2025
Participation					
Participation in the MCH service [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	93.10%	100.00%	77.24%	79.52%	Maternal Child Health Service was transferred to West Wimmera Health in November 2025
Participation					
Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	Maternal Child Health Service was transferred to West Wimmera Health in November 2025
Satisfaction					
Participation in 4-week Key Age and Stage visit [Number of 4-week key age and stage visits / Number of birth notifications received] x100	116.28%	122.58%	147.83%	125.00%	Maternal Child Health Service was transferred to West Wimmera Health in November 2025



Photo: Kaniva Library



Photo: Breathe Rural Womens Event

Community Support and Wellbeing

Healthy, inviting and connected communities

Throughout 2025-26, Council continued investing in children, young people and families by delivering quality early years education, supporting workforce development and strengthening community partnerships.

Working alongside families, schools, health services, community organisations and government, Council improved access to education, care and wellbeing services across West Wimmera, helping build healthy, connected and resilient communities.

Early years and families

Council continued delivering quality kindergarten programs across Edenhope, Goroke and Kaniva, providing safe, inclusive learning environments where children developed confidence, wellbeing, and a sense of belonging.

Highlights included:

- 70 children attended funded three- and four-year-old kindergarten across Council's services
- Introduced an additional five-hour weekly four-year-old kindergarten session
- Continued planning for the Victorian Government's rollout of 20 hours of four-year-old kindergarten from 2027
- Completed the Goroke kindergarten inclusive playground through the Building Blocks Inclusion Grant
- Supported children with additional needs through partnerships with families, allied health professionals and family support services
- Continued embedding wellbeing, inclusion and reconciliation initiatives through the Be You Program, Healthy Places Healthy Futures and the Narragunnawali Reconciliation Action Plan
- Edenhope Childcare remained at capacity, supporting 26 families
- Submitted a Building Early Education Fund Infrastructure application for a new inclusive childcare service in Goroke.
- Facilitated two supported playgroups and supported three community playgroups, strengthening parenting confidence, children's development and family connections.
- Employed 21 staff across Council's early years services and continued investing in workforce development through trainee and educator qualifications
- Delivered child safe professional learning, strengthened governance and compliance with the Victorian Child Safe Standards, and commenced implementation of the new VECRA requirements.
- Commenced the implementation of an integrated early years software platform to strengthen child safety, improve communication with families, and enhance documentation of children's learning and development.

Young people

Council continued creating opportunities for young people to connect, participate and lead through partnerships with the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation, headspace, schools and community organisations.

Highlights included:

- More than 350 young people engaged in leadership, wellbeing and community programs
- Engage! and Amplify Youth Grants secured through to 2027
- Strengthened student leadership and youth voice through school partnerships
- Expanded mental health and wellbeing initiatives in partnership with headspace
- Increased social connection and community participation through inter-school events



Photo: Student Citizenship Award winner Aria Wilson, Goroke P-12 College, with Councillor Tom Houlihan

Strong partnerships

Collaboration remained central to delivering positive outcomes for children, young people and families. Throughout the year, Council worked closely with the By Five Wimmera Southern Mallee partnership, health services, family support agencies, allied health providers, the Department of Education, Gowrie Victoria, the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing, the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation and neighbouring councils.



Photo: Workshop focused on leadership, mental health, public speaking, team building, and community engagement, lead by Western Bulldogs Community Foundation with Edenhope College students.

Together these partnerships:

- Improved access to education, care and wellbeing services
- Strengthened referral pathways and support for local families
- Supported the transition of Maternal and Child Health services to West Wimmera Health Service while maintaining continuity of care
- Installed free period product dispensers at the Kaniva and Edenhope libraries through a DFFH initiative
- Continued advocating for expanded rural childcare and early years infrastructure.
- Supported independent early years providers, including Kaniva Early Learning Centre
- Continued supporting the community following the transition of Aged and Disability Services, ensuring access to information and local support



Photo: Kaniva Kindergarten students beginning the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program



New inclusive playground opens at Goroke Kindergarten

The new inclusive playground at Goroke Kindergarten was officially opened, providing children with a modern and accessible space to play, learn and connect.

West Wimmera Shire Council Mayor Tim Meyer joined families, staff and community members to celebrate the opening of the upgraded playground.

The project was made possible through $197,900 from the Department of Education's Building Blocks Inclusion Grant program.

The Goroke Parent Advisory Group also contributed $2000 to the project and participated in the project control group, supporting the planning and delivery of the upgrade.

The new playground features a fully accessible wet-pour rubber surface, basket swing, trampoline and a range of inclusive play equipment designed for children of all abilities.

Cr Meyer said the new playground would provide important opportunities for children to develop social and physical skills through play.

"Play is such an important part of early childhood development," he said.

"This new space gives children of all abilities the opportunity to play together, build confidence, develop coordination and enjoy imaginative outdoor play in a safe and welcoming environment."

Cr Meyer acknowledged the contribution of kindergarten staff, contractors, Council staff and families involved in bringing the project to life.

"Projects like this are incredibly important for our rural communities and for supporting local families," he said.

"The playground will be enjoyed by children and families for many years to come."

The upgraded playground forms part of Council's ongoing commitment to supporting accessible and inclusive early childhood facilities across West Wimmera Shire.

Emergency management

The 2025-26 financial year has been a period of continued growth and improvement in emergency management across West Wimmera Shire. Council has maintained its commitment to building a resilient community through proactive planning, strong partnerships with emergency management agencies, and a sustained focus on community preparedness.

Municipal Emergency Management Planning

A significant achievement during the year was the development and implementation of the new Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP). The updated plan reflects the requirements of Victoria's emergency management arrangements and strengthens the integration of preparedness, response, relief and recovery activities across the municipality.

The MEMP was developed collaboratively through the Wimmera Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee framework and involved extensive consultation with emergency services, government agencies, neighbouring councils and community stakeholders. The plan provides a contemporary framework for managing emergencies and identifies local risks, responsibilities, resources and arrangements for coordinated emergency management across the shire.

Council also continued its involvement in the Wimmera Emergency Management Resource Sharing Partnership, working closely with Horsham Rural City, Hindmarsh Shire and Yarriambiack Shire councils to ensure a coordinated regional approach to emergency preparedness, relief and recovery.

Emergency Events and Seasonal Challenges

During the reporting period, West Wimmera Shire continued to face a range of emergency risks typical of a rural municipality, including bushfires, extreme heat, storms and ongoing drought conditions.

Particular attention was directed towards bushfire preparedness following significant fire activity experienced across western Victoria during the 2025-26 fire season. These events reinforced the importance of community readiness, situational awareness and strong partnerships between Council, emergency services and local communities.

Council maintained its support role during emergency events by providing municipal coordination, community information, relief planning and recovery support where required. Regular monitoring of seasonal conditions and engagement with emergency service partners ensured Council remained prepared to activate relevant emergency management arrangements when necessary.

Community Preparedness and Resilience

Building community resilience continues to be a cornerstone of Council's emergency management program.

Throughout the year, Council partnered with the Wimmera Emergency Management Team to promote emergency preparedness messaging, including the "72-hour self-sufficiency" campaign and the Wimmera72 website. These initiatives encourage residents to understand local risks, develop emergency plans, maintain emergency kits and ensure households can remain self-sufficient during an emergency.

Preparedness information was distributed through Council communication channels, community networks and emergency management partners, with a focus on increasing awareness of bushfire, flood, heatwave and storm risks across the municipality.

Community Emergency Readiness Survey

A key initiative during the year was the launch of the Community Emergency Readiness Survey as part of the West Wimmera Shire Regional Resilience Initiative.

The survey sought feedback from residents to better understand household preparedness levels for bushfire and flood emergencies.

Questions explored emergency awareness, evacuation planning, emergency kits, communication methods, arrangements for pets and livestock, and the use of emergency information services.

The survey provided valuable insights into community preparedness and identified opportunities for future education, engagement and resilience-building programs. Findings from the survey will assist Council and emergency management partners to:

- Strengthen local resilience initiatives.
- Improve emergency communication strategies.
- Inform future emergency management planning.
- Support funding applications for community preparedness programs.
- Better target education and engagement activities across the municipality.

Looking Ahead

Council remains committed to strengthening the emergency resilience of West Wimmera Shire through continuous improvement, strong regional partnerships and ongoing engagement with the community.

Key priorities for the coming year include implementing actions arising from the new Municipal Emergency Management Plan, analysing the outcomes of the Community Emergency Readiness Survey, expanding community preparedness initiatives and continuing to enhance coordination arrangements with emergency management agencies and neighbouring municipalities.

Through these efforts, Council will continue to support a safer, more prepared and more resilient West Wimmera community.

Customer service

The results of the 2026 Community Satisfaction Survey reaffirm that West Wimmera Shire Council provides the highest standard of customer service in the state. Excellence in service is evident from the moment residents' step into the council office and are warmly welcomed by our dedicated customer service team. Their professionalism and commitment to assisting the community are invaluable and greatly appreciated. Council continues to move towards improved first contact to resolution, empowering customer service staff to answer most customer questions directly, without the inconvenience of holding or being transferred between departments. This ongoing focus ensures residents receive faster, more efficient service and reflects our commitment to continuous improvement.



Photo: Edenhope Staff

Engineering and works

Council has completed the following capital works projects during 2025-26:

Roads

- Mooree Road construction
- Goroke Nurcoung Road construction

Footpaths

- Budjik Street, Kaniva

Aerodromes

- Construction of two new firefighting water tanks

Design for future projects

- Kadnook Conniewirricoo Road

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Over the past 12 months, Council's Infrastructure, Engineering and Works teams have successfully delivered a significant capital works and maintenance program while continuing to strengthen asset management and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capabilities. These ongoing improvements have enhanced operational efficiency, supported informed decision-making, and contributed to the sustainable management of Council's infrastructure assets.

Routine maintenance was carried out across the shire and included sealed and unsealed roads, Council-owned buildings and reserves, playgrounds, footpaths, kerb and channel, and parks and gardens.

Gravel resheeting of various roads was completed to the value of $1.3 million.

The capital works program was further supported by Federal Government funding, including:

- $2,000,000 through the Safer Local Roads and Streets Program
- $2,444,826 through the Roads to Recovery Program



Photo: Council staff working on Budjik Street footpath



Photo: WWSC Parks and Gardens staff refreshing garden beds in Edenhope



Photo: Railway crossing signage upgrade program

Council Goal 2

Diverse and growing economy

Services funded in budget

Service Area	Net Cost ($ '000)		
	Budget	Actual	Variance
Community Development	1,085	947	(138)

Major initiatives

Goal 2: Diverse and growing economy

Action	% Complete	Comments
Marketing campaign on social media and Council website to attract businesses and families to West Wimmera	100%	Promoted West Wimmera as a place to live, work and invest, highlighting business opportunities, family services, employment, tourism and recreation.
Begin implementation of recommendations from planning scheme review: Complete Edenhope flood investigation Complete Apsley flood investigation Update flood controls for Harrow and Chetwynd (add into planning scheme) Targeted settlement plans for larger towns (Edenhope, Kaniva, Goroke, Apsley and Harrow)	60%	Edenhope and Apsley flood studies complete. Minister permission provided for advertising Harrow and Chetwynd flood amendments. Small Towns Plan and Kaniva Structure Plan documents complete and adopted. On track to deliver remaining structure plans within the life of the four-year Council plan.
Continue to delivery Business Assistance Grant program	100%	Ongoing
Supporting industrial development across the shire	100%	Investigating opportunities as they arise.
Continue to deliver Streetscape Grant program	100%	
Support to Birchip Cropping Group Young Farmers Network (West Wimmera Group)	100%	Financial assistance provided.
Active membership to Wimmera Grampians Tourism (Visitor Economy Partnership)	100%	
Seek funding for Glenelg River walking trail	100%	Discussions with Glenelg Hopkins CMA regarding funding for a walking trail. Continuing to seek funding
Advocate to attract the required skilled workforce to the region. e.g. health care, childcare, agriculture.	100%	Advocate via Council Alliance, Readyness Strategy for skilled workforce, support to agriculture
Seek external funding to implement Kaniva and Edenhope streetscape plans	100%	Seeking funding. Concept prepared. No applicable opportunities identified to date.
Undertake review of streetscapes (Harrow, Apsley, Serviceton, Dergholm and Goroke) (subject to funding)	100%	Seeking funding. Concept prepared. No applicable opportunities identified to date.
Seek funding for: Lions Park Edenhope upgrade project Delivery of streetscape improvements (Harrow, Apsley, Serviceton, Dergholm and Goroke)	100%	Seeking funding. Concept prepared. No applicable opportunities identified to date.
Complete review of Road Management Plan (required within 12 months of new Council)	100%	Road Management Plan adopted and published on Government Gazette
Complete Road Management Plan inspections	100%	Completed as per schedule
Develop Council's 2026-27 reseal and resheet program	100%	Completed developing the reseal and resheet program
Delivery of 2025-26 resheet program	90%	Disruption due to fuel crisis. Works deferred to 2026-27
Develop the 2026-27 annual capital works program	100%	2026-27 Capital Works program adopted by Council

Deliver 2024-25 annual capital works program Mooree Road (reconstruction and widening) Local Road railway crossings - signage and speed limit Lake St, Edenhope - wombat crossing and speed limit Apsley Natimuk Rd and Patyah Bringalbert North Rd corner	80%	Completed Mooree Road (reconstruction and widening). Completed local road railway crossings signage compliance project including new lower speed limits where required. Wombat crossing and speed limit at Lake St, Edenhope completed linemarking to be finished. Started work on Apsley Natimuk Rd and Patyah Bringalbert North Rd corner - works to carry forward to 2026-27
Advocate for additional external funding for roads and bridges.	100%	Senior officers and councillors attending meetings (regional Transport Group and Western Highway Action Committee), Municipal Association of Victoria forums, and minister's meetings. Participating in the State Safer Local Roads and Streets Program, which is $2,000,000 over two years. Process commenced with workshop 13 August 2024. Report to Forum 2 Oct and 12 Nov 24. Workshop with TAC 14 Oct. 24. Five projects adopted by Council in March 2025 Projects have been submitted via Smartygrants during early May 2025. Applied for SLRIP Funding for Kadnook Connewirricoo Road widening (submitted 24 Sept 24.). Funding bid was unsuccessful. Second bid successful and funding secured.
Advocate for Regional Roads Victoria to improve the quality of state roads throughout the shire.	100%	Councillor and director attended Regional Transport Group meetings and Department of Transport and Planning meetings.
Seek funding, if available, for Kadnook-Connewirricoo Road and others depending on eligibility.	100%	Funding application was successful
Advocate for improved access to quality digital connectivity.	100%	Digital connectivity plan with Telstra in place
Advocate for West Grampians Pipeline Active involvement in the Wimmera Southern Mallee Partnership to ensure that the West Grampians Pipeline project continues to be a high priority	100%	Ongoing
Advocate for improved water pressure within towns.	100%	Upgrades in Edenhope underway. Potable Water upgrade completed in Kaniva.
Advocate for the improvement of roads to meet requirements for road trains.	100%	Added to Advocacy Plan Various meetings with Department of Transport and Regional Transport Group are regularly attended by senior staff.

Strategic indicators

Indicators/measures	Comments/results
West Wimmera Shire unemployment rate	2021 Australia Bureau Statistics show unemployment rate at 3.2% for West Wimmera Shire Council.
Number of businesses in shire	The total number of employees in the West Wimmera Shire is 1,842. Number of businesses in the West Wimmera Shire is 1,410. Number of West Wimmera Shire residents who are employed is estimated at 1,802. Employed in the agriculture sector is sitting at 51.3%.
Annual tourism related visitation	Tourism output is estimated at $10.273 million which is approximately 1.6% of total economic output. The largest subsector in the visitor economy in West Wimmera is accommodation and food services, with tourist expenditure supporting an estimated $2.698 million. Domestic day visitors to West Wimmera are estimated to spend an average of $234.00 per trip. For those domestic visitors who stay overnight the average spend per night is estimated at $158.00 and for international visitors $77.00. *Stats: Remplan
Annual Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey	The index score recorded for sealed local roads for the West Wimmera Shire was 47 compared with the state-wide score of 54 and small rural Council's score of 45. The index score recorded for unsealed roads for the West Wimmera Shire was 40 compared with state-wide 42 and small rural 37. The index score recorded for lobbying for the West Wimmera Shire was 56 compared with state-wide 54 and small rural 53.
Moloney's Road Asset Report	The Moloney Management System (MMS) sets projected renewal expenditure for various assets to ensure Council allocates capital expenditure each year to maintain its assets. For 2025/26 the recommended expenditure by MMS and the corresponding actual expenditure are displayed: Asset class — MMS recommended exp — Actual exp Sealed Rd Reconstruction — $2,611,576 — $268,916 Sealed Road resealing — $1,153,882 — $222,924 Gravel road resheeting — $1,247,440 — $1,142,626
Housing availabilty and development	There were 4 building permits for residential dwellings for the financial year.
Civic Pride and Township amenity	The index score recorded for township appearance of public areas was 72% compared with statewide score of 65 and small rural 67.

Service performance indicators

Results					
Service / indicator / measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	Comments
STATUTORY PLANNING					
Timeliness					
Time taken to decide planning applications [The median number of days between receipt of a planning application and a decision on the application]	40.00	43.00	35.50	66.00	The average time taken to determine planning applications increased in 2025-26 due to one complex application that required determination by Council. The application was subject to objections and required additional Council consideration, resulting in a longer assessment timeframe. Excluding this application, 95.45% of all other planning applications were determined within the statutory timeline.
Service standard					
Planning applications decided within required time frames [(Number of regular planning application decisions made within 60 days) + (Number of VicSmart planning application decisions made within 10 days) / Number of planning application decisions made] x100	80.65%	62.50%	87.50%	95.45%	
Service cost					
Cost of statutory planning service [Direct cost of the statutory planning service / Number of planning applications received]	$7,820.40	$3,015.77	$8,575.33	$8,560.21	
Decision making					
Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT [Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside council's decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	

ROADS					
Satisfaction of use					
Sealed local road requests [Number of sealed local road requests/Kilometers of sealed local roads] x100	2.74	3.75	3.39	3.39	
Condition					
Sealed local roads maintained to condition standards	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	
Service cost					
Cost of sealed local road reconstruction [Direct cost of sealed local road reconstruction/Square meters of sealed local roads reconstructed]	$45.39	$47.76	$33.46	$16.55	Only one major capital reconstruction project completed this year was a section on a road immediately adjacent to a quarry making the cost of the road making material delivered to site much lower than typical.
Service Cost					
Cost of sealed local road resealing [Direct cost of sealed local road resealing/Square meters of sealed local roads resealed]	$5.79	$5.69	$6.10	$6.80	Costs of bitumen and transport costs related to the Fair Work fuel order led to increased costs for the resealing program post February 2026.
Satisfaction					
Satisfaction with sealed local roads [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has been performed on the condition of sealed local roads]	53.00	51.00	51.00	47.00	



Photo: SA Caravan and Camping Show

Capital works

	$
Land Improvements	
Kaniva Dog Park	$79,550
Edenhope Lake Wallace Boat Ramp	$1,387
Edenhope Aerodrome Upgrade	$66,432
Apsley Playground	$1,176
Local Road Railway Crossings Signage and Speed Limit Installations	$53,122
Goroke Kindergarten Playground	$199,166
Street Lights - Capital	$9,814
Buildings	
Edenhope Office fitout	$352
Kaniva Depot Upgrade Scoping/Shovel Ready	$29,224
External painting of Kaniva town hall	$82,748
Connection of Council properties into Goroke Sewer	$8,558
Kaniva Pool Painting	$8,275
Goroke Pool Painting	$11,605
Johnny Mullagh Discovery Centre Floor Leveling	$11,227
Goroke Pool Water Leak	$3,849
New Water Chlorinator Goroke Swimming Pool	$9,829
Plant	
Minor Plant Purchases - Zero Turn Mower	$20,000
Footpaths and cycleways	
Footpaths - Budjik St, Kaniva, Farmers St - Webb St	$38,694
Footpath Capital Maintenance	$3,447
Drainage	
Kerb and Channel Capital Maintenance	$8,846
Culvert renewal/upgrade construction Capital	$41,351
Roads	
Yearinga Rd (Ch. 2826 - Ch. 3651)	$36,154
South Lillimur Rd (Ch. 21640 - Ch. 22540)	$26,758
Mooree Road, Reconstruction and Widening, (Stage 1 Ch5800 - Ch7600)	$63,468
Goroke Nurcoung, Reconst. and Widening Ch 1200 - Ch 2600 x 6.2m seal	$76,269
Elizabeth St, Edenhope, Parking Lane construct, Anne St-Mollison St, Sou	$10,755

Local Roads - Shoulder Resheeting	$428
Mooree Road Reconstruction and Widening Ch 4560 to Ch 5800 x 6.2m sealStage2	$268,916
Apsley Natimuk Rd and Patyah Bringalbert North Rd corner	$228,926
Kadnook Connie Rd Reconstruction and Widening Ch 990 to Ch 4710 x 6.2m seal	$24,918
Pearsons Rd Ch 150 to 1550 Resheet	$44,841
Murrawong North Rd Ch 11070 to 11770 Resheet	$100,911
Church Rd Kaniva Ch 0 to 650 Resheet	$7,524
Grant and Richs Rd Ch 800 to 2325 Resheet	$87,863
I Merrett Rd Ch 2240 to 2880 Resheet	$37,840
Feders Collins Rd Ch 3420 to 4890 Resheet	$23,439
Hawkers and Goodwins Rd Ch 6070 to 7070 Resheet	$40,295
Goodwins and Crouchs Rd Ch 0 to 1350 Resheet	$81,082
Billyho Rd Ch 4370 to 5950 Resheet	$50,569
N Goodwin Rd Ch 7620 to 8030 Resheet	$20,626
Kelly and Rapsons Rd Ch 150 to 810 Resheet	$30,089
The Avenue Rd Ch 650 to 1250 and 2535 to 3070 Resheet	$28,560
T Meyers Rd Ch 0 to 1000 Resheet	$23,518
K Rabones Rd Ch 1070 to 2270 Resheet	$38,853
Lawloit East Rd Ch 70 to 1100 Resheet	$25,612
Guy Brooks Rd Ch 570 to 2660 Resheet	$113,161
Jennings Rd Ch 2600 to 3500 Resheet	$32,945
Patyah Rd Ch 19340 to 20870 Resheet	$76,723
Reimers Rd Ch 0 to 2000 and 1950 to 3200 Resheet	$35,093
Simpsons and Fosters Rd Ch 1000 to 2390 Resheet	$22,968
Jones Rd Ch 2400 to 3600 Resheet	$36,373
McClures Rd Ch 5500 to 7000 Resheet	$50,549
Tea Tree Ck Rd Ch 12150 to 12610 Resheet	$11,898
Wilsons Rd Ch 0 to 580 Resheet	$23,932
Hauslers and Dundons Rd Ch 0 to 1100 Resheet	$32,160
Arnolds and Smiths Rd CH 0 to 1250 Resheet	$30,552
Haylocks Rd Ch 0 to 400 Resheet	$18,913
Woodacres Rd Ch 1400 to 1950 Resheet	$13,128
Hennings Rd Ch 3700 to Ch 4100 Resheet	$8,812
Chetwynd East Road Ch 2355m to Ch 2555m Resheet	$3,856
Patyah Rd Shoulder Sheeting	$1,280
Benayeo Rd Shoulder Sheeting	$15,346
Harrow Clear Lake Rd Shoulder Sheeting	$111,691
Charam Wombelano Rd Shoulder Sheeting	$25,140
Kaniva intersection Safety review with Vicroads	$16,080

Projects

KANIVA DEPOT

Over the past 12 months, planning for remediation works at the Kaniva Depot was completed, with construction commencing in June 2026. The project included the excavation, removal and disposal of disused underground fuel storage tanks, together with soil testing to assess the extent of any contamination. Where contaminated soil was identified, it was excavated and disposed of at an appropriately licensed facility before the excavated areas were backfilled with clean fill and prepared for future use. The remediation works are expected to be completed by August 2026. Planning has also progressed for a new amenities and office building, positioning the project to take advantage of future funding opportunities.

KANIVA DOG PARK

The Kaniva Dog Park received $90,000 in funding through round two of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's new and upgraded dog parks program.

The park has largely been completed during early 2026 including a fenced off-leash area, pathways, seating, a double-gated entry, and conversion of a garden space into lawn. Additional works including dog related play equipment and a drinking fountain are still to be installed.

KANIVA RECREATION RESERVE MASTERPLAN

The formal master planning process for the Kaniva Recreation Reserve, to align Council and community values, was completed in late 2025. This included widespread consultation with the Kaniva and surrounding community and will support future funding opportunities for strategic community infrastructure.

KANIVA BOWLS SYNTHETIC GREEN, ACCESIBLE AMENITIES, AND SPORTS LIGHTING UPGRADE

Council has secured $660,000 in funding to upgrade the Kaniva Bowling Club from Sport and Recreation Victoria. Additional contributions include $123,750 from the Kaniva Bowling Club and $41,250 from West Wimmera Shire Council. A further $50,000 received from Sport and Recreation Victoria will support participation initiatives.

The project includes installation of a synthetic green, accessible toilet facilities, improved lighting, and other accessible infrastructure. Pre-delivery planning has significantly progressed during the 2025-26 financial year with construction estimated to be completed by the end of 2026.

GOROKE SPORTS OVAL LIGHTING, IRRIGATION, FENCING & DRAINAGE UPGRADE

Funding of $608,000 was secured from Sport and Recreation Victoria for key upgrades at Goroke Recreation Reserve. Contributions also included $140,600 from the Goroke Recreation Reserve Committee and $11,600 from West Wimmera Shire Council.

Project planning and large portions of the Goroke sports oval upgrade have been completed within the 2025-26 financial year with final works – a power upgrade – expected to be completed in late 2026.

Upgrades include 150 lux AFL compliant sports lighting, a new irrigation system, upgraded drainage, and new oval fencing.

GOROKE SWIMMING POOL FACILITIES PLANNING

Design planning for future upgrades to the Goroke Swimming Centre is nearing completion with final drafts under review. These designs are expected to be finalised in late 2026. Funding for this project includes $40,000 from Sport and Recreation Victoria and $10,000 from West Wimmera Shire Council.

The project scope includes schematic designs for future upgrades to the facility, informed by geotechnical testing and a site survey. Upgrades designed through this process include a pool ramp, wet deck, amenities, and improved plant and equipment.

EDENHOPE AERODROME PROJECT

Upgrades to the Edenhope Aerodrome to support increased use by the Country Fire Authority have been completed. Works

completed during the 2025-26 financial year include the installation of new firefighting water storage tanks by Council and the construction of a new service building, including amenities, a store shed, kitchen and radio shed by the CFA. Previously completed works include a bore, solar pump, taxiway improvements, and foundations for the water storage tanks.

Total funding for this project was $405,000 including $220,000 from the Country Fire Authority, $135,000 from the Federal Government's Regional Airports Program, and $50,000 from West Wimmera Shire Council.

EDENHOPE RECREATION RESERVE CHANGEROOM PROJECT

Construction is nearing completion on the Edenhope Recreation Reserve Changeroom project, with completion expected by August 2026. The new facility includes two changerooms with shower and toilet amenities, umpire changerooms, a first aid room, accessible car parking, and a storeroom.

Funding includes $1 million from Sport and Recreation Victoria's Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund, $360,000 from the Edenhope Apsley Football Netball Club, and $240,000 from West Wimmera Shire Council.

KANIVA RECREATION RESERVE FACILITY DESIGN PROJECT

Design planning for future upgrades to the Kaniva Recreation Reserve has been completed. These designs provide support for future funding applications for key infrastructure across the reserve. Funding for this project included $40,000 from Sport and Recreation Victoria and $10,000 from West Wimmera Shire Council.

The project scope included schematic designs for future upgrades to the facility, informed by geotechnical testing and a site survey. Upgrades designed through this process include a new hockey sports pavilion, hockey field lighting, synthetic hockey pitch, cricket training net facility and upgraded netball change facilities.

HARROW AND DISTRICT RECREATION RESERVE SCOREBOARDS UPGRADE

Funding has been successfully received from Sport and Recreation Victoria for one new electronic AFL scoreboard and two new electronic netball scoreboards. The project is currently in planning and is expected to be delivered before the end of 2026.

Funding includes $67,500 from Sport and Recreation Victoria and $22,500 from the Harrow community.

SERVICETON BOWLS ALL ABILITIES GREEN AND FACILITIES UPGRADE

Council has secured $427,500 in funding to upgrade the Serviceton Bowling Club from Sport and Recreation Victoria. Additional contributions include $142,500 including in-kind activities from the Serviceton Bowling Club.

The project includes installation of a synthetic green, redevelopment of accessible amenities, footpaths and other accessible infrastructure. Pre-delivery planning has significantly progressed during the 2025-26 financial year with construction estimated to be completed by the end of 2026 for the main green and pathway works. Amenities works are expected to be completed around mid-2027.

EDENHOPE SWIMMING POOL FACILITIES DESIGN PROJECT

Council has successfully sought funding for key design works at the Edenhope Swimming Pool including $40,000 from Sport and Recreation Victoria. $13,334 has also been contributed from West Wimmera Shire Council. Design planning for future upgrades to the Edenhope Swimming Centre are nearing commencement with final request for quote documentation being nearly completed. Design works at the Edenhope facility are expected to be completed in mid to late 2027.

The project scope includes schematic designs for future upgrades to the facility, informed by geotechnical testing and a site survey. Upgrades designed through this process include a pool ramp, wet deck, amenities, and improved plant and equipment.

APSLEY HALL FACILITIES UPGRADE

Funding has been successfully received from Regional Development Victoria for vital upgrades to the Apsley Hall. This project includes the installation of a new accessibly compliant pathway entrance to the hall, removal of asbestos containing materials and installation of new foyer floor vinyl, toilet partitions and ceiling works. The project is currently in planning and is expected to be delivered before the end of 2026.

Funding includes $46,411 from Regional Development Victoria, $10,471 from West Wimmera Shire Council and $5,000 from the Apsley Hall Committee.

EDENHOPE LAKE WALLACE SHELTER PROJECT

Funding has been successfully received from Regional Development Victoria for new infrastructure at Lake Wallace in Edenhope. This project includes the installation of a new shelter at the 5km mark of the Lake Wallace Parkrun providing support for volunteers and general users of the walking track. The project is currently in planning and is expected to be delivered before the end of 2026.

Funding includes $9,959 from Regional Development Victoria and $3,320 from West Wimmera Shire Council.

Tourism

Tourism continues to be an important part of the West Wimmera economy. Tourism is an amalgam of activities across various industry sectors such as retail, accommodation, cafes and restaurants, cultural and recreational services. Tourism relates to people spending money in places they don't usually live or work, and the visitor economy is defined by the spending of people travelling to and within the region, regardless of the services or goods they use.

In West Wimmera tourism output is estimated at $10.273 million which is approximately 1.6% of total economic output. The largest subsector in the visitor economy in West Wimmera is accommodation and food services, with tourist expenditure supporting an estimated $2.698 million.

Domestic day visitors to West Wimmera are estimated to spend an average of $234.00 per trip. For those domestic visitors who stay overnight the average spend per night is estimated at $158.00 and for international visitors $77.00. It is important to note that these estimated rates of expenditure reflect averages across many types of visitors, for example some visitors stay in paid accommodation, whiles other will stay with family and friends. The average stay is approximately 2 nights.

Under Council's high-level goal two "diverse and growing economy", Tourism and the visitor economy is supported through dedicated staff and Council's membership in regional tourism partnerships.

GRAMPIANS WIMMERA MALLEE VISITOR ECONOMY PARTNERSHIP

West Wimmera Shire Council is an active financial member of Grampians Wimmera Mallee Tourism, a formal regional tourism body responsible for destination marketing and industry development across eight partner councils.

Highlights from this collaboration include:

- Wimmera Mallee Road Touring Guide and Silo Art Trail
- Business mentoring programs for local tourism operators
- Delivery of the Wimmera Mallee Destination Plan
- Ongoing regional rebranding work
- Participation in state and interstate travel shows
- Participation in caravan and camping shows
- Representation in international and domestic tourism markets
- Industry Forums with guest speakers across region
- Facilitating promotional opportunities

AT A LOCAL LEVEL

At a local level, Council supports the tourism sector through:

- Marketing support and collateral reproduction for local businesses via the Official Visitor Guide
- Maintaining the Visit West Wimmera website and social media channels
- Distributing the official visitor guide throughout Victoria and the Limestone Coast
- Participating in campaigns such as the Melbourne to Adelaide Touring Map
- Attendance at caravan and camping shows
- In-kind event support, advice and promotion
- Cross-border tourism collaboration with South Australian Councils and Limestone Coast Tourism
- Business Assistance Grants
- Sponsorship and Contributions Grants

Council attends industry forums, regional workshops and events that strengthen partnerships and promote the region.

Economic development

Council's economic development focus during 2025-26 shifted toward strategic planning, advocacy and partnerships that support the long-term sustainability and growth of West Wimmera's economy.

In line with the West Wimmera Economic Development Strategy 2024-2029, Council continued to investigate opportunities to attract investment, support major developments and strengthen the infrastructure needed by local businesses and communities. Housing remained a significant priority, with Council continuing to pursue development and funding opportunities that could increase housing supply, support key workers and help local businesses attract and retain employees.

Council also maintained relationships with Regional Development Victoria and other government agencies to raise local economic challenges, connect businesses with available support and identify emerging investment opportunities. This work complemented the new Council Plan 2025-29, which identifies housing, business confidence, infrastructure, industrial development and strategic regional opportunities as important elements of a diverse and growing economy.

BUSINESS SUPPORT

Council continued to provide practical support to existing and prospective businesses through its business concierge service. This included helping businesses navigate Council processes, understand permit and approval requirements and connect with the appropriate Council officers and external agencies.

Local businesses continued to have access to Grant Guru, Council's online grant-finding platform, along with information about grants, training, workshops and business development opportunities.

The Small Business Bus also visited the shire during the year, providing local business owners and people considering starting a business with access to free, confidential advice from experienced business advisers.

BUSINESS GRANTS

Council undertook a comprehensive review of the program's guidelines and application process. The review was designed to ensure the program remains clear, accessible and aligned with Council's current economic development priorities.

The revised grant program was finalised and opened ahead of the 2026-27 financial year, providing local businesses with renewed opportunities to seek support for business development, growth and streetscape improvement initiatives.

Council Goal 3

Resilient and sustainable environment

Services funded in budget

Service Area	Net Cost ($ '000)		
	Budget	Actual	Variance
Emergency Management	20	24	4
Waste Management	1,069	1,097	28
Development Services	989	959	(30)

Major Initiatives

Goal 3: Resilient and sustainable environment

Action	% Complete	Comments
Develop waste management plan and feasibility	85%	Costed options to control rising costs and meet statutory obligations for waste management services across the shire is being developed in conjunction with a Council and community consultation plan. Council declined to participate in proposed regional FOGO processing facility at this stage.
Advocate for improvement of infrastructure (i.e. tables, chairs, signage) on public land across West Wimmera	100%	ParksVic have advised that there are no funds for improvements to minor infrastructure in the Wimmera parks. Infrastructure burnt in the Little Desert Fire will only be replaced if it was insured.
Roll out annual corella management plan	100%	Some corella management occurring, resourcing has been limited for these activities this season
Deliver Council roadside weeds and pest program	100%	Spring spraying has occurred, additional spraying and roadside rabbit ripping will occur in autumn
Review corella management plan	50%	The review will be completed during 2026-27.
Landcare facilitator - capacity building and support for local Landcare groups and roadside weed management across the shire	100%	Council ceased hosting the Landcare Facilitator role and program in early 2026.
Work with partner agencies on roadside vegetation management on road construction projects	100%	As required for road construction projects
Deliver boat ramp extension Seek funding for jetty handrail project	100%	Boat ramp completed. Application submitted for jetty handrail.
Advocate for ongoing funding for maintenance at Lake Wallace (including weed cutting when required)	100%	CEO and Director to meet with Wimmera CMA and Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action. Boat ramp extension completed. Weed cutting program completed in January 2025. Funding contribution towards these works from the Wimmera CMA
Use environmentally sustainable design in projects across the shire	100%	Environmentally sustainable designs have been a key inclusion for all projects.
Investigate the potential for micro-grids in industrial areas and towns.	100%	Funding opportunities are being assessed as they arise.

Strategic Indicators

Indicators/measures	Comments/results
Annual Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey	The index score recorded for waste management for the West Wimmera Shire was 68 compared with the state-wide score of 72 and the small rural score of 71. The index score recorded for slashing and weed control for the West Wimmera Shire was 46 compared with state-wide 44.
Proportion of township flood study actions implemented or integrated into the Planning Scheme	Two flood studies completed for Apsley and Edenhope. With a change in legislation these will now be managed by the CMA to implement as flood studies and amendments are no longer a Council responsibility. Currently in process of a Flood Overlay Planning Scheme Amendment for Harrow and Chetwynd as we began this one prior to the changes that put responsibility onto the CMAs, however that one is not complete.
Hectares of roadside/public land treated for weeds and pests each year	337.89km of Council roads were assessed and spot sprayed for declared weeds where required.
Number of multi-agency emergency exercises, training sessions, or community preparedness workshops held annually	Community meeting held in Harrow as well as involvement with the Emergency Management site at the Wimmera Field Days.

Service Performance Indicators

	Results				
Service / indicator / measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	Comments
ANIMAL MANAGEMENT					
Timeliness					
Time taken to action animal management requests [Number of days between receipt and first response action for all animal management requests / Number of animal management requests]	1.61	1.45	1.33	1.41	
Service standard					
Animals reclaimed [Number of animals reclaimed / Number of animals collected] x100	10.37%	37.93%	53.33%	52.63%	
Animals rehomed [Number of animals rehomed / Number of animals collected] x100	32.59%	44.44%	85.71%	61.11%	Current cost of living is making it harder for councils to rehome unclaimed animals, the shelters and rehoming services are also at capacity putting pressure in all levels if this system.

Service cost					
Cost of animal management service per population [Direct cost of the animal management service / Population]	$18.04	$5.48	$13.88	$20.07	Local laws staff attributed more hours on animal management in 2025-26 than 2024-25.
Health and safety					
Animal management prosecutions [Number of successful animal management prosecutions / Number of animal management prosecutions] x 100	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	No animal management prosecutions occurred in 2025-26.
FOOD SAFETY					
Timeliness					
Time taken to action food complaints [Number of days between receipt and first response action for all food complaints / Number of food complaints]	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Service standard					
Food safety assessments [Number of registered class 1 food premises and class 2 food premises that receive an annual food safety assessment in accordance with the Food Act 1984 / Number of registered class 1 food premises and class 2 food premises that require an annual food safety assessment in accordance with the Food Act 1984] x100	75.00%	81.13%	100.00%	96.30%	
Food safety samples [Number of food samples obtained / Required number of food samples] × 100	New	100%	100%	126.67%	An additional four samples were taken on top of the required 15 samples for 2025, this was to ensure consistency in comparison of samples taken.
Service cost					
Cost of food safety service [Direct cost of the food safety service / Number of food premises registered or notified in accordance with the Food Act 1984]	$167.93	$173.84	$463.75	$405.94	Staff management costs are no longer directly costed into food safety and are absorbed into overall regulatory services.
Health and safety					
Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications [Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises] x100	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	

WASTE MANAGEMENT					
Service standard					
Kerbside collection bins missed [Number of kerbside garbage and recycling collection bins missed / Number of scheduled kerbside garbage and recycling collection bin lifts] x10,000	0.68	0.68	0.46	0.73	Although the number of reported missed bins increased during the year due to a temporary service disruption relating to a relief driver unfamiliar with the route, the overall result of 0.73 missed bins per 10,000 scheduled lifts remains a strong outcome and reflects a high level of service reliability.
Service cost					
Cost of kerbside garbage bin collection service [Direct cost of the kerbside garbage bin collection service / Number of kerbside garbage collection bins]	$206.88	$114.61	$153.93	$263.28	Includes transport and disposal fees that were not included in pervious years calculations.
Service cost					
Cost of kerbside recyclables collection service [Direct cost of the kerbside recyclables bin collection service / Number of kerbside recyclables collection bins]	$104.73	$70.41	$71.63	$97.01	Increase in transport and processing costs.
Waste diversion					
Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill [Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100	19.98%	12.87%	15.71%	24.97%	Previous year's calculation was incorrectly calculated (2024-25)



Photo: Lake Wallace Boat Ramp extension

LOCAL LAWS AND ANIMAL CONTROL

Council's Local Laws Officer has continued to provide a broad range of animal management and local laws services to the community over the past 12 months, while further developing the diverse skills required for this multi-skilled role. Community education has remained a strong focus, including the delivery of a Safe Cats, Safe Wildlife presentation at the Edenhope Library and engagement with several local school groups to promote responsible pet ownership and raise awareness of the role of local laws within the community.

Council officers have also invested considerable time in improving internal systems and processes, reducing reliance on paper-based administration and making better use of existing Council systems. Registered animal numbers have remained relatively stable, with a significant proportion of the officer's time dedicated to managing reports of wandering and feral cats.

Duties include:

- Removing abandoned cars from Council roads
- Responding to wandering stock on roads
- Responding to roaming/menacing dogs
- Discussions with landowners regarding fencing to contain animals
- Issuing notices to comply for unsightly properties
- Issuing fire prevention notices
- Dealing with barking dog complaints
- Dealing with neighbourhood disputes
- Organising treatment of roadside weeds
- Organising ripping of roadside rabbit burrows
- Rehoming cats and dogs with Phoenix Animal Welfare/Horsham Paws
- Managing an increasing number of cats at large (feral, domestic, and abandoned)
- Corella management activities
- Supported Agriculture Victoria and the RSPCA on animal welfare issues
- Responding to after-hours call outs

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Council's Environmental Health Officer safeguards public health and wellbeing by monitoring compliance with relevant legislation while working with businesses and the community to promote best practice and improve awareness of public health requirements. This includes the inspection of food premises, tobacco retailers, accommodation sites and personal care businesses such as hair, beauty and tattoo establishments, as well as the collection of food samples for testing.

In 2025-26, Council's full-time environmental health officer took 6 months maternity leave, with Council employing an environmental health technician for this leave period to assist with keeping the environmental health unit functioning.

Key activities undertaken during the reporting period included:

- 82 food assessments and inspections under the Food Act 1984
- Eight permits issued to install or alter septic tanks under the Environment Protection Act 2017
- 10 inspections completed under the Tobacco Act 1987
- 19 inspections completed under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008
- 100% satisfactory result from 17 statutory food samples taken under the Food Act 1984

In 2025-26, Council's environmental health team have assisted businesses in understanding the new tobacco licensing scheme implemented by the state government.

WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Council continued to provide reliable kerbside waste, recycling and glass collection services, together with transfer station operations, to communities across the shire during 2025–26.

These services supported more than 2,100 urban and rural properties across nine townships and surrounding rural areas.

KERBSIDE WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

During the year, more than 451 tonnes of general waste were disposed of to landfill, while almost 150 tonnes of recyclable materials, including mixed recyclables and glass, were diverted for processing. Overall, approximately 25 per cent of kerbside waste was diverted from landfill through Council's recycling services. Missed kerbside collections remained exceptionally low, reflecting the high level of service provided to the community.

Council also continued to operate seven transfer stations across the municipality and again offered a free green waste disposal program during September 2025. The initiative was well supported, with 444 customers taking advantage of the opportunity to dispose of garden material responsibly.

Council continued to recover a range of additional materials through its transfer stations, including scrap metal, cardboard, used oil, tyres, mattresses and agricultural chemical containers through the drumMUSTER program, helping to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.

Planning also continued for the introduction of a Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) collection service, with Council investigating the most appropriate long-term solution to meet the Victorian Government's legislative requirement to implement the service by 1 July 2027.

The table on the right summarises the kerbside collection data for the year.

2025-26 kerbside waste and recycling collection data	QTY
Number of kerbside garbage collection bins	1,838
Number of kerbside mixed recyclables and glass collection bins	2,903
Number of kerbside garbage and recycling collection bins missed (per 10,0000 lifts)	0.73
Tonnes of general waste from kerbside bins sent to landfill	451.76
Tonnes of mixed recyclables from kerbside bins sent for processing	119.64
Tonnes of glass from kerbside bins sent for processing	30.74
Percentage of kerbside waste tonnage diverted from landfill to recycling processors	24.97%



Photo: Edenhope E-waste drop off bin at Edenhope Council offices



Photo: Red-Tail Black Cockatoos at the Kaniva Fauna Park

Council Goal 4

Operational excellence

Major Initiatives

Goal 4: Operational excellence

Action	% Complete	Comments
Complete long-term financial plan	100%	Plan adopted by Council
Quarterly financial statement reporting	100%	All quarterly reports presented at forum and Council meetings
Advocate for and Seek funding for shovel ready projects	100%	Ongoing
Maintain Grant Guru subscription to assist council staff and community members to source suitable grant funding	100%	Ongoing
Support community members to source suitable grant funding with Grant Guru	100%	Met with Harrow Historical Society about grant options for a new display in Harrow.
Seek funding for scoping and planning of Goroke and Edenhope pools	100%	Funding for both has been secured and scoping and planning is underway
Continue to deliver and support the innovation platform	100%	Ongoing
Continue to deliver regular communication via Council website and channels	100%	Delivering regular communication via channels such as website, social media and newsletter aiming to reach all demographics within shire
Prepare a document setting out key advocacy issues for West Wimmera Shire.	100%	Advocacy Plan completed.

Actively participate on regional and sector bodies and forums	100%	Collaboration on early years service improvements, liaising with other councils on risk management and governance. Department of Health on cemeteries. Communities of Practice with Queenscliff, Northern Grampians and Southern Grampians
Complete new four-year workforce plan in line with Local Government Act requirements	100%	Completed
Develop the 2026-27 Annual Plan	100%	Completed
Policy review - advocacy policy	100%	Advocacy policy replaced by annual advocacy plan. Advocacy policy to be revoked.
Complete the 2025-2029 Council Plan	100%	Completed
Complete 2025-2029 Health and Wellbeing Plan (included in Council Plan)	100%	Completed and submitted to Department of Health
Complete 2024-25 Annual Report	100%	Completed
Complete 2024-25 annual financial statements	100%	Statements adopted by Council
Training and implementation of the Project Management Framework across all departments	100%	Rollout in progress.
Transition aged and disability care service to new provider by October 1, 2025	100%	Complete
Policy Review Environmental Policy	100%	Current policy says there will be a plan, 'Environment' covers a broad spectrum looking into if this should be environment as in the natural environment, or environmental sustainability for Council. Council resolved to rescind this Policy.
Policy Review Human Rights Policy	100%	Completed
Policy Review Borrowing Policy Fraud and Corruption Control Policy Geographic Naming Policy Building Fee Refunds Policy Corporate Credit & Purchase Cards Policy	100%	Fraud and Corruption Control Policy review was completed in June and presented in June ARC, final policy to be approved in September Council meeting
Policy Review Asset Disposal Policy Recreation Policy Play Space Policy	100%	Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy adopted by Council at March meeting. Asset Management plan adopted by Council at September meeting. Development of an Asset Acquisition Policy completed and adopted in August Council meeting.
Policy Review Community and commercial advertising on Council buildings and structures	100%	Completed
Policy review CEO Employment & Remuneration Policy Change Management Policy Complaints Policy Council Expenses Policy Flag Flying on Council Owned Buildings and Property Pricing Policy	100%	Completed
Policy review Election Period Policy Communications Policy	100%	Election Period Policy adopted Communications Policy to be replaced by the Communications Plan

4 scheduled Meetings Audit and Risk Committee	100%	Four scheduled meetings have been completed
Internal Audits Planned for 2025-26 Financial Sustainability OHS Emergency Management	100%	OHS and Emergency Management Audits completed, Financial Sustainability Audit draft report was sent in early June 2026. Final report to be presented in September ARC meeting.

Services funded in budget

Service Area	Net Cost ($ '000)		
	Budget	Actual	Variance
Contracts & Procurement	37	45	8
Human Resources & Employee Oncosts	335	(14)	(349)
Occupational Health Safety and Risk	742	642	(99)
Governance	1,700	1,531	(169)
Corporate & Leadership Services	2,099	1,575	(524)

Strategic indicators

Indicators/measures	Comments/results
Annual Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey	The percentage of residents satisfied with Council's customer service was 78% compared with state average of 68 and small councils 65.
Annual Council Audit	Council's external auditors, Crowe Australasia, are acting as agents for VAGO and have completed the 2025-26 final audit pending approval from VAGO.
Percentage of customer requests resolved within agreed service timeframes	94.45%
Compliance with key Victorian Auditor-General's Office financial sustainability indicators	Requirements satisfied
Proportion of capital works projects delivered on time and on budget	79% of projects delivered on time and budget.

Service Performance Indicators

Results					
Service / indicator / measure	2023	2024	2025	2026	Comments
GOVERNANCE					
Transparency					
Council decisions made at meetings closed to the public [Number of Council resolutions made at meetings of Council, or at meetings of a delegated committee consisting only of Councillors, closed to the public / Number of Council resolutions made at meetings of Council or at meetings of a delegated committee consisting only of Councillors] x100	35.23%	32.86%	39.39%	19.77%	Decrease in number of contracts reviewed compared with previous financial year. Additionally in 2024-25, Council had explored the potential transition of services to external providers, which necessitated confidential discussions to protect commercial and community interests.
Consultation and engagement					
Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on community consultation and engagement]	54.00	56.00	56.00	54.00	
Attendance					
Councillor attendance at council meetings [The sum of the number of Councillors who attended each Council meeting / (Number of Council meetings) × (Number of Councillors elected at the last Council general election)] x100	98.89%	92.94%	97.39%	100.00%	
Service cost					
Cost of elected representation [Direct cost of the governance service / Number of Councillors elected at the last Council general election]	$40,258.00	$43,311.40	$48,205.60	$48,123.00	
Satisfaction					
Satisfaction with council decisions [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed in making decisions in the interest of the community]	55.00	59.00	56.00	54.00	
AQUATIC FACILITIES					
Service standard					

Health inspections of aquatic facilities [Number of authorised officer inspections of Council aquatic facilities/Number of Council aquatic facilities]	0.00	0.67	1.00	1.00	
Utilisation					
Utilisation of aquatic facilities [Number of visits to aquatic facilities/Population]	2.91	3.41	2.87	3.74	All Council swimming pools were open for the full 2025-26 season. In comparison, opening dates in 2024-25 were delayed due to the transition to a new contractor and required maintenance works. The full operating season in 2025-26 contributed to higher patronage across Council's swimming pools.
Service cost					
Cost of aquatic facilities [Direct cost of aquatic facilities less income received/Number of visits to aquatic facilities]	$22.67	$21.10	$28.38	$25.27	The reduction in contractual costs in 2025-26 reflects that 2024-25 included one-off costs associated with the transition from the previous service provider to a new contractor.

Information Technology

Over the past 12 months, Council has continued to strengthen and modernise its ICT environment to improve service delivery, security and operational efficiency. A major achievement was the transition from the Telstra TIPT phone system to Microsoft Teams Telephony, alongside the implementation of CC4Teams, a customer service call centre solution that enhances call triage and improves the management of customer enquiries.

Council also undertook comprehensive ICT security assessments and is progressing a program of security improvements based on the recommendations identified. Work has continued towards achieving Essential Eight maturity, further strengthening Council's cyber security posture and resilience against emerging threats. Through active participation in the four-council SCOPE collaboration group, Council contributed to a range of shared ICT and records management initiatives, including joint cyber security activities and the development of consistent records management processes and resources. In addition, Council completed the upgrade of all eligible devices from Windows 10 to Windows 11, ensuring systems remain supported, secure and aligned with current technology standards.

Asset management and GIS

A variety of activities have been undertaken during the year to maintain or improve asset and GIS functions:

- Council continued the Local Roads Data Reconciliation Project, providing robust road network information to the Victorian Local Government Grants Commission to support funding allocations.
- Annual inspection of playground infrastructure was undertaken by an external consultant
- Council's building portfolio was assessed for condition and valuation. This is completed on a three-yearly basis

- Bridge structures were assessed for condition and valuation by an external consultant. This is carried out on a three-yearly basis
- Prepared an application for a project under the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program
- Continued compilation of photographic record of road assets for natural disaster purposes
- Reviewed the Road Management Plan and prepared it for community consultation and final adoption by Council
- Reviewed the Asset Management Policy and the Asset Management Strategy with subsequent formal adoption by Council
- Signed up with Asset Vision for a new asset management system as part of the asset management audit recommendations

Planning and building services

Council's planning department is responsible for preparing and administering the West Wimmera Planning Scheme under the Planning and Environment Act 1987. Its responsibilities under the Act include issuing planning permits for use and development of land, planning scheme amendments, strategic planning and enforcement.

Throughout the shire, 29 applications for planning permits were received and 22 planning permits were issued in 2025-26. Council also responded to 146 customer requests for planning matters. As with permits, these requests were wide ranging, including the use of premises for business purposes, native vegetation regulations, and subdivisions.

Beyond its core responsibility of assessing planning permit applications and administering the Planning Scheme, Council's planning team also undertakes strategic planning to guide the future growth and development of the shire.

During the year, officers progressed several actions identified in the West Wimmera Planning Scheme Review. Significant projects included completing flood studies for Edenhope and Apsley, preparing a Small Towns Plan and a targeted Settlement Strategy for Kaniva, and continuing work to implement flood controls for Harrow and Chetwynd. The team also progressed policy-neutral planning scheme amendments and commenced a new Planning Scheme Review.

Planning compliance remained an important focus throughout the year, with officers investigating matters relating to unpermitted land use and development, as well as the removal of native vegetation.

Like many regional councils, West Wimmera continues to face challenges in recruiting and retaining planning professionals. Despite these workforce pressures, Council continued to provide planning advice to the community, assess planning permit applications, prepare strategic planning projects and planning scheme amendments, and administer the Planning Scheme through a combination of in-house expertise and contract planning services.

Council's building function is separate to planning and is responsible for administering the Building Act to help ensure buildings are safe, compliant and constructed to the required standards. This includes responding to building enquiries, undertaking inspections and carrying out statutory enforcement where required.

During 2025–26, Council responded to 63 building and property information requests, conducted 31 building inspections, received eight building permit applications, issued two building notices and provided four reports and consents. In addition, private building surveyors issued 28 building permits across the municipality.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

In accordance with section 46GM and 46QD of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, a council that is a collecting or developing agency must prepare a report to the Minister for Planning outlining infrastructure and development contributions, including levies and works in-kind. This information must also be published in Council's annual report.

For the 2025-26 financial year, Council did not receive any contributions under this section of the Act.

Contracts and procurement

Council's procurement function continued to evolve during 2025–26 in response to organisational needs, a reduced capital works program and a more constrained funding environment. Procurement responsibilities were initially delivered through a decentralised model across the organisation. Following a review of this approach, and in anticipation of new contractual arrangements and the negotiation of key existing contracts, the Contracts and Procurement Manager role was reinstated to strengthen procurement oversight and support Council's future contract management requirements.

Throughout the year, Council maintained a strong focus on transparency, accountability and achieving value for money. All tender processes were conducted in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy and probity principles to ensure fairness, consistency and compliance.

Key achievements included:

- Awarding of cleaning contract for public toilets and council municipal offices, early child facilities and public halls
- All contracts valued above $150,000 were awarded through a competitive process, in accordance with Section 186(5)(a) and (c) of the Local Government Act 2020 and Council's Procurement Policy
- Following the transition of Maternal and Child Health services to the West Wimmera Health Service, three fleet vehicles became surplus to Council's operational requirements. The vehicles were subsequently sold, reducing ongoing operating and maintenance costs and demonstrating Council's commitment to effective asset and financial management.
- Liaising with contractors to jointly address the Fair Work Commission's Road Transport Contractual Chain Order – Fuel Cost Recovery – 2026.
- Categorising contract and procurement records in Microsoft Teams to improve governance and support consistent record keeping practices
- Internal processes and documentation streamlined to support consistent outcome

CONTRACTS AWARDED

Projects

- **C-SEP2026-PMO001** – Goroke Recreation Reserve AFL Lighting
- **C-SEP2026-PMO002** – Goroke Kindergarten Playspace Upgrade
- **C-OCT2025-PMO003** – Goroke Recreation Reserve AFL Oval Irrigation

Operational services

- **C-AUGUST2025-S008** - Cleaning of Municipal Buildings and Public Toilets
- **CM0590** - Pavement Stabilising Works

Facilities and Quality

AQUATIC FACILITIES – 2025-26 SEASON

West Wimmera Shire's swimming pools at Kaniva, Edenhope and Goroke continued to provide valuable opportunities for recreation, water safety education, physical activity and community connection throughout the 2025-26 season.

Collectively, the three facilities recorded 14,625 attendances, comprising 6,353 at Edenhope, 4,946 at Kaniva and 3,326 at Goroke. Despite a season affected by cooler weather and several closure days, community participation remained strong across all pools.

School swimming programs, learn-to-swim activities, lap swimming, community events and recreational swimming all contributed significantly to patronage. Programs such as Kaniva's 1000 Lap Club, expanded swimming lessons at Edenhope, and school carnivals

and aquatic education programs across the municipality continued to promote water safety and healthy lifestyles.

All facilities operated safely throughout the season under the supervision of qualified lifeguards, with regular water quality testing and risk management practices ensuring compliance with industry standards.

A range of maintenance and improvement works were completed across the three facilities during the year. Ongoing infrastructure renewal remains a priority, particularly at Goroke pool, where ageing infrastructure continues to require significant attention.

The continued success of the shire's aquatic facilities reflects their importance as valued community assets, supporting health, wellbeing and social connection for residents and visitors across West Wimmera Shire.

KANIVA SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISION

West Wimmera Shire Council continued to support student safety through the provision of school crossing supervision services in Kaniva.

To ensure the ongoing delivery of this important community safety service, Council appointed a new permanent part-time school crossing supervisor in June 2026. The position plays a vital role in assisting students and families to safely cross busy roads before and after school, contributing to a safer environment for school children, parents, carers and the broader community.

Council remains committed to supporting road safety initiatives and maintaining safe access to educational facilities across the municipality.

KANIVA POOLSIDE CARAVAN PARK

The Kaniva Poolside Caravan Park continued to provide clean, affordable and conveniently located accommodation for visitors travelling through West Wimmera during 2025-26. Situated adjacent to the Kaniva Memorial Swimming Pool and within easy walking distance of local shops and services, the park remained a popular choice for tourists, families, seasonal contractors and travellers.

Following the appointment of a new management contractor in January 2025, Council continued to work collaboratively with the contractor to maintain the park to a high standard. Throughout the year, facilities were kept safe, well presented and welcoming, with routine maintenance and site improvements undertaken to support a positive visitor experience and protect Council's tourism infrastructure.

The caravan park plays an important role in supporting the local visitor economy by encouraging overnight stays and providing a quality accommodation option that contributes to increased visitation and local spending. Council remains committed to ensuring the facility continues to deliver a positive visitor experience while supporting tourism and economic activity across West Wimmera.

COUNCIL FACILITIES - CLEANING

Council commenced a new cleaning contract in November 2025, delivering cleaning services across a range of Council-owned buildings, public amenities and community facilities throughout the municipality.

Since the commencement of the contract, Council and the cleaning contractor have worked collaboratively to maintain high standards of cleanliness, presentation and hygiene, ensuring facilities remain safe, clean and welcoming for residents, visitors and staff.

During the year, Council experienced ongoing challenges associated with the theft of toilet paper and incidents of vandalism at several public amenities. In response, Council officers and the cleaning contractor implemented a proactive approach through increased monitoring, prompt reporting, responsive maintenance and the regular replenishment of supplies to minimise the impact of these issues.

Despite these challenges, Council remained committed to maintaining the quality and accessibility of its public facilities. Council will continue to work closely with its contractors and the community to protect public assets, discourage vandalism and ensure Council facilities remain clean, safe and well maintained for all users.

LEASES, LICENCES AND USER AGREEMENTS

In 2025-26, West Wimmera Shire Council continued to support effective land and facility management through the preparation and administration of leases, licences and user agreements.

Council acts as custodian of land on behalf of the community, including Council-owned properties, Crown land where Council is appointed as the committee of management, and land leased or licensed for specific purposes. These arrangements support community use, commercial activity and the ongoing management of community assets.

The following agreements were finalised during the year:

Leases

Kaniva aerodrome lease: A lease was issued to a community group to crop and maintain this parcel of land, with proceeds supporting local sporting activities.

Licences

Elders Real Estate – 55 Elizabeth Street, Edenhope: The commercial licence for this property was renewed, maintaining a

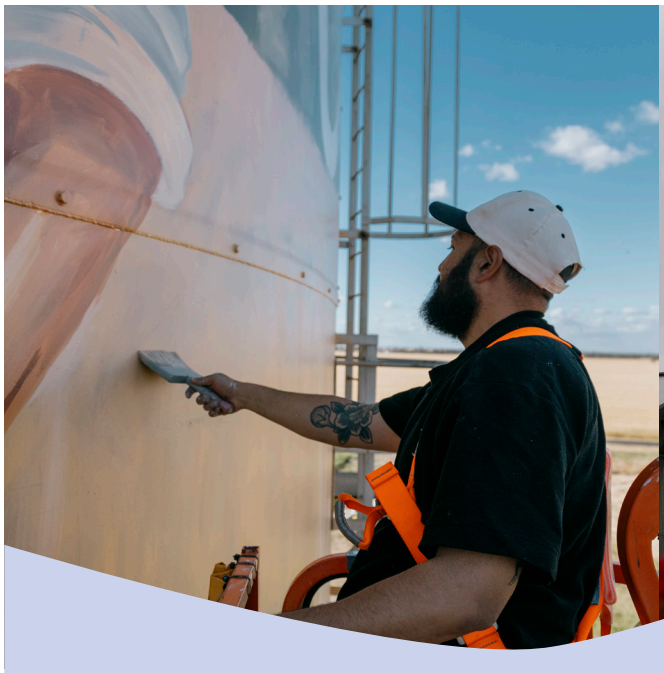
business presence on Edenhope's main street.

User Agreements (Occupancy)

- Douglas Memorial Hall Committee
- Nurcoung Community Centre Inc.
- Edenhope Men's Shed
- Harrow Calico and Candles



Photo: Kaniva School Crossing Supervisor, Nikki Powell





Serviceton silo art complete

Painting of a new art installation at GrainCorp's Serviceton site was finished at the end of 2025, marking a major milestone for the town and its place on the Wimmera Mallee's growing network of silo art installations.

Adelaide-based artist Jack Fran spent about two weeks painting the mural, which tells the story of the South Australia–Victoria border dispute and features historical surveyors Henry Wade and Edward White.

The completed project joins painted GrainCorp silos at Kaniva and Goroke, which were completed in 2020.

Fran worked closely with the Serviceton community and West Wimmera Shire Council to develop the concept for the artwork.

Council Chief Executive Officer David Bezuidenhout said the artwork reflected the town's strong sense of identity and pride.

"Having another silo art location in West Wimmera strengthens our region as a destination for travellers and art enthusiasts alike.

"Projects like this not only showcase our local history; they also help bring people into town to support local businesses."

Mr Bezuidenhout said the silo art at Goroke and Kaniva already attracts a steady stream of visitors to the region/

"Silo art has become one of the most visible and engaging ways to tell the story of our towns, and each new mural adds another reason for people to visit, stay, and experience everything West Wimmera has to offer," he said.

Artist Jack Fran specialises in creating large-scale public artworks. His style blends realism, abstraction, and pop-surrealist elements, producing layered works with hidden imagery and strong visual storytelling.

Recently, fencing has been installed opposite the silo to protect viewers from the railway corridor with final tourism signage to be completed shortly.



Photo: Councillor training with staff and colleagues from the Wimmera Southern Mallee Council Alliance

Our Governance

This section covers West Wimmera Shire Council’s governance approach, highlighting its role in providing leadership, managing resources responsibly, and advocating for community interests. It includes details on decision-making processes, conflict of interest policies, councillor attendance, and adherence to governance and management standards. The section also addresses Council’s commitment to effective democratic and corporate governance through audits, policy reviews, and maintaining transparency.

West Wimmera Shire Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 2020 to provide leadership for the good governance of the municipal district and local community. Council plays a number of important roles, including:

- Considering the diverse needs of the local community in decision-making
- Providing leadership by setting strategic objectives and monitoring outcomes
- Managing resources responsibly and accountably
- Advocating for the interests of the community to other levels of government
- Fostering community cohesion and supporting civic participation

Council is committed to effective and sustainable forms of democratic and corporate governance to ensure that both Council and its administration meet the priorities of the community. Residents and ratepayers have multiple opportunities to contribute to Council's decision-making processes through consultation activities, community forums and formal submissions.

Council's formal decisions are made during Council meetings, while most operational decisions are delegated to Council staff. These delegations are exercised in accordance with Council's adopted policies and procedures.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillors are elected to act in the best interests of the municipal community and are required to make decisions impartially, guided by the principles of good governance. This position of trust requires adherence to the provisions of the Local Government Act and Council's Governance Rules, particularly in relation to the disclosure and management of conflicts of interest.

Conflicts of interest may arise when personal or private interests could influence, or appear to influence, decisions made in the public interest. A conflict of interest exists even if no improper conduct occurs.

At all Council and committee meetings, declaration of conflicts of interest is a standing agenda item. The process generally involves disclosing the relevant interests and removing oneself from the decision-making process. These procedures also apply to Council officers and committees where powers have been delegated.

A conflict of interest register is maintained to ensure transparency and accountability. During 2025-26, a total of 22 conflicts of interest were declared at Council meetings and all were recorded.

Council meetings: Councillor attendance

Table 3: Scheduled Council meetings attendance record 2025-26

Date	Cr. Tim Meyer	Cr. Jodie Pretlove	Cr. Tom Houlihan	Cr Richard Hicks	Cr Helen Hobbs
16/07/2025	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
20/08/2025	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
17/09/2025	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
15/10/2025	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
5/11/2025	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
19/11/2025	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
17/12/2025	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
18/02/2026	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
18/03/2026	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
15/04/2026	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
20/05/2026	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
17/06/2026	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended

Table 4: Unscheduled Council meetings attendance record 2025-26

Date	Cr. Tim Meyer	Cr. Jodie Pretlove	Cr Tom Houlihan	Cr Richard Hicks	Cr Helen Hobbs
19/08/2025 Unscheduled Confidential Council meeting CEMAC	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
28/10/2025 Unscheduled Council meeting Annual Report, Council Plan and Long Term Financial Plan	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
12/11/2025 Unscheduled Confidential Council Meeting CEO Employment Contract	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
02/12/2025 Unscheduled Council Meeting Harrow Rec Reserve Scoreboard Upgrade (LSIF Application)	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
20/12/2025 Unscheduled confidential Council meeting Planning Application – Notice of Rescission	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
19/03/2026 Unscheduled Confidential Council meeting CEMAC	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
25/03/2026 Unscheduled Council meeting Temporary Free RV Camping – Kaniva Recreation Reserve	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
28/05/2026 Unscheduled Council Meeting Building Early Education Fund – Goroke Early Years	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council conducts open public meetings on the third Wednesday of each month. Community members are welcome to attend these meetings in person or view the livestream. Council meetings provide the opportunity for residents to submit written questions or ask questions directly during the meeting.

During 2025-26, a total of 20 Council meetings were conducted.

Recordings of meetings, along with agendas, minutes, policies and strategies, are available on Council's website.

COMMUNITY FORUMS

Community forums are scheduled three times per year in conjunction with Council meetings. These forums take place in smaller towns across the shire, giving councillors an opportunity to share a meal with residents and discuss local issues in an informal setting.

In 2025-26, forums were hosted in:

- Douglas – October 2025
- Serviceton – March 2026
- Beneyao– June 2026

LOCAL LAWS

Local Law No. 8 – Use of Common Seal was adopted by Council in August 2020.

Local Law No. 9 – Community Local Law was adopted by Council on 17 May 2023

REVIEW OF DELEGATIONS

Council continues to review all delegations every six months in line with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020. A full review is also conducted within 12 months after a general election. This process includes updates to reflect legislative changes and any structural or procedural adjustments within Council.

Delegations are publicly available on Council's website.

REVIEW OF COUNCIL POLICIES

Council policies are reviewed regularly under a rolling review schedule. Each review assesses compliance with current legislation, removes outdated procedural content, and ensures alignment with Council's template and operational practices.

Endorsed policies are published on Council's website and managed through the document control system to maintain accountability and ensure timely updates.

COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Following changes to the Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020 and the Local Government Act 2020 which came into effect on 26 October 2024, all Councillors now operate under the Model Councillor Code of Conduct developed by Local Government Victoria.

COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCE AND EXPENSES

The Local Government Act 2020 transferred responsibility for determining mayoral and councillor allowances to the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal.

On 7 March 2022, the Tribunal issued Determination No. 01/2022 under the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal and Improving Parliamentary Standards Act 2019 (Vic). The determination established new allowance rates for mayors, deputy mayors and councillors, with a phased implementation period – three years for councillors and five years for mayors and deputy mayors. A separate allowance was also introduced for deputy mayors. The determination includes a remote area travel allowance with defined eligibility criteria.

West Wimmera Shire Council is classified under Council Allowance Category 1. The most recent increase took effect on 18 December 2025.

For the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026, the allowances payable to the mayor, deputy mayor and councillors are outlined below:

	Type	Amount
Mayor Cr Tim Meyer	Mayoral Allowance Reimbursement	$ 90,486.46 $ 1,817.17
Dept Mayor Cr Helen Hobbs	Deputy Mayor Allowance Reimbursement	$ 39,058.86 $ -
Councillor Cr Richard Hicks	Councillor Allowance Reimbursement	$ 31,023.34 $ 3,088.18
Councillor Cr Tom Houlihan	Councillor Allowance Reimbursement	$ 29,511.84 $ 4,981.62
Councillor Cr Jodie Pretlove	Councillor Allowance Reimbursement	$ 35,388.87 $ 3,640.19

** includes back payments relating to FY 2025/26 in accordance with LGA2020*

REMOTE TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

Council members who reside more than 50 kilometres by the shortest practicable road distance from meeting locations or authorised municipal or community functions are entitled to a travel allowance. The allowance is $48.90 per day on which one or more meetings or authorised functions are attended, up to a maximum of $6,112.50 per year.

INTERNAL AUDIT

The internal audit function provides independent and objective assurance to the Audit and Risk Committee that appropriate processes and controls are in place across Council operations.

As part of the 2025-26 Internal Audit Program, reviews were undertaken for:

- Emergency management
- Financial sustainability
- Occupational health and safety

EXTERNAL AUDIT

The Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) is responsible for external audits of Council. For the 2025-26 year, Crowe Australasia acted as VAGO's appointed audit service provider for the annual audit of Council's financial statements and performance statement.

DELEGATED COMMITTEES

Under the Local Government Act 2020, councils may establish delegated committees made up of councillors, Council officers, other persons, or any combination of these.

No delegated committees were established by West Wimmera Shire Council during the 2025-26 financial year.

Audit and risk committee

In accordance with Section 53 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council maintains an Audit and Risk Committee to monitor financial management, corporate governance, internal controls, risk management, and ethical practices.

The committee includes two Councillors and three external independent members: Richard Ainio (Chairperson), Celeste Gregory and Andrew Johnson.

Councillors Tim Meyer and Jodie Pretlove represented Council on the committee.

Meetings were convened on the following dates in 2025-26:

- 16 September 2025
- 9 December 2025
- 10 March 2026
- 9 June 2026

Statutory information

Council has a number of statutory reporting obligations under various acts. The following outlines these key responsibilities and compliance for 2025-26.

Freedom of information

As required under sections 7(4AA)(a) and 7(4AA)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 1982, Council must publish certain statements in its Annual Report. The Act provides a legally enforceable right for members of the public to access documents held by Council. All requests must be in writing and accompanied by the relevant application fee.

For the reporting period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

- Four requests were received
- One request was not made valid
- One request was processed outside of the Act
- Two requests were granted in part
- No disciplinary action was taken in relation to the administration of the act
- $33.60 in fees was collected, and $67.20 was waived

Disability Action Plan

In accordance with Section 38 of the Disability Act 2006, Council must report on the implementation of its Disability Action Plan. For the first time, the Disability Action Plan has been integrated into the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan. Council is dedicated to fostering an inclusive community where people of all abilities and ages can access opportunities to achieve their best health and wellbeing. Under the Disability Act 2006, all councils are required to develop a Disability Action Plan, in line with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992. The purpose of this plan is to tackle structural, cultural, and attitudinal barriers that may prevent people with disabilities from fully participating in community life. It also seeks to eliminate discrimination for people with disabilities in relation to Council services, facilities, infrastructure, and employment opportunities, whether they are current or prospective employees. The inclusion of the Disability Action Plan in the Council aims to ensure that disability inclusion is a priority and considered in everything we do. It also ensures that initiatives promoting disability inclusion are closely aligned with the Council Plan, the Community Vision 2040, and the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Council continues to deliver initiatives through the following:

- Maintaining ongoing engagement with external service providers.
- Providing referral information, including contact phone numbers and website details for relevant external services.

All Aged and disability services ceased 30 June 2025. Emergency support continues with the Vulnerable Persons Register (VPR) under council's Emergency Management responsibilities.

Documents available for inspection

Under Section 57 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council is required to adopt and maintain a public transparency policy that:

- gives effect to the public transparency principles
- describes how Council information is made publicly available
- Specifies the type of information that must be available to the public, including all policies, plans and reports

Council information is accessible via the Council website or in some instances, by request.

Requests are handled in accordance with:

- the Local Government Act 2020, including the public transparency principles
- the Public Transparency Policy
- Part II of the Freedom of Information Act 1982

The Public Transparency Policy is publicly available on Council's website

Public Interest Disclosure Procedures

Section 69 of the Public Interest Disclosure Act 2012 requires councils to publish details of procedures for making disclosures and to report on the number and types of disclosures received.

The act promotes accountability and encourages individuals to report improper conduct in the public sector. Council's policy on disclosures is available on the Council website.

For the 2025-26 financial year, no disclosures were reported to Council officers or to the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC).

Road Management Act Ministerial Direction

In accordance with Section 22 of the Road Management Act 2004, Council must include a summary of any ministerial directions received in the Annual Report.

No such directions were received during the 2025-26 financial year.

Infrastructure and development contributions
Under sections 46GM and 46QD of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, councils acting as collecting or development agencies must report on infrastructure and development contributions.

There were no contributions received by Council during the 2025-26 financial year.

Domestic Animal Management Plan

In accordance with the Domestic Animals Act 1994, Council is required to prepare and implement a domestic animal management plan every four years and report on its implementation in the annual report. In the previous year Council has completed community engagement in the preparation of a new Domestic Animal Management Plan which was adopted on 19 November 2025. This plan outlines a structured program of actions designed to meet statutory requirements while progressing Council's strategic objectives for responsible animal management in the West Wimmera Shire. Initial implementation stages have included community education on responsible pet ownership, promotion of pet registration and microchipping, and early investigation into cat containment orders.

Privacy and data protection

The Privacy and Data Protection (PDP) Act 2014 outlines principles for how personal information must be collected, managed, and disposed of. Council has adopted an information privacy policy that explains how compliance with the act is achieved. This policy is available on Council's website.

Food act ministerial directions

No ministerial directions were issued under the Food Act 1984 during the 2025-26 financial year.

Governance and management checklist

	Governance and management items	Assessment
1	**Community engagement policy** (policy outlining Council's commitment to engaging with the community on matters of public interest)	Adopted in accordance with section 55 of the Act. Date of adoption: 20/08/2025
2	**Community engagement guidelines** (guidelines to assist staff to determine when and how to engage with the community)	Current guidelines in operation. Date of commencement: 20/08/2025
3	**Financial Plan** (plan under section 91 of the Act outlining the financial and non-financial resources required for at least the next 10 financial years)	Adopted in accordance with section 91 of the Act. Date of adoption: 28/10/2025
4	**Asset Plan** (plan that sets out the asset maintenance and renewal needs for key infrastructure asset classes for at least the next 10 years)	Adopted in accordance with section 92 of the Act. Date of adoption: 17/09/2025
5	**Revenue and Rating Plan** (plan setting out the rating structure of Council to levy rates and charges)	Adopted in accordance with section 93 of the Act. Date of adoption: 27/06/2025
6	**Annual budget** (plan setting out the services to be provided and initiatives to be undertaken over the next 12 months and the funding and other resources required)	Budget adopted in accordance with section 94 of the Act. Date of adoption: 17/06/2026
7	**Risk policy** (policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risks to Council's operations)	Current policy in operation Date of commencement: 15/02/2023
8	**Fraud policy** (policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risk of fraud)	Current policy in operation Date of commencement: 20/04/2022
9	**Municipal emergency management planning** (Participation in meetings of the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee.)	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) meetings attended by one or more representatives of Council (other than the chairperson of the MEMPC) during the financial year. Dates of MEMPC meetings attended: 11/09/2025, 11/12/2025, 12/03/2026, 11/06/2026
10	**Procurement policy** (policy outlining the principles, processes and procedures that will apply to all purchases of goods and services by the Council)	Adopted in accordance with section 108 of the Act. Date of commencement: 20/08/2025
11	**Business continuity plan** (plan setting out the actions that will be taken to ensure that key services continue to operate in the event of a disaster)	Current plan in operation Date of commencement: 09/05/2025
12	**Disaster recovery plan** (plan setting out the actions that will be undertaken to recover and restore business capability in the event of a disaster)	Current plan in operation Date of commencement: 29/06/2026

13	**Complaint policy** (Policy under section 107 of the Act outlining Council's commitment and approach to managing complaints.)	Policy developed in accordance with section 107 of the Act. Date of commencement: 15/04/2026
14	**Workforce plan** (Plan outlining Council's commitment and approach to planning the current and future workforce requirements of the organisation.)	Plan developed in accordance with section 46 of the Act. Date of commencement: 12/11/2025
15	**Payment of rates and charges hardship policy** (Policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to assisting ratepayers experiencing financial hardship or difficulty paying their rates.)	Current policy in operation Date of commencement: 24/07/2024
16	**Risk management framework** (framework outlining Council's approach to managing risks to the Council's operations)	Current framework in operation Date of commencement: 09/05/2025
17	**Audit and Risk Committee** (advisory committee of Council under section 53 and 54 of the Act)	Established in accordance with section 53 of the Act. Date of commencement: 16/09/2025, 09/12/2025, 10/03/2026, 09/06/2026
18	**Internal audit** (independent accounting professionals engaged by the Council to provide analyses and recommendations aimed at improving Council's governance, risk and management controls)	Internal auditor engaged Date of engagement: 01/07/2026
19	**Performance reporting framework** (a set of indicators measuring financial and non-financial performance, including the performance indicators referred to in section 98 of the Act)	Current framework in operation Date of adoption: 01/07/2026
20	**Council Plan report** (report reviewing the performance of the Council against the Council Plan, including the results in relation to the strategic indicators, for the first six months of the financial year)	Current report Date of report: 28/10/2025 Annual Plan Quarterly updates completed. In addition, monthly progress reports for each department completed and presented to Leadership meetings.
21	**Quarterly budget reports** (quarterly reports to Council under section 97 of the Act, comparing actual and budgeted results and an explanation of any material variations)	Quarterly reports presented to Council in accordance with section 97(1) of the Act. Date of report: Q1: 17/12/2025, Q2: 20/05/2026, Q3: 18/03/2026
22	**Risk reporting** (six-monthly reports of strategic risks to Council's operations, their likelihood and consequences of occurring and risk minimisation strategies)	Risk reports prepared and presented Dates of reports: Presented to Audit and Risk Committee Meetings: 116/09/2025, 10/03/2026
23	**Performance reporting** (six-monthly reports of indicators measuring the results against financial and non-financial performance, including performance indicators referred to in section 98 of the Act)	No reports. Reason for no reports: Performance reporting completed annually.
24	**Annual report** (annual report under sections 98 and 99 of the Act containing a report of operations and audited financial and performance statements)	Annual report presented at a meeting of Council in accordance with section 100 of the Act. Date of presentation: 28/10/2025

25	**Councillor Code of Conduct** (Code setting out the standards of conduct to be followed by Councillors and other matters.)	Code of conduct reviewed and adopted in accordance with section 139 of the Act. Date reviewed and adopted: 26/10/2024 New Model Code of Conduct came into effect 26/10/2024
26	**Delegations** (documents setting out the powers, duties and functions of Council and the Chief Executive Officer that have been delegated to members of staff)	Delegations reviewed in accordance with section 11(7) of the Act. and a register kept in accordance with sections 11(8) and 47(7) of the Act. Date of review: 19/11/2025
27	**Meeting procedures** (Governance Rules governing the conduct of meetings of Council and delegated committees)	Governance Rules adopted in accordance with section 60 of the Act. Date rules adopted: 16/11/2022

I certify that this information presents fairly the status of Council's governance and management arrangements.



David Bezuidenhout
Chief Executive Officer
Dated: 21 October 2026



Cr Tim Meyer
Mayor
Dated: 21 October 2026

Performance Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2025



WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

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Certification of the Performance Statement

In my opinion, the accompanying performance statement has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.



_____

Jason Cay Bachelor of Commerce and CPA

Principal Accounting Officer

Dated: 19 October 2026

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of the West Wimmera Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2026 presents fairly the results of council's performance in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.
The performance statement contains the relevant performance indicators, measures and results in relation to service performance, financial performance and sustainable capacity.
At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render any particulars in the performance statement to be misleading or inaccurate.
We have been authorised by the council and by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 to certify this performance statement in its final form.



_____

Councillor Tim Meyer
Mayor
Dated: 19 October 2026



_____

Councillor Helen Hobbs
Deputy Mayor
Dated: 19 October 2026



_____

David Bezuidenhout
Chief Executive Officer
Dated: 19 October 2026

Independent Auditor's Report

Victorian Auditor-General's Office

To the Councillors of West Wimmera Shire Council

Opinion	I have audited the accompanying performance statement of West Wimmera Shire Council (the council) which comprises the: • description of municipality for the year ended 30 June 2026 • service performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2026 • financial performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2026 • sustainable capacity indicators for the year ended 30 June 2026 • notes to the accounts • certification of the performance statement. In my opinion, the performance statement of West Wimmera Shire Council in respect of the year ended 30 June 2026 presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of Part 4 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.
Basis for Opinion	I have conducted my audit in accordance with the *Audit Act 1994* which incorporates the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the performance statement* section of my report. My independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. My staff and I are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the performance statement in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.
Councillors' responsibilities for the performance statement	The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the performance statement in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 and for such internal control as the Councillors determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a performance statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Level 31 / 35 Collins Street, Melbourne Vic 3000
T 03 8601 7000 enquiries@audit.vic.gov.au www.audit.vic.gov.au

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance statement

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the performance statement based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance statement. As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the performance statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the performance statement, including the disclosures, and whether performance statement represents the underlying events and results in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Councillors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



MELBOURNE
22 October 2026

Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

Description of municipality

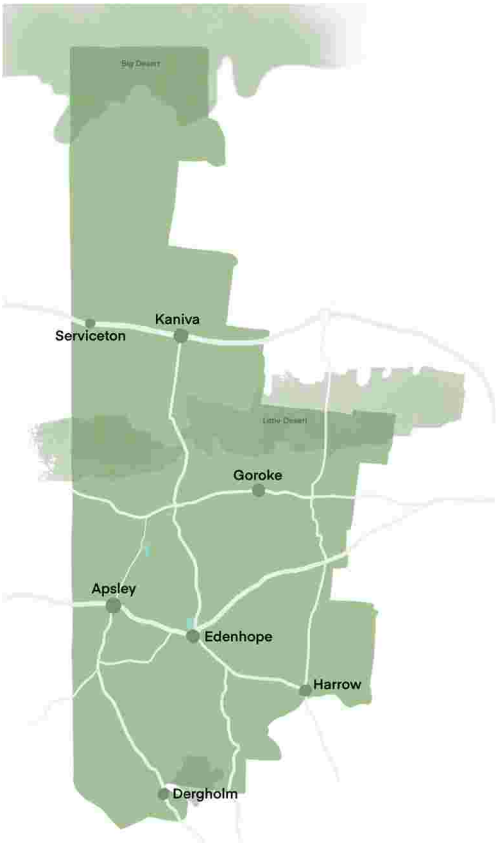
West Wimmera Shire is located in the western part of Victoria, adjacent to South Australia's border. It spans an extensive area of approximately 9,200 square kilometres, encompassing a diverse landscape that includes rich agricultural land, significant water bodies, numerous State and National Parks and vibrant small communities. Just over 4000 residents call West Wimmera home.

Key townships include Apsley, Edenhope, Goroke, Harrow and Kaniva, each with their own unique attractions and character. The shire's economy is primarily driven by agriculture, with broadacre cropping and livestock farming being the main industry. The Shire is known for high quality grain, wool, and meat significantly contributing to Victoria's agricultural output. Additionally, the region has a growing interest in tourism, with visitors attracted to its natural and untouched beauty, historical sites, outdoor activities, and silo art.

Operational summary

In 2025-26, Council maintained strong performance across key indicators, ensuring sustainable service delivery for the community. Council successfully delivered a capital works program of $2.747 million, including $2.151 million on Council roads and infrastructure. This investment reflects Council's commitment to enhancing community wellbeing, providing healthy sporting and recreational opportunities.

Council has consistently supported business and economic development, fulfilling its service performance goals and receiving positive feedback on service quality from residents and ratepayers. A proactive approach to maintaining critical roads and infrastructure has ensured safer, more reliable assets for the community.



Section 2 - Service Performance Indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2026

	Results					
	2023	2024	2025	2026		Comment
Service / ***Indicator*** / *Measure* [Formula]	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	
Aquatic Facilities ***Utilisation*** *Utilisation of aquatic facilities* [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]	2.91	3.41	2.87	N/A	3.74	All Council swimming pools were open for the full 2025-26 season. In comparison, opening dates in 2024-25 were delayed due to the transition to a new contractor and required maintenance works. The full operating season in 2025-26 contributed to higher patronage across Council's swimming pools.
Animal Management ***Health and safety*** *Animal management prosecutions* [Number of successful animal management prosecutions / Number of animal management prosecutions] x 100	0%	0%	0%	N/A	0%	No animal management prosecutions occurred in 2025-26
Food Safety ***Health and safety*** *Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications* [Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises] x100	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	N/A	100.00%	All non-compliance notifications where followed up by Council.
Governance ***Consultation and engagement*** *Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement* [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on community consultation and engagement]	54	56	56	57	54	The 2025-26 result dropped 2 target points from the 2024-25 result, but overall Council continues to endeavour to engage and perform to a high level regarding community consultation.

Section 2 - Service Performance Indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Results

	2023	2024	2025	2026		Comment
Service / ***Indicator*** / *Measure* [Formula]	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	
Libraries ***Participation*** *Library membership* [Number of registered library members / Population] x100	#N/A	23.37%	24.02%	N/A	23.60%	Library membership remains steady and the Council continues to develop ways we can interact with the community through library services.
Maternal and Child Health (MCH) ***Participation*** *Participation in the MCH service* [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	93.10%	100.00%	77.24%	N/A	79.52%	Maternal Child Health Service was transferred to West Wimmera Health in November 2025
Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	N/A	100.00%	Maternal Child Health Service was transferred to West Wimmera Health in November 2025
Roads ***Condition*** *Sealed local roads maintained to condition standards* [Number of kilometres of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kilometres of sealed local roads] x100	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	Roads where maintained to standard as per Councils Road Management Plan.
Statutory Planning ***Service standard*** *Planning applications decided within required time frames* [(Number of regular planning application decisions made within 60 days) + (Number of VicSmart planning application decisions made within 10 days) / Number of planning application decisions made] x100	80.65%	62.50%	87.50%	70.00%	95.45%	Only one application for the year did not meeting the required timeframe.
Waste Management ***Waste diversion*** *Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill* [Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100	19.98%	12.87%	15.71%	50.00%	24.97%	Council has established a 50% target as a long term goal for waste diversion and diversion rates have increased in each of the last 2 years. The introduction of FOGO is anticipated to increase waste diversion closer to the target in future years. Previous year's calculation was incorrectly calculated (2024-25 was 25.9%)

Section 3 - Financial Performance Indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2026

	Results					Forecasts				
	2023	2024	2025	2026		2027	2028	2029	2030	Material Variations and Comments
Dimension / ***Indicator*** / *Measure* [Formula]	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target as per budget	Actual	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	Forecasts	
Efficiency										
Expenditure level										
Expenses per property assessment [Total expenses / Number of property assessments]	$6,046.40	$6.92	$6,868.53	$6,143.00	$6,817.57	$6,523.83	$6,143.20	$6,306.42	$6,473.78	Expenditure has remained consistent from 2024-25 to 2025-26.
Revenue level										
Average rate per property assessment [Sum of all general rates and municipal charges / Number of property assessments]	$1,528.00	$1.66	$1,708.74	N/A	$1,759.70	$1,876.61	$1,919.26	$1,963.22	$2,008.05	Average rates per assessment has remained consistent and increased as per rate capping limit.
Liquidity										
Working capital										
Current assets compared to current liabilities [Current assets / Current liabilities] x100	470.62%	159.94%	145.85%	142.00%	234.53%	98.49%	129.46%	127.20%	132.64%	Council received Financial Assistance Grant operational funding (FAGs) of $6.6m for 2026-27 (80% of total FAGs) in the 2025-26 financial year up from 50% in 2024-25.
Unrestricted cash										
Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities [Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities] x100	407.31%	133.63%	130.82%	N/A	142.47%	37.62%	54.59%	52.84%	54.48%	Council has a number of grants and carry forward project funds in 2025-26 which has inflated the unrestricted cash result. As forecast this will decrease in future years once projects are completed.
Obligations										
Loans and borrowings										
Loans and borrowings compared to rates [Interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	0.00%	0.00%	22.27%	N/A	16.20%	10.50%	6.98%	3.48%	0.00%	Borrowings decreased from $2m to $1.5m during 2025-26 resulting from a loan repayment made during the financial year.
Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates [Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	N/A	6.25%	5.88%	3.63%	3.55%	3.48%	Council has budgeted to continue to pay $500k per year off the principal borrowings balance to reduce the debt.
Indebtedness										
Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue [Non-current liabilities / Own source revenue] x100	1.64%	2.03%	2.32%	N/A	2.01%	7.95%	6.43%	3.42%	3.39%	Employee provisions has decreased in 2025-26 with a reduction in staffing numbers during the year.
Asset renewal and upgrade										
Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation [Asset renewal and asset upgrade expense / Asset depreciation] x100	80.71%	128.49%	60.82%	60.00%	20.68%	49.78%	56.91%	75.35%	73.46%	Completed capital works was below budget for 2025-26 with the impact of fuel increases causing delays with contract works. Council additionally prioritised additional contracted works (VicRoads) on main roads during the year. The road renewal works budgeted in 2025-26 are scheduled to be completed in 2026-27.
Operating position										
Adjusted underlying result										
Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) [Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit)/ Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	3.45%	-60.94%	-11.25%	N/A	-8.70%	-45.75%	-33.71%	-34.52%	-35.34%	Adjusted underlying surplus excludes non-reccurrent capital grants. Council continues to receive a large amount of non-recurrent capital funds to undertake infrastructure upgrades and maintenance. Council continues to focus on net break even result.
Stability										
Rates concentration										
Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue [Rate revenue / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	26.32%	42.17%	30.50%	35.00%	30.96%	46.32%	46.15%	46.27%	46.38%	Council received operational grant funding of $6.6m for 2026-27 in the 2025-2026 financial year, this kept rates under the 35% targeted result.
Rates effort										
Rates compared to property values [Rate revenue / Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality] x100	0.15%	0.14%	0.14%	N/A	0.16%	0.17%	0.17%	0.18%	0.18%	Rates continue to remain stready as a % of property values.

Section 4 - Sustainable Capacity Indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Results

	2023	2024	2025	2026	Comment
Indicator */ Measure* [Formula]	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	
Population *Expenses per head of municipal population* [Total expenses / Municipal population]	$7,546.68	$8,397.66	$8,371.07	$8,304.73	Expenses continue to remain consistent and stable per population.
Infrastructure per head of municipal population [Value of infrastructure / Municipal population]	$72,115.58	$67,370.96	$66,850.50	$74,333.59	Revaluation and indexation of land, buildings and infrastructure assets occurred in 2025-26 with an average increase of 12% across asset classes.
Population density per length of road [Municipal population / Kilometres of local roads]	1.46	1.39	1.42	1.42	Population and road lengths both remain steady.
Own-source revenue *Own-source revenue per head of municipal population* [Own-source revenue / Municipal population]	$2,999.50	$3,162.73	$3,299.00	$3,503.19	Own Source revenue remains steady with small increases in line with inflation.
Recurrent grants *Recurrent grants per head of municipal population* [Recurrent grants / Municipal population]	$3,791.31	$1,286.55	$3,979.81	$3,677.91	A number of services that received recurrent grant funding transitioned from Council to other service providers including aged care and Maternal and Child Health Services.
Disadvantage *Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage* [Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage by decile]	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	This indicator has remained unchanged.
Workforce turnover *Percentage of staff turnover* [Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations / Average number of permanent staff for the financial year] x100	15.8%	34.6%	17.2%	22.7%	Council transferred two services to external organisations at the end of the 2025 financial year. One third of all 2025-26 turnover was attributed to transfer of services. The 2023-24 reported staff turnover rate was incorrectly reported due to a data issue. The correct figure was 20.93

Notes to the Accounts

BASIS OF PREPARATION

Council is required to prepare and include a performance statement within its annual report. The performance statement includes the results of the prescribed, service performance, financial performance and sustainable capacity indicators and measures together with a description of the municipal district, an explanation of material variations in the results and notes to the accounts. This statement has been prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Where applicable the results in the performance statement have been prepared on accounting bases consistent with those reported in the Financial Statements. The other results are based on information drawn from council information systems or from third parties (e.g., Australian Bureau of Statistics or the Council's satisfaction survey provider).

The performance statement presents the actual results for the current year and the previous three years, along with the current year's target, if mandated by *the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*. Additionally, for the prescribed financial performance indicators and measures, the performance statement includes the target budget for the current year and the results forecast for the period 2026-27 to 2029-30 by the council's financial plan.

The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variations in the results contained in the performance statement. Council has adopted materiality thresholds relevant to each indicator and measure and explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality thresholds unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

Definitions

Key term	Definition
Aboriginal children	means a child who is an Aboriginal person
Aboriginal person	has the same meaning as in the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006
adjusted underlying revenue	means total income other than: • non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and • non-monetary asset contributions; and • contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above
adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)	means adjusted underlying revenue less total expenditure
annual report	means an annual report prepared by a council under section 98 of the Act
asset renewal expenditure	means expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability
asset upgrade expenditure	means expenditure that— (a) enhances an existing asset to provide a higher level of service; or (b) extends the life of the asset beyond its original life
critical non-compliance outcome notification	means a notification received by council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the *Food Act 1984* , or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that poses an immediate serious threat to public health
current assets	has the same meaning as in the Australian Accounting Standards
current liabilities	has the same meaning as in the Australian Accounting Standards
food premises	has the same meaning as in the *Food Act 1984*
intervention level	means the level set for the condition of a road beyond which a council will not allow the road to deteriorate and will need to intervene
local road	means a sealed or unsealed road for which the council is the responsible road authority under the *Road Management Act 2004*
major non-compliance outcome notification	means a notification received by a council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the *Food Act 1984*, or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that does not pose an immediate serious threat to public health but may do so if no remedial action is taken

MCH	means the Maternal and Child Health Service provided by a council to support the health and development of children within the municipality from birth until school age
non-current liabilities	means all liabilities other than current liabilities
own-source revenue	means adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of council (including government grants)
population	means the resident population estimated by council
rate revenue	means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges
relative socio-economic disadvantage	in relation to a municipal district, means the relative socio-economic disadvantage, expressed as a decile for the relevant financial year, of the area in which the municipal district is located according to the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage of SEIFA
restricted cash	means cash, cash equivalents and financial assets, within the meaning of the Australian Accounting Standards, not available for use other than for a purpose for which it is restricted, and includes cash to be used to fund capital works expenditure from the previous financial year
SEIFA	means the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas published from time to time by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on its Internet site
unrestricted cash	means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash

Annual Financial Report

For the year ended 30 June 2024



WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

West Wimmera Shire Council

Annual Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2026

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West Wimmera Shire Council

Annual Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2026

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Content Overview

These financial statements are General Purpose Financial Statements and cover the consolidated operations for West Wimmera Shire Council

All figures presented in these financial statements are presented in Australian Currency.

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the Council on dd MMMM yyyy
Council has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements.

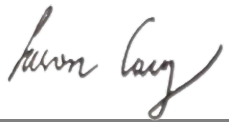
West Wimmera Shire Council

Annual Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Certification of the Financial Statements

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*, the Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

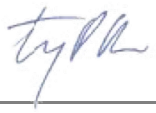


Jason Cay
Responsible Accounting Officer
Dated: 19 October 2026
Edenhope

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of the West Wimmera Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2026 and the financial position of the Council as at that date.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* to certify the financial statements in their final form.



Tim Meyer
Mayor
Dated: 19 October 2026
Edenhope



Helen Hobbs
Deputy Mayor
Dated: 19 October 2026
Edenhope



David Bezuidenhout
Chief Executive Officer
Dated: 19 October 2026
Edenhope

Independent Auditor's Report

Victorian Auditor-General's Office

To the Councillors of West Wimmera Shire Council

Opinion	I have audited the financial report of West Wimmera Shire Council (the council) which comprises the: • balance sheet as at 30 June 2026 • comprehensive income statement for the year then ended • statement of changes in equity for the year then ended • statement of cash flows for the year then ended • statement of capital works for the year then ended • notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information • certification of the financial statements. In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the council as at 30 June 2026 and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of Part 4 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 and applicable Australian Accounting Standards.
Basis for Opinion	I have conducted my audit in accordance with the *Audit Act 1994* which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. My independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. My staff and I are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.
Councillors' responsibilities for the financial report	The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial report, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is inappropriate to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Councillors
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Councillors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the council's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Councillors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

MELBOURNE
22 October 2026

West Wimmera Shire Council

Comprehensive Income Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Income / Revenue			
Rates and charges	3.1	9,217	8,936
Statutory fees and fines	3.2	141	159
User fees	3.3	595	834
Grants - operating	3.4	13,798	14,466
Grants - capital	3.4	3,081	2,448
Contributions - monetary	3.5	–	76
Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.6	–	435
Other income	3.7	3,762	2,545
Total income / revenue		30,594	29,899
Expenses			
Employee costs	4.1	10,324	11,544
Materials and services	4.2	9,743	9,587
Depreciation	4.3	11,334	10,826
Borrowing costs		79	1
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.6	153	–
Other expenses	4.4	736	764
Share of net losses of associates and joint ventures	6.2	144	34
Total expenses		32,513	32,756
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(1,919)	(2,857)
Other comprehensive income:			
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods			
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	6.1,9.1	41,713	–
Total items which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result		41,713	–
Total other comprehensive income		41,713	–
Total comprehensive result		39,794	(2,857)

The above comprehensive income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

West Wimmera Shire Council

Balance Sheet

as at 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	11,277	10,840
Trade and other receivables	5.1	1,762	1,101
Prepayments	5.2	51	20
Other financial assets	5.1	6,176	17
Inventories	5.2	97	107
Total current assets		19,363	12,085
Non-current assets			
Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries	6.2	–	428
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.1	294,476	261,586
Total non-current assets		294,476	262,014
Total assets		313,839	274,099
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5.3	2,139	2,141
Trust funds and deposits	5.3	948	605
Contract and other liabilities	5.3	1,504	1,360
Provisions	5.5	2,165	2,180
Interest-bearing liabilities	5.4	1,500	2,000
Total current liabilities		8,256	8,286
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	5.5	275	299
Total non-current liabilities		275	299
Total liabilities		8,531	8,585
Net assets		305,308	265,514
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		30,907	33,401
Reserves	9.1	274,401	232,113
Total Equity		305,308	265,514

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

West Wimmera Shire Council

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Note	Total $ '000	Accumulated Surplus $ '000	Revaluation Reserves $ '000	Other Reserves $ '000
2026					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		265,514	33,401	229,870	2,243
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(1,919)	(1,919)	–	–
Other comprehensive income					
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	6.1	41,713	–	41,713	–
Other comprehensive income		41,713	–	41,713	–
Total comprehensive income		39,794	(1,919)	41,713	–
Transfers to other reserves	9.1	–	(575)	–	575
Transfers from other reserves	9.1	–	–	–	–
Balance at end of the financial year		305,308	30,907	271,583	2,818
2025					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		268,371	36,139	229,868	2,364
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(2,857)	(2,857)	–	–
Total comprehensive income		(2,857)	(2,857)	–	–
Transfers to other reserves	9.1	(2)	(1,409)	–	1,407
Transfers from other reserves	9.1	2	1,528	2	(1,528)
Balance at end of the financial year		265,514	33,401	229,870	2,243

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

West Wimmera Shire Council

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 Inflows/ (Outflows) $ '000	2025 Inflows/ (Outflows) $ '000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Rates and charges		9,170	8,843
Statutory fees and fines		141	159
User fees		595	834
Grants - operating		13,619	14,933
Grants - capital		3,513	2,448
Contributions - monetary		–	76
Interest received		350	390
Trust funds and deposits taken		343	511
Other receipts		2,798	1,725
Employee costs		(10,363)	(11,618)
Materials and services		(9,430)	(11,340)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments		(16)	(23)
Other payments		(1,165)	(6)
Net cash provided by operating activities	9.2	9,555	6,932
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.1	(2,746)	(6,695)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		82	551
Payments for investments		(6,159)	(34)
Proceeds from sale of investments		284	35
Net cash used in investing activities		(8,539)	(6,143)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Finance costs		(79)	(1)
Proceeds from borrowings		–	2,000
Repayment of borrowings		(500)	–
Net cash used in financing activities		(579)	1,999
Net Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		437	2,788
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		10,840	8,052
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		11,277	10,840
Financing arrangements	5.6		

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

West Wimmera Shire Council

Statement of Capital Works

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Property			
Land improvements		410	460
Total land		410	460
Buildings		166	181
Total buildings		166	181
Total property		576	641
Plant and equipment			
Plant, machinery and equipment		20	950
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		–	34
Motor Vehicles		–	570
Total plant and equipment		20	1,554
Infrastructure			
Roads		2,059	4,330
Bridges		–	20
Footpaths and cycleways		42	102
Drainage		41	–
Recreational, leisure and community facilities		–	–
Kerbs & Channels		8	48
Aerodromes		–	–
Total infrastructure		2,150	4,500
Total capital works expenditure	6.1	2,746	6,695
Represented by:			
New asset expenditure		118	111
Asset renewal expenditure		2,343	5,675
Asset expansion expenditure		–	–
Asset upgrade expenditure		285	909
Total capital works expenditure		2,746	6,695

The above statement of capital works should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

West Wimmera Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 1. Overview

Introduction

The West Wimmera Shire Council was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 20th January 1995 and is a body corporate.

The Council's main office is located at 49 Elizabeth Street, Edenhope VIC 3318.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and Notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the *Local Government Act 2020*, and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.*

The Council is a not-for-profit entity and therefore applies the additional AUS paragraphs applicable to a not-for-profit entity under the Australian Accounting Standards.

Accounting policy information

1.1 Basis of accounting

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported. Specific accounting policies applied are disclosed in sections where the related balance or financial statement matter is disclosed.

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, except for the cash flow information, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The financial statements are based on the historical cost convention unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The financial statements are in Australian dollars. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise specified. Minor discrepancies in tables between totals and the sum of components are due to rounding.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:

- the fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1)
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1)
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 5.5)
- the determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific so as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers or AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* (refer to Note 3.4)
- whether or not AASB 1059 *Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors* is applicable
- other areas requiring judgements

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

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Note 1. Overview (continued)

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income and expenses are recognised net of the amount of associated GST. Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

1.2 Impacts of other external events

Council has considered ongoing external events that have contributed to volatility in international markets, disrupted global supply chains and increased inflationary pressure, including the risk that they may cause significant changes in the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next financial year, and has concluded that there is no material impact on the 2025-26 financial report that requires additional disclosure.

West Wimmera Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 2. Analysis of our results

Note 2.1 Performance against budget

The performance against budget notes compare Council's financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. The *Local Government* (*Planning and Reporting*) *Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of the lower of 10 percent or $100,000 where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.*

2.1.1 Income / Revenue and expenditure

	Budget 2026 $ '000	Actual 2026 $ '000	Variance $ '000	Variance %	Ref
Income / Revenue					
Rates and charges	9,215	9,217	2	0.02%	
Statutory fees and fines	172	141	(31)	(18.02)%	1
User fees	596	595	(1)	(0.17)%	
Grants - operating	10,619	13,798	3,179	29.94%	2
Grants - capital	4,007	3,081	(926)	(23.11)%	3
Contributions - monetary	302	–	(302)	(100.00)%	4
Contributions - non monetary	–	–	–	∞	
Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	115	–	(115)	(100.00)%	5
Other income	1,428	3,762	2,334	163.45%	6
Total income / revenue	26,454	30,594	4,140	15.65%	
Expenses					
Employee costs	11,071	10,324	747	6.75%	7
Materials and services	9,047	9,743	(696)	(7.69)%	8
Depreciation	8,369	11,334	(2,965)	(35.43)%	9
Borrowing costs	80	79	1	1.25%	
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	–	153	(153)	∞	5
Share of net losses of associates and joint ventures	–	144	(144)	∞	10
Other expenses	730	736	(6)	(0.82)%	
Total expenses	29,297	32,513	(3,216)	(10.98)%	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(2,843)	(1,919)	924	(32.50)%	

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 2.1 Performance against budget (continued)

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Ref	Explanation
1.	Building and Planning Fees $30k lower than budgeted due to lower demand.
2.	Operating Grants were greater than budget as Financial Assistance Grants for 2025-2026 were prepaid in 2024-2025 with a total value of $3.956m and 2026-2027 were prepaid into 2025-26 of $6.622m resulting in a net increase.
3.	Capital Grants included Roads to Recovery (RTR) and road safety grants budgeted of $3.4m of which $648k was received in 2025-26. Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) grant of $1.75m was received that was budgeted in 2024-25.
4.	Budgeted contributions for the Edenhope Aerodrome project $302k will be gifted assets once the project is finalised in 2026-2027.
5.	Budgeted number and value of plant items to be sold in 2025-2026 did not occur with a net $39k profit on disposal. Loss on disposal included $192k of obsolete land and building improvements
6.	Other income included an additional $2m of VicRoads contractor works and additional interest income of $350k.
7.	Employee Costs included savings from vacant positions during the year.
8.	Materials and Services costs included $596k for the Goroke Recreation Reserve Project that was budgeted in 2024-25 but expended as a carry forward in 2025-26.
9.	Budgeted depreciation did not include additional depreciation charges from revaluation of roads and buildings.
10.	Council exited the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation resulting in a net loss on equity of $14k and exited the Wimmera Southern Mallee Development Association resulting in a net loss on equity of $130k.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 2.1 Performance against budget (continued)

2.1.2 Capital works

	Budget 2026 $ '000	Actual 2026 $ '000	Variance $ '000	Variance %	Ref
Property					
Land improvements	–	410	410	∞	1
Total land	–	410	410	∞	
Buildings	594	166	(428)	(72.05)%	2
Total buildings	594	166	(428)	(72.05)%	
Total property	594	576	(18)	(3.03)%	
Plant and equipment					
Plant, machinery and equipment	–	20	20	∞	3
Total plant and equipment	–	20	20	∞	
Infrastructure					
Roads	3,672	2,059	(1,613)	(43.93)%	4
Footpaths and cycleways	66	42	(24)	(36.36)%	5
Drainage	40	41	1	2.50%	
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	333	–	(333)	(100.00)%	6
Kerbs & Channels	–	8	8	∞	
Aerodromes	337	–	(337)	(100.00)%	7
Total infrastructure	4,448	2,150	(2,298)	(51.66)%	
Total capital works expenditure	5,042	2,746	(2,296)	(45.54)%	
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	–	118	118	∞	8
Asset renewal expenditure	2,881	2,343	(538)	(18.67)%	9
Asset expansion expenditure	1,889	–	(1,889)	(100.00)%	10
Asset upgrade expenditure	272	285	13	4.78%	
Total capital works expenditure	5,042	2,746	(2,296)	(45.54)%	

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Note 2.1 Performance against budget (continued)

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Ref	Explanation
1.	The following projects were capitalised into land improvements; Goroke Kindergarten Playground $199k, Kaniva Dog Park $80k, Local Road Railway Crossings Signage $53k and Edenhope Aerodrome $66k. These projects were budgeted into other asset classes.
2.	Goroke Kindergarten Playground budget $90k and Kaniva Dog Park budget $193k capitalised into Land Improvements. Libraries Open Access project budget $198k not completed until 2026-2027 due to contractor availability.
3.	Ride on Mower purchase $20k not budgeted.
4.	Road construction and resheeting programs not fully completed in 2025-26. These are scheduled to be completed early in 2026-27. Construction was delayed due to contract variation and material delivery delays resulting from disrupted supply chains due to rising fuel prices and volatility.
5.	Budjik St footpath project $17k under budget and general footpaths budget $8k under budget.
6.	Projects budgeted in Recreation including the Kaniva Depot $150k and West Wimmera Workers Accommodation $100k did not proceed.The Aquatic Facilities project budgeted in recreation had $34k capitalised into land improvements or buildings
7.	The Edenhope Aerodrome Fire Upgrade Project budgeted in Aerodromes for $322k had $66k capitalised into Land improvements.
8.	Kaniva Dog Park $193k and Footpath Capital Works $66k incorrectly Budgeted as upgrade rather than new.
9.	Roads renewal program budgeted in 2025-2026 was not fully completed. Construction was delayed due to contract variation and material delivery delays resulting from disrupted supply chains due to rising fuel prices and volatility. These are scheduled to be completed early in 2026-27.
10.	Roads renewal program $1.889m incorrectly budgeted as expansion but capitalised as renewal works.

West Wimmera Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 2.2 Analysis of Council results by program

2.2.1 Analysis of Council results by program

Council delivers its functions and activities through the following programs.

Community Services
Community Services provides high quality community focused programs, service delivery and communication to residents. Community Services is comprised of community care, connected communities, family services, youth, early childhood care, kindergarten, health communities, leisure and recreational services and social planning and investment.

Corporate Services
Corporate Services provide management of number of shared services across various functions. Important services including Finance, Human Resource Management, Information Technology, Operational Health & Safety, Risk, Customer Services operate and are managed under Corporate Services. These services aim to deliver important objectives in effective and efficient manner for smooth operations for other functions in the Council.

Development and Environmental Services
Development and Environmental Services conducts all planning and regulatory services in the shire and includes the assessment of town / rural developments, health and local laws, planning strategy and urban growth, environmental projects, management of weeds, pests and other similar functions.

Engineering
Engineering is an important part of the Infrastructure, Development and Works Directorate and responsible for planning, design, construction, maintenance, upgrades of all assets throughout the shire. All of our critical road and infrastructure assets, building, land and land improvements, sporting and recreation facilities are managed by Engineering.

Governance
Governance provides important support of monitoring and reporting Council wide activities within legal and regulatory framework. Coordination with several State and Commonwealth reporting channels, matters relating to Councillors and Management, Periodic and adhoc reporting and to ensure that Council is in compliance with its operational mandate.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 2.2 Analysis of Council results by program (continued)

2.2.2 Summary of income / revenue, expenses, assets and capital expenses by program

Functions/activities	Income / Revenue $ '000	Expenses $ '000	Surplus / (Deficit) $ '000	Grants included in income / revenue $ '000	Total assets $ '000
2026					
Community Services	1,588	2,973	(1,385)	1,239	40
Corporate Services	16,632	3,377	13,255	6,457	38,415
Development and Environmental Services	654	4,909	(4,255)	1,501	80
Engineering	11,710	19,713	(8,003)	7,682	268,624
Governance	10	1,541	(1,531)	–	6,680
Total functions and activities	30,594	32,513	(1,919)	16,879	313,839
2025					
Community Services	2,510	4,446	(1,936)	1,915	60
Corporate Services	15,462	3,059	12,403	6,884	20,966
Development and Environmental Services	619	2,144	(1,525)	51	120
Engineering	11,288	21,395	(10,107)	8,064	248,207
Governance	20	1,712	(1,692)	–	4,746
Total functions and activities	29,899	32,756	(2,857)	16,914	274,099

West Wimmera Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000

3.1 Rates and charges

Council uses Capital Improved Value (CIV) as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipal district. The CIV of a property is its current market value determined by Valuer General Victoria.

The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2025/26 was $ 5,893 million (2024/25: $ 6,254 million).

General rates	7,874	7,640
Municipal charge	519	506
Waste management charge	825	792
Supplementary rates and rate adjustments	(1)	3
Pensioner Concessions	–	(5)
Total rates and charges	9,217	8,936

The date of the general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2025 and the valuation was first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2025.

Annual rates and charges are recognised as income when Council issues annual rates notices. Supplementary rates are recognised when a valuation and reassessment is completed and a supplementary rates notice issued.

3.2 Statutory fees and fines

Regulatory Services	44	58
Town planning fees	35	39
Land information certificates	6	7
Permits	56	55
Total statutory fees and fines	141	159

Statutory fees and fines are recognised as income when the service has been provided, the payment is received, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever first occurs.

3.3 User fees

Aged and health services	–	189
Child care/children's programs	312	324
Waste management services	118	119
Other fees and charges	165	202
Total user fees	595	834
User fees by timing of revenue recognition		
User fees recognised at a point in time	595	834
Total user fees	595	834

User fees are recognised as revenue at a point in time, or over time, when (or as) the performance obligation is satisfied. Recognition is based on the underlying contractual terms.

continued on next page ...

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000

3.4 Funding from other levels of government

Grants were received in respect of the following:

Summary of grants		
Commonwealth funded grants	13,175	14,126
State funded grants	3,704	2,788
Total grants received	16,879	16,914
(a) Operating Grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Financial Assistance Grants	10,539	11,388
Other	10	121
Commonwealth Home Support Programme	–	348
Recurrent - State Government		
Aged care	–	61
School crossing supervisors	8	8
Community Support	59	41
Maternal and child health	176	407
Regulatory Services	118	91
Preschool Operating	933	885
Youth Initiatives	90	88
Immunisations	–	–
Other	69	66
Total recurrent operating grants	12,002	13,504
Non-recurrent - State Government		
Edenhope Recreation Reserve Upgrade	900	–
Goroke Kindergarten Playground	178	–
Goroke Recreation Reserve	547	–
Goroke Swimming Pool	36	–
Infrastructure	105	97
Apsley Netball Tennis Court Upgrade	–	56
Harrow & District Recreation Reserve	–	299
Kaniva Recreation Reserve	–	261
West Wimmera Cabins	–	191
Preschools	–	43
Other	30	15
Total non-recurrent operating grants	1,796	962
Total operating grants	13,798	14,466

continued on next page ...

West Wimmera Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
(b) Capital Grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Roads to recovery	648	1,957
Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Projects	1,749	112
Total recurrent capital grants	2,397	2,069
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Heavy Vehicle Safety & Productivity Program	229	200
Non-recurrent - State Government		
Goroke Kindergarten Playground	21	–
Harrow Recreation Reserve Lighting	25	–
Kaniva Dog Park	68	–
Kaniva Recreation Reserve Lighting	25	–
Kaniva Shire Hall Restoration	50	–
Road Safety Improvements	266	–
Other	–	179
Total non-recurrent capital grants	684	379
Total capital grants	3,081	2,448

(c) Recognition of grant income

Before recognising funding from government grants as revenue the Council assesses whether there is a contract that is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers. When both these conditions are satisfied, the Council:
- identifies each performance obligation relating to revenue under the contract/agreement
- determines the transaction price
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations, at the point in time or over time when services are rendered.

Where the contract is not enforceable and/or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Council applies *AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities.*

Grant revenue with sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised over time as the performance obligations specified in the underlying agreement are met. Where performance obligations are not sufficiently specific, grants are recognised on the earlier of receipt or when an unconditional right to receipt has been established. Grants relating to capital projects are generally recognised progressively as the capital project is completed. The following table provides a summary of the accounting framework under which grants are recognised.

Income recognised under AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities		
General purpose	12,137	13,659
Other specific purpose grants	3,081	2,448
Revenue recognised under AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers		
Specific purpose grants	1,661	807
	16,879	16,914

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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
(d) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner:		
Operating		
Balance at start of year	910	686
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	731	910
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(910)	(686)
Balance at year end	731	910
Capital		
Balance at start of year	243	–
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	476	243
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(44)	–
Balance at year end	675	243

Unspent grants are determined and disclosed on a cash basis.

continued on next page ...

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
3.5 Contributions		
Monetary contributions		
Monetary	–	76
Total monetary contributions	–	76
Total contributions	–	76

Monetary and non monetary contributions are recognised as income at their fair value when Council obtains control over the contributed asset.

3.6 Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		
Proceeds of sale	82	551
Written down value of assets disposed	(43)	(116)
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	39	435
Land and buildings		
Written down value of assets disposed	(192)	–
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of land and buildings	(192)	–
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(153)	435

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

3.7 Other income		
Interest	350	390
Reimbursements - Roads	2,350	1,360
Reimbursements - Other	200	233
Insurance / Workcover	152	215
Rent	78	84
Fuel Tax Refund	35	37
Other	597	226
Total other income	3,762	2,545

Interest is recognised as it is earned.

Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when Council gains control over the right to receive the income.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 4. The cost of delivering services

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000

4.1 Employee costs

(a) Employee costs

Wages and salaries	7,460	8,696
WorkCover	366	423
Superannuation	1,064	1,095
Fringe benefits tax	157	173
Other	1,277	1,157
Total employee costs	10,324	11,544

(b) Superannuation

Council made contributions to the following funds:

Defined benefit fund

Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	21	46
	21	46

Accumulation funds

Employer contributions - other funds	1,043	1,049
	1,043	1,049
Employer contributions payable at reporting date	1	89
Total superannuation costs	1,064	1,095

Contributions made exclude amounts accrued at balance date. Refer to note 9.3 for further information relating to Council's superannuation obligations.

4.2 Materials and services

Contract payments	5,749	4,360
General maintenance	69	82
Utilities	379	415
Office administration	10	44
Information technology	716	766
Insurance	455	446
Consultants	529	824
Expenses from short term leases	16	23
Materials and Services	1,448	2,254
Plant and equipment maintenance	372	373
Total materials and services	9,743	9,587

Expenses are recognised as they are incurred and reported in the financial year to which they relate.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 4. The cost of delivering services (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
4.3 Depreciation		
Property		
Land improvements	341	267
Buildings - specialised	1,113	1,060
Total depreciation - property	1,454	1,327
Plant and equipment		
Plant machinery and equipment	945	905
Fixtures fittings and furniture	74	98
Motor Vehicles	290	157
Total depreciation - plant and equipment	1,309	1,160
Infrastructure		
Roads	8,114	7,870
Bridges	38	50
Footways and cycleways	105	103
Drainage	181	183
Kerbs & Channels	133	133
Total depreciation - infrastructure	8,571	8,339
Total depreciation	11,334	10,826

Refer to note 6.1 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation and amortisation charges and accounting policy.

4.4 Other expenses

Auditors' remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	55	75
Auditors' remuneration - Internal Audit	24	24
Councillors' allowances	240	223
Operating Rental Leases	24	12
Community Grants	209	205
Administration, Banking and Legal Costs	184	225
Total other expenses	736	764

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000

5.1 Financial assets

(a) Cash and cash equivalents

Current		
Cash on hand	–	1
Cash at bank	11,277	10,839
Total cash and cash equivalents	11,277	10,840

(b) Other financial assets

Current		
Term deposits	6,147	–
Other	29	17
Total current other financial assets	6,176	17
Total cash and cash equivalents and other financial assets	17,453	10,857

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Other financial assets include accrued interest and term deposits. Term Deposits with original maturity dates of three to 12 months are classified as current, whilst term deposits with maturity dates greater than 12 months are classified as non-current.

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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
(c) Trade & Other Receivables		
Current		
Rates debtors	465	418
Other debtors	1,300	697
Allowance for expected credit loss	(3)	(14)
Total current trade and other receivables	1,762	1,101
Total trade and other receivables	1,762	1,101

Short term receivables are carried at invoice amount. An allowance for expected credit losses is recognised based on past experience and other objective evidence of expected losses. Long term receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

(d) Ageing of receivables

The ageing of the Council's trade & other receivables (excluding statutory receivables) that are not impaired was:

Current (not yet due)	1,286	680
Past due by up to 30 days	11	2
Past due between 31 and 180 days	–	7
Past due between 181 and 365 days	–	3
Past due by more than 1 year	–	5
Total trade and other receivables	1,297	697

(e) Ageing of individually impaired receivables

At balance date, other debtors representing financial assets with a nominal value of $ 3k (2025: $ 14k) were impaired. Council has completed a detailed assessment into quality of these debtors and they individually have been impaired as a result of their doubtful collection.

Past due between 31 and 180 days	1	6
Past due between 181 and 365 days	–	3
Past due by more than 1 year	2	5
Total trade and other receivables	3	14

continued on next page ...

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000

5.2 Non-financial assets

(a) Inventories

Current

Inventories held for distribution	97	107
Total current inventories	97	107

Inventories held for distribution are measured at cost, adjusted when applicable for any loss of service potential. All other inventories, including land held for sale, are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Where inventories are acquired for no cost or nominal consideration, they are measured at current replacement cost at the date of acquisition.

(b) Other assets

Prepayments	51	20
Total current Prepayments	51	20

5.3 Payables, trust funds and deposits and contract and other liabilities

(a) Trade and other payables

Current

Non-statutory payables		
Trade payables	1,314	897
Accrued expenses	50	149
Payroll / Entitlements Payable	811	919
Superannuation Payable	1	89
Net GST / FBT payable	(41)	83
Other	4	4
Total current trade and other payables	2,139	2,141

(b) Trust funds and deposits

Current

Refundable deposits	758	436
Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund	190	169
Total current trust funds and deposits	948	605

continued on next page ...

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
(c) Contract and other liabilities		
Contract liabilities		
Current		
Grants received in advance:		
Grants received in advance - operating	731	910
Grants received in advance - capital	675	243
Total grants received in advance	1,406	1,153
Total current contract liabilities	1,406	1,153
Other liabilities		
Current		
Retention on Contracts	98	207
Total current other liabilities	98	207
Total current contract and other liabilities	1,504	1,360

Trust funds and deposits
Amounts received as deposits and retention amounts controlled by Council are recognised as trust funds until they are returned, transferred in accordance with the purpose of the receipt, or forfeited. Trust funds that are forfeited, resulting in council gaining control of the funds, are to be recognised as revenue at the time of forfeit.

Other liabilities
Grant consideration was received from State and Federal Government to support the construction ofvarious capital projects . Grant consideration is recognised as income following specific guidance under AASB 1058 as the asset is constructed. Income is recognised to the extent of costs incurred-to-date because the costs of construction most closely reflect the stage of completion of projects. As such, Council has deferred recognition of a portion of the grant consideration received as a liability for outstanding obligations.

Purpose and nature of items
Emergency Services and Volunteers Levy - Council is the collection agent for Emergency Services and Volunteers levy on behalf of the State Government. Council remits amounts received on a quarterly basis. Amounts disclosed here will be remitted to the state government in line with that process.

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
5.4 Interest-bearing liabilities		
Current		
Treasury Corporation of Victoria borrowings - secured	1,500	2,000
Total current interest-bearing liabilities	1,500	2,000
Total	1,500	2,000

Borrowings are secured against the rates income of Council.

a) The maturity profile for Council's borrowings is:		
Not later than one year	1,500	2,000
Total	1,500	2,000

continued on next page ...

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

Borrowings are initially measured at fair value, being the cost of the interest bearing liabilities, net of transaction costs. The measurement basis subsequent to initial recognition depends on whether the Council has categorised its interest-bearing liabilities as either financial liabilities designated at fair value through the profit and loss, or financial liabilities at amortised cost. Any difference between the initial recognised amount and the redemption value is recognised in net result over the period of the borrowing using the effective interest method.

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the interest bearing liabilities. The Council determines the classification of its interest bearing liabilities based on contractual repayment terms at every balance date.

In classifying borrowings as current or non-current Council considers whether at balance date it has the right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period. Council's loan arrangements include covenants based on Council's financial performance and position at the end of the reporting period. These covenants are assessed for compliance after the reporting period based on specified financial ratios.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	Annual Leave $ '000	Long Service Leave $ '000	Rostered Days Off $ '000	Time in Lieu $ '000	Total $ '000
5.5 Provisions					
2026					
Balance at the beginning of the financial year	873	1,516	48	42	2,479
Additional provisions	677	77	119	–	873
Amounts used	(550)	(217)	(125)	(20)	(912)
Balance at the end of the financial year	1,000	1,376	42	22	2,440
Provisions					
Provisions - current	1,000	1,101	42	22	2,165
Provisions - non-current	–	275	–	–	275
Total Provisions	1,000	1,376	42	22	2,440
2025					
Balance at the beginning of the financial year	1,058	1,380	64	51	2,553
Additional provisions	458	206	129	49	842
Amounts used	(643)	(70)	(145)	(58)	(916)
Balance at the end of the financial year	873	1,516	48	42	2,479
Provisions					
Provisions - current	873	1,217	48	42	2,180
Provisions - non-current	–	299	–	–	299
Total Provisions	873	1,516	48	42	2,479

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
(a) Employee provisions		
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months		
Annual leave	550	230
Long service leave	885	1,147
Rostered Days Off	42	48
Time in Lieu	22	42
	1,499	1,467
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months		
Annual leave	450	643
Long service leave	216	70
	666	713
Total current employee provisions	2,165	2,180
Non-Current		
Long service leave	275	299
Total Non-Current Employee Provisions	275	299

continued on next page ...

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Aggregate Carrying Amount of Employee Provisions:		
Current	2,165	2,180
Non-current	275	299
Total Aggregate Carrying Amount of Employee Provisions	2,440	2,479

The calculation of employee costs and benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

Annual leave
A liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits as a current liability because the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability. Liabilities for annual leave are measured at:
- nominal value if the Council expects to wholly settle the liability within 12 months
- present value if the Council does not expect to wholly settle within 12 months.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at the present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Long service leave
Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability as the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement. Unconditional LSL is measured at nominal value if expected to be settled within 12 months or at present value if not expected to be settled within 12 months. Conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment, is disclosed as a non-current liability and measured at present value.

Key assumptions:		
- discount rate	3.30%	3.30%
- index rate	3.50%	2.50%

5.6 Financing arrangements

The Council has the following funding arrangements in place as at 30 June 2026.

Bank overdraft	2,000	2,000
Credit card facilities	28	26
Total Facilities	2,028	2,026
Used facilities	4	4
Unused facilities	2,024	2,022

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 5. Investing in and financing our operations (continued)

5.7 Commitments

The Council has entered into the following commitments. Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value and presented inclusive of the GST payable.

(a) Commitments for expenditure

	Not later than 1 year $ '000	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years $ '000	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years $ '000	Later than 5 years $ '000	Total $ '000
2026					
Operating					
Caravan Park / Swimming Pool Management	350	350	–	–	700
Waste Management Services	813	813	1,288	–	2,914
Street Cleaning Services	6	–	–	–	6
Provision of IT Services	173	–	–	–	173
Building Control Services	660	660	–	–	1,320
Total	2,002	1,823	1,288	–	5,113
2025					
Operating					
Caravan Park / Swimming Pool Management	350	350	–	–	700
Waste Management Services	813	813	1,288	1,288	4,202
Street Cleaning Services	6	–	–	–	6
Provision of IT Services	173	–	–	–	173
Building Control Services	660	660	–	–	1,320
Total	2,002	1,823	1,288	1,288	6,401

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	Carrying amount 30 June 2025 $ '000	Additions $ '000	Contributions $ '000	Revaluation $ '000	Disposal $ '000	Depreciation $ '000	Write-off $ '000	Transfers $ '000	Carrying amount 30 June 2026 $ '000
Property	24,641	466	–	24,034	(192)	(1,454)	–	119	47,614
Plant and equipment	4,812	20	–	–	(38)	(1,309)	–	–	3,485
Infrastructure	231,974	2,107	–	17,679	–	(8,571)	–	24	243,213
Work in progress	159	153	–	–	–	–	(5)	(143)	164
Total	261,586	2,746	–	41,713	(230)	(11,334)	(5)	–	294,476

Summary of Work in Progress	Opening WIP $ '000	Additions $ '000	Write-off $ '000	Transfers $ '000	Closing WIP $ '000
Property	120	110	(1)	(119)	110
Plant and equipment	4	–	(4)	–	–
Infrastructure	35	43	–	(24)	54
Total	159	153	(5)	(143)	164

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

	Land specialised $ '000	Land improve-ments $ '000	Total land and land improve-ments $ '000	Buildings $ '000	Total buildings $ '000	Work in progress $ '000	Total work in progress $ '000	Total property $ '000
Property								
At fair value 1 July 2025	864	5,274	6,138	59,774	59,774	120	120	66,032
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2025	–	(2,707)	(2,707)	(38,564)	(38,564)	–	–	(41,271)
	864	2,567	**3,431**	21,210	**21,210**	120	**120**	**24,761**
Movements in fair value								
Additions	–	330	330	136	136	110	110	576
Contributions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Revaluation	2,597	–	2,597	6,636	6,636	–	–	9,233
Disposal	–	–	–	(830)	(830)	–	–	(830)
Write-off	–	–	–	–	–	(1)	(1)	(1)
Transfers	–	1,086	1,086	(967)	(967)	(119)	(119)	–
	2,597	1,416	**4,013**	4,975	**4,975**	(10)	**(10)**	**8,978**
Movements in accumulated depreciation								
Depreciation and amortisation	–	(341)	(341)	(1,113)	(1,113)	–	–	(1,454)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	–	–	–	638	638	–	–	638
Revaluation movement	–	–	–	14,801	14,801	–	–	14,801
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Transfers	–	(765)	(765)	765	765	–	–	–
	–	(1,106)	**(1,106)**	15,091	**15,091**	–	**–**	**13,985**
At fair value 30 June 2026	3,460	6,689	10,149	64,750	64,750	110	110	75,009
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2026	–	(3,813)	(3,813)	(23,473)	(23,473)	–	–	(27,286)
Carrying amount	3,460	2,876	**6,336**	41,277	**41,277**	110	**110**	**47,723**

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

	Plant machinery and equipment $ '000	Fixtures fittings and furniture $ '000	Motor Vehicles $ '000	Total $ '000	Work in progress $ '000	Total plant and equipment $ '000
Plant and Equipment						
At cost 1 July 2025	11,407	1,970	1,273	14,650	4	14,654
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2025	(7,796)	(1,709)	(333)	(9,838)	–	(9,838)
	3,611	261	940	**4,812**	4	**4,816**
Movements in carrying value						
Additions	20	–	–	20	–	20
Contributions	–	–	–	–	–	–
Revaluation	–	–	–	–	–	–
Disposal	(8)	–	(114)	(122)	–	(122)
Write-off	–	–	–	–	(4)	(4)
Transfers	–	–	–	–	–	–
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	–	–	–	–	–	–
	12	–	(114)	**(102)**	(4)	**(106)**
Movements in accumulated depreciation						
Depreciation and amortisation	(945)	(74)	(290)	(1,309)	–	(1,309)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	8	–	75	83	–	83
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	–	–	–	–	–	–
Transfers	–	–	–	–	–	–
	(937)	(74)	(215)	**(1,226)**	–	**(1,226)**
At cost 30 June 2026	11,419	1,970	1,159	14,548	–	14,548
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2026	(8,732)	(1,783)	(548)	(11,063)	–	(11,063)
Carrying amount	2,687	187	611	**3,485**	–	**3,485**

Plant and equipment are carried at historical cost.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

	Roads $ '000	Bridges $ '000	Footpaths and cycleways $ '000	Drainage $ '000	Kerbs & Channels $ '000	Total $ '000	Work in progress $ '000	Total work in progress $ '000	Total infra- structure $ '000
Infrastructure									
At fair value 1 July 2025	330,759	4,555	5,234	15,990	9,128	365,666	35	35	365,701
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2025	(116,082)	(2,162)	(1,328)	(10,493)	(3,627)	(133,692)	–	–	(133,692)
	214,677	2,393	3,906	5,497	5,501	**231,974**	35	**35**	**232,009**
Movements in fair value									
Additions	2,016	–	42	41	8	2,107	43	43	2,150
Revaluation	26,130	223	450	1,375	785	28,963	–	–	28,963
Disposal	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Transfers	1	–	19	–	4	24	(24)	(24)	–
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	28,147	223	511	1,416	797	**31,094**	19	**19**	**31,113**
Movements in accumulated depreciation									
Depreciation and amortisation	(8,114)	(38)	(105)	(181)	(133)	(8,571)	–	–	(8,571)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Revaluation movement	(9,812)	(108)	(123)	(918)	(323)	(11,284)	–	–	(11,284)
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Transfers	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	(17,926)	(146)	(228)	(1,099)	(456)	**(19,855)**	–	**–**	**(19,855)**
At fair value 30 June 2026	358,906	4,778	5,746	17,406	9,926	396,762	54	54	396,816
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2026	(134,007)	(2,309)	(1,556)	(11,593)	(4,083)	(153,548)	–	–	(153,548)
Carrying amount	224,899	2,469	4,190	5,813	5,843	**243,214**	54	**54**	**243,268**

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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

Acquisition
Initial measurement
Council initially measures its property, infrastructure, plant and equipment assets at cost. The cost of an acquired asset is the fair value of the consideration that Council has provided at the date of acquisition plus any incidental costs attributable to the acquisition.
Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Refer to Note 8.4 for more information on how Council measures fair value.

Where assets are constructed by Council, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour, borrowing costs incurred during construction, and an appropriate share of directly attributable variable and fixed overheads.

In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year.

The capitalisation threshold for property plant and equipment increased from $1,000 to $3,000 effective from 1 July 2025.

	Depreciation Period years	Threshold Limit $ ´000
Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods		
Land and land improvements		
land		5
land improvements	6 - 50 years	5
Buildings		
buildings	30 - 120 years	5
building and leasehold improvements	30 - 120 years	5
Plant and Equipment		
plant, machinery and equipment	3 - 10 years	3
others	3 - 10 years	3
Infrastructure		
roads - pavements, substructure, formation and earthworks	17 - 75 years	5
roads - kerb, channel and minor culverts and other	75 years	5
bridges - deck and substructure	75 years	5
bridges - others	50 - 70 years	5
footpaths and cycleways	35 - 80 years	5
others	25 - 50 years	5

Depreciation and amortisation
Buildings, land improvements, plant and equipment, infrastructure, and other assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to the Council in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Where assets have separate identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned distinct useful lives and residual values and a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Road earthworks are not depreciated on the basis that they are assessed as not having a limited useful life.

Straight line depreciation is charged based on the residual useful life as determined each year.

Depreciation periods used are listed above and are consistent with the prior year unless otherwise stated.

Repairs and maintenance
Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

Valuation of land and buildings

Valuation of buildings was undertaken by a qualified independent valuer Bhavin Shah, Principal Consultant, Modelve Pty Ltd, a Registered Professional Engineer. Valuation of land was undertaken by a qualified independent valuer Bruce Phillips, Principal Consultant, Modelve Pty Ltd, a Certified Practicing Valuer. The valuation of land is at direct-comparison/market approach and buildings is at Level 3 current replacement cost approach adjusted for obsolescence. Where land use is restricted through existing planning provisions the valuation is reduced to reflect this limitation. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Specialised land is valued at fair value using site values adjusted for englobo (undeveloped and/or unserviced) characteristics, access rights and private interests of other parties and entitlements of infrastructure assets and services. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Any significant movements in the unobservable inputs for land and land under roads will have a significant impact on the fair value of these assets.

Details of the Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2026 are as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of valuation	Type of Valuation
Specialised land	–	3,460	–	Jun/26	Full
Land improvements	–	–	2,876	Nov/22	Full
Buildings	–	–	41,277	Sep/25	Full
Total	–	3,460	44,153		

Valuation of Infrastructure

The valuation is at fair value based on current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation as at the date of valuation. Council has engaged licensed valuer Peter Moloney MIEAust from Moloney Asset Management Systems for detailed condition assessment and valuation of its infrastructure assets. The condition assessment phase has been completed and a detailed valuation report will be completed during FY 2026-27.

Details of the Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2026 are as follows:

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of valuation	Type of Valuation
Roads	–	–	224,899	Jun/26	Index
Bridges	–	–	2,469	Jun/26	Index
Footpaths and cycleways	–	–	4,190	Jun/26	Index
Drainage	–	–	5,813	Jun/26	Index
Kerbs & Channel	–	–	5,843	Jun/26	Index
Total	–	–	243,214		

Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations

Specialised buildings are valued using a current replacement cost technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement costs are calculated on a square metre basis and ranges from $298 to $7,719 per square metre. The remaining useful lives of buildings are determined on the basis of the current condition of buildings and vary from 40 years to 60 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of buildings are sensitive to changes in expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of buildings.

Infrastructure assets are valued based on the current replacement cost. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of infrastructure. The remaining useful lives of infrastructure assets are determined on the basis of the current condition of the asset and vary from 1 year to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of infrastructure are sensitive to changes in use, expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of infrastructure assets.

Bridges had a full revaluation last completed in May 2024. A full revaluation for Roads, Footpaths and Cycleways, Drainage and Kerb and Channel was last completed in November 2023.

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Reconciliation of specialised land		
Municipal Office Land	375	90
Community Services Land	520	88
Infrastructure and Works Operations Land	655	177
Recreational and Sundry Council Land	1,910	509
Total specialised land	3,460	864

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000

6.2 Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries

(a) Investments in associates

Investments in associates and joint arrangements accounted for by the equity method are:		
Wimmera Regional Library Corporation	–	298
Wimmera Southern Mallee Development Limited (formerly Wimmera Development Association)	–	130
Total investments in associates and joint arrangements	–	428

Wimmera Regional Library Corporation

Wimmera Regional Library Corporation provides and manages library services across regional areas. As part of strategic change, Wimmera Regional Library Corporation has been dissolved and the provision of library services is now being managed under contract by Horsham Rural City Council.

Council's investment in the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation is based on the equity method of accounting. [1]	0.00%	29.27%
Fair value of Council's investment in Wimmera Regional Library Corporation	–	298
Movement in carrying value of specific investment		
Carrying value of investment at start of year	298	298
Distributions received	(284)	–
Change in equity share apportionment	(14)	–
Carrying value of investment at end of year	–	298

(1) The dissolution of Wimmera Regional Library Corporation was completed in 2025-2026. During the year Library services were provided and managed by Horsham Rural City Council. There was an equity disbursement in 2025-2026 for the remaining value.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 6. Assets we manage (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Wimmera Southern Mallee Development Limited (formerly Wimmera Development Association)		
Wimmera Southern Mallee Development Limited works with communities, industries and all levels of governments to enable growth, remove barriers and build resilience and sustainability across the Wimmera Southern Mallee region. The region encompasses Horsham Rural City and the Buloke, Hindmarsh, Northern Grampians, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack Shires.		
Council's investment in the Wimmera Southern Mallee Development Limited (formerly Wimmera Development Association) is based on the equity method of accounting.	0.00%	8.39%
Fair value of Council's investment in Wimmera Southern Mallee Development Limited (formerly Wimmera Development Association)	–	130
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Council's share of accumulated surplus(deficit) at start of year	130	164
Reported deficit for year	(130)	(34)
Council's share of accumulated surplus(deficit) at end of year	–	130
Council's share of reserves		
Council's share of reserves at start of year	–	21
Transfers (to) from reserves	–	11
Council's share of reserves at end of year	–	32
Movement in carrying value of specific investment		
Carrying value of investment at start of year	130	164
Share of deficit for year	(130)	(34)
Carrying value of investment at end of year	–	130

Associates are all entities over which Council has significant influence but not control or joint control. Investments in associates are accounted for using the equity method of accounting, after initially being recognised at cost.

Council approved a resolution to leave the Wimmera Southern Mallee Development Ltd on 20th August 2025 and this was finalised in 2025-2026 with the remaining equity written off.

West Wimmera Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 7. People and relationships

7.1 Council and key management remuneration

(a) Related Parties

Parent entity
West Wimmera Shire Council is the parent entity.

Subsidiaries and Associates
Interests in subsidiaries and associates are detailed in Note 6.2.

(b) Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) are those people with the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of West Wimmera Shire Council. The Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Directors are deemed KMP.

Details of KMP at any time during the year are:

Councillors

Mayor Tim Meyer
Cr. Jodie Pretlove
Cr. Richard Hicks
Cr. Tom Houlihan
Cr. Helen Hobbs
Chief Executive Officer David Bezuidenhout
Director Infrastructure Development & Works Brendan Pearce
Director Corporate & Community Services Dalton Burns

	2026 No.	2025 No.
Total Number of Councillors	5	6
Total of Chief Executive Officer and other Key Management Personnel	3	4
Total Number of Key Management Personnel	8	10

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 7. People and relationships (continued)

(c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

Remuneration comprises employee benefits including all forms of consideration paid, payable or provided by Council, or on behalf of the Council, in exchange for services rendered. Remuneration of Key Management Personnel and Other senior staff is disclosed in the following categories.

Short-term employee benefits include amounts such as wages, salaries, annual leave or sick leave that are usually paid or payable on a regular basis, as well as non-monetary benefits such as allowances and free or subsidised goods or services.

Other long-term employee benefits include long service leave, other long service benefits or deferred compensation.

Post-employment benefits include pensions, and other retirement benefits paid or payable on a discrete basis when employment has ceased.

Termination benefits include termination of employment payments, such as severance packages.

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:		
Short-term employee benefits	847	774
Other long-term employee benefits	75	68
Total	922	842

	2026 No.	2025 No.
The numbers of key management personnel whose total remuneration from Council and any related entities, fall within the following bands:		
$1 - $9,999	–	2
$10,000 - $19,999	–	1
$20,000 - $29,999	1	1
$30,000 - $39,999	3	2
$80,000 - $89,999	–	1
$90,000 - $99,999	1	–
$160,000 - $169,999	–	1
$180,000 - $189,999	–	1
$190,000 - $199,999	1	–
$200,000 - $209,999	1	–
$280,000 - $289,999	1	1
Total	8	10

continued on next page ...

Note 7. People and relationships (continued)

7.2 Related party disclosure

(a) Transactions with related parties

During the period Council has no reportable transactions with related parties.

(b) Outstanding balances with related parties

There are no outstanding balances or outstanding transactions with the related parties reportable for this financial year.

(c) Loans to/from related parties

There are no loans during this financial year between Council and related parties.

(d) Commitments to/from related parties

There are no commitments to / from related parties for this financial year.

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 8. Managing uncertainties

8.1 Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet, but are disclosed and if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable, respectively.

(a) Contingent assets

Contingent assets are possible assets that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council.
At balance date the Council is not aware of any contingent assets.

(b) Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities are:
- possible obligations that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council; or
- present obligations that arise from past events but are not recognised because:
- it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; or
- the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

Superannuation
Council has obligations under a defined benefit superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme, matters relating to this potential obligation are outlined below. As a result of the volatility in financial markets the likelihood of making such contributions in future periods exists.

Landfill
Council does not operate a landfill site within its boundaries. There are no former licensed landfill sites within the shire.

Insurance claims
Council does not have any outstanding insurance claim as at 30 June 2026.

Legal matters
There are no known matters under litigation or a legal settlement which may result in any contingent costs to the Council.

MAV Workcare
Council was a participant of the MAV WorkCare Scheme. The MAV WorkCare Scheme provided workers compensation insurance. MAV WorkCare commenced business on 1 November 2017 and the last day the Scheme operated as a self-insurer was 30 June 2021. In accordance with the Workplace Injury Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2013 , there is a six-year liability period following the cessation of the Scheme (to 30 June 2027). During the liability period, adjustment payments may be required (or received). The determination of any adjustment payment is dependent upon revised actuarial assessments of the Scheme's tail claims liabilities as undertaken by Work Safe Victoria. Any adjustments, which are expected to occur at the 3-year and 6-year periods during the liability period will affect participating members. The assessment from WorkSafe Victoria at the 3-year period was a deficiency of $5.776 million payable to WorkSafe Victoria. This was due to evidence of higher-than-expected payments and higher claim lodgements during the first three years of the runoff period.

(c) Guarantees for loans to other entities

The Council has not acted as a Guarantor for any liabilities against any other entities and / or Community Groups. Therefore there are no reportable matters or any financial obligation arising in future.

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Note 8. Managing uncertainties (continued)

8.2 Australian Accounting Standards issued but not yet effective

Certain new Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2026 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards.

The Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) has issued *AASB 18 Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements.* When applicable AASB 18 supersedes AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements.* AASB 18 aims to improve how entities communicate in their financial statements, with a focus on information about financial performance in the statement of profit or loss. It is expected to result in presentation and disclosure changes, primarily to Council's Comprehensive Income Statement. AASB 18 is expected to first apply to Council for the 2028-29 financial year.

8.3 Financial instruments

(a) Objectives and policies

The Council's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables (excluding statutory receivables), payables (excluding statutory payables) and TCV borrowings. Details of the material accounting policy information and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in the notes of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Council. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to Council and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

(b) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of Council financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Council's exposure to market risk is primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Council's interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes Council to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rates.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the *Local Government Act 2020*.
Council manages interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

- diversification of investment product;
- monitoring of return on investment; and
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

There has been no significant change in the Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing interest rate risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

Interest rate movements have not been sufficiently significant during the year to have an impact on the Council's year end result.

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss. Council has exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in the balance sheet. Particularly significant areas of credit risk exist in relation to outstanding fees and fines as well as loans and receivables from sporting clubs and associations. To help manage this risk:

- Council has a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities Council deals with;
- Council may require collateral where appropriate; and
- Council only invests surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in Council's investment policy.

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Note 8. Managing uncertainties (continued)

Receivables consist of a large number of customers, spread across the ratepayer, business and government sectors. Credit risk associated with the Council's financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is secured by a charge over the rateable property.

There are no material financial assets which are individually determined to be impaired.

Council may also be subject to credit risk for transactions which are not included in the balance sheet, such as when Council provides a guarantee for another party. Details of our contingent liabilities are disclosed in Note 8.1(b).

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of any allowance for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements. Council does not hold any collateral.

(d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of Council's operational liquidity requirements it will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction when required or will be forced to sell a financial asset at below value or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset.

To help reduce these risks Council:

- has a liquidity policy which targets a minimum and average level of cash and cash equivalents to be maintained;
- has readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- has a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments;
- monitors budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- sets limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

The Council's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is the carrying amounts of financial liabilities as disclosed on the face of the balance sheet and the amounts related to financial guarantees disclosed in Note 8.1(c)., and is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

There has been no significant change in Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing liquidity risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

With the exception of borrowings, all financial liabilities are expected to be settled within normal terms of trade. Details of the maturity profile for borrowings are disclosed at Note 5.4

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amounts of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

(e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, Council believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months:

- A parallel shift of + 1% and -1% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 5.21%.

These movements will not have a material impact on the valuation of Council's financial assets and liabilities, nor will they have a material impact on the results of Council's operations.

8.4 Fair value measurement

Fair Value Hierarchy
Council's financial assets and liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy, Council's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

Council measures certain assets and liabilities at fair value where required or permitted by Australian Accounting Standards. AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* aims to improve consistency and reduce complexity by providing a definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across Australian Accounting Standards.

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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 8. Managing uncertainties (continued)

For assets where Council adopts a current replacement cost approach to determine fair value, Council considers the inclusion of site preparation costs, disruption costs and costs to restore another entity's assets in the underlying valuation.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and
Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, Council has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

In addition, Council determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

Revaluation
Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than plant and equipment, are measured at their fair value, being the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. (For plant and equipment carrying amount is considered to approximate fair value given short useful lives). At balance date, the Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date, the class of asset was revalued.

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use of an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset. In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from 3 to 5 years. The valuation is performed either by experienced council officers or independent experts. The following table sets out the frequency of revaluations by asset class.

Asset Class	**Revaluation frequency**
Land	3 to 5 years
Buildings	3 to 5 years
Roads	3 to 5 years
Bridges	3 to 5 years
Footpaths and cycleways	3 to 5 years
Drainage	3 to 5 years
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	3 to 5 years
Waste management	3 to 5 years
Parks, open space and streetscapes	3 to 5 years
Aerodromes	3 to 5 years
Other infrastructure	3 to 5 years

Where the assets are revalued, the revaluation increases are credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that an increase reverses a prior year decrease for that class of asset that had been recognised as an expense in which case the increase is recognised as revenue up to the amount of the expense. Revaluation decreases are recognised as an expense except where prior increases are included in the asset revaluation reserve for that class of asset in which case the decrease is taken to the reserve to the extent of the remaining increases. Within the same class of assets, revaluation increases and decreases within the year are offset.

Impairment of assets
At each reporting date, the Council reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the comprehensive income statement, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation surplus in respect of

continued on next page ...

Note 8. Managing uncertainties (continued)

the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset. The impairment policy above does not apply to Council's property, infrastructure, specialised buildings and other non-current physical assets subsequently measured at fair value. These are primarily non-cash generating assets of not-for-profit entities, which are typically specialised in nature and held for continuing use of their service capacity. Their recoverable amount is expected to be materially the same as fair value determined under AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement,* with the consequence that AASB 136 *Impairment of Assets* does not apply to such assets that are regularly revalued.

8.5 Events occurring after balance date

No matters have occurred after balance date that require disclosure in the financial report.

West Wimmera Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 9. Other matters

	Balance at beginning of reporting period $ '000	Increase (decrease) $ '000	Balance at end of reporting period $ '000
9.1 Reserves			
(a) Asset revaluation reserves			
2026			
Property			
Land - specialised	–	2,597	2,597
Land and land improvements	767	–	767
Buildings	14,414	21,437	35,851
	15,181	24,034	39,215
Infrastructure			
Roads	202,509	16,318	218,827
Bridges	517	115	632
Footpaths and cycleways	6,461	327	6,788
Drainage	4,470	457	4,927
Kerbs & Channels	732	462	1,194
	214,689	17,679	232,368
Total asset revaluation reserves	229,870	41,713	271,583
2025			
Property			
Land and land improvements	767	–	767
Buildings	14,414	–	14,414
	15,181	–	15,181
Infrastructure			
Roads	202,507	2	202,509
Bridges	517	–	517
Footpaths and cycleways	6,461	–	6,461
Drainage	4,470	–	4,470
Kerbs & Channels	732	–	732
	214,687	2	214,689
Total asset revaluation reserves	229,868	2	229,870

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record the increased (net) value of Council's assets over time.

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West Wimmera Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 9. Other matters (continued)

	Balance at beginning of reporting period $ '000	Transfer from Accumulated Surplus $ '000	Transfer to Accumulated Surplus $ '000	Balance at end of reporting period $ '000
(b) Other reserves				
2026				
Restricted reserves				
Quarry Restoration	121	–	–	121
Carried Forward Projects	1,879	–	(588)	1,291
Unspent Grants	243	1,163	–	1,406
Total Other reserves	2,243	1,163	(588)	2,818
2025				
Restricted reserves				
Plant replacement	771	–	(771)	–
Quarry Restoration	121	–	–	121
Capital improvement	323	–	(323)	–
Rates revaluation	399	–	(399)	–
Elections	35	–	(35)	–
Carried Forward Projects	715	1,164	–	1,879
Unspent Grants	–	243	–	243
Total Other reserves	2,364	1,407	(1,528)	2,243

Description of nature and purpose of each of Council's discretionary reserves are:

The Quarry Restoration Reserve was generated via a charge against the sale price of quarry stocks that was retained to restore the quarry sites to natural levels once quarrying has ceased. There have been no further charges (other than nominal interest) generated for this reserve since the 1997/98 financial year as the retained reserve is considered adequate to undertake restoration works.

The Carried Forward Projects Reserve provides for all budgeted amounts which have not been spent as at 30 June and which are required to be carried forward to the next financial year and are not budgeted in the next financial year.

The unspent grants reserve provides for grants that have been received where funds are still required to be expended to meet funding commitments.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 9. Other matters (continued)

	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
9.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus/(deficit)		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(1,919)	(2,857)
Non-cash adjustments:		
Depreciation/amortisation	11,334	10,826
(Profit)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	153	(435)
Share of net losses of associates and joint ventures	144	34
Amounts disclosed in financing activities	79	1
Change in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(661)	(523)
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	10	28
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(31)	1
Increase/(decrease) in other assets	–	18
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(2)	(856)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(39)	(74)
(Decrease)/increase in other liabilities	343	511
(Decrease)/increase in contract and other liabilities	144	258
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	9,555	6,932

9.3 Superannuation

Council makes all of its employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund). This Fund has two categories of membership, accumulation and defined benefit, each of which is funded differently. Obligations for contributions to the Fund are recognised as an expense in the Comprehensive Income Statement when they are made or due.

Accumulation
The Fund's accumulation category, Vision MySuper/Vision Super Saver, receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (for the year ended 30 June 2026, this was 12.0% as required under Superannuation Guarantee (SG) legislation (2025: 11.5%))

Defined Benefit
Council does not use defined benefit accounting for its defined benefit obligations under the Fund's Defined Benefit category. This is because the Fund's Defined Benefit category is a pooled multi-employer sponsored plan.

There is no proportional split of the defined benefit liabilities, assets or costs between the participating employers as the defined benefit obligation is a floating obligation between the participating employers and the only time that the aggregate obligation is allocated to specific employers is when a call is made. As a result, the level of participation of West Wimmera in the Fund cannot be measured as a percentage compared with other participating employers. Therefore, the Fund Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers for the purposes of AASB 119.

Funding Arrangements
Council makes employer contributions to the Defined Benefit category of the Fund at rates determined by the Trustee on the advice of the Fund Actuary. As at 30 June 2025, an interim actuarial investigation was held as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. The vested benefit index (VBI) of the Defined Benefit category as at 30 June 2025 (of which Council is a contributing employer) was 110.5%. The financial assumptions used to calculate the VBI were:

Net investment returns 5.7% pa
Salary information 3.5% pa
Price inflation (CPI) 2.6% pa

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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 9. Other matters (continued)

As at 30 June 2026, a triennial actuarial investigation is underway as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is expected to be completed by 31 October 2026. The VBI is used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the 30 June 2025 actuarial investigation determined the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the Defined Benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

Employer contributions

(a) Regular contributions

On the basis of the results of the 2025 interim actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund Actuary, Council makes employer contributions to the Fund's Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund's Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2026, this rate was 12% of members' salaries (11.5% in 2024/25). This rate is expected to increase in line with any increases in the SG contribution rate and was reviewed as part of the 30 June 2023 triennial valuation.

In addition, Council reimburses the Fund to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit.

(b) Funding calls

If the Defined Benefit category is in an unsatisfactory financial position at an actuarial investigation or the Defined Benefit category's VBI is below its shortfall limit at any time other than the date of the actuarial investigation, the Defined Benefit category has a shortfall for the purposes of SPS 160 and the Fund is required to put a plan in place so that the shortfall is fully funded within three years of the shortfall occurring. The Fund monitors its VBI on a quarterly basis and the Fund has set its shortfall limit at 98% from 26 July 2024 (previously 97%).

In the event that the Fund Actuary determines that there is a shortfall based on the above requirement, the Fund's participating employers (including Council) are required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall.

Using the agreed methodology, the shortfall amount is apportioned between the participating employers based on the pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service liabilities of the Fund's Defined Benefit category, together with the employer's payroll at 30 June 1993 and at the date the shortfall has been calculated.

Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries, it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up. If there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be returned to the participating employers.

In the event that a participating employer is wound-up, the defined benefit obligations of that employer will be transferred to that employer's successor.

The 2025 interim actuarial investigation surplus amounts

An actuarial investigation is conducted annually for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer. Generally, a full actuarial investigation is conducted every three years and interim actuarial investigations are conducted for each intervening year. An interim investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2025 and 30 June 2024 while a full investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2023.

The Fund's actuarial investigation identified the following for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer:

	2025 (Interim) $m	2024 (Interim) $m	2023 (Triennial) $m
- A VBI Surplus	200.1	108.4	85.7
- A total service liability surplus	229.4	141.4	123.6
- A discounted accrued benefits surplus	242.8	156.7	141.9

The VBI surplus means that the market value of the fund's assets supporting the defined benefit obligations exceed the vested benefits that the defined benefit members would have been entitled to if they had all exited on 30 June 2025.

The total service liability surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category plus expected future contributions exceeds the value of expected future benefits and expenses as at 30 June 2025.

The discounted accrued benefit surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category exceeds the value of benefits payable in the future but accrued in respect of service to 30 June 2025.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 9. Other matters (continued)

The 2026 triennial actuarial investigation
A triennial actuarial investigation is being conducted for the Fund's position as at 30 June 2026 as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is anticipated that this actuarial investigation will be completed by October 2026. The last interim actuarial investigation conducted prior to 30 June 2026 was at 30 June 2025. The VBI of the Defined Benefit category at that date was 110.5%. The financial assumptions used to calculate the 30 June 2025 VBI were:

Net investment returns 5.7% pa
Salary information 3.5% pa
Price inflation (CPI) 2.6% pa

Council was notified of the 30 June 2025 VBI during August 2025.

Because the VBI was above 100%, the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position at 30 June 2025 and it is expected that the actuarial investigation will recommend that no change will be necessary to the Defined Benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

The 2023 triennial investigation

The last triennial actuarial investigation conducted prior to 30 June 2023 was at 30 June 2020. This actuarial investigation was completed by 31 December 2020. The financial assumptions for the purposes of these investigations were:

	2023 Triennial investigation	2020 Triennial investigation
Net investment return	5.7% pa	5.6% pa
Salary inflation	3.50% pa	2.5% pa for two years and 2.75% pa thereafter
Price inflation	2.8% pa	2.0% pa

Superannuation contributions
Contributions by Council (excluding any unfunded liability payments) to the above superannuation plans for the financial year ended 30 June 2026 are detailed below:

Scheme	Type of scheme	Rate	2026 $ '000	2025 $ '000
Vision Super	Defined benefits	12.0% (2025:11.5%)	21	20
Vision Super	Accumulation	12.0% (2025:11.5%)	385	404
Other Super Funds	Accumulation	12.0% (2025:11.5%)	658	671

The outstanding contributions to be paid for the year ending 30 June 2026 to Vision Super was $1,338.14.

The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2027 is $21,000.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 10. Changes in accounting policies

The capitalisation threshold for plant and equipment was increased from $1,000 to $3,000 from the 1 July 2025. There was no material impact on the previous or current financial year statements.

Edenhope Customer Service Office

49 Elizabeth Street, Edenhope Victoria 3318

Kaniva Customer Service Office

25 Baker Street, Kaniva Victoria 3419

Postal address

PO Box 201, Edenhope Victoria 3318

Office hours

Monday to Friday, 8.30am - 5.00pm

West Wimmera Shire Council

13 99 72 | council@westwimmera.vic.gov.au

westwimmera.vic.gov.au